



GEORGIA ON TRACK

November 2016

AREA OFFICER REPORTS

Delegate's Report



Free to Choose Recovery by Building Stronger Groups

Hi Friends and Family,

It is now fall, one of my favorite times of the year. The air is cool and crisp, the fall colors of red, orange, yellow and green are beautiful, and I delight in the smells of cinnamon, apples baking, and pumpkin. Oh to be alive and invigorated through the senses. As I meditate on these things, I think about our Assembly theme “Free to Choose Recovery by Building Stronger Groups”. I am reminded that it is the responsibility of all members to ensure our groups continue to grow and thrive and not move into a season of winter where they become dormant and wither away.

I often hear the phrase “freedom is not free”. This reminds me that I am not to become complacent in my commitment to my personal recovery or to my group’s well being. How can I as a member participate in keeping my group healthy and strong? First I must be dedicated to my personal recovery by practicing the principles of the program both inside and outside of these rooms. Have a sponsor and use her. Show up for meetings on a regular basis. Participate

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Delegate's Report (continued)

in the meeting by, volunteering to help set up and clean up, chair meetings, be a discussion leader, welcome newcomers as well as regular members, and be willing to sponsor others. It is important that I call other members between meetings sharing myself and encouraging others. I am to remember our primary purpose stated in Tradition 5 to help families of Alcoholics. It is important for me to study and increase my understanding of the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service. Participate in Group Conscious meetings and Group Inventories remembering the importance of the greatest good for the greatest number as stated in Tradition 1. Trust that our Higher Power speaks through the group conscious. Trust Al-Anon, trust the process, and trust others.

May the love, understanding, and peace of the program grow in you one day at a time.

Renelle Mathis
Delegate, Panel 56

Alternate Delegate's Report

Congratulations Georgia Al-Anon for increasing paid Forum subscriptions 11.4% over this time last year! In June's newsletter, I challenged groups to purchase their own subscriptions after WSO discontinued sending complimentary copies to each group. The challenge was to try to see if we could increase subscriptions by 10%--well, you did it! That's 57 new paid subscriptions. Since we had 276 registered groups at the end of September--that still means many groups aren't receiving this valuable recovery tool. Everyone please encourage your group to purchase a subscription if they haven't already. If funds are tight for your group, consider placing loose change in a can that gets passed around each meeting until \$11 is collected. It is amazing how fast change can add up. My home group has decided to purchase a gift subscription to send to the local public library so a monthly copy of *The Forum* will be displayed with other periodicals. Gift subscriptions to local therapists, doctors, treatment centers, libraries, jails, etc., could be a great outreach project for individual groups.

On a personal note as I look back over my first year in Panel 56, the word that seems to summarize it is gratitude. This year has had its learning challenges as any new position does. These challenges have really encouraged me to reach out and ask for help from others and from my Higher Power. As a result, I have learned a lot more about trust. There is always someone in our fellowship that I can ask for help. I am so grateful for these experiences, for the deepening of existing friendships within our fellowship, and also the many beautiful new friendships I am making. Thank you everyone for your love, support and hard work volunteering to help with Assembly registration, hospitality, and the 65th Al-Anon Anniversary celebration this year. Thank you to Districts 11 and 21 for volunteering to host registration and the Saturday afternoon discussion meeting at January's Assembly. Thank you also to Districts 14 and 17 for volunteering to host the hospitality room in January, and to Romi R. (District 1 Representative) for volunteering to tell her story at the Saturday night speaker meeting.

Love in service,
Barbara T. Alternate Delegate

Secretary's Report

Hello Georgia Al-Anon Family,

It's hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the first year of this term. Wow, how time flies. I want to say how grateful I am to be a part of Georgia Al-Anon as I continue to grow and serve as your Area Secretary.

I hope all of you are receiving the minutes and if for some reason you misplace them, please remember they can be found on the Georgia Al-Anon website/members page.

This past Saturday, October 29th, District 1 had their annual Fall Workshop in beautiful Cherry Log, Georgia. As I crossed over into what I call, "God's County" I experienced what has freely been given to us to enjoy. The mountains and the fall foliage were just absolutely breathtaking. As I drove, with the sun just beaming, I thought to myself, how fortunate I am to have learned through this amazing program how to be in the present and to enjoy what God has provided and to be grateful for all of his blessings. It is such a treat to get together with my Al-Anon Family for special events like this one. On my way home, sun still shining bright, I was filled with love, joy and the peace and serenity this program continues to give me. Thank you all for being a part of my journey!

With Love and Gratitude,
Kathy White
Area Secretary, Panel 56

Treasurer's Report

Hello to My Al-Anon Family,

This being the last newsletter of the year I must say how time flies. I am amazed I have already finished up a third of my term as your treasurer. I have learned many new things these past months and I am sure there are more to come. My heart is full of gratitude with every new experience.

I can hardly wait to see what the coming year brings. Prior to Al-Anon that was not a phrase I would use but I now know my Higher Power walks with me every day. It is a blessing and a testament to my recovery. Having the certainty that with my Higher Power's help, I can weather any storm in my life has given me freedom from worry or doubts. I continue to grow and receive gifts with this program. I wish each one of you a joyous holiday season filled with serenity and peace. Thank you again for all your kind words and patience as I went through my first year.



From Our Area Treasurer (continued)

As a reminder, all AWSC members need to send (email or snail mail) their Expenses Reports and receipts by December 15th for reimbursement by the Area.

Please remember, all contributions can be mailed to:

AFG of GA, Inc
PO Box 7644
Macon, GA, 31209-7644

Love in Service,
Katherine N.
Area Treasurer, Panel 56

P.S.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Always put you District, full Group name and number on your check. If you're not sure contact me at kmn_ga@hotmail.com. We can work it out together.

From Our Area Chairperson

I am truly having to take "one day at the time" as I try to sell my house of 22 years. I've never sold a house, so this is a new experience and one that overwhelms me at times. I am a person who "wants to do things right." Of course if you know me, I make MANY mistakes. It's the game-changer mistakes that harm my self-esteem and make me doubt my ability to hear God. Selling a house is one of those game-changers, just like getting married in 1988. The marriage didn't last, so many times, when faced with another game-changer, I doubt what I think I'm hearing.

After talking with my Sponsor recently, she said, "Why don't you quit looking at the past and look forward to the future!" It's good to have a sponsor...

As we conclude 2016, I reflect on the last part of our Assembly theme: Happy, Joyous and Free. I am free to follow the God of my understanding and to follow Him the best I know how "one day at the time." I could not make ANY wise decisions without God and the principles I find in our AI-Anon program.

Cathy O
Area Chairman
Panel 56

From our GACS Chairperson

News from Your Georgia Al-Anon Central Services Office

Greetings from your Area Office!

Just a few bits of news to share. First, we are nearing the end of the year and will be looking for volunteers to help with our year-end inventory count. Please contact Char at: alanon-char@att.net if you're willing to offer a few hours of service. We hope to have date and times at our November AWSC. It will not only be a "work" day, but we will add in the 3 "F's": fun, fellowship and food!

Second, we're excited about the suggestions from the Thought Force we formed that used the KBDM process to assess Office operations and our future. We hope to have a great discussion about this at the November AWSC. That's it for now...but watch this space for more exciting news later!

Thanks for all of your support!

Yours In Service,

Char

GACS Chairperson, Panel

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AREA COORDINATORS REPORT

Alateen Coordinator's Report

Hello Area 11!

I have an apology I feel I need to make to all of you. I have been sooo busy at my paying job I feel I have been neglecting my responsibilities as your Area Alateen Coordinator. The good news, "This too shall pass." I think I'm starting to see light at the end of the tunnel. Thank you for allowing me "progress not perfection."

In September, I received an e-mail from WSO saying hey were going to be publishing sharings from many GA Alateen members to appear in the Fall 2016 edition of *Alateen Talk*. As a result, I was sent 25 complimentary copies of the issue with the note that distributing these issues in our Area is one way to increase awareness and that this may encourage members to bring their own children to meetings. I will be giving each DR a copy to share with their District and distribute as they see fit. I would like to thank all the teens in our Area who submitted sharings!

There are now two new Alateen Public Outreach graphics available in three different sizes to accommodate a variety of Alateen Public Outreach needs. 1) Road sign/country design caption: "When you don't know where to turn because someone drinks too much... Alateen can help." 2) Teenager design caption: "When you don't know where to turn because someone drinks too much...Alateen can help."

I'm still encouraging more Al-Anon members to become certified AMIAS; especially those willing to become Group Sponsors or to even start a new Group.



This is the last GA On Track to be published this year. I can't believe how quickly 2016 is going by. I'm a big fan of Gratitude Lists and this being the month of Thanksgiving, what better time to thank my H.P for all he has done in my life. Service to Al-Anon/Alateen is a HUGE piece for me to be thankful for.

I wish everyone Love, Peace, Joy and Gratitude in the coming months and the New Year.

Love in Service

Lauren M.

Area Alateen Coordinator/Panel 56

Archivist Report

Greetings AI-Anons:

GRs and Drs...our Area Information and Archive Booklet is searchable! This was not my doing, rather it was a discovery made while exploring how to make the Booklet searchable. As it turns out the little magnifying icon at the top of the pages of the digital file searches for text. It will even search motions by date if you like. Many of you may already be aware of how to use this feature in PDF files... for me it is part of the wonder of my spiritual journey with you. The Area has received a huge gift; the use of a machine that has the ability to convert our archives into a PDF format. I am looking forward to beginning this project before the end of the year.

Don't forget: Archives are available to Assembly and District events.

With Love and Gratitude in Service
Marie Neese
Archivist
Panel 56

Group Records Coordinator Report

Hello, Area 11 AI-Anon Family Groups.

News from WSO: In July 2016 WSO implemented a new procedure for AI-Anon Groups "Reported Not Meeting". What does this mean for your groups? It means that if one new-comer shows up at your meeting and cannot find it and hey report it to WSO, your group status will be changed to "Reported Not Meeting". When this happens your group will be removed from WSO's toll-free information meeting line and from the Public Outreach Website meeting search results. WSO will start the procedure below.

WSO Group Records Department follow-up timeline after a group is reported not meeting:

DAY 1: Group Records staff contacts the reported group the same day.
The group verifies the status of the meeting.
The status of the group is updated.

DAY 3: If the group does not respond after three business days, the Group Records staff sends a notice to the Area Group Records Coordinator.
The Coordinator verifies the status of the meeting.
The status of the group is updated on the WSO Online Group Records application.

AFTER 30 DAYS: If the Area Group Records Coordinator does not respond after 30-days, the Group Records staff notifies the DR or the Area Delegate (if there's no DR for a specific district).

The DR verifies the status of the meeting.
The status of the group is updated through the Area process or the WSO.

Group Records Coordinator continued

WSO suggests all groups consider:

- 1.) Add signs inside buildings so the meeting can easily be found. Le
- 2.) Have a note on the door if the group is not meeting on a specific day.
- 3.) Notify the Area or the WSO right away when the meeting location changes or the group no longer meets.

Please continue to fill out the electronic GR1 form and send it to your DR's. The next version of the Area 11 Directory will be published in January 2017. Please have all your changes in prior to 31 December 2016.

Current WSO group concerns in Georgia. □ Groups in no mail status: (4) o District 1 - Jasper AFG in Jasper, Ga o District 11 - What About Me AFG in Augusta, Ga. o District 18 - Discovering Hope AFG in Cumming, GA. o District 19 - Killian Hill AFG in Lilburn, GA. □ Groups with bounced e-mails: (1) o District 6 - Nahunta AFG in Nahunta, Ga. If anyone has firsthand knowledge (DR's) about the above groups please e-mail "AreaGroupRecords@ga-al-anon.org"

Changes since September 2016 - Area 11 Group Records.

- District 2 * Meeting Closed: Alive and Well AFG
 - * Meeting Details changed: Hope for Today AFG
- District 5 * Two new groups were added.
 - "First Steps AFG" and "One Day at A Time AFG"
- District 8 * Friday meeting dropped for "Vidalia-Lyons AFG"
- District 9 * Potential new group at the NABA club
- District 11 * GR Change for "Under the Bridge AFG"
- District 14 * New group started "Hearts of Hope AFG"
- District 16 * GR Change for "The Lunch Bunch AFG"
- District 19 * Meeting Closed: "Traditions AFG"
 - * Meeting Closed:
- District 20 * GR Change for "Mitchell County AFG"
 - * Reactivate group "Bainbridge Serenity AFG"



Literature Coordinator's Report

Summer seemed to never end this year, but finally the leaves are falling and there's a nip in the air. This being the case, it must be time for the Fall AWSC meeting, followed by some holiday stuff, leading up to our January 2017 Area 11 (Georgia) Assembly in Macon.

When you come to Assembly, I'd love for you to come meet me in the Literature Room, hang out, hear some music, groove on the light show, meet a new Al-Anon friend, and browse some interesting Al-Anon historical publications and memorabilia. Then you can buy some Al-Anon literature, lots of it. We'll try to have a full range of pamphlets and books available.

At our September 2016 Assembly we sold over \$3000 of Al-Anon literature. Thank you. In January, we'd love to sell that much or more. Come armed with cash and/or checks as we haven't yet worked out that credit/debit card/instant payment thing.

The Central Services Office in Macon, housing our bookstore, would prefer that pre-orders of literature be submitted to them at least a week to 10 days prior to Assembly. These orders will then be available for payment and pick-up in the Literature Room. Pre-ordering increases the likelihood of having your complete order filled and also streamlines the process for everyone, cuts down on waiting in line for checkout, and makes it more likely that the Literature Room won't run out of stock due to day of Assembly large orders.

If you are presenting a workshop at Assembly and anticipate that it will generate interest in a particular piece(s) of literature, please send me an email so that I can take that into consideration as I put together the Literature Room order for Assembly. I'll pass that information along to Central Services so that if their inventory is low, they can order sufficient quantities from WSO in time for Assembly.

The currently featured publication on the WSO website is the book "Discovering Choices". Chapter 1 is presented in its entirety.

The 2016 World Conference Summary is now available in its entirety on the WSO Members website. There is a wealth of information to be found in the Summary. Hard copies should be ordered from your Literature Distribution Center (MAIS or Central Services). You might have to wait a bit as neither of the offices tend to stock copies.

WSO continues to seek your sharings for a number of future publications, including our New Daily Reader (Working Title), Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships (Working Title), and Parents and Grandparents of Young Problem Drinkers (Working Title). You are also invited to send your sharings for the Forum, Alateen Talk, and the next Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism. Most sharings can be submitted electronically. Guidelines and suggestions are available on the WSO Members website.

Speaking of Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism, the newest version for 2017 is available directly from WSO. It's a wonderful publication for an outreach project for your group or district. Pricing is as follows:

Literature Coordinator's Report continued

25 copies - \$ 18 (72 cents each)
50 copies - \$ 25 (50 cents each)
100 copies - \$ 40 (40 cents each)
200 copies - \$ 75 (37.5 cents each)
400 copies - \$140 (35 cents each)

The second printing can be ordered until February 8, 2017 and will be shipped before April 1, 2017. Some districts consolidate group orders or underwrite group orders so as to get the best price for volume purchases.

If you are interested in some meeting topics, there are some on the WSO Members website. Once you are on the Member's Homepage, type "Meeting Topics" in the Search Box. You will find meeting topic (or book study) suggestions including suggested formats for using the books "How Al-Anon Works", "Survival to Recovery", "Al-Anon's Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions", "Dilemma of the Alcoholic Marriage", "Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses", "Paths to Recovery", and "In All Our Affairs".

If your group or district wants a resource on the use of Conference Approved Literature (CAL), there is a power-point presentation for use at a workshop on CAL. The presentation can help give a better understanding of the development of Al-Anon literature and why we use literature that was developed specifically for Al-Anon. Sometimes questions/situations arise concerning the use of or reference to AA's Big Book in working the Al-Anon program. While Al-Anon owes a great debt to AA, and in fact used AA's Big Book in the early days; it did so because there was no other literature available. While there is a wealth of knowledge in AA's Big Book and Al-Anon members can use any material they find helpful in their personal recovery journey, use of AA's Big Book as a text, or more than a passing reference to AA's Big Book is discouraged in Al-Anon meetings. If you, your group, or your district has an interest in this presentation, please email me at philand123@comcast.net, and I'll be glad to share an emailed copy of the workshop slides. Other resources for a discussion on this topic can be found on Page 104 of the Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies in the current Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27), on Page 228 of the book "Many Voices, One Journey" (B-31), and in the pamphlet "Why Conference Approved Literature" (P-35).

If any of you could spare a little time at Assembly, I would appreciate some help in the Literature Room during the 15-30 minute breaks on Saturday afternoon.

You'd just help me speed up the line by helping customers get orders ready for checkout and bagging purchases. It's easy-peasy; heck it might even be fun. There's no reason not to have fun while you're doing service. Also, anyone interested in the Literature Coordinator's position for the next Panel might even get a crash course and sales pitch on why this is a great way to do some service for Al-Anon. Give me a call at [404-633-6697](tel:404-633-6697) or email me at philand123@comcast.net if you're interested.

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah, Happy _____ (Fill in the Blank), and Happy New Year to you all. See you in the Literature Room at January Assembly. Philip Anderson, Literature Chair, Panel 56



Newsletter Coordinator's Report

Greetings Area 11! Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Newsletter this month. The beautiful photos in this issue are courtesy of Kathy White, our area secretary. She took them on her way to the District 1 workshop that she shared about. Aren't they beautiful? I am so grateful she shared them with us.

Recently I was invited to think about the people in my life who have passed on. During the conversation, I was asked to consider the gifts my loved ones had passed on to me. One special person was a very dear Al-anon friend. She knew she was dying and there was no family living nearby to help and support her through her illness. So, she reached out to her Al-anon fami-

ly. She became very good at asking, even demanding help from us. She had so many needs. She asked me to help her keep up with her bills and finances. She asked her sponsor for spiritual and emotional support. She asked others of us for rides to the doctor and hospital. Later, she asked us for visits, help with shopping, cleaning, and even for help with her Living Will. It took all of us to help her. We had to work together to coordinate our schedules to see who was available to be of assistance. It really did take a village. The care and support we gave to her and each other didn't end with her death. She also asked us to remember her in a very specific way. We did our best to honor our friend and celebrate the gifts that she gave to us in her lifetime.

As I reached out to all of you to put together this newsletter, it reminded me of my friend. It takes contributions from many to put together a newsletter that shares the experience, strength, and hope of Georgia's Al-anon groups and their trusted servants. I am grateful to Al-anon for teaching me that it is okay, even spiritual to ask for help. I am grateful to each of you for your contributions to this newsletter.

Wishing blessings for each of you,
Anne Mooney, Newsletter Coordinator, Panel 56

Public Outreach Coordinator's Report

We are in the process of finalizing the Public Outreach Committee and still have one spot available. We will communicate by conference calls and meet briefly on Assembly weekends. If you or someone you know is interested in serving, please contact me at Lysbeth@mindspring.com.

Public Outreach Billboard Project Update: began in July 2015 has now reached Metro Atlanta, Augusta, and Columbus. The Dalton billboard is up and will run for approximately 8 weeks.

WSO is releasing new PSAs targeted to the professional community at the end of the year. They are called, "**Women Troubled by Her Boyfriend**" and "**Grandma**" Portraits IV PSAs. This coincides with our vision to reach the professional community for this panel's projects. We will play these at the September Assembly to encourage members to reach out to local radio & TV stations to request they be aired. More info to follow.

DR's please ask your districts and groups what opportunities are available in your districts to reach therapists, psychologists, law enforcement, DFCS, private treatment programs and centers. Any additional projects that Districts would like to see for this year and term, please email to me and let's see how we can keep the momentum going to spread the message of recovery to those in need. Together we are a powerful example of this program.

Respectfully submitted,
Lys H., Public Outreach Chair
Area 11, Panel 56
Lysbeth@mindspring.com

Webmaster Coordinator's Report

Information regarding Assembly dates and room rates for 2017 has been updated on the website. To have your AI-Anon event posted on the website, please send me a **pdf** copy of the flier. Also, please remember to attach the flier. I will send you a link to the event once the flier is posted.

At the last Assembly we addressed consequences of removing first names and personal phones numbers from the meetings information on the website. I was asked to reach out to other AI-Anon Area webmasters through *AFG Connects* to see how they handle personal contacts on their website. I have reached out to them and I have received 3 responses. These responses will go to the technology work group to be reviewed.

WSO has given permission to Area websites to link to their meetings database. The technology work group is discussing whether the database would replace or supplement the current map search feature on the website. Once a consensus is reached, the information will be added to the website. Remember:

- 1) If you need help while looking for a meeting on the website, there are instructional videos provided. Also, there may be a problem if you just use the default value of "An automatically chosen radius." It is best to include a realistic mileage distance from the place marked on the map to the meeting in question.



2) When you go to the Area website, you are entering as a sort of "Public" user seeking information about Al-Anon and you will only see certain general information about Al-Anon.

As a member, there is more information for you on the website if you go to the **Members** tab and log in with the clues provided. After that, if you click on the **Events** tab, you will see events that are relevant to Al-Anon "Members" such as AWSC and Assembly information.

Thank you for the opportunity to grow and serve as your Area Webmaster.

Love in Service,

Alecia

Convention Chair Report

Vacation. Yes, the 2017 Convention at Callaway Gardens is the ideal setting for your next vacation. Your stay at Mountain Creek Inn can be extended by up to 2 days before and 2 days after at the same great convention price. And, you will receive a complimentary pass to the Gardens as part of the package.

Your 2017 Convention is hard at work with HP at the center moving things on. We will feature exciting speakers who will help us on our path to recovery. We are having raffles for baskets, jewelry box stand and more. The Alateens are also hard at work planning many fun events.

T-shirts and tote/backpack will be available at the January Assembly, as well as registration forms. Please note that volunteers are needed to help with literature, boutique, registration, and the hospitality suite. We are requesting any Spanish speaking members to advise if you can help. Let's get those hotel registrations in ASAP as it will help with acquiring our meeting rooms.

Love in Service,
Joyce T
2017 Convention Chair



DISTRICT REPORTS-AREA 11

District One

District 1 held its annual workshop, *Spiritual Principles of the Traditions; Practicing the Traditions in the Home*, on October 29, 2016.

Twelve people were asked to prepare a two-minute speech on what an assigned principle meant to them. Participation was the key to the workshop's success. As various persons gave their personal application of the principle assigned to them, the audience also contributed by sharing their views.

I was assigned Tradition 7, Spiritual Principle - Independence. This assignment served as, not only an individual study, but as an opportunity to share my learning experience of this principle in 'physical, emotional and spiritual' areas.

The most important thing I have learned from Independence is that I cannot take from the alcoholic's recovery to patch a hole in mine. The integrity of his recovery must be respected because it is between him and his Higher Power; as is mine.

The fellowship was wonderful as the groups in our district were able to spend quality time enjoying each other's company. I believe that events like this one foster the very principles of the traditions in our groups.

We look forward to next year's workshop.

Thanks from a Grateful member of Al-anon,
Romi R.



District Two

What beautiful cool weather we are having here in District 2. Since our last newsletter, we had a great showing at the September Assembly, where many of us had a great time learning and loving in fellowship. Upon returning home, many of our GRs discussed with their groups ideas from Assembly. One of the hot topics was open vs. closed meetings and we have a few alterations happening in our groups. We are also hoping to have a District-wide Thanksgiving event. We are still in the planning stages and if an event pops up, I will share it with the network. One of our public outreach efforts has been to order a Forum subscription for our public library system.

District Three

District Three has been busy with outreach. We had Outreach tables recently at the Georgia School of Addiction which was held in Savannah in August for a week. We had a table next to the AA table where volunteers handed out Al-Anon literature and bookmarks. We had the table manned everyday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. all week. In September, we had a table at a Recovery Day event held at Lake Mayer in Savannah, where all kinds of recovery for addiction was represented. Also in September, we tried hosting an Al-Anon Recovery table at an area outdoor Food Market. Results of the Market were mixed, but we did get our message out to many people during the last two months.

On November 19, New Beginnings AFG in Rincon will be celebrating its 28th Anniversary as an Al-Anon Family Group with a district-wide potluck dinner and speaker meeting from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. The entire Area is invited to this great celebration which will be held at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 155 Goshen Road, Rincon, Georgia. You can contact them at NewBeginningsRincon@gmail.com to ask for more information.

*Free to choose recovery by
building stronger groups.*

District Six

District 6 hosted an Al-Anon Birthday Bash on October 15th at the Nahunta Serenity Club. Two members impersonated Anne B. and Lois W. in a comical skit that was very informative. We also enjoyed 2 speakers, a beautiful lunch, bingo, raffles, and a delicious birthday cake. Thank you to all the groups in district 6 who helped with this event. Many thanks go out to Tina D. from the Kinglands group for chairing this event. It was good to see members from Florida and Valdosta come over and celebrate with us. Happy Birthday Al-Anon we appreciate you.

District 6
Debbie P.

District 13

Movie Night was a smashing success! Over 60 folks came together on Oct 15 to share a chili feast potluck and enjoy the recently released movies, "Lois's Story" and "Lois and the Pioneers." It was a wonderful experience of coming together to have fun and learn more about how Al-anon came to be and grow into the international community that it is now. Donations from tickets, the raffle and passing the basket totaled \$859! The District 13 GRs will vote on how these funds will be distributed to best benefit the Al-Anon community at our November district meeting. A huge thank-you goes to everyone that made a contribution of service. Over twenty volunteers, 6 family groups, and more than 60 attendees brought this event to life. It showed that when a group of people come together and offer what they can or what they are interested in, big, wonderful things can happen. Maybe we can make it happen again next year!



District 14

Hi from Message of Hope stockbridge Ga

Al-anon is well and alive in our little corner of the district.....we have two new meetings:

One is in Griffin on Thursday night and one is in McDonough on Friday night!

Our new noon meeting is doing well too! We have a good meeting, then go to a deli for lunch for the "meeting after the meeting"....recovery and a Reuben.....

Attendance is good and on our Wednesday night meeting we need extra chairs.....it's a good thing. Happy the alateen meeting is up and running and getting more participation.

The last Wednesday of the month we celebrate birthdays and have a pot luck dinner.

Come and see us if you are in the area and we are looking forward to our annual district Christmas get together on December 2nd.....see you there!

District Sixteen

District 16 mourns the loss of a longtime member, Faith L. She was the founder of the Tranquility Group located in LaGrange, GA. Her present and beautiful smile will be missed by all. Because of her devotion to District 16 and the Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia many individuals that live in the LaGrange area can find hope in Al-Anon. Faith share her experience, strength and hope with others and led them to realize that there is no situation too difficult to be bettered and no unhappiness too great to be lessened.

Submitted by Denise C - District 16 DR

District Seventeen

The "Keep it Simple" group is alive and well in Rome, Georgia. Our meetings are running smoothly, and our members are contributing love, encouragement, wisdom, and healing in abundance. We are growing in numbers, but we are also growing in the program---one day at a time. We love our time together, and many will offer up that thanks verbally. It's very encouraging.

We are looking forward to our service in the hospitality room at Assembly in January, and we are making necessary preparations. If other districts have suggestions about snacks and drinks, please feel free to contact our district's DR, Diane K. I know that the hospitality room is a small thing in the scheme of things; however, for those of us with "conditions" that a little snack fixes---or diet restrictions that are met--it is a big deal. Again, feel free to communicate your needs and suggestions. We are honored to serve you.

Here's wishing all a Happy Thanksgiving, and a wonderful Merry Christmas. May the steps guide you through any rough spots and may Joy rise up to the top of your beings for the "good times" opportunities.

It works if you work it,

Marcie Lane, GR
Keep it Simple

District Eighteen

PUBLIC OUTREACH COORDINATORS – DISTRICT 18

We are so grateful the District has allowed “co-Coordiators” for Public Outreach. Working together has allowed us to best capitalize on our combined, as well as, our individual strengths. Covering 11 counties is a large undertaking and we initially focused our efforts on general awareness by ensuring meetings were listed in all online and paper “help” directories identified in 6 of our counties. We contacted (by email) religious organizations in each town with a meeting to provide specific, local meeting information.

Within the most populated county (Forsyth) we have been active on the Forsyth County Drug Awareness Council and have focused on building community contacts. As a result, LouAnn A. recently participated as a panel member at the Drug Council’s bi-annual “Drug Summit.” The theme of the summit was “Ending the Stigma of Addiction” and LouAnn educated regarding effects of alcoholism on the family and about resources such as Al-Anon and Alateen. Approximately 500 people attended the summit. The summit is held twice a year and at each event, we distribute literature and meeting lists and encourage members to come, wear hot pink “Ask Me About Al-Anon and Alateen” badges and assist in talking with the community and other exhibitors. We have had as many as 17 “Outreachers” at these summits!

We met with the Forsyth County Drug and DUI Court Coordinators and presented Al-Anon and Alateen to approximately 70 participants in various phases of their group counseling sessions.

We have partnered with a local women & children domestic violence shelter to bring an informational meeting once a month. We have 7 members at this time who are willing to come and share their program. The shelter has agreed to provide transportation to regularly scheduled meetings for clients who feel it may benefit them. We are undertaking growing our Cumming Alateen meeting by reaching out to every school counselor and school psychologist in the approximately 20 mile radius of the meeting. We are anticipating a December presentation in person to this group, coordinated by the county’s Director of Student Support.

District Eighteen continued

These are the highlights of our year so far and this list is not inclusive!! We encourage our District members to be our eyes and ears in their communities to bring Outreach opportunities to our attention. By involving many others in Outreach through the Drug Summit and informational meetings we are attempting to have all members have the mindset that THEY ARE all PO Coordinators and feel more confident and comfortable in their abilities to share the program. We look forward to continuing our momentum throughout the District!

Love in Service,

District 18 Public Outreach Co-Coordinator
LouAnn A. and Debi S.



District Twenty

Greetings from Southwest Georgia! Our District is experiencing a time of growth and unity. We have many members who attend multiple groups in the District and relationships deepen. Our biggest recent celebration has been the 90th birthday of our resident Al-Anon "black belt." Miss Mattie Lou recently celebrated her 90th "belly button" birthday among family and friends and she is still active in her home group. Groups are preparing to work together to make AL-Anon seen in 2017 by having a booth at local festivals. Hopefully our first booth will be in January. We have also activated one previously inactive group.

District Twenty-One

Covenant AFG (District 21) wanted to share something that they are doing in an effort to be self supporting.

"After we received the information at Assembly regarding the budget shortages for 2015, along with a request for each group to become self supporting by contributing at least \$262 per group we held a group conscience to try to come up with a way to accomplish this. We are a relatively small group - between 8 - 15 members and at the time were contributing 5% to WSO along with what we collected for the Quarterly Appeal. In 2015 our total contribution was \$54.09.

In August of 2016 we decided to have a separate WSO collection each week along with our normal "pass the hat" donation. In the hat is a pink envelope for the WSO contribution. We still send the 5% as our group contribution, and then the pink envelope proceeds and Quarterly Appeals letter proceeds separately.

In just 3 months we have collected \$156 compared to \$54.09 for the previous 12 months! At this rate we should be well over the \$262.00 goal.

We feel great about this since we know how important WSO is to our recovery. Just thought some other groups might want to consider this."

District 21 will be hosting a workshop and speaker meeting Monday January 30, 2017 from 6 - 9 PM with an Al-Anon and an Alateen speaker along with a Kick Off Your Recovery workshop. The event will be held at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Marietta. Food and drinks will be provided, bring a dessert to share. See attached flyer for details.



KICK OFF YOUR RECOVERY

DISTRICT 21 ANNIVERSARY WORKSHOP
MONDAY, JANUARY 30TH 2017

Fellowship & Food: 6pm – 7pm

Workshop: 7pm

Speakers: 8pm – 9pm

Al-anon:
Cindy

Alateen:
Kaydee

COVENANT PRYBYTERIAN CHURCH
2811 CANTON RD.
MARIETTA, GA

FOOD & DRINKS PROVIDED
BRING DESSERT TO SHARE

When:

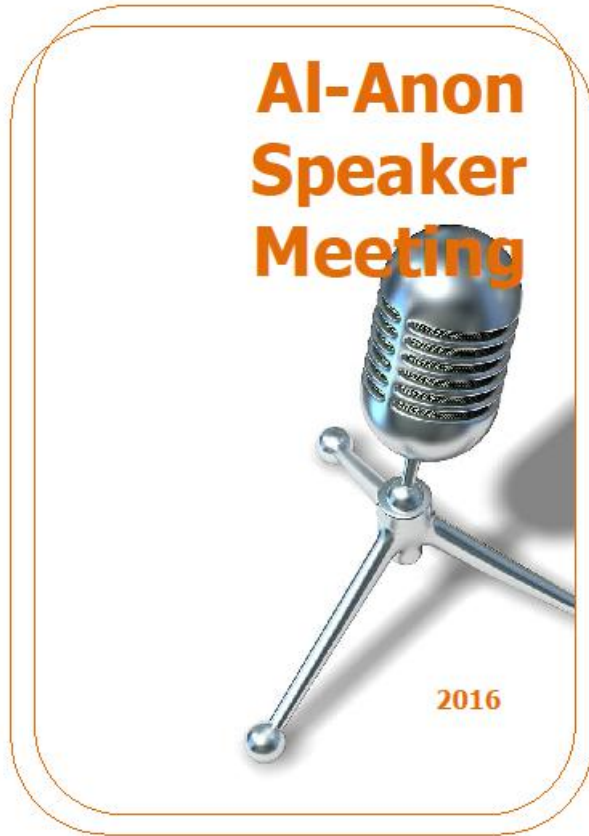
Tuesday, November 29, 2016
7:00pm Meet & Greet
(bring a side dish to share)
8:00pm Speaker Meeting

Where:

St. Clement's Church
2795 Ridge Road
Canton, GA
<http://stclementsanton.org/>

Who:

Judy



Dates to Remember:

January 21-22, 2017	Area Assembly
April 15, 2017	AWSC
May 20-21, 2017	Area Assembly
June 1-4, 2017	Georgia Alateen Conference, Rock Eagle, Eatonton, GA
August 11-13, 2017	Georgia Al-Anon/Alateen Convention, Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, GA
August 19, 2017	ASWC
September 16-17, 2017	Area Assembly

Call the Marriott for reservations: 1.800.228.9290 or
1.478.621.5300
Call the Candlewood Suites: 1.478.254.3530