

THE BEACON

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

A Message from the Chair ~ Paula H.

Greetings to TX East Area 53! Fall temperatures are in the air and so are preparations for our first in-person Assembly since November 2019! Many thanks to District 12 for hosting the Assembly on November 12 and 13 in San Marcos, and to District 13 for their support! Flyers in English and Spanish have been sent via District Representatives (DRs) to the groups, they have been posted on the Texas East website (www.texas-al-anon.org), and are also in this issue of *The Beacon*. I am excited about spending a wonderful weekend in fun, fellowship, and service!

On August 7, 2021, District 6 hosted the Area World Service Committee meeting in Round Rock, TX. It was fantastic to be together in person again. I would like to thank Anna A., DR, Lynn P., Alternate DR, and District 6 for their planning, hosting, financial, and technical support of the AWSC meeting. Several Thought Forces, Task Forces, and Work Groups gave reports, and two of the Task Forces are still in progress. Minutes from the AWSC meeting are in *The Beacon* and on the TX East website.

Now for Fall Assembly news! The November 1 registration/hotel reservation deadline is rapidly approaching. In addition to approving/amending the May 15 Assembly minutes, which are in *The Beacon* and on the TX East website, there are several items that Group Representatives (GRs) will be voting on at the Assembly. GRs will be voting on the updated Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements (on TX East website); I wrote a separate Alateen Reinstatement Task Force report, which is in this newsletter and on the TX East website. Another voting item for GRs is to decide whether to accept Electronic AFG meetings into our Area (reports from the Electronic Work Group are in the newsletter and on the TX East website). GRs will also be voting on the 2022 Area Budget.

There is one other voting item for the November Assembly. Our Area Secretary, Jennifer S., is moving out of state, so the Area will need a new Secretary—but she will be present at the Fall Assembly. Jennifer has held various service positions in TX East, and I would like to thank her for all she has done in her groups, in District 8, and as Area Treasurer and Area Secretary. Jennifer, you will be sorely missed! A list of eligible candidates for Secretary has been sent to DRs for distribution to the groups. The secretary's job description and resume forms are posted on the TX East website. Candidates' resumes will also be posted on the TX East website.

I look forward to seeing everyone in November! I sure have missed those wonderful Al-Anon hugs and can't wait to get and give them soon!

Love in Al-Anon service, Paula H., TX East Area Chair Panel 61



UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall Assembly
Nov. 12-13, 2021

Face-to-Face:
San Marcos, TX

**Submission
Deadline for
*The Beacon***
January 1, 2021

**28th Annual
P.O.S.S.E. Roundup**
March 18-20, 2022

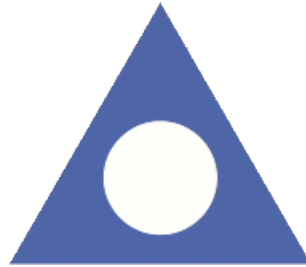
Spring Assembly
May 13-15, 2022
Corpus Christi, TX

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For contact information for
ETAAA Area World Service Committee Members,
please contact your Group Representative
or send a Request to:
web@texasAl-Anon.org



AREA CONTRIBUTIONS

MAIL To:
ETAAA Treasurer
P.O. Box 450675
Laredo, TX 78045

Delegate Report ~ Mattie T.

Hello Texas East, I am so excited about our Texas East celebration of WSO's 70th Birthday Anniversary. We are celebrating by having all living past delegates share their excitement of service during their panel year. We have an exciting PowerPoint to share and hope to see you there. But in case you missed it, we will have it become a part of the Texas East Archives.

2022 CONFERENCE THEME:

2022 World Service Conference as: Enhancing Our Recovery through Abundance, Unity, and Understanding. We look forward to seeing how you incorporate and use this theme in the coming year. 2022 WSC dates are April 26 – 30, Westchester Marriott in Tarrytown, New York

ROAD TRIP CANCELLED:

The Board of Trustees recently held a Special Board meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the October 2021 in person Road Trip! event scheduled to be held in Cleveland, OH.

The Board thoughtfully reviewed current CDC Guidelines for organizations planning large events and considered impacts on both the Road Trip! experience and the safety of members, WSO Volunteers, and Staff. Board members invited our collective Higher Powers into the discussion as well as the decision. The decision made by the Board was to postpone the in person 2021 Road Trip!

The Board is continuing conversations regarding Road Trip! We realize members may have many questions, including how refunds will be handled. We ask that you hold these questions until further updates become available, which should be within the next week or two.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Executive Committee, and the WSO, thank you for your patience and understanding as we move through our ever-changing world.

FINANCE:

While 2020 was a record year for contributions, we know that many groups meeting temporarily online are just now deciding whether to return to face-to-face and group expenses are increasing to cover rent and other costs that did not exist in the virtual world. Sadly, we concluded we needed to reduce our contributions budget. Some good news is that literature orders were higher in the first half of the year than expected and we see some LDCs reopening and/or reordering literature. Unfortunately, we expect an increased deficit budget of \$(233,753). As we continue "Moving Forward with Unity, Courage, and Perseverance" and reestablishing budgets at all levels including our groups, we remember that "Together We Can Make It!" We thank you in advance for your ongoing support through contributions and literature purchases!

POLICY COMMITTEE TASK FORCE:

A new Task Force, Public Outreach in Relation to Social Me-

dia, brought an interesting discussion forward, reflecting on the term "local," especially in this age of globalization. We look forward to this group bringing back additional thoughts, questions, and insights to the October Policy Committee for another thought provoking conversation.

Two other Policy Task Forces, Announcing Events and Local Services, have continued to meet and to offer updates to the Policy Committee. More detailed information will follow after the October Policy Committee Meeting.

NEW PSA:

WSO recently launched the new PSA, and they began playing in stations in early August to positive reviews. They have received several requests for the PSAs so they can be posted on Service Arm websites. We have had Natanya A., our website coordinator, add the PSA to the Texas East website. Feel free to visit the website and view the PSA.

WSO NEW-HIRE – DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS:

I'm thrilled and delighted to inform you that Sarah Smith, currently of Missouri, has accepted the offer to serve as the new Director of Programs at the World Service Office. Sarah originally joined the program as an Alateen and began her service journey at the WSO level as a member of the WSO Alateen Advisory Committee. She has since served as a District Representative, Area Delegate Panel 57, and Area Chair. She is well-respected in her Area as a leader and a member with deep knowledge of and experience with utilizing Al-Anon principles in supporting the fellowship. In her professional career, Sarah has more than 15 years' experience in Operations Management and demonstrated throughout the interview process her leadership and team building skills.

WSO JOB OPENING:

The Copy Editor role is a Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm (no weekends/evenings) position. This job is located at the Al-Anon Family WSO Group Headquarters, Inc. World Service Office in Virginia Beach, VA. Remote employment will not be considered for this position. Spanish bi-lingual is a plus. Please contact Human Resources with any questions or to apply cthomas@al-anon.org.

Love in Service,
Mattie T., Delegate - Panel 61

Hola Este de Texas, estoy muy entusiasmada con nuestra celebración del Aniversario de los 70 Aniversario de la OSM en el Este de Texas. Estamos celebrando haciendo que todos los delegados

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anteriores compartan su entusiasmo por el servicio durante su año en el Panel. Tenemos un emocionante PowerPoint que compartiremos y esperamos verlos allí. Pero en caso de que se lo hayan perdido, lo haremos pasar a formar parte de los Archivos del Este de Texas.

TEMA DE LA CONFERENCIA 2022:

La Conferencia de Servicio Mundial de 2022 como: Mejorando nuestra recuperación a través de la abundancia, la unidad y la comprensión. Esperamos ver cómo se incorpora y utiliza este tema en el próximo año. Las fechas de CSM de 2022 son del 26 al 30 de abril, en Westchester Marriott, en Tarrytown, Nueva York

VIAJE POR CARRETERA CANCELADO:

La Junta de Administradores (Custodios) celebró recientemente una reunión especial de la Junta ¡El propósito de la reunión fue discutir el ¡Viaje por carretera! de octubre de 2021 en persona! Evento programado para celebrarse en Cleveland, OH.

La Junta revisó cuidadosamente las Guías actuales de los CDC para las organizaciones que planean grandes eventos y consideró los impactos en ambos, la experiencia del ¡Viaje por carretera! y la seguridad de los miembros, los voluntarios de la OSM y el Personal. Los miembros de la Junta invitaron a nuestros Poderes Superiores colectivos a la discusión, así como a la decisión. ¡La decisión tomada por la Junta fue posponer el Road Trip 2021 en persona!

¡La Junta continúa las conversaciones sobre el Viaje por carretera! Nos damos cuenta de que los miembros pueden tener muchas preguntas, incluida la forma en que se manejarán los reembolsos. Le pedimos que esperen para hacer estas preguntas hasta que haya más actualizaciones disponibles, lo que debería ser dentro de una o dos semanas.

En nombre de la Junta de Administradores (Custodios), el Comité Ejecutivo y la OSM, gracias por su paciencia y comprensión a medida que avanzamos a través de nuestro mundo en constante cambio.

FINANZAS:

Si bien el 2020 fue un año récord para las contribuciones, sabemos que muchos grupos que se reúnen temporalmente en línea ahora están decidiendo si volver a las juntas presenciales y aumentar sus gastos para cubrir el alquiler y otros costos que no existían en el mundo virtual. Lamentablemente, llegamos a la conclusión de que necesitábamos reducir nuestro presupuesto de contribuciones. Una buena noticia es que los pedidos de literatura fueron más altos en la primera mitad del año de lo esperado y vemos que algunos CDL reabren y/o reordenan la literatura. Desafortunadamente, esperamos un aumento del presupuesto del déficit de \$ (233,753). A medida que continuamos "Avanzando

con unidad, valor y perseverancia" y restableciendo presupuestos en todos los niveles, incluidos nuestros grupos, recordamos que "¡Juntos podemos lograrlo!" ¡Les agradecemos de antemano por su apoyo continuo a través de contribuciones y compras de literatura!

POLÍTICAS DEL COMITÉ DEL EQUIPO DE TAREAS:

Un nuevo Equipo de tareas, Difusión Pública en Relación con las Redes Sociales, trajo un interesante debate, reflexionando sobre el término "local", especialmente en esta era de globalización. Esperamos que este grupo traiga pensamientos, preguntas y puntos de vista adicionales al Comité de Políticas de Octubre para otra, aunque provocadora, conversación.

Otras dos políticas de Equipos de tareas, Anuncio de eventos y Servicios locales, han seguido reuniéndose y ofreciendo actualizaciones al Comité de Políticas. Se proporcionará información más detallada después de la Reunión del Comité de Políticas de octubre.

NUEVO ASP:

La OSM lanzó recientemente el nuevo Anuncio de Servicio Público (ASP), y comenzó a escucharse en las estaciones a principios de agosto con críticas positivas. Han recibido varias solicitudes para que los ASP puedan publicarse en las Divisiones de Servicio de los sitios web. Natanya A., nuestra coordinadora del sitio web agregó el ASP al sitio web de Este de Texas, no dude en visitar el sitio web y ver el ASP.

NUEVA CONTRATACION DE LA OSM – DIRECTOR DE PROGRAMAS:

Estoy emocionada y encantada de informarles que Sarah Smith, actualmente de Missouri, ha aceptado la oferta para servir como la nueva Directora de Programas en la Oficina de Servicio Mundial. Sarah originalmente se unió al programa como Alateen y comenzó su viaje de servicio a nivel de la OSM como miembro del Comité Asesor de Alateen de la OSM. Desde entonces, se ha desempeñado como Representante de Distrito, Delegada de Zona del Panel 57 y Presidenta de Zona. Ella es muy respetada en su Zona como líder y miembro con un profundo conocimiento y experiencia en la utilización de los principios de Al-Anon para apoyar a la hermandad. En su carrera profesional, Sarah tiene más de 15 años de experiencia en Manejo de Operaciones y demostró a lo largo del proceso de la entrevista sus habilidades de liderazgo y formación de equipos.

PUESTO VACANTE EN LA OSM:

La función del puesto de Editor es de lunes a viernes, de 8am a 5pm (no fines de semana / noches). Este trabajo se localiza en la OSM de la Familia Al-Anon tiene un puesto vacante para un Editor. Sede del Grupo, Inc. de la Oficina de Servicio Mundial en Virginia Beach, VA. El empleo a distancia no será considerado para este puesto. Ser bilingüe, en español es una ventaja. Por fa-

vor, comuníquese con Recursos Humanos con cualquier pregunta o para hacer solicitud. cthomas@al-anon.org.

Con amor al servicio
Mattie T., Delegada del Panel 61

Alternate Delegate ~ Lynn S.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT...

Have you ever imagined having the opportunity to serve the worldwide fellowship of Al-Anon Family Groups? The World Service Office (WSO) has opportunities each year for members to serve as At-Large Committee members on select committees formed by the Board of Trustees. These members serve the fellowship by bringing ideas and sharing their experience, strength, and hope to provide recommendations on how to improve programs and services across the globe.

- Enjoy finances? Consider Auditing
- Love reading *The Forum* magazine? Perhaps *Forum* Editorial Advisory might suit
- Want to contemplate ideas for new CAL? Literature could be your opportunity
- Love sharing about Al-Anon? Think about joining Public Outreach

Al-Anon members applying to serve on At-Large Committees must have five years of continuous Al-Anon/Alateen membership and can never have been a member of A.A. Alateen members must be at least 13 years of age and have at least one year of Al-Anon/Alateen membership. Unique qualifications exist for past trusted servants at the world service level—these are listed on www.al-anon.org.

At-Large Committee members may serve up to six one-year terms, beginning in January. Résumé forms must be submitted no later than **October 29, 2021**. To get more details on how to submit your résumé contact the World Service Office (WSO) at wso@al-anon.org or 757-563-1600.

Secretary's Report ~ Jennifer S.

No Report

Treasurer's Report ~ Myrthala C.

No Report

Area Alateen Coordinator ~ Carolyn F.

To all Area 53 AMIAs. I'm so happy to see that meetings are back in the saddle. The Task Force gets all the applause!! They were efficient and effective. We were the first Area to complete the requirements necessary to reopen.

Our teens are so very happy to see their friends face to face. And, as Covid decreases, I'm sure more meetings will come online.

Thank you all for your patience and support.

In Gratitude,
Carol F, AAC

Area Alateen Process Person ~ Ilene F.

No Report

Area Archives Coordinator ~ Lynn B.

As of writing this report, I have opened and examined all of the tubs containing our East Texas Area 53 Archives. I found a wealth of materials that reflected our Area's and Al-Anon's history in general.

Here is a sampling of what I found:

- ❖ Handwritten/typed original minutes books from our early Assemblies
- ❖ The first handmade banner that was displayed at an Area Assembly held in 1977
- ❖ Display of the Alateen groups in attendance at the first E-TAC Conference held in our Area
- ❖ Typed manuscript autographed by Lois Wilson that was the draft of her memoirs of the year-long Motorcycle trip she took with Bill
- ❖ Variety of speaker tapes and pictures
- ❖ Out-of-print books and pamphlets

The documents and artifacts ranged in quality of how they have survived over the years. Much of the very early archives are in need of protection before they can be displayed.

The slogan *First Things First* kept coming to mind as I rummaged through the tubs. I have decided to start preserving the older items first. As I protect these materials, I hope to be able to share them with our Area.

In keeping with the Fall Assembly's theme of 'Removing our Masks', it is my goal to remove the dusty mask from our Area's history by displaying some of the older (protected) items there.

I hope to see you in San Marcos, where (as I am often told) more shall be revealed!

With Love and in Service,
Lynn B. - Archives Coordinator

Group Records Coordinator ~ Peggy T.

Hi, Area 53 Members!

Thanks to you, many groups have made their public listings much more user-friendly for newcomers and visitors, making it easy to find meeting locations, a Zoom login and especially a person to call if they have questions.

If you haven't already done so, please go to your

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favorite search engine (like Google, for example), type in "Al-Anon meetings near me," then, when the World Service Office (WSO) search fields come up, use them to find your group.

Make sure your public meeting listing extends a warm hand - with lots of location instructions to visitors and newcomers. Sometimes we regular members take for granted that the room can somehow be found. That is not always the case. Put yourself in their shoes and think about what you might need.

If changes to your listing are needed, or if your Group Representative (GR) and/or Current Mailing Address (CMA) have changed, simply send me an email at grouprecordsarea53@gmail.com. The Area Group Records team, Cathy M., Laurie F., or I will be happy to make the changes!

In another key initiative, I am happy to report that, since districts 4, 5, 6 and 7 are now only using the WSO database to provide meeting information, as opposed to attempting to keep a second list updated and synchronized through the Information Service Offices/Intergroup, we have received a lot fewer "Reported Not Meeting" notices. "Reported Not Meeting" notices happen when the meeting information has not been updated and someone showed up at a non-existent meeting. (Ouch!) With one list to maintain, not only is there less outdated information, overall it is less confusing for everyone, and so much easier to maintain.

Please keep the information changes coming! Thank you!

Love in service,
Peggy T.

Area 53 Group Records Coordinator (TX East)
GroupRecordsArea53@gmail.com

The Forum ~ Lynn Starkey

Carol C., Magazine Editor of *The Forum*, held a Forum Coordinators Web Conference Call with Twenty-three (23) Area Forum Coordinators. The participation was fun and informative, we shared the problems due to the pandemic and not being able to present reports to the members in person at our assemblies. I look forward to seeing our Texas East members in November and hope you will check out the *Forum* table to learn more about the monthly magazine of Al-Anon Family Groups Sharing Recover, Unity and Service.

I decided to share in this edition of our newsletter, *The Beacon*, the names of our own Texas East Area Al-Anon members' recent submissions and congratulate the following:

- Suzanne P., District 12, whose photo appeared on the back cover of the August issue

- Judy P., District 6, shared on Concept Eight in the August issue
- Teresa D., District 4, wrote about "Discovering Freedom" in the September issue

In years past, other Texas East Al-Anon and Alateen members have had photos and sharings published:

- Claudia B. and Pat E. photos, and Rosie M. District 5, January 2020
- Lynn S., District 12, May 2020
- Susan J., District 3, November 2020

A request for sharings for future *Forum* issues: *How has Al-Anon literature helped you?*

Please share how...*In all Our Affairs* (B-15), *The Al-Anon Focus* (P-45), or *Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships* (B-33) has helped you.

Send your sharings by November 15 to *The Forum*, 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-567, Attention "CAL Corner"; to wso@al-anon.org with "CAL Corner" in the subject line or submit online at www.al-anon.org/forumshare.

Literature Coordinator ~ Lynn S.

The AFG Connects for Area Literature Coordinators posted from Tom C. WSO Associate Director—Literature the following letter. As I read it I thought it was informative and would be of interest to our Area Al-Anon and Alateen members.

Dear Sandra,

Thanks for bringing up the concerns of someone you service sponsor regarding references to God as male in the Twelve Steps for discussion among other Literature Coordinators. I do have some additional information to share that was not mentioned by Coordinators who shared with you that I think might be helpful to know when considering this topic.

The first is the Al-Anon World Service Conference Charter, found on pages 224-5 of the *2018-2021 Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual*, version two (2). It states that our three Legacies, the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service, can only be changed by written agreement of three-quarters of all Al-Anon groups. Any decision to attempt such a change has to be agreed to by the Conference. If the Conference should decide to propose a change, a poll would be taken of all groups worldwide. The difficulty of this process is reflective of its importance.

Of course the Steps and Traditions are not the only items in Conference Approved Literature that have references to God as male. In their personal sharings, some members of our inclusive fellowship use the pronouns "Him" or "He," while some use "Her" or "She." Others do not assign a gender to their Higher Power, or use another

term to describe their idea of a Power greater than ourselves. Although stories are often edited for grammar or length, the Literature Committee has repeatedly stressed the need to retain the flavor and ideas expressed by each member. The Literature Committee has concurred in the past that when quoting these sharings, we respect the intent of the members who wrote by preserving their personal interpretations without alteration, unless it advocates a specific religious tenet or philosophy. Specific religious discussions are advised against in the "Three Obstacles to Success in Al-Anon."

In reviewing the descriptive or introductory text of Al-Anon literature, the Literature Committee has given much attention for more than 30 years now to be reflective of our diversity by using gender-neutral references whenever possible in the creation of new literature and in the revision of older materials. In the text of these newer or revised materials, terms such as "God of our understanding," "Higher Power," or "Power greater than ourselves" are used without any gendered reference. Likewise, Al-Anon members and their alcoholic friends and relatives are not assumed to be a particular gender. However, there have been some early pieces, such as *The Dilemma of the Alcoholic Marriage* (B-4) and *One Day at a Time in Al-Anon* (B-6) that many members have asked us to not change. These members feel certain pieces, as originally written, are a useful part of our history. They want to be able to avail themselves of the words and insights of our co-founders and pioneer members as originally written. This year's World Service Conference maintained that viewpoint in motions to create new introductions to these books, placing them in historical perspective of the time they were written in, rather than revise or update their wording.

Newsletter Coordinator ~ Cyndie C.

No Report

Public Outreach Coordinator ~ Pam J.

Hello Texas East Area 53. Here's the latest in Public Outreach:

1) WSO has created a beautiful new **Public Service Announcement!** Per WSO: "Al-Anon public service announcements (PSAs) reach hundreds of millions of people every year throughout the US and Canada, thanks to the generous commitment of TV and radio stations to offer free airplay. While the faces and voices featured in the PSAs are those of actors, the scripts are exclusively Al-Anon in content and carry the Al-Anon message of help and hope to the public. Members can participate by sharing the PSAs from YouTube or <https://al-anon.org/> to their social media network. Please remember to protect your anonymity on social media by not making comments that would reveal your Al-Anon membership."

Simply sharing/posting without adding a comment that you are a member keeps anonymity, a core principle in our program. To find the video, go to: <https://al-anon.org/>, hover over "Members" and click on "Public Outreach". Then click on "Public/Media", then "Media Center." At the bottom of the Media Page, click on "Public Service Announcements (PSA)". The "Benefits of Recovery" is the new PSA. Take a minute to check it out. WSO did a fabulous job!

2) In the last issue of the Beacon, the new **Al-Anon/Alateen posters** were announced. Per WSO: "The Al-Anon and Alateen poster designs have been developed specifically for **local** public outreach. The poster templates can be downloaded and customized with local contact information. They are available in different designs and orientations (vertical or horizontal) that best fit your project. Other sizes and formats are available. Please email publicoutreach@al-anon.org with your desired format. There is no requirement to submit these posters to the WSO for review as long as no other modifications have been made. As a reminder, please include your Area Public Outreach Coordinator on all your outreach projects."

So where do you find these posters, you ask? Again, go to <https://al-anon.org/>, hover over "Members", click on Public Outreach, click on Public Outreach Posters, and there they are. You'll see two Al-Anon and three Alateen posters. All are impactful and eye-catching. I love that there's a place for us to put our local information, whether it is contact info for an intergroup, a District, or a group.

3) I've made contact with several District Public Outreach Coordinators in Area 53. They are all eager to reach out to those who have yet to find us and are still suffering. If you hear of an opportunity to bring Al-Anon information to a health fair, a rehab, a school, a therapist, doctor, prison, jail, law enforcement agency, etc., let your District Public Outreach Coordinator and/or District Representative know. More often than not, it is word of mouth that brings outreach opportunities to those who are ready and willing to be of service.

Spanish Coordinator ~ Everica R.

¡Hola, Zona 53 del Este de Texas!

Una vez más, estos últimos meses han pasado tranquilos para mí. El mes pasado recibí una llamada de la Coordinadora de Área, Paula H.; ella me pidió que me contactara con los RG hispanos para preguntarles qué necesitan para asistir a las Asambleas de Zona. Me comuniqué con Nora F., la Coordinadora de la Oficina Intergupal Hispana de Houston, y ella me dijo que ya les había preguntado a los RG hispanos sobre este asunto. ¡Ella me dio una gran noticia! ¡Hay grupos que están

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teniendo reuniones presenciales y estarán disponibles para asistir a la Asamblea de Otoño! Además, asistí a la Reunión de Negocios del Distrito 1 y al menos 3 de los RG hispanos planean estar en la Asamblea. Me alegro mucho de que esta vez sí vamos a tener representación hispana. Tengo pendiente comunicarme con Peggy, Coordinadora de Registro de Grupos para que me proporcione la lista de grupos hispanos registrados en la Zona 53 y poderme poner en contacto con ellos. Espero hacerlo en esta semana.

En cuanto a mi trabajo realizado, hice la traducción de la Reunión Virtual de la Asamblea de Al-Anon y Alateen del Este de Texas (AAZET) del 15 de mayo de 2021; y también los Requisitos de Seguridad y Comportamiento de Alateen.

Estoy muy emocionada por la próxima Asamblea de Otoño presencial, ya que no pude asistir a la primera reunión presencial con el CSMZ.

¡Eso es todo amigos!
 Evérica R.
 Spanish Coordinator

Hello East Texas Area 53!

Once again, these last few months have passed quietly for me. Last month I received a call from the Area Chair, Paula H. She asked me to contact the Hispanic GRs to ask them what they need in order to attend the Area Assemblies. I contacted Nora F. the Houston Hispanic Intergroup Coordinator and she told me she had already asked the Hispanic GRs about this matter. She gave me great news! There are groups that are having face-to-face meetings and will be available to attend the Fall Assembly! Also, I attended the District 1 Business Meeting and at least 3 of the Hispanic GRs plan to be in the Assembly. I'm very happy that this time we are going to have Hispanic representation. I have yet to contact Peggy, the Group Registration Coordinator, to provide me with the list of Hispanic groups registered in the Area, so that I can get in touch with them. I hope to do it this coming week.

Regarding the work that I have done, I have translated the Minutes of the East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly (ETAAA) Virtual Meeting of May 15th, 2021, and also the Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements.

I'm very excited about the next face to face Fall Assembly as I was unable to attend the first face-to-face meetings with the AWSC.

That's all folks!
 Evérica R.
 Spanish Coordinator

Website Coordinator ~ Natanya A.

As we move back to in-person meetings I have re-focused my work on website updates as submitted by the AWSC. As we approach the Fall Assembly I will be working with our Chair, Paula, to ensure all relevant information is on the website for easy access by all attendees.

Process note: I have time reserved every weekend to update the website. If there is something you'd like posted please send it to me by email by Friday evening. PDF is the easiest format for posting but I can convert MS Office and email documents if that makes it easier for you.

Get the agenda and other important information about ETAAA on the Assembly web page: <https://texas-al-anon.org/fall-2021-etaaa/>

Natanya A.
 Area Website Coordinator

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

District 1~Veronica P.

No Report

District 2 ~ Ginny M.

We're looking forward to seeing everyone in person for the Fall Assembly! District 2 currently has 16 meetings on Zoom, 12 in-person meetings, and one hybrid meeting. We held our last quarterly District Meeting on July 17, which was virtual, as voted on by the GRs. Cheryl Y. volunteered to be the Al-Anon liaison to the 68th Annual AA Jamboree being held February 3-6, 2022, at the Omni Hotel, Corpus Christi, TX. The Al-Anon speaker will be Juanita U., from Santa Fe, NM. District 2 opened a Venmo account, Venmo@District2AFG and we are now able to take group contributions online, etc.

The 2022 Spring Assembly Planning Committee met September 23 and decided to have monthly meetings on the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm. We continue to get volunteers for our committee chairs. We have received the seed money and opened a local bank account at IBC Bank. Myrthala C., HDC registration chairperson, opened a P.O. Box in the name of 2022 ETAAA, P.O. Box 451364, Laredo, TX 78045. The venue hotel is Holiday Inn Downtown Marina, 707 N. Shoreline Drive, Corpus Christi. The rate will be \$128/night for single/double. Mattie has given us the 2022 WSC theme "Enhancing Our Recovery Through Abundance, Unity and Understanding". We discussed and looked at several logos and graphics for "Unity". Lisa W. has agreed to work on the theme and the assembly flyer. We should vote on the proposed budget at our next planning meeting, October 7. We still plan on having a pre-

registration table available at the Fall Assembly in San Marcos, with a drawing for a free assembly registration, so please look for us there! District 2 hopes to see all of you at the beach in Corpus Christi, May 13-15, 2022!

Love in service,
Ginny M. DR2

District 3 ~ Susan J.

No Report

District 4 ~ Margaret F.

Now that I have finished some traveling, I am ready to get back to work for District 4. I needed some R&R. Al-Anon has taught me to take care of myself. Thank you.

I have visited a few groups in the District that I have never attended. I am finding most are doing well. There are 31 active groups and 16 inactive. Group records updates seem to be the most needed thing right now as groups either return to in-person meetings, hybrid meetings or Zoom meetings. Newcomers (and old timers) need to know that Al-Anon meetings are happening and how to access them. Slowly but surely, it will get done.

Twenty-two attended the District meeting, September 11, 2021 either in person or on Zoom. Eleven were GR's, three Alternate GR's and the rest were District officers or visitors. This was a record number since Covid-19 started. Three of the groups had not participated in several years. It was good to have them present.

Public Outreach Coordinator, Sheri D., is going to Brazos Place Recovery Center to share about Al-Anon. On September 25, she will participate in the annual Walk for Recovery in Lake Jackson and will pass out Al-Anon information and answer questions for the public. She is coordinating a table at the Mouth of the Brazos Conference, October 8-10, 2021 where there will be literature to pass out. Also, at this time, an informal survey of folks who may have youth interested in the re-establishment of Alateen in the Brazosport area will be taken. PSAs are being sent to local papers.

Plans for the 2022 Fall Assembly are coming together. Committees are formed, a date has been chosen along with a theme. We have a long way to go, but it will happen. Look for a "Save the Date" reminder at the 2021 Fall Assembly.

A committee formed to plan "A Day in Al-Anon" event for the early part of next year. Keep an eye out for that.

I am looking forward to seeing "my family" at the 2021 Fall Assembly in November. Until then—be safe.

"Let it Begin with Me"
Margaret F.

District 5 ~ Peggy T.

Hello from District 5!

In September, Heather stepped down as the District Representative (DR) for health reasons. Heather is a very dedicated, hard-working member of Al-Anon. We appreciate her dedication and service. Thank you, Heather!

I stood for DR because for some time I have felt a strong desire to increase participation and engagement - and **fun and fellowship and food (The 3 F's!)** - in our district. It's challenging because the district is so large - with 105 groups and 133 meetings. It essentially functions like a corporation out of necessity. I am looking forward to exploring how we can work on this together!

Two service roles are open in our district:

- Alateen Coordinator
- Archivist

Please let me know if you are interested - and don't be surprised if I call you to see if you're willing to stand! Service work accelerates recovery!

At our last District business meeting, we discussed how some groups in and around Webster, Texas would like to move to District 4 because they are close to other groups in District 5. After discussing this with Area leadership, I found out our Area has traditionally based District assignments by town and county, and all groups in the town or county have to be in agreement to change the District. That being the case, it sounds like we'll need to have more discussions before the matter is put before the Area.

Wouldn't it be really cool if one day we could use zip codes for district assignments? That would help in large cities especially. They tend to get larger and larger, which starts to run counter to creating a family-feeling and nurturing recovery.

I am excited and appreciate the opportunity to serve.

Peggy

District Representative - District 5
district5.etx@gmail.com

District 6 ~ Anna A.

Hello from District 6, where we are preparing for our next District meeting, enjoying the new Austin Information Center (AIC) website, and working on District initiatives:

Upcoming Event

District Meeting on October 16 – It will be virtual, as voted on by the GRs at our April District Meeting. Please let me know if you would like to attend to see what goes on at our district meetings.

| ETAAA Financial Report 2021 | 1st Qtr 3/31/21 | 2nd Qtr 6/30/21 | 3rd Qtr 9/30/21 | 4th Qtr 12/31/21 | Total YTD | 2021 Budget | Over/(Under) Budget |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------|-------------|---------------------|
| Income | | | | | | | |
| Assembly Surplus | 768.34 | 672.70 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,441.04 | | |
| Fall 2020 | 768.34 | | | | 768.34 | | |
| Spring 2021 | | 672.70 | | | 672.70 | | |
| Beacon Income | 30.00 | 30.00 | 12.00 | | 72.00 | 200.00 | (128.00) |
| Contributions Income | 1,339.18 | 3,935.50 | 3,967.95 | | 9,242.63 | 18,000.00 | (8,757.37) |
| Fall Gratitude Basket | | | | | 0.00 | | |
| Miscellaneous Income | | 1,517.35 | | | 1,517.35 | | |
| Unallocated Funds from 2020 | 768.34 | | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 12,300.00 | 12,300.00 |
| Total Income | 2,137.52 | 6,155.55 | 3,979.95 | 0.00 | 12,273.02 | 30,500.00 | (18,226.98) |
| Expenses | | | | | | | |
| Travel / Expenses | 148.00 | 206.20 | 1,736.42 | 0.00 | 2,090.62 | 14,800.00 | (12,709.38) |
| Alateen Coordinator | | | 98.87 | | 98.87 | 2,200.00 | (2,101.13) |
| Alateen Liaison | | | | | 0.00 | 400.00 | (400.00) |
| Alateen Process Person | | 200.10 | | | 200.10 | 1,000.00 | (799.90) |
| Alternate Delegate | | | 67.98 | | 67.98 | 600.00 | (532.02) |
| Archives | | | 179.71 | | 179.71 | 600.00 | (420.29) |
| Beacon Editor | | | | | 0.00 | 500.00 | (500.00) |
| Chair | | 6.10 | 41.14 | | 47.24 | 800.00 | (752.76) |
| Delegate | | | 330.53 | | 330.53 | 1,100.00 | (769.47) |
| Group Records | | | | | 0.00 | 500.00 | (500.00) |
| Public Outreach | | | 174.65 | | 174.65 | 600.00 | (425.35) |
| Past Delegates | | | 58.65 | | 58.65 | 3,000.00 | (2,941.35) |
| Past Area Chairpersons | | | | | 0.00 | 900.00 | (900.00) |
| Secretary | | | 265.60 | | 265.60 | 800.00 | (534.40) |
| Spanish Coordinator | | | | | 0.00 | 500.00 | (500.00) |
| Treasurer | 148.00 | | 519.29 | | 667.29 | 800.00 | (132.71) |
| Website Coordinator | | | | | 0.00 | 500.00 | (500.00) |
| Other Expenses | 1,628.18 | 3,999.69 | 363.29 | 0.00 | 5,991.16 | 8,400.00 | 41.21 |
| Beacon Publishing | 722.55 | | | | 722.55 | 3,300.00 | (2,577.45) |
| Storage Unit for Archives | 189.00 | 126.00 | 239.71 | | 554.71 | 800.00 | (245.29) |
| Web Hosting Fee | | | | | 0.00 | 100.00 | (100.00) |
| Audit Committee Expense | | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Miscellaneous Expense | 15.00 | 3,533.95 | 15.00 | | 3,563.95 | 100.00 | 3,463.95 |
| Misc Workgroup/Workshop Expense | | | | | 0.00 | 500.00 | (500.00) |
| Transitional AWSC Meeting | 701.63 | 66.88 | 108.58 | | 877.09 | 3,000.00 | (2,122.91) |
| Web-Based Conferencing | | 272.86 | | | 272.86 | 600.00 | (327.14) |

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| World Service Conference | 0.00 | 290.39 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 290.39 | 2,700.00 | (2,409.61) |
| Area's Gifts to WSC | | | | | 0.00 | 300.00 | (300.00) |
| Delegate's Equalized Expense to WSC | | | | | 0.00 | 2,000.00 | (2,000.00) |
| Delegate's Incidental Expenses to WSC | | 290.39 | | | 290.39 | 400.00 | (109.61) |
| SC Regional Delegate Meeting | 35.00 | 30.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 65.00 | 4,800.00 | (4,735.00) |
| Delegate | | 30.00 | | | 30.00 | 600.00 | (570.00) |
| Chair | | | | | 0.00 | 600.00 | (600.00) |
| Immediate Past Delegate | | | | | 0.00 | 600.00 | (600.00) |
| Active Past Delegates | | | | | 0.00 | 2,400.00 | (2,400.00) |
| Alternate Delegate | 35.00 | | | | 35.00 | 600.00 | (565.00) |
| Total Expenses | 1,811.18 | 4,526.28 | 2,099.71 | 0.00 | 8,437.17 | 30,700.00 | (22,262.83) |
| Net Income Less Expenses | 326.34 | 1,629.27 | 1,880.24 | 0.00 | 3,835.85 | | 4,035.85 |
| Extraordinary Income/Expense | 1st Qtr 3/31/21 | 2nd Qtr 6/30/21 | 3rd Qtr 9/30/21 | 4th Qtr 12/31/21 | Total YTD | | |
| Income | | | | | | | |
| Returned Seed Money | 3,500.00 | 3,500.00 | | | 7,000.00 | | |
| Received Alateen Background Ch | 97.30 | 249.70 | 39.80 | | 386.80 | | |
| Spring Birthday Basket | | 100.00 | | | 100.00 | | |
| Total Extraordinary Income | 3,597.30 | 3,849.70 | 39.80 | 0.00 | 7,486.80 | | |
| Expenses | | | | | | | |
| Seed Money | 3,500.00 | | 3,500.00 | | 7,000.00 | | |
| Fees paid Alateen Background Ch | 20.85 | 287.34 | 82.55 | | 390.74 | | |
| Spring Birthday Basket to WSO | | 100.00 | | | 100.00 | | |
| Total Extraordinary Expenses | 3,520.85 | 387.34 | 3,582.55 | 0.00 | 7,490.74 | | |
| Net Extraordinary Income Less E | 76.45 | 3,462.36 | (3,542.75) | 0.00 | (3.94) | | |
| Profit/(Loss) | 402.79 | 5,091.63 | (1,662.51) | 0.00 | 3,831.91 | | |
| Checking Account Balance | 3/31/2021 | 6/30/2021 | 9/30/2021 | 12/31/2021 | Total YTD | | |
| Beginning Balance | 38,124.80 | 38,527.59 | 43,619.22 | 41,956.71 | 38,124.80 | | |
| Increase/(Decrease) | 402.79 | 5,091.63 | (1,662.51) | 0.00 | 3,831.91 | | |
| Transfer to CD | | | | | | | |
| | 38,527.59 | 43,619.22 | 41,956.71 | 41,956.71 | 41,956.71 | | |
| Ample Reserve Fund (CD) | | | | | | | |
| Beginning Balance | 20,037.68 | 20,059.88 | 20,082.60 | 20,105.34 | | | |
| Increase/(Decrease) | 22.20 | 22.72 | 22.74 | 0.00 | | | |
| Ending Balance | 20,059.88 | 20,082.60 | 20,105.34 | 20,105.34 | | | |

Austin Information Center Updates

- New Austin Information Center (AIC) Liaison – Jessica P., with Anderson Mill AFG, is the new AIC Liaison. We're thrilled to see this service position filled after almost a year of being vacant. Congratulations, Jessica!
- New AIC Website – The AIC has a new website, and it's a beauty. In addition to a new and modern look, one of the biggest changes you'll see is that the old meeting lists have been removed. Visitors to the website can now use the **Find a Meeting** button in the upper right corner of each page to be routed to the WSO website, where meeting information for all registered groups in the Area can be found. District 6 information, including our archived newsletters, can be found under the **Resources** tab. Go to <https://austinalanon.org/> to experience the new site.

District Initiatives

- Visiting Groups – Our Alternate DR (Lynn P.) and I have an invitation out to all the groups in the District to let us know if they'd like one or both of us to pay them a visit. As of the writing of this report, I have been invited and am scheduled to visit three groups in the District. I'm very much looking forward to spending time with these groups and meeting many others as the months go by. We currently have more than 80 active groups in District 6, but less than half regularly attend the district meetings. To remedy this, Lynn and I will also be making an extra effort to contact and pay these groups a visit to let them know the District is there and the role it plays as a service arm.
- ETAAA Spring 2023 Host Committee – District 6 will host the 2023 ETAA Spring Assembly. I've contacted several hotels in the Austin area and plan to select the venue before the end of the year.

As I work with the other officers and coordinators to prepare for the end of our first year of this term, I want to extend my sincerest thanks for their service. I'm looking forward to the new year and the adventures that await.

In grateful service,
Anna A., DR

District 7 ~ Allyn D.

On Saturday, September 11, District 7 collaborated with the Houston AIS (Intergroup) board and staff members to hold a Book and Bake Sale in Bryan. It was a beautiful day, with great fellowship, providing an important opportunity for Intergroup and D7 members to connect and support one another. Thank you to Jane M. for hosting and to the people who travelled, served, baked, created and shopped. Both Intergroup and D7 benefited financially and relationally! Along those same interactive lines, District 7's own Gary S. will be the speaker at

the next Houston Intergroup speaker meeting (virtual and in person) on November 6, at 2pm, at the Spring Branch Club.

Our next quarterly hybrid meeting will be on Saturday, October 16. We will check in at 9:00 am and start the meeting soon after to allow people to attend their Saturday meetings. Unfortunately, we will no longer be able to use the Dobbin Community Center in Montgomery for our quarterly hybrid district meetings. A new Montgomery County policy only allows nonprofits free use of the community centers Mon-Thurs. Otherwise, there is a \$150 fee and a \$300 deposit. Thankfully, our Alternate DR and Treasurer, Kurt N., has offered the meeting room over his garage with a big screen tv for us to use just a few miles away. More info with directions will be sent out soon, or feel free to contact Allyn D., DR7: 281-808-1170; dukesa@earthlink.net. We will be seeking additional alternate free or low cost venues in the months to come.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the Fall Assembly!

In Grateful Service,
Allyn D.

District 8 ~ Nina W.

Fall is finally here and I am so excited for the cooler weather. District 8 has added 3 new meetings and hopefully will have another one starting in October. We are continuing to update all our meetings so everyone will have correct information to find a meeting whether face-to-face or electronically. As we head into this season, we will continue to focus on sharing our experience, strength, and hope with each other and with those that have not yet heard about Al- Anon. Our next District meeting is scheduled for October 16 at 9:00.

On a sad note Jennifer S. our current Treasurer is moving to Maine. She has served in our area as District Representative, Group Representative, Webmaster, and many other roles while she has been with us. She has blessed District 8 in so many ways and has brought us into the 21st century with her tech savvy knowledge and experience. Thanks to Jennifer, we have an online bookstore now.

On a personal note, I have learned so much from Jennifer and I am grateful for her wisdom and experience that has led me to serve as the District Representative. We will all miss her and her family. We are grateful to God that He placed her here just for a little while. Prayers and blessings for Jennifer and her sweet family as they begin another adventure.

Sincerely,
Nina W.—District 8 Representative

District 9 ~ DebiSu Y.

Some exciting news for District 9: we have a **new** group called SNL Al-Anon (hearkening back to *Saturday Night Live*). It is the brainchild of Debra, the person who manages the area AA office, and a new GR, Jan. It is a monthly Al-Anon speaker meeting at 6:00pm on the last Saturday of every month. The first meeting had 25 attendees! They have been serving pizza before the meeting starts. (Feed them and they will come.) The meeting location is in the AA Area Office building. They meet in an open atrium which provides room for social distancing.

As a team effort between AA and Al-Anon, the AA office staff is now purchasing more Al Anon materials. The response has been overwhelmingly positive!

The creation of this group has been thrilling to watch. It reminds me of some of the stories we hear about the early days of Al-Anon. People saying YES to Service, working hand in hand with AA, and learning how to use the guidelines that keep Al-Anon strong.

The District 9 meeting was on August 2. We met in person. It was a great meeting filled with fellowship and ideas, but we had only 8 GRs in attendance. We voted to keep our Zoom account and I took a poll of what folks wanted to do for our next meeting in January. As a result, our next meeting will be on Zoom, and we've always had good attendance at those meetings.

We continue to have Alateen Sponsors ready to serve. They are trained and are opening the Zoom meetings regularly. However, we have no young people attending. Ideas were considered about how to stir up interest in this valuable asset.

District 9 is like most other districts in East Texas as we continue to deal with the unfolding crisis of COVID. We have groups that are continuing to meet on Zoom only, some are meeting in-person only (with masks and social distancing), and some hybrid – Zoom and face-to-face.

The commitment to providing Al-Anon to our communities is strong. I am deeply grateful for every GR that serves in District 9!

DebiSu Yelverton

District 10 ~ Martha R.

No Report

District 12 ~ Lynn S.

District 12 is busy preparing for the last District meeting of 2020 by hosting our Delegate, Mattie T., on October 16. Our next big event is hosting the East Texas Area Assembly (ETAAA) on November 12 and 13 at the Holiday Inn & Convention Center of San Marcos. Make your assembly registration and hotel reservation by November 1, 2021. (Please see the registration flyer in this is-

sue of *The Beacon*.) Remember to make your hotel reservation with the hotel: 512-805-1000 (**Block Code ETA**)

Registration tables at the Assembly will open at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 12. The hospitality room will also open at 4:00 p.m. Rene D. and Renee S. will be co-chairing this great place to snack and greet before we get the Assembly officially started at 7:00 p.m. with a workshop focusing on "Removing Our Masks", chaired by Patti W. Our Area Chair, Paula H., has set the AWSC meeting for 8:00 p.m.

Our Raffle Chair, Deb A., is reaching out to all who would like to provide a fundraiser Raffle Basket--please contact her at beachbumsdr@mindspring.com so she can have a fairly good idea on how many baskets she will have for this fun fundraiser!

Please help us meet our contract agreement with the hotel for the Saturday lunch by purchasing the Deli lunch for \$12.50. This will help us all get back to the afternoon business meeting on time. Our dinner hour is on our own, and then we will come back to the hotel for the 8:00 p.m. guest speaker, Stephanie B. from Granite Shoals, TX.

We really wish we could have had Sunday morning to offer workshops, but when searching for a hotel that could meet our needs, there were none that were able to meet that request. Acceptance of something "we could not change" became part of this Assembly. District 12 is looking forward to a great face-to-face Assembly.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email at amias200387@yahoo.com.

Lynn S.

District 13 ~ Sarah W.

District 13 is doing well, and we look forward to supporting the Fall Assembly this year. We will have our District Meeting on October 23, in Center Point, where a group is meeting now. We are all excited to go out and see the new location that our Changed Attitudes Group has been using after their prior venue did not allow them to return in a timely manner. Before long, it will be Christmas, but first up is the Assembly! See you then!

AIS LIAISON REPORTS**Austin AIS ~ Position Vacant**

No Report

Beaumont AIS ~ Barbara G.

Beaumont AIS met on July 24, and it was so good to see and hug old friends. Our online bookstore will soon be a reality, and last minute details were discussed. We were able to sell our literature at an AA Convention in Tyler in

Continued on Page 14...

...continued from Page 13

July, and are lined up to sell it at an annual AA Convention in Beaumont in August. We are willing to bring literature and sell when you have a need so keep us in mind.

At this time we do not have a full-time office manager. However, we do have a previous part-time manager who comes in to do bookkeeping as needed. We are open only on Wednesdays and Thursdays, due to a current lack of volunteers.

Looking forward to seeing you all and getting some wonderful Al-Anon hugs.

Barbara G.

Houston AIS ~ Joyce Y.

Thank you to the Al-Anon members who stepped up and took on the challenge of coordinating and putting on our virtual 2021 Face2Face Day of Recovery, "Bloom Where You're Planted". They did a great job planning and making it happen. Thank you to everyone who participated. We had great discussions and two great speakers (Jody P. & Jack C.).

Thank you to District 7 for hosting the Houston Intergroup Book and Bake Sale in Bryan, on September 11. What a great opportunity to purchase Conference Approved Literature and home baked goodies.

Mark your calendars

Our next Zoom/In-Person Intergroup Speaker Meeting Fundraiser is on Saturday, November 6 at 2:00 pm at Spring Branch Club (1200 Blalock, Ste. 378) in Houston, with Gary S. as speaker. Registration is FREE. Donations benefit Houston Intergroup.

October 24 – Houston Intergroup Board (2:00-3:30) and Houston ISR (4:00-5:00) Zoom Virtual.

Future events Calendar: <https://www.houstonalanon.org/newsletter-events.html>

Joyce Yoder—Houston AIS Liaison

San Antonio AIS ~ Dolores W.

Hello, from the San Antonio Al-Anon Information Service (SAAIS), still going strong in 2021. SAAIS is holding in-person monthly speaker meetings at Club 12 (102 Thames, San Antonio) on the first Saturday of the month at 7pm. The monthly speaker meetings are no longer held via Zoom.

SAAIS and D12 are sharing a Zoom account for business matters. D12 and SAAIS will review the leasing of Zoom after one year.

SAAIS is still working hard on producing a list of available meetings in District 12 (D12). District 13 (D13) DR

Sara is also compiling a D13 list to be shared with SAAIS.

Finally, SAVE THE DATE! Serenity Celebration, Sunday, September 11, 2022. Speakers will be Mattie (Al-Anon) and T.C. (AA). Location is to be announced.

Yours in service,
Dolores W.

Intergrupo Hispana De Houston ~ Nora F.

No Report

SPECIAL REPORTS

Finance Audit Committee Report

Audit of financial records for the period ending 12/2020 continues. The Committee plans to have a final report available at the November AWSC.

Audit Committee Members:
Margaret F., Joyce Y., Lynn B.

Cloud Based Storage Task Force Report

The Cloud-Based Storage Taskforce continues our work on finalizing a recommendation for a technology platform and finalizing a proposed charter for cloud-based storage solution for the Area. We are on track to present both to the AWSC at our January, 2023 meeting.

Natanya A.
Cloud-Based Storage Taskforce Chair

Electronic Meeting Work Group

Summary for Decision on Allowing Exclusively Electronic Al-Anon Family Groups to Participate in Our Area 53 Service Structure

Before Spring 2021, meetings which met exclusively electronically were only considered supplemental to Al-Anon. They were not official "Al-Anon Family Groups" (AFGs), and they were not allowed to register as a group with the World Service Office (WSO). These meetings did not have a GR and did not participate in an Area service structure. What that means is that they were not assigned to a district and were not represented at Area Assemblies.

With the pandemic, the perception of electronic meetings changed significantly to the point where, in April 2021, the Al-Anon World Service Conference (WSC) decided that the exclusively electronic meetings will be Al-Anon Family Groups (AFGs) and put in a virtual area. (Think of this as an area "in the cloud.") Additionally, all newly registered exclusively electronic AFGs would be put in the virtual area. Just like geographic areas, the virtual area will have its own area trusted servants elected by GRs in the virtual area, including an Area Chair

and a Delegate.

With this major change, the question the WSO asked each area to decide is whether exclusively electronic AFGs will be allowed to participate in their geographic area service structure. If so, GRs voting at the area level can decide specifically how that would work. If we don't want exclusive electronic groups to participate in our Area 53 service structure, by default, they will remain part of the virtual area.

At the upcoming fall 2021 Area Assembly, Group Representatives (GRs) will have this important decision to make. The discussion and possible vote will take place at the Assembly that is scheduled for Saturday, November 13, 2021, in San Marcos, Texas.

To assist GRs in making an informed decision, an Electronic Meeting Work Group (EMWG) was formed by Area 53. The EMWG 1) developed a full report on the background including detailed pros and cons, 2) surveyed Area 53 GRs and included their comments in the full report to GRs, 3) received detailed guidance from the Area 53 Chair and Delegate, 4) answered Al-Anon's knowledge-based decision making (KBDM) questions and 5) considered the approaches and actions of other Areas on this matter.

The EMWG found that other Areas are also considering this decision. Pros for allowing exclusively electronic AFGs in Area service include fostering general inclusiveness, plus consideration for engaging younger members who are often very electronically oriented and attracting or at least maintaining a large pool of members from which to have service representatives. Cons include the complexity and potential costs of conducting Assemblies and other Area-related activities. Out of the entire Area, fewer than a dozen GRs and other members responded to the survey. Their responses included both pros and cons.

The full report, including GR and other member comments, is available on the Area's website at <https://texas-al-anon.org/fall-2021-etaaa/> (The password is "anonymity"). The EMWG will be presenting the details of its work at the Fall Assembly for discussion and possible vote by GRs on whether exclusively electronic AFGs should be allowed to participate in Area service structure.



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: _____

Please do not send cash by mail.

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

Mail to:
 Treasurer - ETAAA
 PO Box 450675
 Laredo, Texas 78045

TASK FORCE REPORT ON ALATEEN REINSTATEMENT FOR ETAAA 2021

Due to a missed deadline, 51 Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIASs) and 19 Alateen meetings were inactivated by WSO on July 1. However, we were aware before July 1 that we had missed the WSO deadline of 6/15/21 for recertifying our AMIASs, and steps were immediately put into place to get the AMIASs recertified and to get Alateen reinstated in our Area. I assigned a Task Force (TF) on 6/18 to accomplish this; Mattie T., Lynn S., Jennifer S., Myrthala C., and myself comprise the TF. We reviewed the Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements (ASBRs). When the review was completed on 6/24, we asked Jayne G., a former Area 53 Alateen Coordinator, to send the ASBRs to legal counsel for review on 6/25, as this legal counsel had reviewed our ASBRs in the past, and he reviewed them free of charge. When the legal counsel returned the reviewed requirements to us with suggested changes on 7/2, the ASBRs were immediately sent to the World Service Office (WSO) for approval.

On July 13, TX East received approval from WSO of the ASBRs; they recommended adding the following statement to the "Alateen Permission and Medical Forms": "Reviewed June 24, 2021; approved by Legal Counsel July 2, 2021." Those changes were added, and Group Representatives (GRs) will vote on the update ASBRs at the November 2021 Assembly. Mattie received notice from WSO that Alateen has been reinstated in our Area; however, we cannot start Alateen meetings immediately, as there is more to the process.

In order to continue restoring Alateen in our Area, a one-hour training recertification module is to be conducted with our Area AMIASs who had already completed their certification requirements by June 1. Mattie T. asked Lynn S. to develop this module with the materials used in the training workshops. Lynn has been in contact with Sue Perez from WSO regarding the development of the training module to make sure we are meeting the instructions from WSO in order for our Alateen program to be activated ASAP. It was determined that in 4 one-hour sessions with a limited number of participants in each group, the training could be completed within two weeks. It was also determined that it would not be necessary for the AMIASs to submit another background check, as those are valid for one year. Lynn completed the training module, and she presented it to the TF on July 30.

It was determined that each AMIAS would complete the Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service form and mail it to Ilene, our Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP). That would give Ilene a record of who attended the one-hour recertification training sessions. Once Ilene receives the WSO form from each AMIAS she will activate our Alateen meetings. The goal is to do this no later than September 1. An email will be sent to the 51 AMIASs informing the AMIASs of the four (4) training dates with the ASBRs, the Alateen Permission and Medical form, the updated Safety and Behavioral Orientation Training Document and the edited AlAnon Member Involved in Alateen Service form. All of these documents will be discussed in the training.

On August 7, Lynn S. sent an email to all Texas East AMIASs asking them to register for one of the four one-hour training sessions; these training sessions are required by WSO to complete the reinstatement process to activate the Texas East Area Alateen program. There are links and instructions to register for the training sessions; they are August 11 at 7 pm, August 14 at 10 am, August 15 at 4 pm and August 16 at 7 pm. Once the AMIASs are registered for the session they chose, they will receive an email from Natanya A. with the information required to log into the meeting. Further information will follow when the required training is completed and when the paperwork is submitted to WSO.

As of September 1, 2021, forty-seven (47) AMIASs have been recertified and have submitted their paperwork to Ilene F., our AAPP. She sent the required group forms to WSO, and all 47 AMIASs can hold Alateen meetings again. Nineteen Alateen groups can now meet, in addition to a new Alateen group that was added.

At the November 2021 Assembly, GRs will vote on the updated ASBRs, which will be sent to the District Representatives (DRs) for distribution to the GRs. The ASBRs will also be posted in *The Beacon* and on the Texas website (www.texas-al-anon.org).

I would like to thank the members of the Alateen Reinstatement Task Force, Mattie T., Lynn S., Jennifer S., Myrthala C. for their diligence and hard work to make this process happen. (I was also on the Task Force.) My deepest gratitude goes to Lynn S. who so graciously conducted the recertification training in a timely manner and to Natanya A., Website Coordinator, for setting up the Zoom meetings. I also appreciate Carolyn F., our Area Alateen Coordinator (AAC), and Ilene F., our AAPP for all their assistance in getting Alateen reinstated so quickly in Texas East Area 53. Also, I would like to thank the AMIASs who recertified and turned in their forms on time to Ilene. In fact, TX East was the FIRST Area to complete the reinstatement process! Way to go, TX East! This is teamwork in action!

In Al-Anon service,
Paula H.
TX East Area Al-Anon/Alateen Chair Panel 61

East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly (ETAAA) - Area World Service Committee (AWSC) August 7, 2021

Chairperson: Paula H. opened the meeting at 10:05 am with the Serenity Prayer.

Welcome and Introductions: Paula H. opened the meeting and thanked District 6 for hosting.

Reading of the Traditions and Concepts of Service and General Warranties of the Conference: Delores W. read the Twelve Traditions, pp. 15-16 in the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (Vol.2)*. Kay C. read the *Twelve Concepts of Service and General Warranties*, pp. 17-18 in the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (Vol.2)*.

Delegate Report: Texas East Past Delegates will be sharing their experience Saturday, October 2, 2021 from 11 am-3 pm in Missouri City. The World Service Office (WSO) has a new Director of Programs, Sarah. The rest of the report was after lunch so Mattie T. could attend a mandatory Delegate meeting. The theme of the 2022 World Service Conference (WSC) is "Enhancing Our Recovery Through Abundance, Unity and Understanding". The revised WSO budget has a deficit lower than expected due to sales and contributions. If every group could contribute \$263 to WSO it would help get WSO out of deficit.

Secretary: Jennifer S. called the roll, and 19 out of 28 voting members were present. For voting procedures, it was determined that 13 was 2/3 and 10 was a majority. Those absent were Spanish Coordinator, Districts 1, 2, 4, 5,7, and 13, Beaumont AIS Liaison and Houston Hispanic AIS Liaison.

Treasurer: Myrthala C. reported our CD balance is 20,090.01 and our checking account balance is \$41,889.70. She explained that a correction needed to be made to the 2021 Financial Report. An approved item from the November Assembly had not been added to the report. A correction was made by adding line-item Web-Based Conferencing. She also corrected the line-item of Delegate's Incidental Expenses to WSC of \$290.39.

Approval of Consent Agenda: The Treasurer Report and Literature/Forum Report were pulled from the Consent Agenda before it was approved.

Upcoming Assemblies:

1. Fall Assembly 2021- Lynn S. (District 12/District 13 Support) reported that the theme for the Assembly is "Removing Our Masks" – District 12 is hosting the assembly November 12-13, 2021 in San Marcos. The assembly will be Friday and Saturday only due to a conflict at the hotel.
2. Spring Assembly 2022 – Ginny M. (District 2/District 1 Support) - District 2 will be hosting the assembly May 13-15 in Corpus Christi. It will be held at the Holiday Inn Downtown Marina.
3. Fall Assembly 2022 – District 4 is the host for the Fall 2022 Assembly with District 3 Support. It will be held in Lake Jackson at a convention center.

Discussion Items:

1. Alateen Reinstatement - Paula H. read her report on the process of getting Alateen reinstated in Texas East.

Lunch Break from 12:05-1:10

2. Assembly Guidelines – Susan J. presented a PowerPoint showing changes made to guidelines by the committee consisting of herself, Allyn D. and Martha R. There were both major and minor revisions as well as some suggestions. Discussion was had and it was decided that a few revisions were needed. The revisions are to be made and sent out before the November 2021 AWSC meeting.
3. Electronic Meetings Work Group – Peggy T. reported that the Electronic Meetings Work Group is presenting a report to the GRs at the Fall 2021 Assembly so that they can determine if Electronic Meetings will be accepted into the Texas East Area.
4. DR/GR Sessions Fall 2021 Assembly – Paula H. announce that the sessions will be held Saturday am instead of Friday pm.
5. Area Meeting List Publishing Policy Task Force – Anna A. reported that a survey was sent to the 12 DRs and 9 of 12 responded. From this it was determined the need to establish a committee to write a meeting list policy for Texas East, which will be sent to WSO for approval.
6. KBDM Spanish Translation Thought Force – Myrthala C. reported. After discussion, it was suggested that DRs talk to Spanish groups. A determination that input from the Spanish groups on what to translate is needed.
7. Area Inventory – Paula H. talked about completing an Area Inventory. She would like to have about 10 questions with a section for anonymous comments and have the results presented at the January 2022 AWSC meeting. Paula H. will send examples to the AWSC and ask for volunteers.
8. Unifying Large/Rural Areas Workshop – Kay C. gave background information on this workshop and asked if we want to have this workshop. It was suggested to wait and decide on this at the January 2022 AWSC meeting.
9. Literature Report – The electronic Welcome Newcomer (EK-10) is now available where you buy eBooks.

Meeting adjourned at 4:11 pm with the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration in English and Spanish.

**Jennifer S.
Area Secretary**

East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly (ETAAA) Virtual Meeting May 15th, 2021

Open Meeting with Serenity Prayer – Paula H. welcomed attendees and opened the meeting at 9:02 am with the Serenity Prayer.

Reading of the Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts of Service and General Warranties of the Conference – Veronica P. read the Twelve Traditions in Spanish and Sarah W. read the Twelve Concepts of Service and General Warranties of the Conference on pp. 15-18, of the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*, (vol. 2).

Delegate's Report – Mattie T. shared her report from the 2021 World Service Conference (WSC). There were 67 delegates, 90 voting members and 12 international participants at the WSC. Mattie discussed several literature changes that are coming.

There is still a deficit of \$73,780 in the budget due to literature sales being down so contributions are still needed. The World Service Office (WSO) is looking to return to full staff and resume travel.

Al-Anon's 70th Anniversary will be held virtually on July 10th, 2021. The maximum capacity has been filled though.

Road Trip to meet the Board will be held in Cleveland, Ohio on October 23, 2021.

The 2023 Al-Anon/Alateen International Convention will be June 29th to July 2nd in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Mattie's report will be posted on the TX East website (www.texas-al-anon.org) for review.

Treasurer's Report – Myrthala reported that she received a letter from the World Service Office (WSO) with a check for \$1517.35. This was the credit for the Delegate's Equalized Expense for the 2020 WSC, which was not used because the conference was held virtually, so the Delegate did not have expenses. She asked the GRs if they would decide if we should give some, all or more to WSO, as the Area had not made a contribution in the last 2 years.

She shared the current report. The checking account balance was \$40,615.17 and our CD balance is \$20,067.53.

Roll Call: Jennifer S. called the roll. 89 voting GRs were present and broken down by District as follows: D1 (0), D2 (7), D3 (3), D4 (9), D5 (15), D6 (18), D7 (8), D8 (5), D9 (8), D10 (3), D12 (12), D13 (1). The GRs voted by consensus to use a majority vote for voting items.

Break – 10:48 am. Meeting resumed at 10:56 am.

Approval of the Consent Agenda - Paula H. discussed the Consent Agenda and how it works. The Policies and Procedures Report was requested to be pulled. A motion to accept the Consent Agenda was made, as stated below.

Motion - I, Gail H. move to accept the consent agenda as amended, seconded by Amy S. For – 83, Against – 0, Abstentions – 0. Motion passed.

Host District Committee Reports:

1. District 12 – Lynn S. stated the 2021 Fall Assembly will be November 12th and 13th at the Holiday Inn of San Marcos. Friday night will be the GR/DR interchange and Saturday evening there will be a speaker, Stephanie B.

2. District 2 – Ginny M. reported that the 2022 Spring Assembly has a temporary date of May 13th and 14th.

Break – 11:26 am. Meeting resumed at 11:34 am.

Paula explained the Links of Service from page 171 of the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*, (vol. 2) and how information is brought before an Assembly.

New Business:

1. Equalized Expense Returned from WSO to Area \$1517.35 – Discussion was had as to what to do with the returned money.

Motion - I, Martha R., motion to increase the equalized expense refund to donate \$3500 to WSO. Seconded by Delia B. For – 65, Against – 18, Abstentions – 2. Motion passed.

2. Election of Public Outreach Coordinator – Discussion was had.

Motion - I, Lynn B., motion to call for a vote to elect Pam J. to the position of Texas East Area Public Outreach Coordinator. Seconded by Brenda T. For – 80, Against – 0, Abstentions – 0. Motion passed.

3. Election of Area Alateen Coordinator – Discussion was had.

Motion - I, Delia B., make the motion to elect Carol F. as the Area Alateen Coordinator. Seconded by Teresa D. For – 77, Against – 0, Abstentions – 0. Motion passed.

4. Assembly Mentor Position – It was explained that the 3 year trial is over for this position and the GRs need to decide if this should be a permanent position. Discussion ensued.

Motion - I, Debby C., move that the Assembly Mentor position be made permanent for all future Assemblies. Seconded by Dani M. For – 79, Against – 0, Abstentions – 1. Motion passed.

5. Policies and Procedures Report – Report was pulled from the Consent Agenda. Some clarification was given on the scope of the committee.

Meeting was adjourned with Myrthala C. reading the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration in Spanish followed by all in English.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:12 pm.

**Submitted by Jennifer S.
Area Secretary**

Removing Our Masks / Quitar nuestras máscaras

2021 ETAAA Fall Assembly
November 12th & 13th, 2021

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Asamblea de Otoño de AAZET
12 & 13 de noviembre de 2021

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Holiday Inn de San Marcos
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San Marcos, Texas. 78666
(512) 805-1000

Saturday Night Speaker / Oradora del Sábado por la noche: Stephanie B., Granite Shoals, TX

Rooms: \$84.00/night + tax, for a king or two queen beds

Camas: \$84.00/noche + impuestos, por un king or dos camas queen

Rooms are blocked for both Friday and Saturday night

Las habitaciones se reservan para la noche del Viernes y del Sábado

Ask for Block Code ETA

Pregunte por el código de reservación ETA

Saturday - Deli-lunch w/Soup & Salad can be ordered @ \$12.50 per person

Sábado - Comida Deli c/Sopa & Ensalada se puede ordenar @ \$12.50 por persona

Hotel & Assembly Registration Deadline 11/01/21

Fecha límite para registrarse en el Hotel & la Asamblea 01/11/21

Name / Nombre: _____ Name on Badge/Nombre en el distintivo _____

Email address / Correo electrónico: _____

Mailing address/Dirección postal: _____

City/State/Zip / Ciudad/Estado/Zona Postal _____

Home Group Name / Nombre de su Grupo Base _____ District # / Distrito #: _____

Check all that apply / Cheque todas las que aplique: GR / RG _____ DR / RD _____ AMIAS / MAPSA _____

First Assembly: Y / N _____ Years in program _____

Primera Asamblea: Si / No _____ Años en el programa _____

Al-Anon \$30 _____ Alateen \$5 _____ A.A. / Special Guest / Invitado especial \$30 _____

Deli-lunch tickets @ \$12.50 _____ Boletos de comida Deli @ \$12.50 _____

Total Registration: \$ _____ Registración Total: \$ _____

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¿Le gustaría tener servicios de interpretación en español? Si / No _____

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Hacer cheque pagable a District 12 ETAAA y envíe esta forma junto con su pago a:

District 12 ETAAA

P. O. Box 242

Bulverde, Texas 78163

For further information please contact / Para más información pónganse en contacto con:

Lynn S. amias200387@yahoo.com

Deb A. beachbumsdr@mindspring.com

Alateen Notice: When registering, all Alateens should turn in a completed ETAAA Behavioral Guidelines form and be accompanied by a registered adult.

Notarized Permission and Medical forms are to be kept by the responsible, registered adult. Forms can be located on East Texas Website: Texas-al-anon.org

Aviso de Alateen: Al registrarse, todos los Alateen deben entregar las formas de las Guías de Comportamiento de ETAAA completadas y estar acompañado por un adulto registrado. Los formularios médicos y de permiso notarial deben conservarse por el adulto responsable y registrado. Los formularios se pueden encontrar en el Sitio Web del Este de Texas: Texas-al-anon.org

VISIT THE FALL ASSEMBLY WEBPAGE: <https://texas-al-anon.org/fall-2021-etaaa/>





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