



# The Light



## District 4 - Texas East Area 53

**District Officers/  
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## District Representative Report

I hope everyone is staying safe and navigating your way though this new environment we're in. One thing is for sure, I miss attending meetings in person, seeing you and exchanging hugs. I look forward to when we can meet again in person.

It's been nice to see how quickly our groups converted to phone and zoom meetings to continue our meetings, when meeting in person didn't make sense. Each group has determined whether to share their phone or zoom meeting publicly. I've summarized these meetings, distributed to our GR's and posted on both our Area website and our Intergroup's website. This list is also included in The Light for your reference. Additionally, WSO's website has a list of worldwide electronic and phone meetings. These are all good resources to access a meeting whenever you need one.

Our March District 4 meeting was done via a conference call, and given the last minute change in venue it went well. Our June meeting will also be via conference call with the call-in information sent out via email with the agenda. I won't repeat all the good stuff we discussed at our March meeting, but the meeting notes are contained here in the Light.

Unfortunately, our May Spring Assembly was cancelled. The World Service Conference (WSC) that our Area Delegate, Kay C, attends was changed from an in-person meeting to a virtual meeting. Kay is going to distribute her Delegate's report (in both Spanish and English) from the WSC. This report will be distributed and available to everyone. A zoom meeting will be scheduled on June 27 to answer questions on her report. I'll forward her report and any zoom meeting information as soon as I receive it.

In light of our current situation, the A Day in Al-Anon Committee has decided to postpone our day of fellowship, originally scheduled for July 25. I appreciate everyone's effort to organize, contribute and provide your service to make this day a success. I'm disappointed, but I also know it's the right decision for where we are today.

Please keep in mind we'll have elections at our September meeting to elect District positions for the next 3 years. Be thinking about your willingness to stay involved at the District level and what position might interest you.

I look forward to our next District meeting, 1pm, June 13, via conference call.

Love in Service,  
Carol B

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**AL-ANON/ALATEEN WORD HELP  
FREQUENTLY USED ACRONYMS**

**AA – ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS****AFG – AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP****AAPP – AREA ALATEEN PROCESS PERSON****AIS – AL-ANON INFORMATION SERVICE (AKA INTERGROUP)****AMIAS – AL-ANON MEMBER INVOLVED IN ALATEEN SERVICE****AT – ALATEEN****ATAAC – ALL TEXAS AL-ANON/ALATEEN CONFERENCE****AWSC–AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE (TEXAS EAST AREA 53)****CAL – CONFERENCE APPROVED LITERATURE****CMA – CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS****D4 – DISTRICT 4 (ALL OF FORT BEND, MATAGORIA, BRAZORIA,  
GALVESTON, WHARTON COUNTIES)****DAC – DISTRICT ALATEEN COORDINTOR****DR – DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE****ETAAA - EAST TEXAS AREA AL-ANON/ALATEEN ASSEMBLY**

**ZOOM OR PHONE MEETINGS**

Meeting Name	Day	Time	Meeting Location	Meeting Platform	Meeting ID/ Access Code	Phone #	Password (if any)	Group Con- tact
West Isle AFG	Monday	7:00 PM	Moody Methodist Church, Gal- veston	Zoom	807 744 799	N/A	N/A	Paulette N
Pearland AFG	Monday	8:00 PM	New Life Lutherna Church, Pear- land	freeconfer- encecall.co m	166961	425-436-6395	N/A	Sue D
Progress in Session	Mon-Thur	6:30 PM	Bay Area Club	Zoom	611 905 519	346-248-7799	N/A	Lolly H
A Better Way	Mon, Thur	6:30 PM	Calvary Baptist Church, Bay City	Zoom	423 748 2478	N/A	580707	Velda K
Spring in Your Step	Tues,Thur	12 Noon	First United Meethodist Church, Pearland	Zoom	640 178 376	N/A	Noon	Connie W
New Leaf AFG	Tuesday	12:15 PM	Rosenberg Library, Galveston	Zoom	714 220 773	N/A	N/A	Sally G
Al-Anon Works	Tuesday	7:15 PM	Grace Episcopal's parlor room, Alvin	Zoom	885 045 448	N/A	34918	Bev L
Alvin Family Group	Thursday	7:30 PM	Taylor Street Club, Alvin	Zoom	852 9404 3278	N/A	463250	Bev L
Acceptance is the Answer AFG	Friday	7:30 PM	Up the Street Club, Webster	Zoom	611 851 406	346-248-7799	606742	Lisa K
Hope for Today	Saturday	10:00 AM	Galveston Clubhouse, Galveston	Zoom	918 789 662	N/A	588205	Paulette N
Happy Destiny AFG	Saturday	5:00 PM	Bay Area Club	Zoom	409 012 077	346-248-7799	28734	Lisa K

## District 4 Minutes

Meeting Began: 9:30 a.m.

Attendees totaled 14; 6 of which were GRs & 2 of which were Alt. GRs

Due to Covid-19 and for the purpose of social distancing this meeting took place via teleconference.

Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer. Carol then proceeded with doing a roll call of the officers for the District and asked who else was attending. The roll was followed by Carol commenting on meeting etiquette via a teleconference. She also mentioned that she and Renee thought it might be easiest when doing a vote to only ask to hear from those that might oppose. Carol asked if there were any that had opposed this process. No one opposed which considered the process, for this meeting, acceptable. Carol continued to comment that each person should announce their name when speaking to assist in taking minutes.

The meeting continued with the reading of the Traditions, Concepts of Service and Warranties. Carol then mentioned that since the "Ask It Basket" couldn't be passed that anyone having a question could text it to her (she provided her number) so that it could be addressed at the end of the meeting.

**Secretary:** Renee G. mentioned needing a volunteer for taking the minutes at the next district meeting as she will be unavailable due to travel. She also mentioned that due to her absence that Kim R. would still open the Surfside building for the next planned District meeting in June. Laura B. volunteered to take the minutes during the next meeting.

Renee continued with presenting last District meeting minutes as found in the quarterly edition of *The Light*. She asked if anyone needed them read. Linda F. made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Kim R. second. Renee asked if there were any objections and there were none. Motion considered passed.

**Treasurer-** Kim R. presented the Treasurer report as found in *The Light* and asked if there were any questions. Linda F. made a motion to accept the report as submitted. Renee second; Carol asked for opposers and there were none. Motion considered passed.

**Alt DR:** Sue spoke of encouraging to write in the Cal Corner blog pertaining to *Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships, Hope and Understanding for Grandparents, In All Our Affairs, and Living Today in Alateen*. Guidelines for submission can be found in the Cal Corner of The WSO website.

**Public Outreach** – Pam spoke of having a literature table at the SETA Convention that took place in Galveston in January. She stated it was a big success and that having Al-Anon literature available was well received and overall great experience for her. Pam also mentioned having received 200 copies of the 2020 *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* and that possibly at the next District meeting we could get the stickers put on the backs. She also mentioned an outreach opportunity that is coming up, April 20<sup>th</sup>, the Fort Bend Drug Symposium, that she attended last year; however, she has not yet heard back. She stated that if anyone knows of an outreach opportunity to please get with her. Mattie T. mentioned possibly getting the free bookmark that is available for outreach, M76. Pam mentioned that she already had them. Carol took a moment to acknowledge Pam's hard work and let her know how much it is appreciated.

**Alateen Coordinator** – Jay was absent. Donna B. spoke in his absence and thanked the District for the support and mentioned that the group would like some of the Alateen Dos and Don'ts cards.

**Spanish Coordinator:** Absent

**Intergroup Coordinator:** Laura B. mentioned that there are positions coming up on the board and encouraged others to consider service in this area. Information pertaining to these positions can be found on the Houston Intergroup website. She noted the term is for 3 years.

**Newsletter** – Laura B. stated the next reports to print in the next edition of *The Light* would be May 15<sup>th</sup>. Carol took a moment to thank Laura again for her service in doing *The Light*

**District Representative:** Carol encouraged participation in the Spring Assembly taking place in May and encouraged bringing others.

**Old Business-** Lakeeta spoke for the Abundant Funds Task Force consisting of her, Sue and Pam. She mentioned that she may need to drop off the call after speaking. Lakeeta stated taking the question to the District groups on use of the funds and received seventeen suggestions which included:

**Outreach Suggestions:**

More outreach brought to colleges

Books for libraries

Purchasing the Forum to provide to local businesses

seeking advertising on local radio stations, newspapers and billboards

A pamphlet that could be provided of all the local meetings for handing out

Pay for mileage to those willing to take information to the counselors in the District 4 school districts

Participate and provide literature during red ribbon week at schools which is a nationwide outreach prevention that almost all schools participate in. Handouts are typical during these events and it was suggested that we could have something for the kids.

A Day In-Alanon with no registration fee

Speaker Event with no charge

## District 4 Minutes Continued

Help with mileage and expenses for those that typically do not participate in assembly and other District functions due to lack of funds

Purchase hand sanitizer and Kleenex for groups

Help Alateen groups with literature

Pay for AMIAS participation and registering to attend POSSE

Assist with cost for needed repairs of District groups buildings; small repairs such as light fixtures and door handles to show an appreciation to those that own the building for allowing the meetings.

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Sue with the task force added having the Forum to handout at family day in rehabs.

Pam brought up the use of the form used by District 5 groups to request funds for their needs with the District. She mentioned that there would need to be a way to evaluate such request and how would the District choose what type of expenses would be paid or not paid.

Pam mentioned her group having to address liability insurance. She spoke with an area in Northern California that has over 900 groups, 100 of which require such insurance. This cost the area around \$2,600 a year. Pam's small group of around 12 is having to pay over \$735 a year.

Mattie T. spoke stating that as a District we do not always have abundant funds every year and that funds should be used for the District as a whole. When her group needs more funds, they typically send the basket around again. She also stated some suggestions made for abundant funds are outside issues.

Linda F. asked Pam who is requiring her group to have liability insurance. Pam explained that it's being requested by the church where the meeting is held due to a lawsuit brought, because of a fall from a broken chair.

Pam mentioned a form G41, Reserve Fund Guidelines, which has reserved funds listed which contains questions for the District to consider. Guidelines may also be found in The Service Manual on pages 213 – 214.

Linda spoke to the abundance of the funds existing for some time now and being a non-profit it continues to be a concern pertaining to the IRS as a non-profit organization. Linda asked who suggestions could be made pertaining to the use of abundance funds. It was answered that the contact is Lakeeta. Mattie concluded with a suggestion to send additional funds to the WSO and increasing the budget for outreach.

**A Day in Al-anon:** Sue stated that A Day in Al-Anon is set for July 25<sup>th</sup> to be held at Taylor Street Club. The theme is Al-Anon Solutions in All Our Affairs centered around the use of the book, *In All Our Affairs*. Cost will be \$10 for early registration and \$15 at the door. She reported that the day will consist of workshops, an AA Speaker, skit, bake sale and silent auction and taco salad for lunch. Margaret F. is doing the flyer. She sent one to Sue, however it was incorrect. Carol mentioned still having a literature table. Linda F. confirmed that she has secured an AA Speaker, Brad B. with Surfside AFG. Carol mentioned encouraging groups to bring items for the bake sale and silent auction items. Pam mentioned we will be giving away Just for Today and Just for Tonight book-marks.

Carol mentioned that the District meeting scheduled for Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> in Missouri City will need to be rescheduled due to a conflict with the AWSC meeting. The new date is set for Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm hosted by the Courage to Change AFG. Carol mentioned this is a voting meeting as it is the end of term for current seated Chair positions.

### NewBusiness:

**New Budget:** Kim R. suggested increasing our donations of \$75 to \$100 for each of the service arms. Carol asked if any of the chairs felt their budgets needed to be increased. Mattie suggested the DR budget be increased. Discussions took place on suggested budget increases and changes. Linda commented on the need to turn expenses in a timely manner. It was mentioned this was discussed in past meetings. Renee will review past meeting minutes and provide her findings to the District at the next meeting.

Kim reviewed the requested changes to the budgets: Alateen Coordinator will be increased to \$250 and remove travel for other expenses; increase service arms contributions from \$600 annually to \$1200 annually; DR to \$800; increase Outreach to \$1500.

Cindy made a motion to approve the increases to DR, Public Outreach, POSSE, and service arms, Linda F. second. Carol asked if there were any objections and there were none. Motion considered passed.

Carol spoke on elections pertaining to the area. The Area elects for different chairs and coordinators. She mentioned that it helps for the District to hold elections prior to the election held by the Area in November as well as the groups holding their elections. She asked if the District agreed to hold District elections in September. She wanted to encourage those in the groups to consider holding elections prior to the District election in September.

**Alateen Coordinator** – Carol announced that Jay is going to have to step down effective immediately as the Alateen Coordinator. Donna was asked if she would be willing to stand for the position. She stated, although not willing to commit today, she would consider.

**Love Gifts:** Carol mentioned that the AWSO meeting is planned for April 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> and that love gifts can be mailed after April 14<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion as to what the District would like to do for a love gift. After much discussion, a decision to have koozies made was the consensus.

Linda F. made a motion that District 4 approve no more than \$200 for love gifts for the AWSO 2020. Cindy second. Carol asked if there were any objections, there were none. Motion passed.

Linda and Renee will order love gifts and order 100.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm

Date: 1/1/2020 - 12/31/2020	2019 Actual	1st QTR Jan-Mar	2nd QTR April-June	3rd QTR July-Sept	4th QTR Oct-Dec	2020 Actual	Budget for 2020
<b>Income</b>							
Contributions	\$ 1,955.61	\$ 305.40	\$ 68.95			\$ 374.35	\$ 2,000.00
A Day In Al-Anon	\$ 2,652.84					\$ -	\$ 200.00
Literature Sales at SETA		\$ 499.41				\$ 499.41	\$ -
Silent Auction						\$ -	\$ 275.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 4,608.45</b>	<b>\$ 804.81</b>	<b>\$ 68.95</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 873.76</b>	<b>\$ 2,475.00</b>
<b>Travel Expenses</b>							
Alateen Coordinator						\$ -	\$ 250.00
Alt. District Representative						\$ -	\$ 50.00
Archivist						\$ -	\$ 50.00
Delegate's Expense						\$ -	\$ 200.00
District Representative	\$ 523.91		\$ 98.84			\$ 98.84	\$ 800.00
Public Outreach Coord.						\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Secretary						\$ -	\$ 100.00
Treasurer						\$ -	\$ 225.00
<b>TOTAL TRAVEL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 523.91</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 98.84</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 98.84</b>	<b>\$ 3,175.00</b>
<b>Other Expenses</b>							
Alateen Training	\$ 58.80					\$ -	\$ -
Conference Call Service			\$ 231.65			\$ 231.65	\$ 250.00
A Day in Al-Anon	\$ 962.77					\$ -	\$ 100.00
Literature Purchases	\$ 395.07	\$ 587.90				\$ 587.90	\$ -
Miscellaneous (Love Gifts)						\$ -	\$ 100.00
Service Arms	\$ 750.00	\$ 300.00				\$ 300.00	\$ 1,200.00
<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 2,166.64</b>	<b>\$ 887.90</b>	<b>\$ 231.65</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$1,119.55</b>	<b>\$ 1,650.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 2,690.55</b>	<b>\$ 887.90</b>	<b>\$ 330.49</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$1,218.39</b>	<b>\$ 4,825.00</b>
<b>Total Net</b>	<b>\$ 1,917.90</b>	<b>\$ (83.09)</b>	<b>\$ (261.54)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (344.63)</b>	

Bank Balance as of 4/17/20 \$ 8,532.04

Less Prudent Reserve \$ 1,000.00

Working Balance \$ 7,532.04

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO DISTRICT 4 - EAST TEXAS AREA 53**

(Please attach this form to your check or money order) **PRINT ALL INFORMATION**

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Group # \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ CK/MO #: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent by: \_\_\_\_\_

Send Self Addressed Stamped envelope (SASE) or

Email Address for receipt: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: District 4 AFG. Please do not send cash by mail.

Mail to: District 4 Treasurer, [112 Sunflower Ln., Lake Jackson, TX 77566](#)

**Calendar of Events**

**LINKS OF SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS**

June 13	District 4 Meeting Surfside AFG 818 Angel Wing Freeport, TX Conference Call Info (425) 436-6310; access code: 783079 1 PM
Jul 26	ISR Meeting Chapelwood United Methodist Church 4 PM
Sept 19	District 4 Meeting Courage to Change Lampighter's Club 2425 FM 1092 Missouri City, TX 77459 1 PM
Dec 12	District 4 Meeting Spring In Y9our Step AFG Pearland, TX Time TBD

- **District 4**  
**Check Payable to:** District 4 Treasurer  
**Mail to:** District 4 Treasurer—112 Sunflower Ln., Lake Jackson, TX 77566,
- **East Texas Area Assembly—Area 53**  
**Check Payable to:** ETAAA  
**Mail to:** Treasurer ETAAA—P O Box 1324 Silsbee, TX 77656
- **AI-Anon World Service Office**  
**Check Payable to:** AFG, Inc.  
**Mail to:** 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway Virginia Beach, VA 23454
- **AI-Anon Family Group Services (Intergroup)**  
**Check Payable to:** AFGS  
**Mail to:** 9800 Northwest Freeway. Ste 201 Houston, TX 77092

**Intergroup District 4 Liaison**

Maggi M. discussed closing the office to foot traffic in March due to Covid 19, however, we are still available to mail literature orders, ask questions, and take after hours calls.

Katy Edwards was voted in by the Board of Directors, as new board president, for May '20 – April 2021.

Existing board member Pam Daine will take over the secretary position from May 2020 to April 2021.

Vice President position is still open

The ISR's were asked to help find/announce the need for new board members.

Applications are on our website, and questions can be emailed to the office

ISR's should direct their groups to find Zoom meetings on the HoustonAlanon.Org website, by clicking on the "Newcomer" button

Thanks to Pam D for sharing these notes from the meeting as I was not able to attend.

Laura B

Please submit articles to Laura B, [laurabafg1972@gmail.com](mailto:laurabafg1972@gmail.com), by August 15, 2020 for the next issue.