

# THE BEACON

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

## A Message from the Chair ~ Kay C.~

Dear Texas East Area 53,

My heart is heavy as I write this last report for the *BEACON* as my term is ending. It is one week after Hurricane Harvey has wreaked havoc throughout our Area. Only a few districts did not feel the force of the storm. I have not felt this powerless since I was dealing with active alcoholism. Luckily, today I have a *God of my understanding*, to help me through this time. I have also been in awe at the outpouring of help. I know that I speak for the whole Area, when I say that we are all here for those affected. If your group needs help getting literature or back on its feet, please contact Joyce or myself.

I have had a wonderful spiritual journey being your Area Chair. Looking back, I remember being scared to death to Chair my first AWSC-what if I got it wrong! With the support of the Area World Service Committee (AWSC), past and current, I made it through. Next was the Area Assembly, and that was simply terrifying. Although I have been attending the Assemblies for the past 20 years, how could I know so little? Again, with a loving God, and all of you I made it through. I think that the Area has made big strides in using Knowledge Based Decision Making in our decisions. We are moving towards more conversations, which makes the Assemblies move faster, be more informative, and best of all, we come to a consensus. It has been a real honor and pleasure to be your Area Chair.

Now, on to the business of the Area. At the August AWSC meeting, we covered many items, but nothing was far enough along to move them to the Assembly Agenda. Currently, the AWSC has only approved having elections as the agenda item for the Assembly business meeting. The realignment of Districts 4, 5 and 7 Task Force gave a summary of their findings at the August AWSC meeting (see below). There was much discussion about whether or not we should move forward this forward to more discussion at the Area level. Since not all of the groups in District 5 had been contacted, the AWSC asked that Anita C, District 5 District Representative, contact all the groups in District 5 by mail and inquire if they would like to split District 5 into smaller districts.

Speaking of **ELECTIONS**-I hope all of you are thinking about how you can serve your group and/or the Area. Job descriptions (roles and responsibilities) for Delegate, Alt. Delegate, Area Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Area Alateen Coordinator, Area Alateen Process Person, Archivist, Group Records, Newsletter Editor (*Beacon*), Area Public Outreach Coordinator, Area Spanish Coordinator, and Website Coordinator at the Area level have been published in the *Beacon* and on the web site <http://texas-al-anon.org/>. Resumes are available on the web site. If you have any questions, please contact me at [etaaa.txpanel55.chair@gmail.com](mailto:etaaa.txpanel55.chair@gmail.com).

**Task Force Report on Realignment of Districts 4, 5 and 7.** District 5 consists of more than 130 groups. For comparison, Texas East Area 53 has 12 districts and the typical number of groups in nine of the districts is 22 with District 6 and District 12 having more. This means that District 5

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## Calendar of Events

Fall Assembly 2017

November 3-5, 2017

Holiday Inn Austin

Midtown

6000 Middle Fiskville Rd

Austin, Texas 78752

ATAAC

February 16-18, 2018

Airport Hilton Hotel

611 NW Loop 410

San Antonio, TX 78216

POSSE

March 23-25 2018

Gonzales, Texas

TEA AC

April 13-15, 2018

Gonzales, Texas

Spring Assembly 2018

May 4-6, 2018

Clifton Event Complex

8727 Highway 124

Beaumont, Texas 77720

Deadline for Submissions for  
the next issue of *The Beacon*

December 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](mailto:web@texas-al-anon.org)

### **AREA CONTRIBUTIONS**

Mail to: ETAAA Treasurer

P.O. Box 34102

San Antonio, TX 78265

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has about six times more groups than most of the other districts, which has resulted in a number of challenges:

- With so many groups, the District Representative who is elected to organize the groups; to visit them to encourage participation, among other responsibilities and has become increasingly overwhelmed and unable to effectively accomplish all that needs to be done. In other words, the DR is spread too thin.
- One major effect has been very low participation of groups at the district and area levels, which means that many groups are not represented and their voices are not heard. The groups are also not aware of the many opportunities to participate in the Houston Al-Anon community, which is an important resource for enhancing our recovery.
- A number of District 5 groups do not have a Group Representatives (GR), often because they aren't even aware of the need. Additionally, some current mailing and email addresses are no longer valid and phone numbers are inaccurate.
- There are numerous Al-Anon members in District 5 who would like to get involved in official service positions outside the group level as district or area officers, but with only one district in Houston, there are only a limited number of openings. This limits the members' opportunities to grow through service. It also limits the number of people involved at the area level.
- Districts with fewer groups tend to be more nimble and enjoy much higher levels of participation and their groups are better informed. Members are more personally involved and for those who serve outside the group level, their recovery is greatly enhanced.
- Districts 4 and 7 were fine with gaining more groups.
- The Area and task force conducted a town hall meeting in June for an open discussion about this proposal. It has also been discussed in detail at the district meetings for Districts 4, 5 and 7 and will be discussed again at the October 1 at District 5 meeting.
- Based on this information, the Task force recommended to the AWSC that District 5 be divided into 5 total districts instead of just one.
- AWSC requested that all groups in District 5 be contacted by mail.
- Anita C mailed a letter to all groups on August 21, 2017.

See you at the Assembly in Austin, Remember to *Elect to Serve!*  
Love to you all --Kay

### Delegate Report ~ Joyce Y.~

**New Director:** September 5th 2017, Vali F. will begin her tenure as our next Executive Director of the World Service Office. Vali brings with her over 15 years as an active Al-Anon member. She was serving her last year as Arizona Delegate at my first World Service Conference in 2015. What a delight to meet and work with her. Her business and management experience as well as her visionary abilities will be a real asset to the fellowship. The current director, Mary G. has committed to work side by side with her through the October board meeting.

Debbie G., Chair of the Board, stated in her August letter: "*These are exciting times for our fellowship, filled with hope, enthusiasm and a continued commitment to ensuring that all people affected by someone else's drinking will find help and recovery in every community.*"

**Road Trip 2017:** This year's "Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect" will be held Saturday, October 21 at the Radisson Hotel, 3155 South Vaughn Way, Aurora, Colorado. Registration forms can be located on the Members' website: [http://www.al-anon-co.org/images/A5\\_102117\\_Roadtrip.pdf](http://www.al-anon-co.org/images/A5_102117_Roadtrip.pdf)

**New WSO Website:** Check out the newly-designed Al-Anon website at <https://al-anon.org/>. The entire staff, led by our Digital Strategy Team, has been involved in the re-design of the website.

**2018 International Convention:** Mark your calendar for July 6-8, 2018 International Convention "Celebrating One Day At a Time" Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, Maryland. Registration information is being finalized and will be available on our Members' website at <https://al-anon.org/al-anon-international-conventions> and mailed directly to registered groups by mid-September. The site also gives information about other special events: Day of Connection, Language of Love Parade, and the Pioneer Luncheon.

In addition to the International Convention, a "Day of Connecting" has been planned by the Board.

"**Day of Connecting**" will be held on Thursday, July 5<sup>th</sup>. A fun and inspiring day has been planned, one that you will want to include when planning your attendance at the 2018 International Convention. You can check the August Chair of the Board letter for some of the formats you can choose. Registration will be a separate fee from the International Convention.

**2018 World Service Conference:** The 2018 Word Service Conference will be held in West Harrison, New York. The site will allow the opportunity for the full Conference to visit Stepping Stones. The Conference theme is  
Al-Anon – There is no standing still!  
Al-Anon – ¡No hay razón para detenerse!  
Al-Anon – Il n'y a pas de place pour l'immobilisme!

**2018 International Al-Anon General Services Meeting (IAGSM):** The IAGSM will meet in October, 2018 in Virginia Beach. The purpose is to share the experience of Al-Anon  
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national services around the world through their Delegates.

The theme is "Leading by Example: Structures Supporting Structures".

2017 World Service Conference Summary: The Conference Summary is now available for viewing or download on-line at the members website at <https://al-anon.org/members/service-structure/area-resources/world-service-conference-summary-2>

**Open/Closed Meetings:** This is additional clarification of Closed meeting discussion in the Policy Committee Letter attachment to the August COB letter. Only the term "Closed" is what is being reviewed at doing away with, not closed meetings. They are looking for a better way of expressing that all Al-Anon meetings are welcoming to all Al-Anon members and potential Al-Anon members. Policy changes are brought back to the World Service Conference for approval before finalizing. Pages 35-37 of the 2017 World Service Conference Summary gives good background information.

This will be my last report as your Panel 55 Area Delegate, but I look forward to seeing you at Assemblies and other areas of service. What an honor and privilege it has been to be your voice at the Conference as well as my own personal growth. It has been an awesome opportunity to have visited in each district at least one time during this three years and meet so many of you also involved in this Joy of Service in your district and group.

What a wonderful growth opportunity as I watched Concept 4 "Participation is the key to harmony" put into practice and come alive! Service is the third side of the Al-Anon triangle which allows us to be a whole person as represented by the circle within the triangle.

May the spiritual principles of the program through the Legacies of the Steps, Traditions and Concepts guide us to come together through the Joy of Service and Participation.

### **Alt. Delegate Report ~ Margaret F.~**

First and foremost, I want to thank each one of you for your support during the last 3 years. It has been an experience that I will forever be grateful that you trusted to me to fulfill. Please think about committing to experiencing the spiritual growth in the program that I have felt while serving Texas East Area 53 as your Alternate Delegate/Literature/Forum Coordinator. Thank you for your support.

From Mark Summerall, the new WSO Magazine Coordinator and your staff liaison for *The Forum*! Please feel free pass this information on.

We are excited to announce that, beginning with the August and September issues, we are giving *The Forum* a new, more contemporary look. We are experimenting by adding some new design elements that we hope you will find interesting,

fun and inviting.

We remain very short on *The Forum* sharings about the three Legacies-especially about Steps Five through Twelve, and all Twelve Traditions and Concepts of Service. We also need sharings from Canadian and Alateen members.

*The Forum* Subscription Reports: We are working with WSO's Software Engineer to fine tune the subscription report so that it better fits your needs. We look forward to presenting it to you when it's ready.

*THE FORUM BOOK* (working title): So far, members have sent in over 701 titles and publication dates of *The Forum* articles that they consider the best of recent years. Please keep encouraging members to send in *The Forum* stories they want to see included in this book.

The revised *The Forum* Writing Guideline (F-1) was posted on AFG Connects on June 19 of this year. It is also available on the Members site.

To access the link:

1. Go to "al-anon.org" exactly as it appears here
2. Click on "Members"
3. Enter your password (your group name+afg - no spaces)
4. Click on "Individuals"
5. Scroll down and click "Featured Publications"
6. Click "*The Forum*" on the right side of the screen
7. Click the "Download *The Forum* Guidelines" button

The link to the document should pop up.

Getting the new website up and running has caused some challenges, but we are working to resolve them all. Thank you for your patience.

We will also post a note on AFG Connects that will have attachments to both *The Forum* Writing Guidelines and the Writing Workshop Guidelines. There is an e-magazine version of *The Forum*. You can now find direct links for ordering it on the Al-Anon Online Store at [al-anon.org/onlinestore](http://al-anon.org/onlinestore) under the "Electronic Literature" category.

The World Service Office (WSO) has launched a brand new interactive website. This website now combines the Public Outreach and the Members websites into a single source for all information from the WSO. The website will have a Newcomers section which features information to help Newcomers understand what Al-Anon is and how it may help them. It features many stories from Al-Anon members based on the relationship with the alcoholic. We're also introducing Teen Corner, a group of pages where teens can read stories from other teens and Get Connected with Alateen via social media.

As for the Members website, it is now a designated Members' section of the new website and will continue to feature important documents relevant to Al-Anon members and groups, such as the Al-Anon Guidelines, the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27), and many more. We will make it easier to find up-to-date information on our WSO News page, to locate Area events near you, and to make contributions.

In the June 2017 issue of *The Forum* magazine, an Al-Anon

member shares in the "I Became Willing to Surrender" story (page 8): "One of the first things I learned in Al-Anon was that I was powerless, and, if anything, I was controlled by the alcoholic. After months of struggling with the First Step, I finally accepted how unmanageable my life had become. When I finally admitted I was powerless and my life had become unmanageable, what followed was a sense of freedom. I no longer felt responsible for the alcoholic."

This quote from the story was posted on the Al-Anon WSO Facebook page June 14, 2017. (see attachment) To date, it has received 252 "Likes" and 62 shares. The WSO received a comment (only WSO staff can see comments because of our privacy settings) from a member regarding the June 14th Facebook post:

"... I was the one controlled by the alcoholic." After 10 years in Al-Anon, that's the first time I have realized how true that is for me. Light bulb moment. Thank you for sharing. I love this miraculous program!!"

We are sharing this positive comment with you to let you and members of your area know how *The Forum* articles resonate with followers of our social media pages. Although intended for Public Outreach to newcomers, members' feedback with a "Like" or "share" helps Al-Anon's message and awareness of *The Forum* reach more people (nonmembers as well as members). Our social media posts increase awareness of *The Forum* among members. Members' sharings for *The Forum* can reach both within and outside of the fellowship.

#### **Area Alateen Coordinator ~ Norma W. ~**

No Report Submitted

#### **Area Alateen Process Person ~ Bennie P. ~**

Hi Everyone! Can't believe that we are almost at the end of our "Service Term"!! This last year, has had a lot of challenges for me and there are still a lot of things I want to get done before I turn over the baton to the next AAPP! Yes, I'm stepping aside to let someone else have the pleasure of serving in this position! It's really very rewarding!

My heart goes out to everyone that was affected by Hurricane Harvey! I would like to know how many Alateen groups were affected and if any of the had to close. I only received one call from District 2. They did sustain damage to their meeting place and they had to close their only Alateen meeting. If anyone else had any losses or closed their meetings, do let me know.

**As of August 31<sup>st</sup>, we had 31 Active Alateen Groups and 90 AMIAS!** This might change after I communicate with all the affected Districts and see how they are doing.

Just a reminder, **AMIAS Certification is done year-round.** To download the necessary forms please go to our Texas Website <http://texas-al-anon.org> ; Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) Guidelines and Registration Forms. These are the forms you must submit. However, these will need some editing to correct some of the data. Norma and I are working on making these changes. The Criminal background check company has increased the fee from \$6.50 to \$6.64! So be sure to make note of this change.

#### **Public Outreach ~ Judy W. ~**

No Report Submitted

#### **Website Coordinator ~ Lisa W. ~**

No Report Submitted

#### **Group Records Coordinator ~ Candy N. ~**

I look forward to working with the new Group Records Coordinator in the transition. It has been a rewarding experience and has provided me many opportunities for growth in the program. I truly enjoyed the flexibility of the job and that I could be of service to the groups, districts, and information service centers in Texas East.

#### **Archives Coordinator ~ Ann R. ~**

No Report Submitted

#### **Newsletter Editor ~ Lynn S.**

The next *Beacon* deadline is December 1. Please send your reports for *The Beacon* to [beaconnewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:beaconnewsletter@yahoo.com) using this email address helps keep 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.

#### **Spanish Coordinator ~ Anita C. ~**

No Report Submitted

### **District Reports**

#### **District 1 ~ Flor P. ~**

Our last District meeting, July 8, was hosted by Not Alone AFG group from Weslaco TX, and was a very good turnout. Our Public Outreach Coordinator, Adriana, moved and Rocio took her place. We discussed the group contributions to the area and WSO. We suggested that the GRs should let the groups know that they should be holding elections for GR and Alt. GR prior to the next district meeting on October 14, at Harlingen TX. We will be having an Alateen sponsor training in September and hope there will be a good turnout, more groups wish to have an Alateen group in their area.

#### **District 2 ~ Myrthala C. ~**

No Report Submitted

#### **District 3 ~ Jocelyn B. ~**

Hello Al-Anon Family. We've all weathered horrific conditions from Hurricane Harvey. We are quite blessed here in District 3. Yes, many had power & water out & cleanup is ongoing. Yet we are safe. We are grateful. We Continue prayers for the many who suffered so much more. Please keep the faith and stay strong a step at a time, one day at a time. Love you all.

District 3 did manage & accomplish hosting the AWSC meeting August 12 in Victoria. We enjoyed visiting & sharing a meal with all that were able to attend. Thank you your service! Look forward to Fall Assembly with you.

**District 4 ~ Mattie T. ~**

Hello all, I pray that recovery is on the way after the damage that Hurricane Harvey left. It is so encouraging to see the love, sacrifice and support from friends, family and total strangers. We will get through this, thanks to your generosity. Remember, it is not the size of the donation, but the thought behind the contribution that counts the most. Many of us are struggling in our own lives yet you set aside your needs to unite. There are no words to express the gratitude I have for all. Thank you, thank you, thank you District 4 and to everyone that came out for our Day In Al-Anon "Many Voices – One Journey" was held July 29, 2017 at the Alvin Taylor Street Club. Joyce Y, Delegate, Panel 55, Texas East Area 53 was our workshop leader. Joyce Y, thank you so much for walking us through the journey of the Al-Anon program. It was a success and we had a wonderful day of fellowship. We also had a silent auction, lots of door prizes, bookstore and plenty of good food

Discussions are still being held regarding the Realignment of District 5. Letters have been sent to all the GRs and CMAs in the district and they have been given a date to respond. We are following the Traditions and Concepts to assure that everyone being affected has an opportunity to be heard.

Have I told you how much I have enjoyed being in service? Thank you for making these 3 years so easy. The words of encouragement, the support, your willingness to help has humbled me so many times. I have so much to be thankful for and you all are a part of it.

We will have our District Election for Officer on September 9, 2017.

**District 5 ~ Anita C. ~**

No Report Submitted

**District 6 ~ Lori L.~**

Hello from District 6! Those of you that were affected by Hurricane Harvey please know that you are in our continued thoughts and prayers.

Our last District meeting was held on July 15<sup>th</sup> in Smithville. We did not have a hosting group that time but we did have some outstanding volunteers that stepped up to the plate! A huge thank you to Jayne, Janie, Nancy, Adriane and Nancy for volunteering your time to come and set up for breakfast, lunch and clean up! If I missed anyone, my sincere apologies, however your willingness to volunteer that day was greatly appreciated!

Here are the highlights from our meeting:

- We had 22 voting GRs 3 of which were new GRs!
- Our Delegate Joyce Y. came and shared with us her personal story, her service work that spanned 38 years, which has taught her to love. She also shared with us highlights from her attendance at the WSC meeting she attended in Virginia Beach in April. The current big news at the WSO is our new Executive Director! Vali F. will begin her tenure on September 5<sup>th</sup>! Joyce had a drawing of a copy of the WSC Summary and Carolyn R. won!
- The Officers and Coordinators who were present shared about their current positions that they hold in the District as the elections will be held at the next District meeting in October! There was a short Q&A.
- There was a brief discussion on setting up an answering service in the Temple/Belton/Killeen area. At this time, there is not an interest in doing so.
- We also had a discussion of how to generate the attendance of Alateens and Alateen GRs at the District and Assembly meetings. There was a Thought Force formed instead on coming up with ideas on how to increase attendance at *their* meetings first and then put the focus on attendance at the District and Area level. On this Thought Force are our DAC, Bill W., Bill H., Jayne G., Kim C. and Lindsey R.
- Our next meeting will be held on October 21<sup>st</sup> in Taylor hosted by Taylor AFG at the First United Methodist Church. Nancy B. is our contact.
- We closed the meeting about 2-2:30 with the Al-Anon Declaration.

**Fall Assembly Update:**

- As of 9-4-17, 43 have registered and one scholarship. 33 have registered for the banquet. While we would love to have everyone attend, we need at least 100 participants for the banquet. Registering early is *highly encouraged* for the Assembly as well as for the banquet and hotel rooms. Please take back to your groups to invite members from your home groups that anyone can come to see what Assembly is all about and to get to fellowship with others!
- As of 8-5-17, the hotel stated that 51 rooms are available for each night. We have 17 reservations to date.
- Hospitality Room: we will be a bit restricted at what our Hospitality Chair and her volunteers can provide due to hotel restrictions: we are cleared to bring in prepared foods, and ice chests for drinks. There is no space to speak of for any prep, access to a refrigerator, stove, microwave, etc. The Hospitality room will be available that weekend but please know that there is a restaurant in the hotel as well as other local dining establishments to choose from. Since we are self-supporting through our own voluntary contributions, there will be monetary donation boxes available in the hospitality room.
- Public Outreach – the flyer and weekend agenda has been sent to the printer! Be on the lookout for the flyer coming to you soon!
- Literature – Kerry has been in contact with Carolyn K. to approach the board on August 15<sup>th</sup> for them to vote for us to sell literature at the Fall Assembly (I hope I understood this information correctly!)
- Translation equipment: Anna, the Co-Chair from the Fall Assembly, is heading up this task. She is working to get the details ironed out!
- Raffle – I recently sent out to District 6 a flyer from Linda, the Raffle Chairperson, seeking to get her goal of 20 Raffle baskets from District 6.

- AA Chairperson, Kim – will work on getting a meeting list in the area for the weekend.

The next meeting is set for Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **District 7 ~ Jane M. ~**

No Report Submitted

### **District 8 ~ Jennifer S.~**

Our last district meeting was on July 22nd. We had good attendance. We went over the results of our online survey. There were several ideas that came out of the survey. We decided to have everyone bring a friend to our next meeting in October, planned a potluck lunch and since the meeting is October we are having a costume contest!

We have had a few planning meetings for the Spring Assembly. We have chairs for our committees and lots of ideas! We are all excited to have the Area come to District 8.

We participated in the District 90 Convention providing speakers and selling literature. It is a fun event that always brings a crowd.

Our next district meeting is October 21st along with our AIS meeting. AIS meeting starts at 9 am with the district meeting to follow at 10:30.

### **District 9 ~ Debby C. ~**

District 9 is alive and well and growing in East Texas. I was contacted recently by an Al-Anon member wanting to start a new group in LINDALE, TEXAS. Woohoo!! We had our last DM Saturday 8/5/17 where we discussed support for the Spring 2018 Assembly w/D-8. We also had a report about the 2018 Tyler AA Anniversary with Al-Anon Participation. Our role with this event is increasing lately due to requests from the Committee for help with workshops and being available at the registration desk as well as suggestions for speakers. We discussed district inventory questions, this was very informative in allowing our leadership to have input about GR interests and how to make the meetings more attractive to GR's. Our challenge always is to increase attendance at district meeting. . We postponed elections until after 1st of the year. Next district meeting will be held at the Harvey Hall on Saturday 1/13/18 around the noon hour. We will elect a New DR (as I am stepping down) as well as officers. "Together we can make it"

### **District 10~ Susan L. ~**

Al-Anon is alive in District 10. Debby C of District 9 and I traveled to Victoria for AWSC meeting in August. We also had the privilege of co-hosting a "Day with the Delegate", in May. Joyce Y, shared her service story with District 9 and 10. District 10 was not able to attend the Assembly in May in Sugar Land. I know we missed a great Assembly. Next District meeting is September 9. We will discuss hosting ETAAA Assembly in November 2018. Our prayers and thoughts are with all who were affected by Hurricane Harvey. Grateful in Service.

### **District 12~ Dolores W.~**

No Report Submitted

### **District 13~ David S.~**

Howdy Area 53! District 13 will be holding the last District meeting of 2017 on October 21. This will be our elections meeting and I am looking forward to seeing what our new panel will look like! I am also excited because our Area Delegate, Joyce Y., is planning to be in attendance at the meeting. It has been an honor for me to serve the district as DR for the last 3 years. The highlight for me was hosting the 2016 Spring Assembly in Kerrville. Looking forward to seeing you all in Austin!

### **Picture Yourself in Baltimore July 6-8, 2018**

Can you picture yourself in Baltimore, Maryland "Celebrating One Day at a Time?" Plan to join thousands of Al-Anon, Alateen, A.A. members, and guests at Al-Anon's 2018 International Convention with A.A. participation to reconnect with old friends, make new friends, and celebrate recovery.

#### **COME A DAY EARLY: Thursday, 7/5/2018**

"Day of Connecting" Connect with volunteers and staff from the WSO who will be presenting workshops and holding a variety of meetings.

#### **KEEP THE PARTY GOING! Friday, 7/6/2018**

"Language of Love Parade" Friday evening before the "Big Meeting".

#### **PIONEER LUNCHEON Saturday, 7/7/2018**

Attend the luncheon and celebrate our history by hearing longtime members share their recovery. Please note that seating is limited. Tickets are \$65.00. The deadline for purchasing a Pioneer Luncheon ticket is May 31, 2018. No tickets will be sold at the door.

**See Registration information for the Convention on page 13.**

**East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly****May 20, 2017****Sugar Land, Texas**

**Opening:** Kay C., Chairman opened the meeting at 9:50 am. The 12 Traditions, Concepts and the Warranties were read. GR sign-in was explained. Introduction of officers, trustee-at-large, new assembly attendees. Thanked D4 & 5 for hosting and support. Ask it Basket procedures explained. Corrections to agenda were announced. 200 people registered for assembly.

**Delegate's Report:** Joyce Y., Area 53 delegate reported on her attendance of the World Service Conference April 24-28, 2017 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. New Direct of Finance at the WSO, Niketa B. Texas East contributed \$47,095 to WSO in 2016. WSO expects to announce a new Executive Director by mid-August who will start work on 9/15/17. Meet the Board has a new name "You and Your Board Connect". Program has been extended through 2019. Texas East to submit a bid to host in 2018. New Service Manual to be out in 2018.

Complete Delegate report will be in *The Beacon*.

**Chosen Agenda Items:****1.) Alateen Sponsor Certification Changes**

Current trial period ends June 1, 2017. If changes are not voted on the certification process returns to old process. Norma W. and Bennie P. discussed old procedure and proposed process. Change would need to be effective June 2. Discussion followed.

**2.) Assembly Liaison**

Kay C. presented topic of the Area creating an Assembly Liaison position to provide continuity for District Representatives in the planning of assemblies based on previous assemblies. It was recommended that the position be created for a 3 year trial period beginning after the May 2018 assembly so that the term would overlap AWSC panels for one year. Discussion followed.

**3.) Realignment of Districts 4, 5, and 7**

Kay C. presented topic for discussion only. Task force has idea of how to redistribute groups into districts so groups will be more adequately represented. There will be more information and possibly a vote at the November assembly. Mattie T. and Kirk presented the idea of splitting District 5 into 5 Districts in Harris County based on zip codes. 11 groups in Montgomery County would go to District 7 and 8 Galveston County groups would go to District 4. Current District 5 is very large with lots of groups so very difficult for one DR to perform duties. The idea of creating a Spanish District from the current Spanish groups in District 5 was also considered but based on input from Spanish groups contacted they were against the idea due to the possibility of causing separation from non-Spanish groups. Discussion followed.

**Meeting adjourned for lunch at 12 (Noon)**

**Meeting resumed at 1:00 pm with Roll Call.** 94 voting Group Representatives were present broken down by District as follows. D1 (3); D2 (4); D3 (4); D4 (12); D5 (27); D6 (17); D7 (8); D8 (6); D9 (5); D12 (8). A motion was made and passed that items voted on at this assembly must pass by 2/3 vote.

**South Central Regional Trustee:** No one stood for position.

**Secretary:** Motion was made, seconded and approved to waive reading and accept the minutes from the business meeting held November 5, 2016 Assembly held in Corpus Christi as published in *The Beacon*. (Vol. 49, Issue 1).

**Treasurer:** Tricia L. passed the gratitude basket (\$810.00 was contributed). Contributions will donated to the WSO. Area has \$27,352.39 in bank account and \$20,174.83 in the ample reserve fund. The balance in the POSSE account is \$6,279.98 and in the TEA AC account is \$5,744.34. The Area's CD is to mature in June.

**Alternate Delegate/Literature Coordinator's Report:** Margaret F. gave Forum and Literature Report. Sharings needed for parents/grandparents of problem drinkers book. New daily reader will be in 1<sup>st</sup> draft in May and will be available in Baltimore in 2018. Group e-News being redesigned. *Paths to Recovery Workbook* is available for \$11 in 3 languages. WSO accepting orders for *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2018*, deadline to order is July 5, 2017. There is a new writing guide for incarcerated members on the member website. Complete report in *The Beacon*.

**No Unfinished Business:****New Business:****1.) Alateen Sponsor Certification Changes**

Current Alateen Trial Period Certification process expires June 1, 2017. Topic of making the trial process permanent with modifications was presented and discussed. A motion was made that the Alateen certification process 2014-2017 be made permanent with changes to number 7. The motion passed. (See Motion 1 below)

**2.) Assembly Liaison**

Topic of creating the Area position of Assembly Liaison was presented and discussed. A motion was made to create the position of Area Assembly Liaison for a 3 year trial period. The motion passed. (See Motion 2 below)

**Assembly Reports:**

Assembly reports were given for: Spring 2017 in Sugar Land (D4), Fall 2017 in Austin (D6), Spring 2018 in Beaumont (D8). Reports are on file.

**Area Coordinator & AIS/LDC Reports:**

Reports were presented by: Judy W. (Public Outreach), Anita C. (Area Spanish Coordinator), Norma W. (Area Alateen Coordinator) (TEA AC), Lynn S. (Beacon Editor), Lisa W. (Website Coordinator), Bennie P. (Alateen Process Person), Ann R. (Archives), Candy N. (Group Records Coordinator), Peggy T. (Houston AIS), Paula H. (Austin AIS/LDC), Suzanne R. (Beaumont AIS/LDC), Lynn S. (San Antonio AIS/LDC), Rosalba B. (Houston Spanish AIS). Reports are on file and in *The Beacon*.

**District Representative Reports:**

Reports were presented by: Evelica (D1), Lisa W. (D2), Jocelyn B. (D3), Mattie T. (D4), Anita C. (D5), Lori L. (D6), Jane M. (D7), Jennifer S. (D8), Debby C. (D9), Dolores W. (D12). Reports are on file and in *The Beacon*.

**Meeting closed with the Al-Anon Declaration: 3:45 pm**

Respectfully Submitted,

David S.

Area Secretary

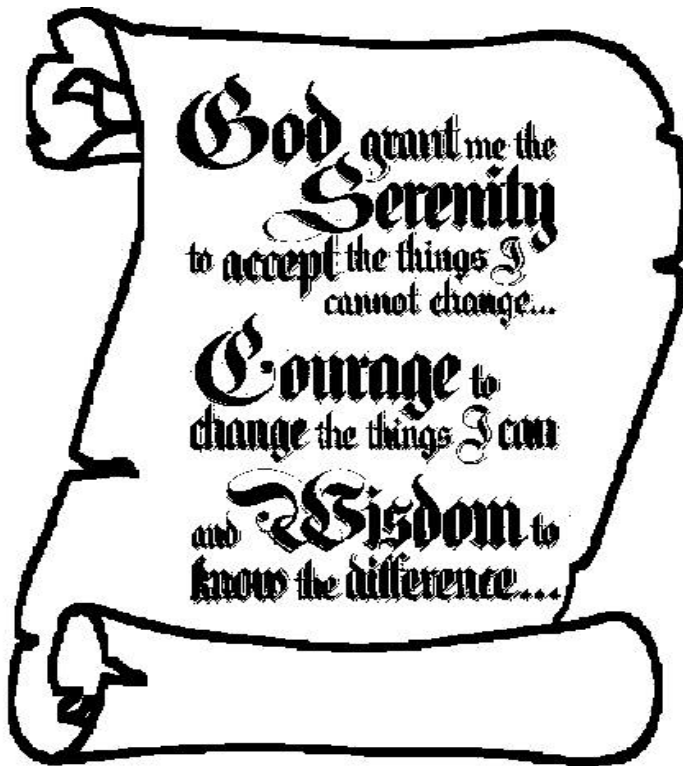
**Motions Passed 5/20/2017:**

**Motion #1:** *I Bill H., 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 effective June 2, 2017.*

Passed: 87 For, 3 Against, 2 Abstained

**Motion #2:** *I Kathy J., make a motion to create a position of Assembly Liaison, a person who will provide continuity with the DRs in the planning of an Assembly based on previous Assemblies. This position would be for a three year trial period.*

Passed: 67 For, 22 Against, 2 Abstained



### 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

## EAST TEXAS AREA ALANON/ALATEEN ASSEMBLY May 4 - 6, 2018

### Come Go With Me



### (and bring a friend!)

ETAAA – All Meetings

Clifton Event Complex

8727 Highway 124

Beaumont, Texas 77720

#### Designated Hotel Information

Holiday Inn Beaumont Plaza

3950 I-10 South

Beaumont, TX 77705

(409) 842-5995

**Cut off date – April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

#### Ask for ETAAA Rate

\$107 for Double/King

Breakfast Included for 4 per room

### Saturday

GRs please attend for Area information and business.

District 8 would also like you to join us for food, fellowship and fun the entire weekend!

Meals will be provided and fun activities are planned! We are heading back to the 50s –

***Bring your poodle skirt  
and saddle shoes!***



GR\_\_\_ DR\_\_\_ AMIAS\_\_\_ FIRST ASSEMBLY (Y/N)\_\_\_ OTHER\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Name on Badge\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Group Name\_\_\_\_\_ District # \_\_\_\_\_ # of Years in Program\_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Doors and Registration Open at 2:00 p.m on Friday May 4<sup>th</sup>**

\_\_\_ \$20 Al-Anon Registration

Make Checks Payable to District 8

\_\_\_ \$20 AA Registration

Mail to: District 8  
ETAAA Registration  
975 Roosevelt Dr, Silsbee, TX 77656

\_\_\_ \$5 Alateen Registration

**Need Info?** Email Jennifer at [2018etaaaspringassembly@gmail.com](mailto:2018etaaaspringassembly@gmail.com) or Call at 641-521-9349

**Alateen Notice:** 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.



Calling on all Alateens and Al-Anon/Alateen groups to send "Happy Anniversary" cards all this year to the World Service Office (WSO) for a special display. Please send your cards to:

**AFG, Inc**  
1600 Corporate Landing Parkway  
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454  
Attn: Groups

Or send your e-cards to [wso@al-anon.org](mailto:wso@al-anon.org), with "Alateen 60" in the subject line

How will your Al-Anon group commemorate the diamond anniversary of Alateen? Consider:

- Asking an Alateen to speak at your next group anniversary.
- Using Alateen Conference Approved Literature (CAL) in an Al-Anon meeting. The daily readers, *Alateen—a day at a time* (B-10) and *Living Today in Alateen* (B-26) are great resources.
- Sharing on a Fourth Step meeting using *Alateen's 4<sup>th</sup> Step*

### Al-Anon\_WSO – now reaching out on Instagram!

The WSO recently launched the official Al-Anon Family Groups Instagram account. Would you consider joining us in this Public Outreach effort?

By liking and sharing [AlAnon\\_WSO](#) posts on Instagram, you can help carry the Al-Anon message of hope to many people, including young adults, affected by someone else's drinking that may not have heard about the support that Al-Anon offers. Find us on Instagram by searching for "AlAnon\_WSO," or by clicking on the link located on the WSO Public Outreach website, [www.al-anon.org](http://www.al-anon.org).

### Alateen\_WSO - now reaching out on Instagram, too!

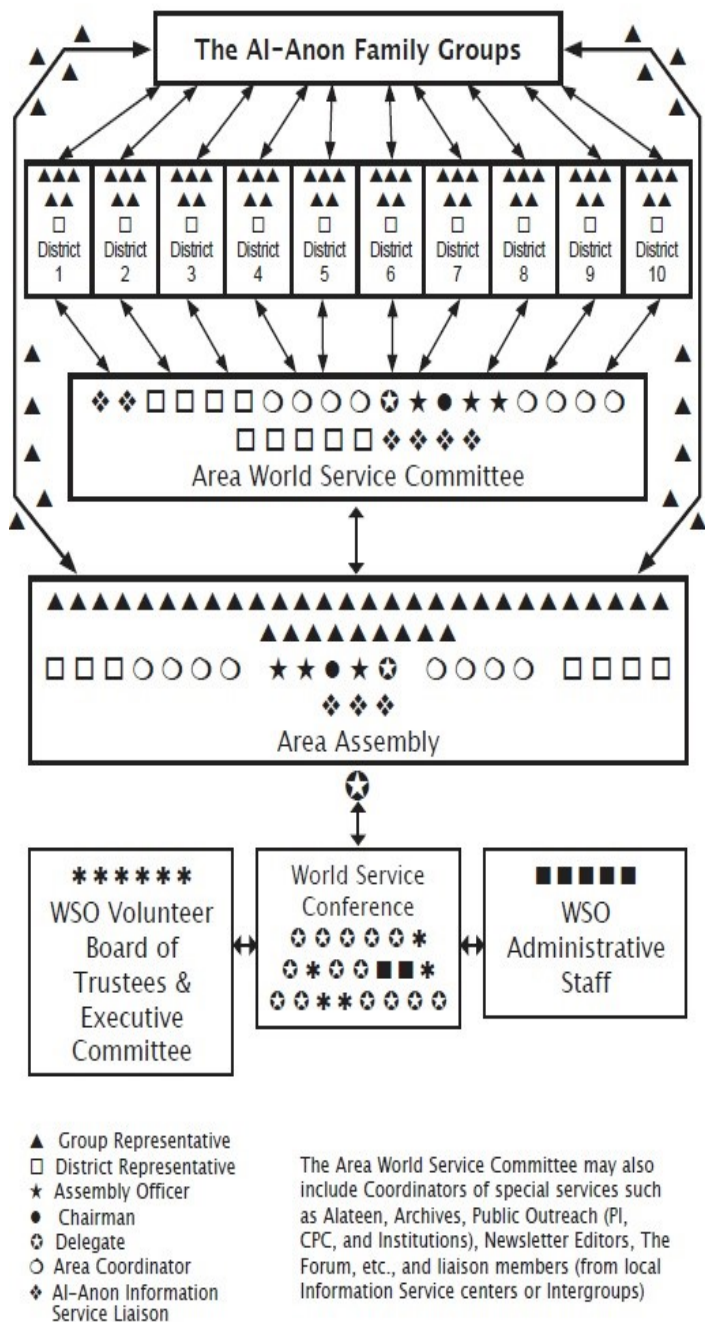
The WSO has further expanded its Social Media outreach by creating an Alateen\_WSO Instagram account. Please help us with our Public Outreach efforts by following and liking Alateen\_WSO posts on Instagram. You can help spread the word of the Al-Anon/Alateen message of hope to teenagers affected by someone else's drinking who may not have heard about the support that Alateen offers.

Service, a vital purpose of Al-Anon, is action. Through the contacts he makes with other GRs and the Area World Service Committee, the GR can gain knowledge of Al-Anon world service and the purpose and work of the Conference.

Each DR helps the groups in his district understand their relationship and responsibility to the worldwide fellowship.

Area World Service Committee consists of the officers of the Assembly, DRs, Coordinators, and liaison members, who meet between Assemblies to discuss Area and district matters, plan the agenda for the Assembly, initiate projects, and make recommendations to the Assembly.

## WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE STRUCTURE



**Austin AIS/LDC ~ Paula H. ~****Austin Al-Anon Information Center Successes:**

As a result of a survey that was sent to all groups, the information center is doing well with selling literature and providing a meeting list. Some areas could be improved. Further research is planned on how to continue to make improvements.

In an effort to improve the center's financial status, the Board voted to raise some prices on literature. The paperback copy of How Al-Anon Works will be sold for \$8; newcomer packets will be sold for \$2.00 each (\$20 for a bundle of 10); Blueprint for Progress will be sold by the case.

The literature, finance, volunteer, and meeting list committees all have chairs and volunteers.

The information center will provide literature to be sold at the ETAAA Fall Assembly November 3-5, 2017, in Austin.

**Challenges:**

A less expensive phone service and web host are needed.

A webmaster is needed for the Austin Al-Anon Information Center website.

Elections will be held for the following Board positions at the next AAIC meeting on November 13, at 6:30 P. M. at the Austin Al-Anon Information Center: treasurer and AAIC Liaison.

**San Antonio AIS/LDC ~ Nancy M. ~**

The San Antonio Al-Anon Information Service/Literature Distribution Center business meeting was held July 29, 2017, in the Schertz United Methodist Church. Nine (9) District 12 voting Information Service Representatives (ISRs) and three (3) guests were 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 inquiries to the district coordinators; and maintains a San Antonio website:

**[www.texas-al-anon.org/sanantonio](http://www.texas-al-anon.org/sanantonio)**

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.

The San Antonio Information Service (SAAIS) Monthly Fund-raiser Speaker Meetings for the rest of 2017 will be September 2, host group, Spring Branch AFG; November 11, host group, Boerne Hope AFG; and December 2, host group, Friday 11 AM AFG.

September 16, the SAAIS will host A Day in Al-Anon workshop "Using the Leadership Essay Concept 9) and the Concepts of Service in our Personal Lives". The workshop leader is Ric B. from Virginia Beach, VA. The location is Schertz United

Methodist Church 3460 Roy Richard Dr. (FM 3009) Schertz, TX 78154. Registration at 9:00 am with the Program beginning at 9:30 am.

A soup and salad lunch will be provided for \$10.00 from 12:30 to 1:15 pm. The program will resume at 1:15 until 4:30 pm. Nancy M. is planning our lunch and we are asking you to RSVP by September 9 by email or phone. [nanmate@gvvc.com](mailto:nanmate@gvvc.com) or 210-367-0661.

October 7 is 14<sup>th</sup> Serenity Celebration. This event will be held at the Schertz United Methodist Church. Claudia B. from Scroggins, TX is the Al-Anon speaker and Vangie H. from San Antonio, TX is the AA speaker. Please contact JP [serenity\\_celebration@yahoo.com](mailto:serenity_celebration@yahoo.com) for ticket purchase. The advance ticket price is \$20.00 until September 18 the ticket price goes to \$25.00. If your group would like to sit together each table will seat 8. Please see the attached flyers with the newsletter or go to the San Antonio website for more information. We are looking forward to another great evening of beautiful decorations, good food, good speakers, and fun bidding on the homemade desserts that are "Oh, sooo good"!

**December 9, 2017 will be the next SAAIS business meeting and election for the next panel 2018-2020 from 10:00 to 12:00. Registration will begin at 9:30 in Room 206 in the Schertz United Methodist Church, 3460 Roy Richard Drive (FM 3009) Schertz. I look forward to meeting more Information Service Representatives (ISR) at the next meeting.**

**South Texas AIS/LDC ~ Bennie P. ~**

Our hearts, love and prayers go out to all our members who were affected by Hurricane Harvey! We are ready to help out with literature or whatever is needed. You can communicate with us at the information below.

Official address:  
SOUTH TEXAS AIS  
P O BOX 720178  
McAllen, TX 78504  
956-975-7303

At the beginning of summer, our District Public Outreach coordinator moved away to Florida. Since then, we have not had any Public Outreach projects. However, there is a person that has accepted the position and hopefully, we will make it official at our October District meeting when we hold our elections. We also have another member that helps a lot in that area and she already has an event planned for October. We are looking for someone to help her.

**Beaumont AIS/LDC ~ Suzanne R.**

No Report Submitted

**INTERGRUPAL HISPANA DE HOUSTON**

**~Rosalba R.~**

Les enviamos un saludo deseando que sus asuntos sigan fluyendo con armonia,

Informandoles que el grupo de hijos adultos Unidad y Confianza, han agregado un día mas quedando Martes y Sabados de 6:00 pm a 8:00 pm, ubicado en 1319 W Bell St Houston TX. 77019.

Contacto Elda 281-250-8898.

En Noviembre tendremos cambio de Mesa de Servidores, estan cordialmente invitados. La reunion de asuntos del Intergrupo son el ultimo domingo de cada mes de 11:00am a 1:00 pm. Direccion fisica; 6160 Glenmont Dr Apt. 155 Houston Tx 77081.

P.O. Box 1975

Bellaire, 77402.

pag. web; [alanonhispano.org](http://alanonhispano.org)

e-mail. [intergrupohispanohouston@gmail.com](mailto:intergrupohispanohouston@gmail.com)



**JULY 6-8, 2018**

**BALTIMORE, MARYLAND**

#### **REGISTRATION BY WEB OR MAIL**

Registration opens September 2017.

**Registration Fees:** \$130.00 US **must be received by** December 31, 2017

\$165.00 US between January 1 and **must be received by** May 31, 2018

\$195.00 US June 1st through the Convention

Payable by check, money order, or credit card. Cash (US) will only be accepted from attendees who register on-site at the Convention.

International checks and money orders must be in US funds drawn on a US bank. **Note: Travel agency checks for multiple registrations will not be accepted.**

You may register online through **al-anon.org/international**, or fill out and mail the registration form with full payment to:

**2018 Al-Anon/Alateen International Convention**

**RCS**

**1833 Portola Rd, Suite D**

**Ventura, CA 93003**

Once registered, you will receive confirmation via e-mail, access to the Housing Reservation link, and a hyperlink to a form to volunteer to lead a workshop or share at a workshop. If you mail your registration form, please allow two to three weeks to receive your registration confirmation, housing information, and volunteer form in the mail.

If your registration is received by May 31, 2018, your badge(s) will be mailed to you. Bring your badge with you to Baltimore **(there is a \$60.00 US administrative processing fee to print a duplicate badge)**; it is your proof of registration. When you arrive in Baltimore, come to the Baltimore Convention Center with your badge to pick up your Convention program. Registration opens Wednesday—visit the Al-Anon International Convention website for hours of operation.

#### **HOUSING INFORMATION**

Housing reservation information, including the housing company's contact information, will be included with your registration confirmation. Hotel rates range from \$131.00 US per night to \$199.00 US per night plus applicable taxes. Hotel rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis. However, you must be registered for the Convention before you may make your housing reservations. Once your registration form and payment have been received, you will receive housing information by the same method that you used to register. If online, a link to the Housing Reservation website will be available after you complete the registration process. You will then be able to complete your hotel reservation online. Check the Housing website for details on hotel cancellations.

If you register by mail, housing information will be sent to you by postal mail. Complete your housing information and send required deposit to the address indicated on the Housing Reservation Form. Your hotel reservation will be processed and a confirmation mailed to you.

#### **Registration questions?**

Visit **al-anon.org/international**, email **al-anoninternationalconvention@al-anon.org**, or call 757-563-1600

ETAAA Financial Report 2017						1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 3/31/17	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr 6/30/17	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr 8/10/17	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr 12/31/17	Total YTD	2017 Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	YTD Validation
<b>Income</b>													
<b>Assembly Surplus</b>						3,842.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,842.36			0.00
Fall 2016						3,842.36				3,842.36			
Spring 2017													
<b>Beacon Income</b>						60.00	72.00	12.00		144.00	200.00	(56.00)	
<b>Contributions Income</b>						5,253.73	3,212.66	4,068.41		12,534.80	22,800.00	(10,265.20)	
<b>Fall Gratitude Basket</b>										0.00			
<b>Miscellaneous Income</b>						25.00	25.00			50.00			
<b>Total Income</b>						9,181.09	3,309.66	4,080.41	0.00	16,571.16	23,000.00	(6,428.84)	0.00
<b>Expenses</b>													
<b>Travel / Expenses</b>						866.61	2,311.51	458.57	0.00	3,636.69	12,000.00	(8,363.31)	0.00
Alateen Coordinator										0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	
Alateen Liaison										0.00	400.00	(400.00)	
Alateen Process Person						245.19	610.93			856.12	1,000.00	(143.88)	
Alternate Delegate							377.09			377.09	600.00	(222.91)	
Archives						151.80	207.50			359.30	500.00	(140.70)	
Beacon Editor						123.45	160.39			283.84	500.00	(216.16)	
Chair						93.06	158.03	195.61		446.70	800.00	(353.30)	
Delegate						13.42	126.00			139.42	1,500.00	(1,360.58)	
Group Records						66.00				66.00	500.00	(434.00)	
Public Outreach							310.05			310.05	600.00	(289.95)	
Past Delegates										0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)	
Past Area Chairperson										0.00	500.00	(500.00)	
Secretary							172.26			172.26	800.00	(627.74)	
Spanish Coordinator										0.00	500.00	(500.00)	
Treasurer						116.10		262.96		379.06	800.00	(420.94)	
Website Coordinator						57.59	189.26			246.85	500.00	(253.15)	
<b>Other Expenses</b>						1,846.88	1,349.92	5.00	0.00	3,201.80	4,400.00	(1,198.20)	0.00
Beacon Publishing						1,525.00	815.70			2,340.70	3,100.00	(759.30)	
Storage Unit for Archives						175.00	449.92			624.92	1,080.00	(455.08)	
Transitional AWSC Meeting										0.00	0.00	0.00	
Web Hosting Fee						131.88				131.88	120.00	11.88	
Audit Committee Expense										0.00	0.00	0.00	
Miscellaneous Expense						15.00	84.30	5.00		104.30	100.00	4.30	
<b>World Service Conference</b>						700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00	3,200.00	(2,500.00)	0.00
Area's Gifts to WSC						300.00				300.00	300.00	0.00	
Delegate's Equalized Expense to WSC										0.00	2,500.00	(2,500.00)	
Delegate's Incidental Expenses to WSC						400.00				400.00	400.00	0.00	

<b>SC Regional Delegate Meeting</b>	2,222.37	528.07	0.00	0.00	2,750.44	3,400.00	(649.56)	0.00
Delegate		470.53			470.53	600.00	(129.47)	
Chair	778.04				778.04	600.00	178.04	
Immediate Past Delegate					0.00	600.00	(600.00)	
Active Past Delegate	999.99				999.99	1,000.00	(0.01)	
Alternate Delegate	444.34	57.54			501.88	600.00	(98.12)	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	5,635.86	4,189.50	463.57	0.00	10,288.93	23,000.00	(12,711.07)	0.00
<b>Net Income Less Expenses</b>	3,545.23	(879.84)	3,616.84	0.00	6,282.23	0.00	6,282.23	0.00
<b>Allocated Expenses</b>	1st Qtr 3/31/17	2nd Qtr 6/30/17	3rd Qtr 8/10/17	4th Qtr 12/31/17	Total YTD	Allocated Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	
Public Outreach Project	2,682.43				2,682.43	3,000.00	(317.57)	
<b>Total Allocated Expense</b>	2,682.43				2,682.43	3,000.00	(317.57)	
<b>Extraordinary Income/Expense</b>	1st Qtr 3/31/17	2nd Qtr 6/30/17	3rd Qtr 8/10/17	4th Qtr 12/31/17	Total YTD			
Income								
Returned Seed Money	3,500.00				3,500.00			
Received Alateen Background Checks		558.50	13.00		571.50			
Spring Birthday Basket		830.00			830.00			
<b>Total Extraordinary Income</b>	3,500.00	1,388.50	13.00	0.00	4,901.50			
Expenses								
Seed Money	3,500.00				3,500.00			
Fees paid Alateen Background Checks		481.00	78.00		559.00			
Spring Birthday Basket to WSO			830.00		830.00			
<b>Total Extraordinary Expenses</b>	3,500.00	481.00	908.00	0.00	4,889.00			
<b>Net Extraordinary Income Less Expenses</b>	0.00	907.50	(895.00)	0.00	12.50			
<b>Profit/(Loss)</b>	862.80	27.66	2,721.84	0.00	3,612.30			
<b>Checking Account Balance</b>	3/31/2017	6/30/2017	8/10/2017	12/31/2017				
Beginning Balance	26,340.54	27,203.34	27,231.00		26,340.54			
Increase/(Decrease)	862.80	27.66	2,721.84	0.00	3,612.30			
Transfer to CD			0.33		0.33			
Ending Balance	27,203.34	27,231.00	29,953.17	0.00	29,953.17			
<b>Ample Reserve Fund (CD)</b>								
Beginning Balance	20,105.06	20,156.93	20,210.10	20,230.59	20,105.06			
Increase/(Decrease)	51.87	53.17	20.49		125.53			
Ending Balance	20,156.93	20,210.10	20,230.59	20,230.59	20,230.59			

**Area World Service Committee Meeting****August 12, 2017****Victoria, Texas****Chairman:** Kay C. opened the meeting at 12:02 pm.

**Treasurer:** Tricia L. presented the current financial condition of the Area. Currently \$29,230.59 in Checking Account, \$20,230.59 in CD (Ample Reserve), POSSE balance is \$6,279.98 and TEA AC balance is \$5,744.34. The CD was closed out and a new one started with a rate of 1.19% interest which matures in January, 2019. Contributions are up this quarter. Tricia will be working on next years budget to be presented at the Fall Assembly. A budget committee was formed consisting of Diane B., Ann R., Pat E., and Tricia L. Any questions or suggestions for next years budget should be sent to Tricia.

**Area Delegate Report:** Joyce Y. reported that the WSO has a new Executive Director. Vali F. will begin her tenure on September 5, 2017. The 2018 World Service Conference will be held in West Harrison, New York to allow for visit to Stepping Stones. The theme will be "There is No Standing Still". The International Al-Anon General Service Meeting will be held October 17 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Literature sales are above budget, but contributions are behind last year's amount. Policy Committee is still working on the term Closed as it applies to Al-Anon meetings. As of now they are going to remove the term from the Policy Book. Joyce encouraged membership to send notes to WSO staff thanking them for all they do. Full report is on record and will be in the Beacon.

**Alt Delegate/Literature Report:** Margaret F. reported that beginning in August or September the Forum magazine will have a new "contemporary" look with new design elements. Forum needs sharings on 3 Legacies, Steps 5-12, all Traditions and Concepts. Can submit shares on website. The manuscript for new book for Parents and Grandparents has been approved and should be in publication by the first quarter of 2018. The new book Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships is hoped to be available at the International in 2018. 1100 sharings have been received for the new daily reader and they are still needing more. The new Paths to Recovery Workbook sold 20,000 copies in first quarter of publication, dropped off to 5,000 in second quarter. Shares for CAL Corner are needed relating to ODAT and Paths to Recovery. There is a new Forum Writers guide. There is also a new Newcomers Packet K10 in booklet format. A new Alateen Public Service announcement is available.

**Secretary:** David S. called the roll. 21 voting members of the AWSC present. The following AWSC Officers and Coordinators were not in attendance: Spanish Coordinator and Website Coordinator. The following Districts had no representative in attendance: Districts 1, 2 and 6. The following AIS/LDC's had no Liaison in attendance: Houston and Houston Hispanic.

Minutes from the May 19, 2017 AWSC meeting in Sugar Land were read and accepted as corrected.

**Corrections:** Under Unfinished Business, 2. Assembly Task Force, the last sentence was changed to read "She then de-

scribed how Areas in other states do their Assemblies/Conventions."

**Unfinished Business:**

**1. District 4 Report on Spring 2017 Assembly:** Mattie T. reported total registration for the event was 206, with 188 Al-Anon, 13 AA and 5 Alateen. Hotel room commitment was not met due to 7 cancellations and the Assembly had to pay the hotel \$1,186.50. D4 took care of GR table and workshops as support district was unable to do so. The district was able to return the \$3500.00 seed money to the area as well as an additional \$5,629.55.

**2. District 6 Report on Fall 2017 Assembly:** Judy W. reported that they have 29 registered so far with one scholarship available. Need 100 to participate in the Banquet. Need 51 more rooms to be reserved by 10/15/17. Hotel will have a buffet available for lunch separate from the event. Austin AIS has been contacted about selling literature. There will be a raffle.

**3. District 8 Report on Spring 2018 Assembly:** Jennifer S. reported that have chairpersons for all but 1 committee. Their next meeting is going to be next Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. Food will be provided. Fliers are available.

**4. Task Force Report on Realignment of Districts 4, 5 and 7:** Mattie, Kurt and Peggy updated the AWSC on what the Task Force has been working on regarding the possible division of District 5 into 5 separate districts. Reported that of 432 Al-Anon groups in the East Texas Area, 130 are in District 5. A town hall meeting was held and there was little opposition to the realignment of the district. Districts 4 and 7 would gain some groups that are currently in District 5. After discussion, there was a consensus of the AWSC that the Task Force Committee would assist District 5 Representative Anita C. in putting together a letter attempting to contact all groups in District 5 regarding their willingness to realign the District.

**5. Task Force report on Assembly Liaison:** Joyce Y. presented a draft proposal for the responsibilities, role, qualifications, selection, term and funding of an Area Assembly Liaison as voted on and approved at the May 20, 2017 Spring Assembly. After discussion regarding the position, the AWSC came to a consensus that the Task Force will take back the comments from the discussion and re-examine the proposed role, duties, etc. of the position. Kay C. will present an update on the status of the position at the Fall Assembly.

**6. Task Force report on Assembly Program and Guidelines:** Nancy M. expressed concerns regarding the direction of the task force as it related to a motion that was passed at the February 4, 2017 AWSC meeting. After discussion, a motion was made to rescind the motion from the February AWSC meeting which passed by consensus. Area Chair Kay C. decided to table action on this agenda item until the new AWSC panel is installed at the end of this year.

**Motion #1:** I, Bennie Pena make a motion to rescind the motion made at the Feb., 2017 AWSC of "After discussing the Assembly Guidelines a motion that the Area go forward with keeping with spiritual principals of an area as-

sembly" Motion #1 Passed: 15-For, 3-Opposed, 1-Abstention

**7. Public Outreach Update on Excess funds:** Judy W. reported that \$2,700 of the \$3,000 the Area set aside for public outreach projects has been spent with no plan to spend the remaining \$300. A total of 1500 Posters and 5000 Public Outreach packets in both English and Spanish were distributed throughout the Area. She thanked all the District PO Coordinators for their help in accomplishing this. Kay C. pointed out that the remaining \$300 will be returned to the Area's General Fund.

**8. Bids for Road Trip:** Joyce Y. reported in response to AWS-C's desire at the May 2017 meeting to put in a bid to host a WSO "Road Trip" in 2018, 3 hotels in Houston and 1 in Austin were contacted about hosting the event for the dates of October 15-20, 2018. It was decided that the hotel in Austin would be removed from consideration due to price and the fact that a formula one race is occurring in Austin during those dates. During the dates of the event, Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> would be the date that interested Al-Anon members could meet the WSO board members. A consensus was reached by the AWSC to go forward with placing a bid with the WSO to host the event, presenting the 3 hotels in Houston.

#### New Business:

**1. Election eligibility for Delegate, Alt. Delegate, Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Coordinator Positions:** Kay informed AWSC members present of requirements and who was eligible to stand for positions at Fall Assembly.

**2. Thought Force on Translation for Spanish speaking people at Assemblies:** Kay C. tabled discussion of this item which will be passed on to new panel for consideration.

**3. AWSC meeting at Fall Assembly:** After discussion, consensus was to have the meeting after the Friday night speaker, approx. 9:15 pm

**4. Transition Meeting:** After discussion, Lynn S. was tasked with getting quotes to hold the Panel Transition meeting in Gonzales with a preferred date of January 26-28, 2018. February 9-12, 2018 would be second choice.

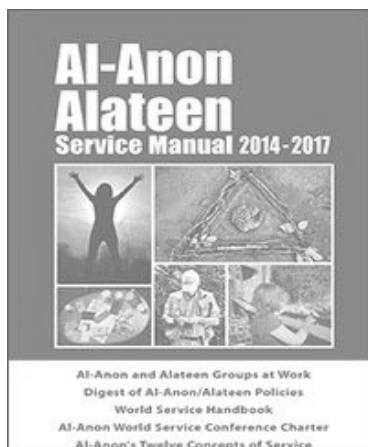
**Reports:** By consensus, District Representatives, Coordinators and AIS/LDC Liaison reports were deferred and will be printed in the Beacon.

Next Beacon deadline is September 1, 2017.

Meeting was closed at 4:17 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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**East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Fall Assembly (ETAAA)****Austin, TX – Nov. 4 2017****PROPOSED Business Meeting Agenda Subject to Change**

- 8:00-9:00 a.m. GR Interchange –Margaret F. Alternate Delegate
- 8:00-9:00 a.m. DR Interchange – DR Discussion on Assemblies and Elections
- 9:15 a.m. ETAAA Business Meeting Opens- Kay C. Chairperson
- 9:30 a.m. Delegate's Report – Joyce Y. – Panel 55
- 10:30 a.m. Conversation Items- Details are printed in the Beacon 1 time at the mike /2 min limit
- Election Procedures
- Realignment of Districts 4, 5, and 7 (update)
- 11:30 ish LUNCH BREAK
- 1:00 p.m. ETAAA BUSINESS MEETING RESUMES
- 1:15 p.m. Non-election roll call: Group Rep.'s (GR's) MUST BE PRESENT TO VOTE
- VOTING PROCEDURE:** Election Procedures – See Service Manual page 149-152. Ballot election
- Secretary's Report – David S.
- Treasurer's Report – Tricia L.
- Alternate Delegate Report/Literature Coordinator Report –Margaret F.
- Unfinished business None
- New Business
- Budget
- Elections
- Business from the floor
- Gratitude Basket Total –Tricia L.
- Assembly Reports (2 minutes each please)
- Links of Service Reports- DRs, AC, AIS/LDC : (2 minutes each)1 challenge / 1 success
- 4:00 pm Close ETAAA Business Meeting with Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration

**Announcements**

AWSC Transition Meeting- January 26-28, 2018 – Gonzales, TX

Beacon Deadline – TBD by new panel, 2018

All Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Conference San Antonio, TX, Feb. 16-18, 2018

ETAAA Spring Assembly- May 4-7, 2018

**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**

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

Let It Begin With Me    How Important Is It?    But for the Grace of God    One Day at a Time

Three Cs: I didn't Cause it, I can't Control it, I can't Cure it    Qtip: Quit Taking It Personally    How: Honest Open Willing

## East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly (ETAAA)

Fall Assembly  
November 3-5, 2017

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Austin, Texas 78752

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Hotel Reservations: 888-300-6273

Ask for ETAAA rates

\$108 for Single, Double, or King

Hotel Reservation Cutoff Date: Oct. 15, 2017



### Featured Speakers

Vali F., Virginia Beach, VA - WSO Executive Director

Warren E., Norman, OK - AA

Dianne E., Norman, OK - Al-Anon

GR \_\_\_ DR \_\_\_ AMLAS \_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> Assembly (Y/N) \_\_\_ # of Years in Program \_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Badge \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name \_\_\_\_\_ District # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ \$30 Al-Anon Registration

\_\_\_ \$30 AA Registration

\_\_\_ \$5 Alateen Registration

\_\_\_ \$25 Banquet (cutoff date Oct. 15)

Make Checks Payable to ETAAA - District 6

Mail to: Attn: ETAAA Registration

Mailing Address: ETAAA Assembly

2121 Lohman's Crossing Rd.; STE 504-178

Lakeway, Tx. 78734

Email questions to: [txefallasassembly@aol.com](mailto:txefallasassembly@aol.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.

Three As: Awareness, Acceptance, Action    Three Es: Get off Their Back, Get out of Their Way, Get on With Your Own Life

First Things First    Let Go and Let God    Keep an Open Mind    Easy Does It    Let Go and Let God

**ETAAA**

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