



GEORGIA ON TRACK

November 2013

AREA OFFICER REPORTS

Delegate's Report

Dear Fellow Members of GA Al-Anon,

A lady told her counselor.... "My husband is so unfaithful that I'm not sure this baby I'm carrying is his!"

Have you ever had thoughts like that: Thoughts that were totally irrational; thoughts that tried to make everything going on around you someone else's fault, or thoughts of taking no responsibility for your own choices and behavior? I have, and when I get like that, my soul is not peaceful. I'm all twisted inside because I'm focused on others and what they are thinking about me.

Lately, I've done some soul-searching. What we would call doing steps 10-11. I've been looking at who I'm trying to please and I've asked myself "why?" God continues to bring me back to Himself.

I want to be responsible for myself. I want to live the life God intended and I want to live it fully. I don't want to walk around with irrational thoughts thinking that what's going on in my life is someone else's fault.

I am grateful for this program and for my Sponsor. If I daily work the program and the steps and if I use my Sponsor, I have a better chance of staying balanced.

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Cathy O.
GA Delegate
Panel 53

Alternate Delegate's Report

Growing up by giving back

Al-Anon has taught me how to grow up emotionally and spiritually. When I walked into my first Al-Anon meeting I was scared and lonely. I didn't want to be there. I considered leaving before the meeting even started. Then once the meeting started I began to feel something different. I began to feel a type of love and understanding than I had never experienced before. I was in a room full of people who did not know who I was; yet somehow they knew me. That group of individuals understood me and had compassion for me. They shared their experience, strength and hope with me. They told me to keep coming back and I did. They loved me until I learned to love myself.

It was suggested that I get a sponsor and begin working the Twelve Steps of Recovery. I listened and took action based on their suggestions. I began to get better. Soon I was encouraged to get involved in service work. Once again I was afraid. I thought I can't do this. I was afraid I wouldn't do it perfectly; and I haven't. My Higher Power had a lesson I was to learn through service work. I learned it is ok to make mistakes. There is a paragraph in the book "When I Got Busy, I Got Better" that says: "What I learned through Al-Anon service is that others want to see me succeed. Certainly my Higher Power is always with me and is always willing to encourage my success. My group, too, supports my efforts. I've also learned that the fate of my group doesn't rest in my hands, but rather in the hands of a Higher Power, who is *not* me. Help is always available."

I know that throughout my journey in Al-Anon I have been guided by my Higher Power and through the love and experience of those who came before me and walk beside me. It is through service that I have been able to grow up and give back. It is when I get out of self and into others that I am able to feel like a person of value and worth. It is when I give of myself that I am able to receive from others. Today I am not afraid to give of myself, because today I am surrounded by a warm blanket of love by being a part of and participating in the world wide fellowship of Al-Anon Family Groups. Thank you for walking beside me, encouraging me, and giving me the opportunity to be of service to each of you and to Georgia Al-Anon. I too want to encourage you and see you succeed. Let's walk together to grow Georgia Al-Anon and Alateen by reaching out and carrying the message of hope.

Alternate Delegate's Report (cont)

I look forward to seeing all of you at our January Assembly. We will be having a wonderful speaker on Saturday night. Our Area Chairman Cheryl K. has graciously agreed to share her experience, strength, and hope with us. I know she has a lot to offer and it will be great to get to know her a little better as she shares with us from her heart.

Love in Service,
Renelle M.
Alternate Delegate Panel 53

Chairperson's Report

SERVICE MANUAL- MY BEST FRIEND IN SERVICE

In my experience, service at all levels, has always raised questions that require me to research for guidance, answers and the ability to reason out the issue with someone else. It happens frequently. I think my first introduction to the Service Manual was as a GR. The need to turn to the manual has grown as my service has grown. Even though there are several different documents that have been developed by Georgia Al-Anon that assist in providing answers, the Service Manual remains the first place I turn and is my best friend in that regard, along with invaluable service sponsors.

All of the workshops for January Assembly will be based on helping each member get their burning questions answered. The Service Manual will be your best friend in those workshops. The presenters would like to encourage you to get acquainted with your manual ahead of time, bring it with you and bring your questions. Together we will find some answers, suggestions, along with experience, strength and hope that has been developed by our founders and trusted servants.

For instance, do you know where to find the difference between a closed and an open meeting in the Service Manual? Do you know what the three obstacles to the success of Al-Anon are? Do you have any idea what is the purpose of our Charter? What Concept contains Bill W.'s essay on leadership that was written in 1959?

Chairperson's Report (cont)

What if your group is considering asking a helping professional come speak to your group? What do we call a member that cannot attend meeting due to distance or disability? What would we suggest to a member considering admitting to a crime in a meeting or to a sponsor? There are a million questions that arise all the time. If you will spend a little time before attending the workshops considering all the things you have always wanted to know we will have great discussions. Write them down, talk with friends about their questions, ask your groups what they want to know- bring them with you and by all means bring your Service Manual; it will become your best friend.

Just a reminder, the date for September Assembly had to be changed in 2014 from the third weekend to the fourth weekend. Those dates are **September 26-28, 2014**. Some of you have already tried to make reservations at the Marriott and found our block was not listed as of yet. If you try again now you should not have any trouble but if so please let me know.

Enjoy the upcoming season with all those you love. I for one will be looking forward to seeing each of you again in the New Year.

With Gratitude in Service,
Cheryl K.
Chairperson Panel 53

The Al-Anon Concepts of Service record the "why" of our service structure in such a way that the valuable experience of the past and the lessons drawn from that experience can never be forgotten or lost.

(page 163 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual)

Area Treasurer's Report

Hello to all my Al-Anon Family,

WOW...It has been one year this month that Renelle M. so graciously passed along all her knowledge and information to me. Thank your Renelle for all the help and support that you have given me over this past year. I continue to grow my recovery and learn in this service position. Also, I want to take this time to thank all of you members out there for your loving support and comments at our Assembly meetings and the groups whose notes I get when opening up those contribution envelopes. It never ceases to amaze me what a gift I have been given when I found Al-Anon.

I recently found an old piece of literature, "A Pebble in the Pond, The Twelfth Step in Action". It gave me a new prospective on "how" I can make a difference. The opening page states "One pebble thrown into a pond can change its whole surface, You can make a difference". I began to realize that the Twelfth Step is just not about Let It Begin With Me (walking the walk and talking the talk) but by making a difference in other ways too for someone else affected by the family disease of alcoholism. I realized I can help by being a good listener, distributing literature to those in need outside our fellowship, and just reaching out to more individuals to spread Al-Anon's message of hope. I wonder what that pond would look like if each of use threw a pebble at the same time...Just Imagine...

In closing, I would like to thank all the groups for their continued support this year to the Area. Through your continued support, Area 11 can remain fully self-supporting. I believe Georgia Al-Anon is the greatest as we continue to follow the path of recovery with each other.

Just a friendly reminder, all contributions can be mailed to:

AFG of GA, Inc

PO Box 7644

Macon, GA 31209-7644

Thank you for the opportunity to serve

Love In Service,

Levon C. Area Treasurer Panel 53

Area Office Chair

Greetings to All,

Some information from our World Service Office. The new 2014-2017 Service Manual is now available as a download from the World Service Office website. It will not be available for purchase from Literature Distribution Centers until early 2014. Also How Al-Anon Works is now available as an audio book and is 16 hrs. and 19 minutes long. Numerous Al-Anon members volunteered to read the different chapters. No, there are no plans at this time for the soft cover to be discontinued. In fact the World Service Office continues to encourage groups to purchase the B-32 to give to new members.

It won't be long before this year will be over and all the groups and districts that have made contributions to Al-Anon Central Services will be receiving a thank you letter. We greatly appreciate your continued support and are grateful for all contributions.

As always we can never have enough volunteers for phone retrieval or manning the Office. Please consider volunteering your time - just 4 hours. Partner up with some neighboring groups and make a commitment to volunteer once every 3 months or once a quarter. Phone retrieval is also another great service opportunity and is easy and you don't even have to go anywhere to do it. You can contact me any time if the "service bug" bites you and you want more information.

We will be closed Thanksgiving week but you can continue to email orders. Anytime any one has any suggestions please don't hesitate to let us know. We encourage and want your feedback.

I continue to be ever grateful for the opportunity to serve Georgia Area 11.

With much love and gratitude,
Debbie F.
Area Office Chair Panel 53

Area Coordinator Reports

AAPP Report

Greetings Friends!

I am thrilled to announce that our Area has many newly certified AMIAS. I am so excited to have new and enthusiastic volunteers to sponsor our Alateens. I want to extend a big thank you to all that spend your time and energy to continue Alateen in Georgia.

As many of you know, Georgia extended mandatory reporting laws to apply to all volunteers, including AMIAS. A few of us have been serving on a task force to determine how this change in the law impacts our fellowship. During this calendar year, we have enacted a temporary fix. Current AMIAS and perspective AMIAS have signed a paper acknowledging their role as a mandatory reporter. The notice also gives the AMIAS guidance as to how to proceed if they suspect abuse. Our task force is very close to resolving this issue. We hope to have information for AWSC and January Assembly. We want to be sure that our AMIAS feel supported by the fellowship and are aware of what is expected of them under the law.

WSO advised Alateen meetings in a state with mandatory reporting laws to include a disclosure statement at the beginning of each meeting. All Alateen groups have been provided such a disclosure statement. The use of this statement should already be in place and will be applicable to all Alateen groups operating in the state of Georgia. We want Alateens to be fully aware of our responsibility to their safety.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next Assembly.

Jennifer T.

AAPP Coordinator Panel 53

Archivist Report

As I write this, we have just celebrated Halloween, and the clocks turn back this weekend. We're going into the dark time of the year. This is always a good period for me to spend more time going within. More darkness, more time for prayer and meditation. Holidays with family can be a mixed blessing for us in Al-Anon. I wish all of you the gifts of peace and joy.

Look for the fun workshop at the January Assembly: "True Confessions: it could happen to you!"

Thanks to everyone for your interest in my display of the Area newsletters at the September Assembly. Aren't those wonderful? We are still missing several issues: **Anything before June 1979, #3-1979, #3-1980, #2-1981, ALL of 1982 #2 and #3-1984, #2-1988, #2-1989, ALL of 1990, #1 and #3-1991**

If you have any of the missing issues, and you would not mind parting with them, please let me know.

Suggestions for what to include in your group history:

What members started the group, and when? Why did those members want to start a group? Who were the group's GR's and other trusted servants over the years? What kinds of formats has the group had? What different places has the group met? Are there any interesting, funny, or odd stories you can tell about the group in its past or present? What kinds of service projects has the group undertaken? Has the group had special programs for anniversaries? Have members in the group been active in service outside the group?

You certainly don't need to answer all those questions, and you might think of other things to add. Some of the most interesting group histories are narratives that just tell the story of the group. It is always good to go to the old timers and find out their memories of the group in its early days.

Please be sure to DATE the group history that you send in and to say what your district is. You can email me at: sulata.afg@gmail.com.

Love in service,
Sulata L. Panel 53

Alateen Coordinator's Report

Hello Area 11!

My heart continues to be filled with gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your Area Alateen Coordinator. There is a lot of excitement and enthusiasm building in GA Alateen. The Alateen presence is being felt across the state.

We had a great Alateen presence at September Assembly and the Alateen Conference Spaghetti Dinner. Thank you to all who came to show your support. The Spaghetti Dinner is such a great place for fellowship and an opportunity for the Alateen's to participate in service. It's a win, win for everyone involved!

We have big plans for January Assembly. The Alateen Workshop topic will be Sponsorship and Working the Steps. The New AMIAS Training Workshop will be held, as well. I am REALLY excited about the Sponsor to Sponsor Meeting, in which we will be discussing and sharing ideas about How to Grow the Alateen Group.

I am still working on one of my biggest goals, as Alateen Coordinator. I strongly desire for there to be a communication loop for Area AMIAS that will create more unity and participation within our Area.

I would like to encourage anyone who has thoughts, ideas, or suggestions to reach out and share with me. Al-Anon has taught me that I am not alone and to ALWAYS be open to input from others. I don't have all of the answers, and today, I know that I don't have to. Thank you for trusting me and allowing me to grow as I serve.

With love and gratitude,
Jenny L.
Area Alateen Coordinator



Public Information Coordinator's Report

Greetings All,

Here is what's been happening:

District 3 participated at the Georgia School of Addiction Studies held the last week of August in Savannah. The school provides continuing training and education for Human Services professionals. Frank S., the District's Public Outreach Coordinator has given a detailed report including what information was made available including the literature and copied. This report will be made available at the Public Outreach Workshop at January's assembly. There was a good response to the information the District provided. Al-Anon has been invited to participate next year, August 25-29, 2014. Thank you District 3 for stepping up and reaching out.

Another District is doing the footwork for a Billboard Project. Information has been gathered; however the District has not yet made the commitment. While the details may be different in other geographic areas the information about their process and resources will also be made available at the January Workshop.

*****BREAKING NEWS***** Last minute update! Connor, DR for District 4 announces that the Billboard Project is ON! They will be coordinating with WSO on design compliance and hope to launch December 1st. Congratulations and Gratitude!

Thru Barbara T., DR for District 2, our Area will have an opportunity to cooperate with Alcoholics Anonymous in outreach to correctional facilities. The Public Outreach Committee has selected literature that we will make available to AA's for distribution. We are grateful for this opportunity to make Al-Anon and Alateen information available to family members of alcoholics and hope this can be an ongoing project for the Area.

By the time you read this Al-Anons in Forsyth County will have participated in an event on alcoholism providing both Al-Anon and Alateen information.

The Public Outreach Survey is up and running. DRs please pass the link to your GRs. Thank you to those who have already responded. PLEASE PARTICIPATE.

We ordered and delivered 2400 *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2014*. The second printing of AFA order deadline is February 5, 2014 at 5:00pm EST.

With Love and Gratitude in Service

Marie N.

Public Outreach Coordinator

Group Records Coordinator's Report

I am receiving more and more responses from District Representatives changing the designation of Groups in their districts from "Closed" to "OPEN". My thanks to all who have responded. There is much confusion about designating a Group as being "Closed". If you have any questions concerning this, please talk with your DR.

The full directory is being published each month. Changes to the directory will be highlighted in yellow.

Please keep in mind that the WSO and Area 11 Group Records databases do not contain data about DR's. "Group Records" means Group Records. "DR" is a District entity. Data about DR's appears in the directory, but that is a static, standalone entity. If you wish to become an addressee of the DR e-Community, you will have to contact WSO on your own. Thank you all for allowing me to serve.

Yours in service,
David B. Panel 53

Literature Coordinator's Report

Literature: it's all about the numbers!

- 1,596 - The number of copies sold of the e-book version of *Having Had a Spiritual Awakening* since March! It costs \$9.99 and is available through e-book retailers.
- 990 - the number of sharings WSO has received on the topic of intimacy in alcoholic relationships. There is no deadline for submissions. It takes about 2,500 sharings to make a book.
- +20,000 - The number of copies *Reaching for Personal Freedom* has sold in English since it's publication in July. +1,100 have sold in Spanish and +900 have sold in French.
 - the number of sharings WSO has received on the topic of parents and grandparents dealing with alcoholic children/grandchildren. A sharing guideline is available on the members' website.
- 121 - The number of copies of Al-Anon's first audio book *How Al-Anon Works For Friends and Families* sold in the first 10 days it was available. It is available through various electronic vendors.

You will notice a change in focus in the Literature Room when you come to January Assembly. It is in my job description to become familiar with every single piece of Conference Approved Literature we have. Yet there are pieces I have never even seen! Instead of being focused mostly on sales, we will focus on making every single piece of CAL available for you to check out. We will still sell literature, of course, but we will not stock a large number of each piece of CAL. If your group will need to purchase a large number of books, pamphlets, etc., I encourage you to place an order through the Central Office, MAIS, or directly from WSO.

If your group does place a pre-order to be picked up at Assembly, it will not be in the Literature Room. This will cut down on any confusion. Contact your Area Office Chairperson Debbie F. to pick up your order at Assembly. Contact me at elrico23@hotmail.com with any questions. I look forward to seeing you all in January!

Erica L.
Area Literature Coordinator Panel 53

Area Web Master's Report

Anonymity - A Spiritual Principle

Tradition 12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles above personalities.

It may seem strange that the principle of anonymity is called a spiritual principle. But the concept is that we are a fellowship of equals. There are no "rock stars" in Al-Anon. There is no "spokesperson" for Al-Anon. We're all struggling against the effects of alcoholism in our lives.

So how does that play out for the Webmaster? I have the responsibility of looking out for what's best for Al-Anon as a whole as to what gets posted on the GA Area web site (www.ga-al-anon.org). So I have to make sure anything posted maintains the anonymity of any Al-Anon or AA member. Two criteria I have to watch for 1) is any company name mentioned (like in an e-mail address) and point out that could imply endorsement. And 2) I have to ensure that first and last name is not used in the e-mail address.

We can be as anonymous as we wish or not anonymous WITHIN the fellowship. So we can use our last names in meetings (as long as they are not being taped). We can even put our full names on fliers, as long as they are only shared within meetings.

But the website is considered "public media." This will change when I get the "Members Only" section of the web site operational. But for now I have to send back any flier that has personally identifiable info on it.

How does this play out for your Internet use? If you are a trusted servant and send e-mails in that official capacity, it is suggested you use an anonymous e-mail address for that service. Any of the web-based e-mail services will set up a name as long as it isn't taken (e.g. I already have patrickb.afg taken at Gmail.) And we have many e-mail addresses that we can setup for an event at the "event@ga-al-anon.org" e-mail address.

Also, on social media such as Facebook, Instagram, Pinerest, and Twitter I can't mention that I am a member of Al-Anon. I can "Like" different recovery related pages because anybody in the public can like something without saying that they are members. But I can't start a public group for members of my Al-Anon friends.

So, the bottom line is, within the fellowship I can be as anonymous as I want. But on the web, I have to maintain my anonymity and that of others that I know are in the program.

Patrick B.
Web Coordinator

Newsletter Coordinator's Report

Greetings to all,

Our newsletter-**Georgia On Track**-is again experiencing a great participation from the members of Panel 53 and all other contributors. There is a lot going on in Area 11 and it is a joy to share as part of our Al-Anon path to recovery. The submissions including announcements, workshop, anniversaries and all activity around the Area are all helpful. It appears that we are even having some fun as we help one another.

I am grateful to share that I was given the opportunity to submit a step-by-step guide to newsletter publication which has been published in e-Communities. This guide was originally intended to help the next newsletter editor make a smooth transition. It was published earlier to hopefully assist current newsletter editors who were seeking insight or those anticipating such a move.

I encourage Officers, Coordinators, and District Representatives to continue to contribute to **Georgia On Track** and I ask anyone who did not submit an article in this November issue to start planning now for our next edition. Our first publication for 2014 will be March 15th with the deadline being March 1, 2014. I am available to answer any questions or concerns.

Grateful Al-Anon,
Essie N.
Newsletter Editor

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

District One

The Dalton Fellowship AFG celebrated their 48th Anniversary on Monday night, October 07, 2013 with great attendance, delicious food and wonderful fellowship. It was a pleasure and an honor to have the Districts Alternate DR, Romi R., from Ellijay GA as the speaker for the Anniversary Celebration.

Recently District 1 acquired an 8th group and it is with excitement that we welcome the Marble Hill Monday Noon Group AFG. The group will meet every Monday at Noon

District One (Cont)

in Marble Hill near Big Canoe. A couple of us had the opportunity to attend one of their very first meetings last week. The location and contact information will be forthcoming as they are added to the GA Al-Anon website and our Area Directory. At the November District meeting we will begin working on our plans for 2014.

Love In Service,
Kathy W.
District 1 DR

District Two

Two's News:

I am so proud of District 2's growth over the last 5 years. At our last district meeting, we were able to approve our first budget. Our district went several years without a representative in the mid-2000's. Thanks to the dedication and hope of 3 individuals: Dana R., Anne C., and Archie R., our district meetings have grown in attendance from 3 to 10 people, and for the first time in many years, our district is able to make financial contributions at the state and WSO levels. We are very excited about planning our first Al-Anon family fun day next spring. Taking our inspiration from other district reports in this newsletter, we are planning a cookout with fun family activities, music, and a speaker. We realize we need to put the fun back in our 'fun'ctions!

Barbara T.
District 2 DR


District Four

**District 4
Gratitude Dinner**
**Keys to
Gratitude**
November 23, 2013 at 5:30PM
Vineville United Methodist
(2045 Vineville Avenue, Macon)
Speakers:
Corrie & Kent L.
from Montgomery, Alabama
For additional information about the Gratitude Dinner contact:
Amanda S. at 260.242.0490
For additional information about the Basket Raffle contact:
Debbie F. at 478.290.1424
Covered Dish Dinner & Basket Raffle
Get your baskets ready!

District Nine

Save the Date!

36th Annual Pinetree Fellowship Weekend
February 21-23, 2013



Friday February 21: 4pm through
Sunday February 23: 12pm

**Al-anon Fellowship weekend with AA participation –
our 35th year of recovery and fellowship.**

Location:
Legacy Lodge and Conference Center
7000 Holiday Road
Lake Lanier Islands, GA 30518
770-945-8787

For More Information:
Go to www.pineislefellowship.org
After September 25, 2013

Save the date!
**This weekend promises to be
a fantastic experience....**

- ◆ Great friends
- ◆ Inspiration and Recovery
- ◆ Experience and Strength
- ◆ Relax in a beautiful setting

(***Go to www.pineislefellowship.org for more information)

District Ten

What a pleasure it was to serve the registration table for our Area at September Assembly. We had an opportunity to meet so many more of you, as well as get to know our amazing "brothers and sisters" from District 11. Thank you for asking us to serve.

We continue to support the recovery meeting at GRAN Recovery in Covington, and were able to make a donation to them of archived copies of the Al-Anon Forum. We are spreading the experience, strength and hope of the Al-Anon program to these struggling family members.

Sheri B.
District 10 DR

District Twelve

The year is almost over; what a busy one for District 12. There is just one event left: **Cascade AFG will be having a Holiday Party/Speaker Meeting** on Monday December 9, 2013 at 8 PM-Church of Incarnation-Cascade Rd, Atlanta, Ga. Food will be served starting at 7 PM. The speaker is Dorothy N. from Airport-Hapeville AGF. Hope everyone have a safe and happy holiday season.

Love in service,
Martha C.
District 12 DR

District Fourteen

It has been an expansive year for our district. In addition to regular district meetings every other month, there were three GR, Dos & Don'ts training meetings early in the year, to welcome & inform our new GR from Stockbridge, Emily, future GRs and anyone else interested.

The annual spring workshop this April was as engaging, interesting, & moving as ever with each group presenting an innovative AI-Anon developed activity. These included; a crossword puzzle team challenges; Steps, Concepts & Traditions Jeopardy team game, a funny skit we all took parts to read on the Second Tradition, and a member's tender singing inspired by the slogans. It was wonderful to have so many ways to engage with the principles very enjoyable & equally educational.

Our Picnic in June at the rather lovely Clark Park in Stockbridge was more of the same uplifting activities with the addition of a crafts table and bubbles for the under 12 guests. The 4hr mid-day retreat was time put to good use by members & families from no less than three districts!

Our final social event for the year as a District is an annual Holiday Party, with pot luck dinner, speaker Friday, December 13. We are honored and delighted to host our very own Area Chairperson, Cheryl K as speaker for the evening. We extend a warm invitation to all to join us in welcoming this special speaker to our Holiday Party... We are also featuring AI-anon legendary great cooking and popular Basket raffle.

The Forest Park group who gave us our DR, Joyce T, lost a long timer Charlotte who relocates to another Georgia town after 35 yrs. The going away dinner party/meeting was well attended and filled with abundant sharings by members whose growth & love for the program had been powerfully impacted by the wisdom she's gained from her yrs in the program; the strength, kindness, encouragement, creativity, joy & hope she carries. It was a very touching send off.

As a fun and innovative outreach activity, the Forest Park group recently conducted a neighborhood walk to distribute flyers about weekly meetings. It was another good 'bonding group activity', we encourage other groups to try.

In an effort to fulfill our responsibilities in promoting outreach the District invited Angela, a trusted servant, and former GR, to take up the banner of outreach coordinator. And that invitation has been accepted. The district also asked the Stockbridge group to elect a MAIS representative and a trusted servant, Vivian, the previous District Treasurer & GR was elected and due to begin January '14.

This year the number of members attending the Stockbridge meetings at the Piedmont/Henry Medical Center nearly doubled. However, our recent, but temporary move (till the end of November), to Crescent Pines Facility down the street, caused a slight drop in numbers.

The number of teens attending the Wednesday night meeting also doubled this year. It is now hosted by a core group of 5 teens! After four years the teen sponsors Robin S & Lauri are moving on soon. We have a couple of perspective sponsors however we encourage all interested to apply for certification.

District Fourteen (cont)

During October, Alateen month, the teens ventured out to attend the Thursday Atlanta teen group NABA. Rumor has it they now plan to attend monthly. Teens were the featured guest at our speakers meeting teen month. And at our District workshop earlier this year, the teens were the glue that assisted each group in presenting and conducting their activity. They were flexible, capable and surprised themselves by how much fun they had. We greatly benefit from the insight and energy we receive when they participate.

The new 1.5 year old (March '12) group in Griffin continues to grow and be an active participant at district functions serving as speakers for other groups' birthday & speaker meetings, manning the hospitality suite at our last area assembly, baking for it, as well as sending a GR, Connie R, to the area assembly.

Much of the growth, recovery & unity of the District can be attributed to the clear and steady guidance of long time trusted servants. One of whom told me; she attributes all this progress to: a good core group, doing what's in the book, and discovering what's in the book by reading it.

We send our deepest love & gratitude to all those who serve so tirelessly, so selflessly to share this great path of recovery with others in our Area. And a special thanks to those who produce all the wonderful tools of discovery that keep us as informed & connected as possible like this newsletter, (as fun & lovely as Essie's ever changing hair styles), we thank you, thank you, thank you for all that you do in service for the program.

Joyce T.
District 14 DR

District Sixteen

Seems like Convention was so long ago now, yet it was, indeed, after the last newsletter. I want to start by mentioning what a great turnout District 16 had with over 20 attendees (including 2 Alateens) showing their support and partaking in a wonderful recovery weekend. Hopefully we'll have even more at next year's Convention.

I guess you could say, District 16 has been doing a bit of "house cleaning" and taking care of internal business. We have a budget!! At our last business meeting (September), a budget was presented by our treasurer, discussed among the GRs present, voted on and passed. We also, at that time, had some excess funds and were able to donate money among 3 new groups (1 Al-Anon and 2 Alateen groups) for literature start-up costs. Regarding group happenings; one group recently finished a group Inventory and were pleased with the input/discoveries that will help make them stronger. I've heard rumblings of another group considering doing the same.

District Sixteen (cont)

We have a few groups gearing up to do some public outreach to professionals using Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism.

On the Alateen front, 2 new AMIAS have been certified since our last newsletter and another is in the process. Both Alateen groups in our District have elected their own GRs and both GRs attended Assembly in September. They assisted with the fabulous spaghetti dinner and from what I hear had a wonderful time. As District 16 has started 2 Alateen groups this year, we took our Area Alateen Coordinator's suggestion and now have a District Alateen Coordinator to help us with communications and public outreach. An Alateen speaker will be included at our next District meeting (planned for December).

District 16 will be helping with the registration table at January's Assembly and will Co-Chair the afternoon discussion meeting, so see you all there!!

Gratefully Submitted,
Lauren M.
District 16 DR

District Seventeen

District 17 is currently enjoying a time of respite and relaxation during the hot summer months. With no workshops of our own taking place, members have caravanned to other districts in the state to participate in their recovery. Visits were made to District 1's picnic in June and to the Mountain Miracles in May. It is always uplifting to see our program taking place beyond our own local communities.

Many of our District 17 members are busy working on the committee to organize the Area Convention coming up in August. We are excited to have the convention so close to home and look forward to the fellowship and fun it will bring.

Our district has had a change in leadership. We are very grateful to Deborah N for her service as DR. She has had to step down, so now we are pleased to have Anne M step up as our DR for the remainder of this term. We are also very excited that one of our Alateen sponsors, Carmen L, was elected at the May Assembly to serve as the Alateen Convention Co-Chair for 2014 and the Alateen Convention Chair for 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne M.
District 17 DR

District Nineteen

So much time has gone by since the last Newsletter and it seems like it's only been ONE day!!! District 19 continues to thrive and harmonize! We are having very successful District Meetings and one of the highlights for me is our "mini" workshops on the Concepts. Service is such a vital part of our recovery and it thrills me to watch our trusted servants participate and grow. We have a couple of members who have stepped up to "GR-ship" and they appear eager to reap the benefits that service offers.

The District is gearing up for our District Al-Anon Day, so stay tuned for the announcement of date and theme; then mark your calendars to join us for a day filled with workshops, a speaker, fun, food, and fellowship.

Love in Al-Anon/Alateen Service,
Cynthia S.
District 19 DR

District Twenty One

District 21 has also been able to distribute 300 copies of the current 2014 Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism for our current outreach this year. Participation is not only the key to harmony; it made for a great Anniversary Party this year .68 people attended from 8 different districts this past October. A big shout out to the 11 groups in District 21 offering to "sponsor" a table this year, we couldn't do it without you. Also a big thank you to all of who came to the anniversary planning committee, volunteered and of course, our leader in this Candy C. We sold 18 copies of the new 2014 Alateen calendars at the sign up table this year. We wanted to give our Alateens a great start to the New Year. Without breaking anonymity here is a picture of the tables and all the great food people brought. Renelle M told her story and it was truly inspiring and the workshops were great. We will have a wrap up District meeting this November. I can't wait to see what we accomplish next year.



Al-Anon Liaison 2013 Report

Wow what a convention. I would like to express my thanks to all who stepped in and gave their all this weekend. Our speakers Angie B. and Phillip W. were awesome! And let us not forget our Chair for the convention Cheryl K. Also by the way, let's not forget our discussion meeting with Cynthia S. Be true to yourself and Martha C. on forgiveness; our Higher Power showed up and showed out. I can't call everyone by name so in order not to forget anyone, thank all of you for making my job easy.

Love in Service

Dorothy N.

Al-Anon Liaison to the 60th Georgia AA Prepaid Convention

FROM GRATITUDE TO ACTION

When I got into service, my Higher Power took advantage of my willingness.

My Higher Power used my service to percolate up the next character defect He wanted me to surrender to Him to work on. As I surrender each character defect, my Higher Power does for me what I am unable to do - change me.

Patrick B.

Webmaster



Join us for a Mid-Winter Pick -me-up In District 17



Feb 22, 2013

6pm

Speaker: Kathy W Area 11 Secretary



Hibachi Buffet (former Ryan's)

Sushi & Grill

823 Joe Frank Harris Pky

Cartersville, GA 30120

770-606-1888

cost: \$7.99 (\$6.99 + \$1.00 drink)

CALLING ALL AFG MEMBERS - both near and far !!!

Make your plans NOW to attend the 2014 Al-Anon/Alateen Convention (with AA Participation) that will be held August 9-11, 2014 at Unicoi State Park and Lodge, located in Helen, Georgia.

Please register early so that we may better accommodate you. There are forms online at www.ga-al-anon.org with all the information you need to register and the code to use for the discount when you make your reservations.

¿Habla usted español? Tendremos talleres en español y un traductor para la persona que está contando su historia. We will have Spanish workshops and a translator for the speaker meetings.

The Convention Committee is planning an experience of the decade! This promises to be an A-W-E-S-O-M-E convention with spectacular speakers and workshops galore!! We will have our "Heart Beat Boutique" and hope that each of you will submit hand made items for attendees to purchase so that they can take home a little token to remind them of their wonderful week-end experience at Unicoi. We are also going to have a basket raffle that is very intriguing (more information to come).

The Convention will have its own hospitality area offering snacks and coffee between speaker-meetings and workshops. Don't forget - your meals are included in the Convention week-end package at the Lodge. Meals are not included with cabin reservations, but may be purchased individually.

Side note: Unicoi is located approximately two hours northeast of the Atlanta Airport and is nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Make it a "family vacation" by arriving a couple of days early (Wednesday and Thursday at a discount), and enjoy the surrounding area.

Cynthia S.
Chairperson-2014 Al-Anon/Alateen Convention

"PARTICIPATION
IS THE KEY
TO HARMONY"
- Al-Anon Concept 4

Looking to be of service?

Committee Members are needed for the 36TH Al-Anon PineIsle Fellowship Conference. There are many opportunities to be of service for this fantastic weekend of fellowship and recovery. Learn about the positions open at the next Planning Committee meeting. They are held every other month and we welcome anyone who would like to contribute.

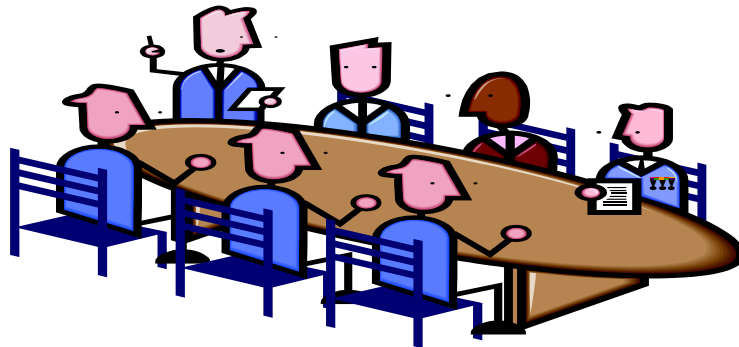
No special skills are needed and all, from long-timer to newbie, are welcome to participate!

Please contact us at: pineislecommittee@gmail.com

Preston: 678-469-6686 or Meredith: 973-495-3510

We look forward to seeing you!

The 36TH PineIsle Fellowship Conference, with AA Participation will be held
February 21, 22 and 23, 2014
at the Legacy Lodge and Conference Center
Lake Lanier Island, GA



What is the difference between 'open' and 'closed' meetings?

Often, Al-Anon groups will distribute a local meeting schedule along with copies of Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism magazine. In those schedules, some meetings are designated as "open" and others as "closed."

Anyone concerned about someone else's drinking is welcome to attend any Al-Anon meeting, whether it is listed as "open" or "closed."

A "closed" meeting is for anyone who is troubled by someone else's drinking.

An "open" meeting also welcomes guests, students, and interested professionals who want to learn by observing an Al-Anon meeting. Observers attending open Al-Anon meetings are requested to abide by the principles that guide participation in all Al-Anon Family Group meetings, most especially the principles of confidentiality and anonymity that protect its members.

(pg 7 Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2014)

AI-Anon Family Groups of Georgia
Area Assembly Schedule
 January 18-19, 2014

Purpose of Assembly:

- 1) Elect a Delegate, Alternate, and other Assembly officers.
- 2) Receive and distribute reports on Area and world service affairs.
- 3) Review and approve interim reports of Area World Service Committee (AWSC).

Goal: The spiritual tone of Assembly will prevail by the demonstration of mutual respect and acceptable conduct as its members presume goodwill.

Goal: Assembly members will understand the purpose of the Assembly and the relationship within the structure.

Goal: Knowing that our Higher Power is present in the expression of our group conscience, Assembly members will be able to support and communicate Assembly decisions.

Saturday- January 18, 2014

11:00 a.m.	Registration Opens- Host District(s) 15&16 Literature Opens Hospitality- Districts 17&18	Hallway Grand Salon B Boardroom
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Business Meeting- Part 1	Magnolia
1:00-1:30 p.m.	Break- Literature and Hospitality Open	Grand Salon B Boardroom
1:30-2:30 p.m.	GR Sharing- Cindy T., Sarajayne B., Debbie F. Links of Service-Ask the Officers- Linda B. DRs Past & Present Share ESH- Vicki L. Alateen AMIAS Training Alateen Sponsorship & Working Steps	Magnolia A&B Magnolia C&D Grand Salon A Private Dining PDR 1 PDR 2
2:30-3:00 p.m.	Break/Literature & Hospitality Open	Grand Salon B Boardroom
3:00-4:30 p.m.	Service Manual- How My Group Works Kathleen S. Duncan G., Dan M., Lauren M. True Confessions, It Could Happen to You Sulata L. GR Basics 101- Jeanie M. Alateen AMIAS Training Alateen Fun	Magnolia A&B Magnolia C&D Grand Salon A PDR 1 PDR 2

4:30-5:00 p.m.	Break- Literature and Hospitality Delegate meeting with Coordinators	Grand Salon B Boardroom Grand Salon A
5:00-6:00 p.m.	AI-Anon Discussion Meeting- Districts- 15&16 Alateen Sponsor to Sponsor-How to Group a Group Alateen Meeting	Magnolia PDR 1 PDR 2
6:30- 7:30 p.m.	Dinner Break	
8:00 p.m.	AI-Anon Speaker Meeting Cheryl K., Area Chairperson	Magnolia

Sunday- January 19, 2014

8:00 a.m.	Registration- Host District(s) 15&16 Literature Opens Hospitality Districts 17&18	Hallway Grand Salon B Boardroom
9:00-1:00 p.m.	Business Meeting	Magnolia
10:45- 11:05 a.m.	Break, Hospitality Room Open	Boardroom

Reminders:

Sign-in Sheets: DRs deliver sign-in sheets to Alternate Delegate, Renelle M., by 9:00 a.m.
Contributions: Provide contributions to Treasurer, Levon C., by 9:00 a.m. or during breaks

Meeting Times: Meeting and ending times are approximate. Please plan to stay until the meeting is adjourned. There will be periodic breaks throughout the meetings.

Meeting and Hotel Facilities Information

Marriott Macon City Center

240 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA 31217
Reservations: 866.882.4465 or local 478. 621.5300
\$108.00 + 14% king or 2 queens

Candlewood Suites

3957 Riverplace Drive Macon, GA 31210
478.254.3530
\$64.95 + 14% Queen suite or double

Assembly Dates- Jan. 18-19; May 17-18; Sept. 27-28 (1 week later than usual)

**Cut off dates for reservations at both locations:
2 weeks prior to each Assembly**