

THE BEACON

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

A Message from the Chair ~ Lynn S.~

Hello, Texas East Area 53

I am excited to write my first *Beacon* report and bring you up to date on the happenings in our area. I have chosen four words along with the Al-Anon slogans **Educate – “Listen and Learn” Communicate – “Keep an Open Mind” Coordinate – “Let It Begin with Me” Facilitate – “Easy Does It”** to focus on for my term. It is my hope that they will help us all in our service positions.

Since the Fall Assembly elections Terri D'A., Area Alateen Coordinator, notified me that she was having to move and would not be able to serve. I have asked Jayne G. to step up and take that position. Many of you, I know, have already begun to communicate with her.

My first job was to coordinate and facilitate the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) transition meeting held January 26-28 in Gonzales, Texas. This is the traditional meeting for the incoming and outgoing area officers, coordinators and district representatives to meet and pass on their experience, strength and hope and most importantly to get to know each other so we can provide the area with the best service possible.

During the weekend we participated in workshops on Knowledge-Based Decision-Making (KBDM), a walk through the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*, and the correct way to turn in reports to those in our area that need them. Next was the AWSC meeting with your trusted servants. Sunday morning we heard short talks from Pat E., “What are “Love Gifts”, Judy P., “What is the difference between a Regional Trustee (RT) and a Trustee at Large (TAL)?”, Joyce Y., “What is the South Central Region Delegates Meeting (SCRDM)?”, and Nancy M. “What is the All Texas Conference (ATAAC)?”. Then the **Not So Prime Time Players** directed by Jocelyn B. performed the skit “*Understanding Anonymity*”. There was a rising star in that production, our new Area Alateen Liaison, Brendan G. Group Representatives (GRs) ask your District Representatives (DRs) to share these topics with you at your district meetings.

For the complete information on this AWSC meeting see the minutes in this issue. Paula H. has done a great job and I thank her for her hard work on listening and taking notes of a very busy meeting. See the First Quarter 2018, Volume 50 Issue 1 pages 8 and 9 for the November 4, 2017 minutes that will be presented for approval at the Spring Assembly meeting, May 5, 2018.

Just a reminder this issue of *The Beacon* has information that will be brought to the floor for discussion and possible vote during the area business meeting. Please read and share with your group so you will be ready to take part in any discussion and voting that may take place. Come prepared and be informed.

I am looking forward to a great Spring Assembly in Beaumont. I know District 8 has worked hard to make the weekend full of fun, food and fellowship as we head back to the 50s. I hope we see lots of poodle skirts and saddle shoes.



Calendar of Events

Spring Assembly 2018

May 4-6, 2018

Clifton Event Complex

8727 Highway 124

Beaumont, Texas 77720

Fall Assembly 2018

Nov 2-4, 2018

Hilton Garden Inn

905 East Hawkins

Parkway

Longview, Texas 75605

ATAAC

February 8-10, 2019

Houston Marriott

Westchase Hotel

2900 Briar Park Dr.

Houston, TX 77042

POSSE

March 22-24, 2019

Gonzales, Texas

TEA AC

April 12-14, 2019

Gonzales, Texas

**Deadline for Submissions for
the next issue of *The Beacon*
July 1, 2018**

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AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE – 2018-2020

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 1324

Silsbee, TX 77656

Delegate Report ~Kay C.~

Hi Area 53,

I hope your 2018 has gotten off to a good start! First, I want to thank Joyce Y. for all her service to the Area over the last 3 years. She has left some big shoes to fill. My goal this year is to be of service to all of you and represent your voice at the World Service Conference (WSC). To hear your voice, I would love to visit your district. District 6, thank you for the invitation to visit in July. District Representatives (DRs), please contact me if you want me to visit your district. As the primary link to the groups and members of Area 53, I have the following items to share.

2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24-27) The new service manual is available online at <https://al-anon.org/members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/>. You can download a PDF of the manual from this web page. The paper copy is available for \$5.00. Groups will not be getting a complimentary copy so your group and/or GR will need to purchase a new manual. However, groups will be getting a complimentary copy of the *GROUPS AT WORK* (P-24) section of the manual.

2018 World Service Conference – Al-Anon There is No Standing Still! The WSC April 16-20 will be held the year in West Harrison, New York, April 16-20, 2018, instead of Virginia Beach. The New York site will allow the opportunity for the full Conference to visit Stepping Stones during Conference Week. WAHOO! I want to thank the Area for sharing your spiritual abundance with the Love Gift of \$300.00 and the incidental allowance of \$400.00. As I write this, I have not attended Conference, yet, but I know that it will come in handy for the extra day I need for travel, tips, coffee, airport meals, etc.

—Celebrating One Day at a Time- 2018 International Convention – July 6-8, 2017. Online registration can be easily completed by going to <https://al-anon.org> and clicking on the International Convention link in the top right-hand corner of the website. The convention block of hotel and lodging options will be available once you complete your registration. Be sure to note your registration number as it is required to complete your hotel reservations. Registration fees are \$165 through May 31, 2018 and \$195 June 1, 2018 through the event. Can you picture yourself in Baltimore in 2018? I hope to see you there!

Day of Connecting: In addition to the International Convention, a *Day of Connecting* has been planned by the Board of Trustees. The *Day of Connecting* will be held on **Thursday, July 5th**. Registration is a separate fee of \$40 and will increase to \$45 after May 31, 2018. It will be a day of learning, sharing and deepening your understanding and commitment to our third legacy: Service.

50th Anniversary One Day at a Time in Al-Anon (B-6) (ODAT) commemorative edition, complete with gold lettering on the cover and gold ribbon book mark has been approved by the Board of Trustees. This special edition of the ODAT (B-6) will be available at the 2018 International Convention and for the remainder of 2018 until supplies are gone. A limited number of books will be printed and for a purchase price of \$15. A commemorative book plate will be included *only* for those purchased at the convention.

Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect: Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 20th when **Texas East** will host the 2018 Road Trip!

Location: Houston Marriott South at Hobby Airport. Flyers and registration information will be made available in the near future. Information related to hosting the 2019 Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect will be made available to Delegates during the 2018 WSC. This is your chance to meet the Board of Trustees! More details to come: email roadtrip2018@gmail.com for more information.

Al-Anon Membership survey. The 2018 Al-Anon Membership survey is now closed and the results are being compiled. Thank you to all that participated. This is the only means Al-Anon has to help discern who comes to Al-Anon, how they got here and why members stay.

Financial

WSO received \$1,972,931 in contributions in 2017 and literature sales of \$3,523,843 (based on unaudited financial statements). The 2017 contributions reflect our second highest year of contributions. Literature sales reflect an increase of \$186,192 from 2016. 57.5% of the active groups in Area 53 contributed \$41,590.41. This is up about \$5500 from last year. I think this is great. Does your group contribute to the Service Arms in your District (District, Information Center, Area, and WSO)? More importantly your contributions and literature sales reflect the resources necessary for the WSO Staff to develop and provide the following new programs and services in 2017 and beyond:

- Completion of the newly designed al-anon.org website
- Completion of the newly designed Members link on the al-anon.org website
- Ability to hire and retain Staff versus the expense of outside consulting
- Completion of the new meeting search
- Ability to not only look to the future but the continued commitment to our primary purpose of reaching families and friends of alcoholics.

The average contribution for Area 53 Group to WSO is about \$164 and the cost to WSO to support each group is about \$280.00. I understand that every group does not have the means to send contributions to WSO, but every \$1.00 sent helps.

Service Opportunities at the WSO level. Please announce and or consider the following service opportunities at the WSO level.

- 3 at-Large Trustees - 3 year commitment
- 1 at-Large member, Executive Committee for Real Property Management- 3 year commitment
- 5 at-Large members, Forum Editorial Advisory Committee - 1 year commitment
- 5 at-Large members, Literature Committee - 1 year commitment
- 5 at-Large members, Public Outreach Committee - 1 year commitment
- 2 at-Large members, Audit Committee - 1 year commitment

The Trustee at Large (TAL) and Executive Committee for Real Property Management have a deadline of **August 15**,

2018. The Committee members can be anyone in the fellowship and are selected in **April**. You can contact WSO or me if you are interested in any of these positions. Selection of the persons for these positions does not have to be approved by the Area. I have attached the resume forms

In closing, please let me know how I can support you in your Service Journey. —Kay C. *Al-Anon - There is No Standing Still!*

Alt. Delegate Report ~ Mattie T.~

Happy Spring to Texas East Area 53 AFGs, thank you for electing me to represent you all as your Alt. Delegate and Area Literature Coordinator. Here's the latest update of literature news.

- ***Understanding & Hope for Parents & Grandparents (P-94)***: This new pamphlet is being translated into French and Spanish as I write this. We hope to introduce it at April's World Service Conference and have it available to the fellowship in May. Priority order forms will be posted to the Literature Distribution Centers on AFG Connects prior to that.
- ***Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships—A collection of Al-Anon personal stories***: This highly anticipated new book is expected to be introduced in Baltimore at the 2018 Al-Anon International Convention in July. Priority order forms will be posted to the Literature Distribution Centers on AFG Connects prior to that.
- **2019 CAL Catalog (S-15) and CAL Order Form (S-16)**: In order to include our newest Literature in them, these free service tools will be available beginning this summer.
- **NEW DAILY READER (working title)**: Please continue to encourage members to submit sharings for this project, especially on the Steps, Traditions and Concepts of Service.
- **"CAL Corner"**: Each month, the "CAL Corner" feature in *The Forum* includes members' sharings on how a particular piece of our literature has enhanced their recovery. The February articles feature *Discovering Choices* (B-30). March's are about *Lois Remembers* (B-7), in celebration of her birthday. April's articles cover *Paths to Recovery* (B-24) and the *Paths to Recovery Workbook* (P-93).
- **Writing about CAL for Area Newsletters**: Please share what your Area is doing to spread the word about CAL or publish reviews of various CAL books and pamphlets in your Area newsletter.
- **Sharings needed for "CAL Corner"**: We always need more sharings about how CAL has helped members with their recovery. Please urge members to write in commemoration of

the 50th anniversary of *One Day at a Time in Al-Anon* (B-6). We could also use articles about *Discovering Choices* (B-30) and *...In All Our Affairs* (B-15). Please see the writing guideline for "CAL Corner" in the Guidelines & Procedures folder under the "Library" folders in the Literature Coordinator community.

Exploring AFG Connects: Please take time to search through the many existing documents in the Literature Coordinator community of AFG Connects—particularly the summaries of previous conference calls, Literature Coordinator Guidelines, Workshops, skits, and recurring questions from other Literature Coordinators. These are all found in the

Quotations for 2019 Service Arm Calendars

The following 20 quotations (in English, Spanish, and French) from Conference Approved Literature can be used by Al-Anon service arms in 2019 calendars without completing the usually required reprint permission request form. For those service arms that wish their calendars to focus on the "Step of the month," the first 12 quotations are about the Twelve Steps. Eight other quotations on a variety of topics are also provided. You may use as few or as many of these quotations in your calendar as you wish. As a service arm, you may also quote any or all of the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service, provided you do not alter them in any way. The only stipulation is that you include the attribution to the quotation immediately following it, and that somewhere in the body of the calendar, you include the following credit line:

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Step One puts the focus back on me, not on the alcoholic. My attempts to control others make my life crazy, but by letting go, I become free. Those around me find freedom to make their own mistakes and face their own consequences. *Reaching for Personal Freedom—Living the Legacies* (P-92), page 11

In Step Two we realized we didn't have all the answers and that "a Power greater than ourselves" could help us. Many of us call this Higher Power "God." Some of us feel this is the group. It doesn't matter, as long as we really believe in something outside of ourselves that can help us. *Alateen—Hope for Children of Alcoholics* (B-3), page 14

If someone can't be a loving witness to my sadness, I can learn to accept it without resentment. Step Three helps me do this. When I think something isn't right in my world, I remind myself that I turned my will and my life over to the care of a loving Higher Power this morning. Even if my expectations are not met, I am still safe.

Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses (B-29), pages 45-6

Step Four is an exercise in perception, a way to distinguish between what works in our lives and what is no longer useful or necessary. Being aware of what we did yesterday can help

us understand and accept who we are today, so tomorrow we can become the people we want to be.

Blueprint for Progress: Al-Anon's Fourth Step Inventory (P-91), page 9

For the first time that I could remember, I felt I was *truly* a human being. It took my Fifth Step to really show me I was not from another planet, but someone who belonged on earth, at one with humanity. If I had not risked admitting my characteristics to another human being, I would not have healed an important part of my life—my relationship to other people.

From Survival to Recovery: Growing Up in an Alcoholic Home (B-21), page 193

The Sixth Step is an inspiring challenge to surrender ourselves to the guidance of our Higher Power. I will read this serenely beautiful statement of submission to God's will as often as I have need of it . . . My goal will be to make myself "entirely ready"—to let go of the negative habits of thought that have been reflected in the happenings of my life.

One Day at a Time in Al-Anon (B-6), page 172

One of my greatest fears about Step Seven was that there would not be anything left of me when I gave up my shortcomings. When I let go, however, God showed me the behaviors, motivations, and attitudes that I wanted to nurture and grow within me.

Al-Anon's Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions (B-8), page 48

Whether we have made carefully considered choices that feel absolutely right for us or have acted impulsively out of fear or anger, our actions have consequences. Sometimes other people get hurt. By taking Step Eight, we acknowledge this fact and become willing to make amends. With this Step we sort out our part, taking responsibility for our actions but also releasing ourselves—and possibly others—from the burden of falsely-held responsibilities.

. . . *In All Our Affairs: Making Crises Work for You* (B-15), page 186

I recently finished my Ninth Step and experienced a wonderful sense of freedom. I was able to see those things I kept doing over and over that for all my good intentions, did not give me the results I wanted. After working through the Steps, I noticed with wry humor that the people closest to me have certainly begun acting a lot better.

Discovering Choices (B-30), page 190

Today I accept myself as imperfect and allow myself to make mistakes. When I do, I use the Tenth Step to help me forgive and amend my own behavior. I find that the more I learn in Al-Anon, the less frequently I act against my own best interests, and the easier it is to forgive myself when I do.

Hope for Today (B-27), page 49

In Step Eleven I seek to improve my conscious contact with God through prayer and meditation. How I do this is completely up to me. . . . Whatever path I choose, I know I must keep trying as often as I can to follow the course offered to me by my Higher Power. Only in this way can I be confident of my actions; only in this way can I find the courage to change.

Courage to Change (B-16), page 165

Step Twelve invites us to stay on our path to recovery. We

must continue our maintenance work so we won't slip back into old patterns. To continue, we need to share all that we have been given with other families and friends of alcoholics. To keep it, we have to give it away.

Paths to Recovery—Al-Anon's Steps, Traditions, and Concepts (B-24), page 121

To be happy today, we have to let go of our shadow worlds. For most of us in Al-Anon, this is made possible through considerable spiritual effort, one which we need to make whether or not the alcoholic finds continuing sobriety.

Living with Sobriety (P-49), page 43

I am so quick to perceive what I suffer from others, but so slow to notice what others suffer from me.

Blueprint for Progress (P-5), page 34

Detachment did not mean disinterest. For me, it meant respect for another. With detachment, I kept my hands off my family's situation, and I did not interfere while my son struggled toward his own recovery.

To Parents of Alcoholics (P-16), page 14

Al-Anon for me is a program for living—a design for living. I've found a certain sense of reality—a more livable outlook. I discovered a real understanding of life, of people, and most importantly, of me. I learned I have limitations—and that it's okay.

Alcoholism, the Family Disease (P-4), page 11

In everything I do, I will try to reflect the light and the wisdom that will come to me through my surrender to my Higher Power.

The Dilemma of the Alcoholic Marriage (B-4), page 81

Spiritual awakenings can occur even when it appears there will be no possible agreement. When I humbly let go of my will, a solution is revealed. It may not be the answer I was looking for, but it becomes clear that it is the one chosen by a Higher Power.

Reaching for Personal Freedom—Living the Legacies (P-92), page 170

Genuine, healthy love isn't self-destructive. It doesn't diminish us or strip us of our identities, nor does it in any way diminish those we love. Love is nourishing; it allows each of us to be more fully ourselves. The enmeshment that characterizes an alcoholic relationship does just the opposite.

How Al-Anon Works for Families & Friends of Alcoholics (B-22), page 83

Because I have come to believe alcoholism is truly an illness, I do not hate my child when he is sick—just as I did not hate him when he had pneumonia or a heart attack. Because of Al-Anon I have found a freedom I could not have believed possible. I have found serenity, peace of mind, and joy. I do not have to be chained to the despair I once knew. *To Parents of Alcoholics* (P-16), page 12

Area Alateen Coordinator ~ Jayne G.~

Wow, it's already been three months into the New Year. Time does fly when one is busy. Since the transition meeting back in January, I have sent out a "newsletter" to all re-certifying Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) to let them know that everyone will have to attend a workshop to re-certify. I regret having to let them know that there is no on-line training manual. This has been an ongoing miscommunication through the past four or five years. So, we have a flutter flurry of workshops across our area to get everyone who is interested in re-certifying to a workshop.

Back in January our area was down to two Area Trainers and I put out a call for volunteers to step up to the opportunity to serve in this capacity. I have had three people step up and that will help tremendously. Thank you to the three. My vision is to have a trainer in every district, so if you know an AMIAS who is looking to service beyond the group level, get them in touch with me. I've been doing a lot of internet trolling, seeing how other Areas have been doing AMIAS workshops and have learned a lot.

One thought I have to make re-certifying easier is the attendance to an AMIAS/Group Sponsor meeting at a District meeting as satisfying the re-certification workshop requirements each year. That would require a District Alateen Coordinator (DAC) to facilitate the meeting. Not all Districts have a DAC. My thoughts are the district representative could sign off that a group of AMIAS had a meeting at the District meeting. That might work. I have participated in a few webinars. Good webinar service costs money. So that does not seem to be too good an option. But I'm still searching for an easier way to accomplish re-certification.

I attended Program Of Sponsors Sharing Everything (POSSE) and had a great time and as we had a World Service Office (WSO) person there, learned a few things that are seeds for thought. Our Area does have an Alateen Liaison this year. That's good thing. We have not had one for a few years. It's good that Alateen has a voice and vote at the Area World Service Committee (AWSC).

And we'll be having the Texas East Area 53 Alateen Conference (TEA AC) in April. Hopefully we will have good attendance. I see my work is cut out for me and hope we will continue to have people interested in fostering Alateen in our Area for years to come. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Area Alateen Process Person ~ Brenda Henning~

As your new Area Alateen Process Person, I want to thank all of the service sponsors who have generously shared their experience, strength I have participated in three WSO AAPP training webinars and the POSSE training so now I am also an AMIAS.

Since assuming the AAPP role, I have and will be (as of this report) certifying a total of 30 Al-Anon members in Area 53 who have completed the requirements to serve in this important role of sponsoring Alateen meetings.

In particular, I want to thank Bennie P., our area's previous AAPP for mentoring me. As is typical for my understanding of Higher Power, He reinforced for me my willingness to serve

when Bennie shared with me her personal journey in Al-Anon and that in visiting the meetings she had met my very first sponsor in Iowa. We are a worldwide fellowship of Al-Anon and Alateen and I am a grateful member!

Public Outreach Coordinator ~ Lynn Brown~

Greetings to all!

In the case have not already heard, April is Alcohol Awareness month!

According to Claire R. the WSO Associate Director-Professionals,

"The WSO cooperates with national events such as April Alcohol Awareness Month, Recovery Day Canada or September National Recovery Month because these special focuses are opportunities to work together for the common goal of educating the public and helping more families of alcoholics learn about Al-Anon. Members can do this by contacting organizations that are hosting events or accepting invitations from them to provide Al-Anon services such having an Al-Anon information table, providing speakers or presentations during the months that these events take place. Al-Anon members and service arms can also host special open meetings during these timeframes to attract more families of alcoholics as well as to educate the public.

All that Al-Anon hopes to achieve by cooperating with these special events is attract more newcomers to our program by making Al-Anon more visible in communities. Al-Anon is not permanently affiliating with the sponsors of these special events or "promoting" our program. We are only providing information about our program, i.e., attraction. "Cooperation and good will strengthen Public Outreach" as cited in our Service Manual on page 188."

In general, The WSO's website is a great resource for getting ideas and materials for Public Outreach. The member's resource (<http://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/>) and the public outreach pages (al-anon.org/for-members/public-outreach), have listings of literature and tips that are helpful in planning Public Outreach activities.

Three suggestions for Alcohol Awareness month:

- Individuals can place Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2018 Magazines, (please remember to get permission when leaving magazines at doctors' offices and businesses)
- Groups can invite professionals to open meetings and or supply members with pamphlets to leave at businesses, offices or mail.
- Districts can send extra PSA's to radio stations and T.V

I look forward to hearing what folks did for Alcohol awareness month from your District POC at our Assembly in May!

Finally, does your group, and or district have members that would like to go to the 2018 Al-Anon International Convention in Baltimore, Maryland? They have the time, but funds are low?

Consider supporting members by setting aside funds for registration scholarships.

Also, many airlines have group travel rates (typically groups consist of 10 people, or more and groups need to leave and return from the same airport.) that can be much cheaper than standard rates.

The following airlines have group rate programs:

Each airline has its own rules, be careful to make sure you understand them.

United

<https://www.united.com/web/en-US/content/company/globalcitizenship/community.aspx>

United allows for bidding on seats for groups of ten.

Delta

https://www.delta.com/content/www/en_US/traveling-with-us/planning-a-trip/group-travel.html#Group

Southwest

<https://www.southwest.com/html/air/business-groups/group-travel.html>

There are also companies that can assist with group bookings:

Fellowship Travel

<https://www.fellowship.com/online-tools/book-a-trip.html>

Website Coordinator ~Dorie J.~

The East Texas Area webpage is full of useful, relevant information (such as, the updated GR-1 form, the new Al-Anon / Alateen Service Manual (2018-2021), previous copies of the *Beacon* and more!) The East Texas Area section has been redesigned with Group Representatives (GR) group member information at the top, followed by Districts, Area and, finally, WSO. GRs are encouraged to share this information with other members: Address - <http://texas-al-anon.org/texaseast/> and password - *anonymity*.

Wanting to have information posted on our website? Please email: doriejafg@gmail.com. Be sure to convert all attachments (such as event flyer, newsletters, etc.) to **PDF** prior to emailing.

Want to find a meeting? The meeting information page (<http://texas-al-anon.org/meetings/>) has been updated with map and link to WSO. We are linking to WSO as their map / information is the most up-to-date. You may still find East Texas Area meeting information on this page as well. To update / change meeting information, please complete GR-1 form and email to Group Records Coordinator (area53grc@gmail.com). The Group Records Coordinator will then email those changes to me for update on the website.

Finally, some Districts have their own webpage within our site (example: <http://texas-al-anon.org/sanantonio/>). These pages often include District-specific events, meeting information, newsletters and more. If your district would like to have a district page (and or update their current page), please let me know. Again, those wanting information posted - please ensure all attachments are **PDF** and ready for upload.

Group Records Coordinator ~ Al Mitchell~

What a fast start to a new job. When I really learn it everything will slow down. Once again I have seen why Al-Anon really works. There is always a helping hand to show the way.

The main thing I want to stress is I can only do what is on your GR-1 form. Please fill out all entries so I can make the correct changes. When someone new is looking for help the first impression is made by giving them current up to date information. If your meeting is in a portable building, let's tell them how to find it, or supply the room number and anything else that will ease their entry to serenity.

If you ever have questions don't be afraid to email me or call me. No question is too foolish. I'm here to help you and our newcomers.

When you fill out your GR-1 please type it, if possible, or print clearly. It makes it so much easier to get the information correctly entered.

Thank you for all your help. In Service.

Newsletter Editor ~ Rene D.~

Hello everyone,

We are now into the Second Quarter and The *Beacon* should have reached everyone. I am still learning Publisher and copying and pasting and reformatting and most of all **patience**.

Some of The *Beacon* Newsletters came back the first quarter. Please make sure your Current Mailing Address (CMA) is updated and has been sent to our Group Records Coordinator. Please continue to share this with your groups.

The next deadline for The *Beacon* will be July 1st. Please do not send it to me in a **PDF** form. I will not accept any reports after July 1st. Thanks to everyone for getting your reports to me by the April 1st deadline. There is a lot of work involved in putting together this newsletter so the deadline I set is very important in order for me to get them out by middle of the month.

**East Texas Area 53 Al-Anon Alateen Assembly
(ETAAA)
Area World Service Committee (AWSC) Minutes
January 27, 2018
Gonzales, TX**

Chairman: Lynn S. opened the meeting at 2:10 pm followed by the Serenity Prayer, a welcome to the current AWSC, and a thank you to the outgoing and incoming AWSC. The Twelve Concepts of Service and General Warranties of the Conference were read, as well as the purpose of the AWSC on p. 162 of the *2014-2017 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*.

Secretary: Paula H. called the roll. Twenty-two of the 28 voting members were present. The following AWSC Coordinators were not in attendance: Public Outreach and Spanish. The following Districts had no representatives in attendance: District One, District Nine, and District Ten. The following Al-Anon Information Services/Literature Distribution Centers (AIS/LDCs) had no liaisons in attendance: Austin, Houston Hispanic, Houston, and South Texas.

Chairman Lynn S. approved the minutes as printed in *The Beacon* (Vol. 50, Issue 1). The chair mentioned that the minutes will be sent by the Secretary to the AWSC prior to publication in *The Beacon*. Corrections to the minutes will be sent to Lynn S. and to Paula H. Responses to receipt of emails are appreciated.

Treasurer: Jennifer S. reported that there is currently \$41,886.81 in the checking account and \$20,311.43 in the Certificate of Deposit (CD). There was a surplus from the Fall Assembly of \$712. All checks have cleared. The books for the past three years were passed to the Audit Committee by the previous Treasurer, and the end of year Treasurer's report will be filed for audit. A contribution form to ETAAA was distributed and is also available on the TX East section of the TX website. An Area Expense Claim Form (also on the TX East section of the TX website) was distributed. Expense forms can either be copied and mailed to Jennifer S., or they can be scanned and sent via email. For travel expenses, please print map directions with the starting and ending point, and submit it with a claim for round trip miles. If a side trip is needed, please put in the explanation on the form. Either gas and/or mileage can be submitted with receipts; actual expense divided out by the number of people in the car can be submitted. District Representatives will submit their mileage to their districts. AWSC incoming and outgoing officers and coordinators will submit their mileage for this AWSC meeting in Gonzales. For reimbursement of other expenses, please put expenses under "Other" and explain. The deadline for submitting the Area Expense Form for this AWSC meeting is **March 31**.

Area Delegate Report: Kay C. expressed gratitude for service and spiritual growth and excitement about attending her first World Service Conference in April, 2018 in New York. The Conference theme is "Al-Anon—There is no standing still!". Cards and love gifts can be mailed to Kay at the hotel address listed in *The Beacon*, (Vol. 50, Issue 1, p. 13). Kay sent a Delegate's update to the AWSC on January 13, 2018. Included in the update were the Chosen Agenda Items, information regarding the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*, the South Central Region Delegates' Meeting, the Al-Anon Membership Survey, service opportunities at the World Service

Office (WSO) level, ATAAC, and the International Al-Anon Convention, July 6-8, 2018 in Baltimore, MD. Kay has resume forms for the service opportunities at the WSO level, and the resumes are due by **August 15, 2018**. Kay also mentioned that everyone has access to "AFG Connects" if WSO has your correct contact information; questions and feedback can be posted on that site. Kay encouraged everyone to review the WSO website. She also mentioned that she is looking forward to visiting the Districts in the TX East Area.

Alternate Delegate/Literature Report: Mattie T. mentioned several new pieces of Conference Approved Literature (CAL) that will be available soon. New CAL includes publication of a book for parents and grandparents of alcoholics, a book on intimacy in alcoholic relationships, and a new daily reader featuring the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts. The CAL Corner in February's *The Forum* features *Discovering Choices* (B-30). *The Forum* is no longer mailed free to groups. Mattie encouraged groups to subscribe and to submit sharings to *The Forum*. The *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* is now available online on the Al-Anon Member website (www.al-anon.org/members) and the printed version will be available for purchase in February, 2018.

Assembly Reports:

1. **Fall 2017 – Judy W. District 6:** 203 attended, 188 Al-Anon, 10 Alateen, and 5 AA. Total expenditures were \$17,311, and seed money and \$712 surplus were returned.
2. **Spring 2018 – Jennifer S. District 8:** Flyers are in *The Beacon*. Dates are May 4-6, 2018 in Beaumont, TX. Theme is "Come Go with Me". Cutoff date for hotel registration is April 4, 2018. The hotel is Holiday Inn Beaumont Plaza, 3930 I 10 South, Beaumont, TX 77705, 409-842-5995. The hotel can be contacted directly during business hours. All ETAAA meetings will be held at the Clifton Event Complex, 8727 Highway 124, Beaumont, TX 77720. Registration for Al-Anon and AA is \$20 and \$5 for Alateen. There is a hot breakfast provided at the hotel; all other meals will be provided by District 8 at the Clifton Event Complex.
3. **AWSC Stand Alone Meeting – August, 2018.** A host District is needed; the date will be determined by the host District.
4. **Fall 2018 – Susan L. District 10:** November 2-4, 2018 Assembly will be in Longview, Texas at the "Hilton Garden Inn" on East Hawkins Parkway. The booking link is: <http://group.hilton.com/ETAAA2018>.
5. **AWSC Stand Alone Meeting – January, 2019.** A host District is needed.
6. **Spring Assembly 2019—Mandy T. District 1**

Unfinished Business:

1. **Update on Realignment of Districts 4, 5, and 7:** Mattie T. mentioned that in addition to the report in *The Beacon*, more discussion needs to take place. Resulting items for consideration from the Task Force on Realignment of Districts 4, 5, and 7 are as follows: 1. 5 Groups from the Bay Area Club in League City, TX, want to move from District 5 to District 4; 2. 4 Groups in The Woodlands want to move to District 7, but there are 11 Groups in The Woodlands; 3. Do we want to move forward with the realignment of Districts 4, 5, and 7? After much dis-

cussion, Lynn S. dissolved the Task Force and made the following recommendation: new District Representatives from Districts 4, 5, and 7 will contact groups to see if they would like to move or remain the same. Then a recommendation will be brought to the AWSC meeting in August, 2018, and it will be presented for a vote at the November 2018 East Texas Area Assembly in Longview, TX. The results of the work of the Task Force will be posted on the TX website.

2. **Assembly Liaison Update:** Joyce Y. sent a report via e-mail to the AWSC prior to this weekend's transition meeting. She gave some background information on reasons why there is a need for an Assembly Liaison. The liaison would provide continuity between the Spring and Fall Assemblies and would mentor the Area Host Committee. After much discussion the consensus of the AWSC was to move forward with the Assembly Liaison position. After discussion the name of the position was changed by consensus of the AWSC to Assembly Mentor. The description of the position will be posted in *The Beacon* and on the TX East section of the Texas Al-Anon website. Also, Area Assembly Guidelines will be posted on the TX East website.
3. **Hurricane preparedness plan:** The Area was not involved, as this was an outside issue. See *The Beacon* (Vol. 50, Issue 1, p. 16).
4. **Minority Opinion:** Please see **Minority Opinion Letter**, *The Beacon* (Vol. 50, Issue 1, p. 16). A new Thought Force for Assembly structure is needed (assembly vs. conference/convention). The Assembly Guidelines for host and support District need to be updated from Assembly reports and motions made at Assemblies, and the guidelines need to be consistent with the reports and motions. Lynn appointed a Work Group of District 6 members to update the *East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly Guidelines for Area Host Committee and Support District Committee*, with Judy W., District 6 DR as the Chair.

There was a break for supper between 5:26 pm and 7:00 pm. The AWSC business meeting reconvened at 7:10 pm.

New Business:

5. **Task Force Appointment for AMIAS Workshop Trainer's Manual:** Lynn S. charged a work group headed by Jayne G. to formulate formal interview questions for a self-guided Alateen trainer's manual. The work group will cooperate with existing trainers and come up with a unified format so that there will be a consistent format for every Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS). Jayne G. requested that all AMIAS attend Program of Sponsors Sharing Everything (P. O. S. S. E.) or attend a face to face training.

Reports:

The following coordinators gave reports: Alateen Liaison, Area Alateen Coordinator, Area Alateen Process Person, Area Archives, Group Records, Website, and *The Beacon*. DRs and AIS/LDC Liaisons also gave reports. All reports will be published in *The Beacon*.

Deadline for submitting written reports to *The Beacon* is **April 1, 2018**. Please submit them to this email: beaconnews-letter@yahoo.com.

Meeting was closed at 9:12 pm with the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO - EAST TEXAS AREA 53

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

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

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

Mail to: Treasurer - ETAAA, PO Box 1324, Silsbee, Texas 77656

Archives Coordinator ~Dolores W.~

I have received and secured the Areas Archives in a 5x5 storage space at Cube Smart, 16939 Nacogdoches Rd. San Antonio, TX 78266, 11DEC17 initial rental fee was \$51.14 this covered the administration fee, CS long mill cylinder lock special lock (only used by this company it is ours to keep after we leave the rental), and rental fee. Last month I paid the rent of \$49.05 which included the \$47.10 monthly fee, \$12.00 insurance fee, and the \$1.95 convenience fee of paying on line.

In March WSO attached in AFG Connects Archives, a four page section from the Memorial Issue inside Al-Anon published 1988. In this issue were memorials to Lois W, who passed away October 5, 1988. I will have a few copies available at the Spring Assembly 4-6 May, 2018 however, if you would like me to email it to you, please contact me via text or email, see the front of *The Beacon* for my information.

What is AR-8, it is A Guide for Families of Al-Anon members for distribution of Al-Anon Family Group materials paper? "This document is produced by Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc., (also known as the World Service Office [WSO]) in Virginia Beach VA to assist family members in the distribution of Al-Anon materials upon the passing of an Al-Anon member. This is only a guide, please follow the requests of your family member or feel free to call the World Service Archives Coordinator for additional assistance." To see the complete form please follow the following directions.

AR-8 found on the World Service Office website al-anon.org > al-anon store> a search page will open> enter AR-8 into the search box and press enter. You can then select the document for download and viewing.

I am also researching the Area Archives Coordinator job description and comparing this to the G-30 Al-Anon guidelines Area Archives for the review, inventory and storage of the current achieved materials. Thank you for allowing me to serve, hugs and blessings

District Reports**District 1 ~Mandy T.~**

Greetings from District 1

District 1 meeting was held in January hosted by Traditions AFG Harlingen. The following positions were voted on:

Treasurer – Veronica O.
Secretary – Yvonne M.
Outreach Coordinator – Teri M.

District 1 will be hosting the Spring Assembly in May 2019. As of now the date has not been set. I would like to express my gratitude to Ginny Mc C., District Representative, for District 2 for Co-hosting the event. We will have our first planning meeting on April 21, 2018 in McAllen. I have started contacting some of the hotels in South Padre Island and will have more details later.

Bennie P. was re-certified an AMLAS I was certified as an AMLAS at POSSE. Outreach activities are on-going in South Texas.

District 3 ~ Susan J.~

District Three had its first meeting of 2018 at the beginning of March. Our three major areas of focus for this year will be to promote our Alateen group to be a better attended meeting, to have a Group Representative for all meetings, and to start planning for the 2018 Fall Assembly that our district will be hosting. All three goals are going to stretch our members and involve participation in recovery. We have five active Al-Anon groups in addition to the Alateen group.

The District Officers for 2018-2020 are: District Representative: Susan J.; Alternate District Representative: Maggie B.; Treasurer: Jocelyn B.; Secretary: Darlene S.; Public Outreach and District Alateen Coordinator: Maria D.; Maggie B., the Alternate District Representative, will be taking an active role as she will be attending the Spring Assemblies.

District 4 ~Carol B. ~

I am excited to be the new District Representative for Texas East District 4. The year started out with an ETAAA AWSC (Area World Service Committee) transition meeting. Even though the Redistricting Committee was ended, I was assigned to work with DRs from Districts 4,5 and 7 to contact and work with the Groups that would like to move Districts. The Bay Area Club Groups have expressed an interest in moving from District 5 to our District 4. I will continue to coordinate with the Bay Area Club Groups and the DRs to assist in any group changes.

Our district started out the year participating in the Alvin Community College Health Fair in the Nolan Ryan Center on Jan 27. We handed out materials and increased awareness of the Al-Anon program. I'm really proud of our district for recognizing the importance of public outreach and following through with community awareness activities.

We've encouraged all the groups to submit GR-1s to update GR information since most of our groups transitioned to a new GR for 2018. My challenge has been to update my email distribution list for the GR's and our district officers. The group record reports, accessible via the website, have been very helpful. We still have a few groups without GRs but we keep those groups informed through their CMA.

We had a productive 1st quarter District meeting on March 10, hosted by our Alvin Al-Anon Works group who provided a wonderful lunch. We finalized a 2018 budget. We decided to have a Day in Al-Anon the last weekend in July, July 28. We also agreed to volunteer to host the January, 2019, AWSC meeting in District 4. After the meeting and lunch, we gathered to assemble Love Gifts that were sent to the World Service Conference as thank you to all of our Delegates for the work they do for us. Thankfully, we have a creative group and prescription bottles were put together, offering 30-day supplies of Al-Anon solutions.

I'm looking forward to growing in my new role. I'm very fortunate to have past DRs, Delegates and others in our district that continue to be active in service and who provide great support in my position. I appreciate all their encouragement. Love in Service.

District 5 ~ Alison B.-No Report

District 6 ~Judy W. ~

District 6 has been very busy the first quarter of 2018. We conducted our first district meeting in January and other groups have signed up to host the April and July quarterly meetings. (*Our meetings move to various locations throughout the district based on the hosting group.*) Our district meeting highlights include:

- Approved 2018 district budget.
- Received an update on the high school poster distribution task force, more volunteers joined the effort to assist.
- Received an update on thought force suggesting ideas to increase Alateen membership. No additional funds or volunteers were requested. Thought force was closed. Created a new thought force to suggest various district workshop topics in future district meetings. Topics may include: principles, traditions, concepts, service, etc. Volunteers joined the thought force effort.

Other activities in the district include:

- Began working with the Austin Information Center (AIC) to align processes that keep meeting information aligned and current with the area group record's (District 6's) database information. Included the Area Group Record Coordinator in process discussions to learn of his plans (fields, extract frequency) for sharing data with district reps and Information Centers. AIC Meeting Chair was elected in February and began documenting district / information center processes. Will continue to work with AIC Meeting Chair & AIC employee to leverage meeting information.
 - Met with the District 6 North Public Outreach Coordinator, South Public Outreach Coordinator, & Spanish Coordinator to: a) discuss ideas to validate meeting (active) status, b) target district areas to split up for visit coverage, c) share ideas for new district public outreach activities, and d) get more groups to come to district and area meetings to have a voice.
 - Began working with district secretary to update District 6's motions.
- Continued to work with groups to name a group rep and update the district's group records. Love in service.

District 7 ~Allyn D.~

District 7 met on February 10, 2018 in Bryan, Texas. Much of the discussion centered on how to reach out to the Woodlands AFGs to introduce them to District 7 leadership during the redistricting dialogue among districts 4, 5 and 7. A motion was put forth and unanimously approved that the next District 7 meeting be held April 21st at Grace Presbyterian Church, 8989 Woodlands Pkwy, The Woodlands, TX, 77382. A meet/greet with Woodlands AFGs attending will begin at 9:30 AM, followed by the District 7 meeting, which can include Woodlands AFG attendees in attendance. Breakfast/brunch type food will be contributed by District 7 groups for the meet and greet at 9:30. A flier that they can pass out at their meetings was distributed to the groups. Response so far has been very positive.

District 7 voted last year to shut down its website. In advance of that, every District 7 meeting has been contacted to get updated meeting information. The Current Mailing Address (CMA) and Group Representatives (GRs) of these meetings are being encouraged to send in a GR-1 form to make sure WSO, East Texas Area and Houston AIS have the most current, coordinated information.

Meeting reports: There is a new Wednesday night meditation meeting in Bryan and a new Tuesday night discussion/step study meeting in Rockdale, Milam County. The Bryan Gratitude, Traditions and Lost and Found meetings are strong and growing. The Lost and Found meeting has a good mix of newcomers and experienced, including college aged and men. Huntsville AFG, also, has men attendees and has a core of regulars. The Conroe Easy Does It meeting is up to 16 from 3. A book study format has improved its attendance. They conduct service work by handing out *Al-Anon faces Alcoholism* in waiting rooms. The Sunday Woods Road group needs attendance support. The Conroe 1502 Alateen meeting may be discontinued for lack of participation. Appreciation was expressed for those who have been steadfast in sponsoring it.

District 8 ~ Jennifer S. ~

Hello from District 8! Our last district meeting was on February 10th. It was a bit later than normal because we were a busy district in January. We were able to sell literature at two week-end events in January and we three of us were able to attend the fantastic Area Transition meeting. Despite the later than normal meeting we had great attendance.

We have started having monthly Assembly meetings. Our planning is coming along nicely and we are so excited to have everyone come visit us in Beaumont May 4-6th. Come have some fun with us Friday night (feel free to wear a 50s costume!). We will get down to business on Saturday with more fun to be had on Saturday night. Our speakers will be Saturday night and Sunday morning. Our menus are being finalized - full breakfast for up to 4 per room in the hotel, (light offerings at the convention center for breakfast Saturday and Sunday) with Friday supper and Saturday lunch and supper provided. Come Go With Me to the Spring Assembly!!

Our next district meeting is April 14th along with our Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) meeting. AIS meeting starts at 9 am with the district meeting to follow at 10:30. In Love and Service.

District 9 ~ John B.~

As the new/old District Representative of District 9, it is my honor to once again serve the District.

We have had two very dedicated members in our District, who have gone above and beyond, in their service to our district. Past District Representatives Patricia R. and Debby C., who have both served multiple positions in the district, and have both served as District Representatives. These ladies deserve our admiration and our utmost gratitude. To Pat and Debby I say sincerely thank you.

We will be having our District Meeting on the 14th of April, and will have more to report in the next *The Beacon*.

Looking forward to once again serving our District 9 and our Area, I remain .

District 10~Susan L.

District 10 continues to plan for Fall Assembly that will be held in Longview, on weekend of November 2-4, 2018. The themes will be "Grateful Hearts..." and will be held at Hilton Garden Inn. See flyer in *The Beacon* and on Texas Al-Anon website.

Last planning meeting was Saturday, April 7, at Longview Greggton Group. We continue to meet monthly, as we assemble speakers, entertainment and opportunities for fellowship, spiritual growth, food, fun. We look forward to hosting you all in the fall in the beautiful piney woods of East Texas.

District 10 is looking forward to Beaumont and the ETAAA Spring Assembly.

District 12 ~ Candy N.~

We had our transition and first District Meeting for the new term on January 13, 2018. We have two positions still needing to be filled: Public Outreach and Spanish Coordinator. There were 13 GRs attending, 5 of which were brand new. I had group details available for all the groups in the District. Those in attendance were able to check for accuracy and updating. As the new DR, I plan to visit groups in the district, particularly new groups, to make sure they are getting the necessary information, help and support. I urge every group to complete and promptly return group data forms.

We voted to hold a workshop(s) in 2018 and formed a task force for planning. More will be revealed as the plans are finalized. Gratefully in Service,

District 13 ~ Sarah W.~

No Report submitted

South Texas AIS/LDC ~ Bennie P. ~

In my last report I gave my notice of stepping down as the Intergroup Chair due to my illness. It has been rough recovering and I'm still under doctor's care. I'm hoping that by the time this report is out, I'll have been released and hoping to have my driving restriction removed. I want to thank everyone who has stepped up to help with the duties and operation while I've been unable to drive. Thank you all for picking me up and your help with the literature.

I especially want to thank Mandy T., our new District Representative who has been driving me around and who has taken

the District's duties and responsibilities in addition to driving me around I called to let her know our District 1 will be hosting the 2019 Spring Assembly! We will be having our first planning meeting during our district meeting, Saturday, April 21st and for this reason, I will continue with my service. We need help from everyone in our district, so please show up and you can pick whatever you feel you can help with. We will have a list of the coordinators we will need.

We have been busy with Public Outreach activities throughout the district and need all groups to participate in your own communities. I do want to thank those that are already doing their part.

Austin AIS/LDC

As of January 3, 2018, Janie H. became the new Austin Area Information Center Office Manager/Volunteer Coordinator. Kitty G. retired after 17 years of service. We are grateful for all that Kitty has done. In response to the August survey, the AAIC will be open on Mon, Tues, Wed. 10-2; Thurs. 10-2; Friday 12-7PM; and Sat 10-2. Carolyn K. has donated a fax/scan/copy machine to the Center.

A recommendation was made to purchase a computer, internet service, Wi-Fi, a mouse, Office 365, and a new office sign. Carolyn K. provided a cost breakdown of all items, including a cost comparison of utilizing AT&T vs Spectrum. A motion was made and passed to accept the technology upgrades, a new sign, and Spectrum Internet and phone service.

Information Center Report

Janie H. stated that there were 150 calls and 116 walk-ins from January 1st and thru February 16th. High volume was from Tuesday thru Thursday, and between 10AM and 2PM.

The five top literature sales, from highest to lowest, were How A-Anon Works, newcomers packets, Paths to Recovery, daily readers, and Blueprint for Progress.

Literature Inventory: Cost \$9,251 and Retail Value \$11,541. Orders made by the case has been found to be most cost effective.

Volunteers are needed at AAIC for the fourth Thursday of the month and on Saturdays.

Some group meetings are not on the list. The Meeting List subcommittee will meet to develop a procedure to ensure that the Area Group Records coordinator, as well as the AAIC, is informed of meeting changes.

Cathy K. was voted the new AAIC Liaison and will attend AAIC, AWSC, and Assembly meetings. Cathy will send a summary of the AAIC minutes to the District Alt GR, Anna R., and Anna will report to the District. Anna will send the District Meeting reports to Cathy, who in turn will report at the AAIC meetings.

San Antonio AIS ~ Rene Dymale ~

We started this year off with our first Monthly Speaker Meeting where we have an Al-Anon member and an AA member share their experience, strength, and hope. We ask groups in our area to host the meetings. Our first one was Saturday, January 6th. We have had 3 more Speaker meetings since this last report was shared at our January transition meeting. This is a monthly fundraiser.

The SAAIS has contracted an answering service that is based in El Paso and it receives 20 to 30 calls a month. All calls are reported by the answering service to the AIS website which is monitored by Jim S. and Dan M. Thank you both for your service.

I am looking forward to the upcoming Serenity Celebration in October. Yours In Service.

Beaumont AIS /LDC ~ Suzanne R. ~

SUCSESSES

A listing of our successes during the past three months makes me so grateful for our District 8 and all the leadership, active members and generous service which keep it a vital presence in the piney woods, rivers, bayous and swamps which brought so much heartbreak during Harvey.

November - Yes, I know that was last year, but I wasn't able to send in a report for that time, and we're all very excited that our LDC offices moved to newer, nicer quarters, along with District 90 Intergroup. Experience has taught us that having our two offices as neighbors means added benefits to both groups. Please make a note of the new address (same phone number, same website):

**4224 College Street Beaumont, TX 77707
409/899.3343 setxalanon.org**

January - In January, our LDC was invited to sell CAL at the District 9 Convention in Tyler and the SETA-AA Conference in Beaumont. Sales from sources other than our groups and individuals help greatly to keep our finances healthy despite the trend of declining sales.

At the end of January, our DR, Jennifer S., Past ETAAA Chair Diane B. and I attended the Transition Weekend in Gonzales. My roomies were the knowledgeable, service-oriented Nancy M. and new *The Beacon* editor, Rene D. (she helpfully told me her name rhymes with "tamale"). West Texas' loss is our gain, Rene - welcome! I learned a lot from those two pros. Thanks to Lynn S., our Area Chair and her team, everyone enjoyed a fun, instructive weekend together in Al-Anon service.

February - Our AIS Board Meetings with our ISRs are held quarterly in January (rescheduled this year due to conflicts), April, July and October, hosted by different AFG groups in the district and moving from one geographic location to another. Also, we enjoy an easy, cordial relationship with our district, having the two quarterly meetings one after the other on a Saturday morning, followed by a potluck lunch and fellowship.

April - Our next meeting is April 14 at Unity Church in Beaumont. Elections will be held and the final three weeks of planning and preparations will begin the countdown for... **SPRING ASSEMBLY!**

May - Southeast Texas will host the ETAAA Spring Assembly at the Clinton Event Complex in Beaumont the 4th - 6th. The theme is "Come and Go with Me (and bring a friend!)" A Fifties theme will be carried out in decorations, an ice cream so-

cial, photo booth and all the rock 'n roll that made the era memorable. We're working hard to make this Assembly memorable, too. Hope you're making plans to come...and bring a friend!

CHALLENGES

Our LDC faces the need for more volunteers to man the office during our open hours: 10 - 3 Monday through Thursday; we're not open on Fridays because of this lack. Despite please and announcements to groups by our ISRs and GRs, we see little response.

We all see a need for an Alateen group, but, since the only group we had folded several years ago, there's not been a cohesive push or sufficient interest to get another group going.

INTERGRUPAL HISPANA DE HOUSTON~ Rosalba R.

Hola, Mi nombre es Esperanza Leon soy la nueva coordinadora de la intergrupala Hispana de Houston desde el mes pasado tome el cargo. Muy agradecida que me den la confianza para ooder aprender en este nuevo servicio. El intergrupala se reúne cada segundo domingo de cada mes de 11am a 1pm en la direccion **6160 GLENMONT DR APT #155 HOUSTON, TX 77081**. La intergrupala y sus comites tienen eventos planeados para este año 2018. El comite de Eventos y Festejos tienen planeado una Actividad para recaudar fondos. Tendran Oradores y tambien una rifa de una television tambien para recaudar fondos el comite hara una carta y la mandara a los grupos con toda la informacion. La intergrupala tambien esta visitando a los grupos con fin de informar y animar a los grupos y miembros a unirse a la intergrupala para hacer la unidad. Se empeso con los grupos mas nuevos. Tenemos la linea de ayuda con el numero 713-681-1296 para asistir a toda la comunidad que busque la ayuda de Al-Anon o Alateen tenemos un promedio de 15 a 20 llamas por mes y las referimos a el grupo que este mas cerca de su vivienda.

La intergrupala esta formando un calendario anual con todos los eventos de todas las ramas de Al-Anon el propósito de este calendario es ayudar a los grupos poder organizar sus eventos sin que coinsidan con los eventos ya programados incluyendo el mes de apertura de cada grupo si esta interesado en que se agregue su grupo a este calendario comuníquese con el intergrupala Se presentara este calendario en el mes de Marzo.

De antemano les agradecemos a todos los grupos y miembros que participan con su asistencia y servicio dentro de la intergrupala hispana de houston y recordemos que la UNIDAD es la clave de la armonía. Coordinadora, Esperanza L., Secretaria, Raquel A., Tesorera, Cecilia A.

ETAAA Financial Report 2018							Over/(Under) Budget
Income	1 st Qtr 3/31/18	2 nd Qtr 6/30/18	3 rd Qtr 9/30/18	4 th Qtr 12/31/18	Total YTD	2018 Budget	
Assembly Surplus	712.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	712.00		
Fall 2017	712.00						
Spring 2018							
Beacon Income	78.00				78.00	200.00	(122.00)
Contributions Income	4,139.85				4,139.85	26,012.00	(21,872.15)
Fall Gratitude Basket					0.00		
Miscellaneous Income					0.00		
Total Income	4,929.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,929.85	26,212.00	(21,282.15)
Expenses							
Travel / Expenses	864.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	864.82	12,000.00	(11,135.18)
Alateen Coordinator	43.56				43.56	1,000.00	(956.44)
Alateen Liaison	41.25				41.25	400.00	(358.75)
Alateen Process Person					0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
Alternate Delegate	41.25				41.25	600.00	(558.75)
Archives	169.37				169.37	500.00	(330.63)
Beacon Editor	112.81				112.81	500.00	(387.19)
Chair	158.73				158.73	800.00	(641.27)
Delegate	37.13				37.13	1,500.00	(1,462.87)
Group Records	24.52				24.52	500.00	(475.48)
Public Outreach					0.00	600.00	(600.00)
Past Delegates					0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
Past Area Chairperson					0.00	500.00	(500.00)
Secretary					0.00	800.00	(800.00)
Spanish Coordinator					0.00	500.00	(500.00)
Treasurer	236.20				236.20	800.00	(563.80)
Website Coordinator					0.00	500.00	(500.00)
Other Expenses	4,988.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,988.48	7,612.00	(2,623.52)
Beacon Publishing	1,759.98				1,759.98	3,300.00	(1,540.02)
Storage Unit for Archives	100.19				100.19	1,080.00	(979.81)
Transitional AWSC Meeting	3,076.71				3,076.71	3,000.00	76.71
Web Hosting Fee					0.00	132.00	(132.00)
Audit Committee Expense					0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Expense	51.60				51.60	100.00	(48.40)
World Service Conference	700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00	3,200.00	(2,500.00)
Area's Gifts to WSC	300.00				300.00	300.00	0.00
Delegate's Equalized Expense to WSC					0.00		
Delegate's Incidental Expenses to WSC	400.00				400.00	2,500.00	(2,500.00)
						400.00	0.00

SC Regional Delegate Meeting									
Delegate	1,141.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,141.31	3,400.00	(2,258.69)		
Chair	210.50				210.50	600.00	(389.50)		
Immediate Past Delegate					0.00	600.00	(600.00)		
Active Past Delegates	203.55				203.55	600.00	(396.45)		
Alternate Delegate	442.25				442.25	1,000.00	(557.75)		
Total Expenses	285.01				285.01	600.00	(314.99)		
	7,694.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,694.61		7,694.61		
Net Income Less Expenses	(2,764.76)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,764.76)		(28,976.76)		
Allocated Expenses									
Delegate's Expenses to 2018 International	1st Qtr 3/31/18	2nd Qtr 6/30/18	3rd Qtr 9/30/18	4th Qtr 12/31/18	Total YTD				
Total Allocated Expense	699.00				699.00	1,500.00	(801.00)		
							0.00		
Extraordinary Income/Expense									
Income	1st Qtr 3/31/18	2nd Qtr 6/30/18	3rd Qtr 9/30/18	4th Qtr 12/31/18	Total YTD				
Returned Seed Money					0.00				
Received Alateen Background Checks	53.12				53.12				
Spring Birthday Basket					0.00				
Total Extraordinary Income	53.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	53.12				
Expenses									
Seed Money					0.00				
Fees paid Alateen Background Checks	59.76				59.76				
Spring Birthday Basket to WSO					0.00				
Total Extraordinary Expenses	59.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	59.76				
Net Extraordinary Income Less Expenses	(6.64)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(6.64)				
Profit/(Loss)	(2,771.40)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,771.40)				
Checking Account Balance									
Beginning Balance	3/31/2018	6/30/2018	9/30/2018	12/31/2018					
	39,774.29	37,002.89	37,002.89	37,002.89	39,774.29				
Increase/(Decrease)	(2,771.40)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,771.40)				
Transfer to CD									
	37,002.89	37,002.89	37,002.89	37,002.89	37,002.89				
Ample Reserve Fund (CD)									
Beginning Balance	20,311.43	20,311.43	20,311.43	20,311.43	20,311.43				
Increase/(Decrease)					0.00				
Ending Balance	20,311.43	20,311.43	20,311.43	20,311.43	20,311.43				

ASSEMBLY MENTOR TASK FORCE

In May, 2017, the Area approved a motion to create a position of Assembly Liaison for a three year trial period to be voted on by the GRs at the May 2018 Area Assembly. The position will provide continuity between Spring and Fall Assemblies and serve as a mentor to the Area Host Committee(s) District Representative(s) by answering questions, clarifying procedures, and securing additional assistance if needed based on their experience.

A Task Force was formed to draft a proposal to develop responsibilities and role, qualifications, and selection, term, and funding of the position. During draft review and discussion at two subsequent AWSC meetings, the AWSC consensus was to change the position name to Assembly Mentor (formerly Assembly Liaison).

This draft is for GRs to review prior to presentation at the May 5, 2018 Assembly business meeting.

Assembly Mentor (Liaison) Task Force

Joyce Y. - Chair

Kay C.

Debby C.

A. Responsibilities

The responsibility of the Assembly Mentor would be to provide continuity between the Spring and Fall Assemblies and be a mentor to the Area Host Committee(s) District Representative(s) (DRs).

B. Role

1. To contact each DR of the upcoming Assembly (e.g., Spring and/or Fall Assembly Host Committee DR(s)) and schedule a meeting and/or conference call to discuss the Assembly Guidelines and the time-line of the Assembly (e.g., venue selection, flyers, speakers, etc.). Depending on the District where the Assembly is held, this may be 2 years before the Assembly occurs.
2. To keep in contact with the Area Host Committee DR(s). The Assembly Mentor may consider attending the first Area Host Committee planning meeting. If the Assembly Mentor does not live in the Area, use of conference or video calling is suggested.
3. To keep the Assembly reports prepared by the Area Host Committee after the Assembly. It is suggested that: 1) the reports be organized by Area Host Committees (i.e., Districts) with a cross-reference to Assembly Date and Area Host Committee; and 2) hard copy/electronic copy be kept by the Assembly Mentor and/or an additional electronic copy under Texas East Members Section of the Texas website.
4. To provide guidance and experience to the DR and the Area Host Committee.
5. To be in regular contact with the Area Chair.

C. Qualifications

1. Have experience in chairing or planning an assembly or an Al-Anon Conventions (e.g., All Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Conference).
2. Must be an active participant in regular local Al-Anon meetings.
3. Must be able and willing to work within the ETAAA Assembly Guidelines.
4. Must be responsible and have ability to complete projects.
5. Must be willing to be available when needed.
6. Must be willing to serve and attend Assembly Host Committee planning meetings, Assemblies, and optional AWSC meetings.
7. Must be willing to serve a 3-year term.

Selection, Term, and Funding of Assembly Mentor

The Assembly Mentor should be selected by the Area Chair with input from the AWSC and the DRs that are responsible for the upcoming and future assemblies. Location of the Assemblies should be taken into consideration. The term of the Assembly Mentor would be 3 years starting after the Spring Assembly of the newly elected panel of ETAAA officers and coordinators. This would promote continuity and help transition for the Spring assembly chaired by a new DR. Any funding for the Assembly Mentor is to be discussed by the Assembly Mentor and the Assembly Host Committee.

Timeline Example

Panel 58 Delegate Term 1/2018 through 12/2020

Assembly Mentor Term 5/2018 through 4/2021

Appointed May 2018 Assembly

Working with finals for Nov 2018

Beginning of May 2019 and possibly Nov 2019

Nov 2018 Assembly

Working with finals of May 2019

Beginning of Nov 2019 and possibly May 2020

May 2019 Assembly

Working with finals of Nov 2019

Beginning of May 2020 and possibly Nov 2020

Nov 2019 Assembly

Working with finals for May 2020

Beginning of Nov 2020 and possibly May 2021

May 2020 Assembly

Working with finals Nov 2020

Beginning of May 2021 and possibly Nov 2021

Nov 2020 Assembly

Working with finals May 2021

Beginning of Nov 2021 and possibly May 2022

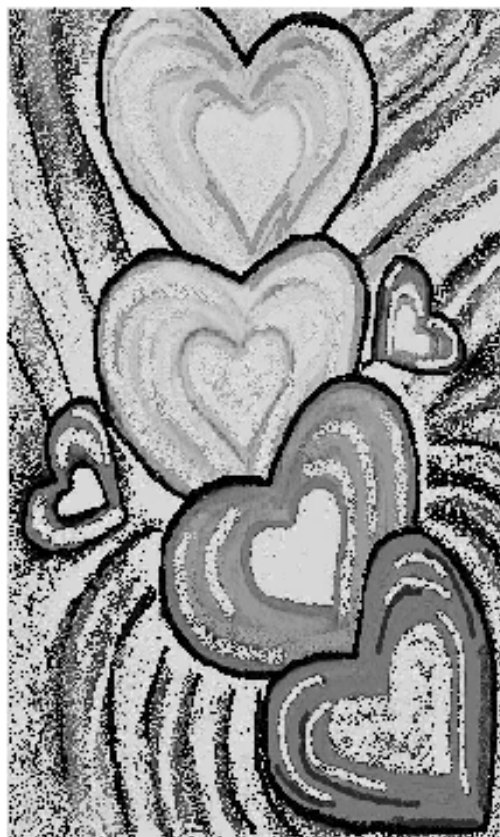
Panel 61 Delegate Term 1/2021 through 12/2023

Assembly Mentor Term 5/2021 through 4/2024

Appointed May 2021 Assembly

Working with finals Nov 2021

Beginning of May 2022 and possibly Nov 2022.



"GRATEFUL HEARTS"

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

Fall Assembly 2018

November 2-4, 2018

Hilton Garden Inn

905 E. Hawkins Parkway

Longview, Texas 75605

Hotel Ph# 903-212-3000

Ask for ETAAA rates (Double=\$109.00)

ETAAA rates include breakfast coupon, \$5.95 for each registered guest

HOTEL RESERVATION CUTOFF DATE: 10/12/2018

To make your reservations you may call or book on line

Booking Link: <http://group.hiltongardeninn.com/ETAAA2018>

GR__DR__AMIAS__FIRST ASSEMBLY (Y/N)__#of Yrs. In the Program__	
Name_____	Name on Badge_____
Address_____	City/State/Zip_____
Group Name_____	District # _____
Phone # _____	Email_____

Doors and registration open at 4:00pm on Friday

Make checks payable to District #10-ETAAA

Mail to District 10—ETAAA Registration

P.O. Box 3065

Longview, Texas 75601

___\$30 Al-Anon Registration ___\$30 AA Registration ___\$5 Alateen Registration

___\$30 Buffet (cutoff date Oct. 20)

NEED INFO? Email: 2018etaaafallasassembly@gmail.com or call Susan at 903-238-7943

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.

**East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Fall Assembly (ETAAA)
Beaumont, TX – May 4-6, 2018
PROPOSED Business Meeting Agenda Subject to Change**

- 8:00-9:00 a.m. **GR Interchange –Alternate Delegate** - Mattie T.
- 8:00-9:00 a.m. **DR Interchange – DR Discussion on Assemblies**
- 9:15 a.m. **ETAAA Business Meeting Opens** - Lynn S. Chair
- 9:30 a.m. **Delegate's Report** – Kay C. – Panel 58
- 10:30 a.m. **Conversation Items - Details are printed in *The Beacon* 1- time at the mike - 2 min limit**
Area Assembly Mentor (20 minutes) – Joyce Y.
- 11:00 a.m. **Coordinators – Hot Topics**
Literature Coordinator –Mattie T.
Area Alateen Coordinator – Jayne G.
Area Alateen Process Person – Brenda H.
Area Archivist – Dolores W.
Area Group Records Coordinator – Al M.
Newsletter Editor – Rene D.
Public Outreach Coordinator – Lynn B.
Spanish Coordinator – Myrthala C.
Website Coordinator – Dorie J.
- 12:00 p.m. Program of Sponsors Sharing Everything (P.O.S.S.E.) – Bennie P.
Texas East Area 53 Alateen Conference (TEA AC) – Pat E.
- 12:15 p.m. **LUNCH BREAK – On site**
- 1:00 p.m. **ETAAA BUSINESS MEETING RESUMES**
- 1:15 p.m. **Roll call: Group Rep (GRs) MUST BE PRESENT TO VOTE**
VOTING PROCEDURE: Election Procedures – See Service Manual page 149-152. Ballot election
Minutes of the Nov. 4, 2017 business meeting – Paula H.
Financial Report – Jennifer S.
Unfinished business None
New Business— Business from the floor
WSO Birthday Basket Total –Jennifer S.
Assembly Reports (2 minutes each please)
District 6 final report for November 2017 assembly, District 8 update on current assembly, District 10 Nov 2018 assembly in Longview
Links of Service Reports- District Representatives (DRs) , Al-Anon Information Service Liaisons (AISLs) and Area Alateen Liaison: 1 challenge / 1 success
- 4:00 pm **Close ETAAA Business Meeting with Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration**
Announcements : ETAAA Fall Assembly - Nov. 2-4, 2018

EAST TEXAS AREA ALANON/ALATEEN ASSEMBLY

May 4 - 6, 2018

Come Go With Me

(and bring a friend!)



Designated Hotel Information

Holiday Inn Beaumont Plaza

3950 I-10 South

Beaumont, TX 77705

(409) 842-5995

Cut off date - April 4th, 2018

Ask for ETAAA Rate

\$107 for Double/King

Breakfast Included up to 4 per room

ETAAA - All Meetings

Clifton Event Complex

8727 Highway 124

Beaumont, Texas 77720



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 4th

___ \$20 Al-Anon Early Registration

Make Checks Payable to District 8

___ \$25 Al-Anon Registration (after 4/1/18)

Mail to:

District 8

ETAAA Registration

975 Roosevelt Dr, Silsbee, TX 77656

___ \$20 AA Registration

___ \$5 Alateen Registration

Need Info? Email Jennifer at 2018etaaaspringassembly@gmail.com or Call at 409-658-0042

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.

ETAAA

P.O. Box 631
Schertz, TX 78154-0631



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Spring 2018



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