



GEORGIA ON TRACK

November 2017

AREA OFFICER REPORTS

Area Delegate's Report



Service

Hi Al-Anon Family!

As I sit down to write this article I am reminded of this year's Conference Theme, *Our Members—Our Hope for the Future* and how living the spiritual principles found in Concepts Four and Five are a vital part of our future.

Concept Four—Participation is the key to harmony. When I participate I have a sense of belonging. Before coming to Al-Anon my voice had been drowned out by the noise and chaos of living in active alcoholism. The noise was so loud that my spirit shriveled away into a corner and I quit participating not only with the family but in my own life. To my amazement when I came into Al-Anon you not only en-

couraged me to share, but you listened. Then you actually thanked me for sharing.

As time went by I joined in group conscience meetings and began to learn about Al-Anon service. No one person was in charge and all voices and opinions were important. I began to realize how Concept Four gave life to Concept Five—The rights of appeal and petition protect minorities and insure that they be heard. When we had a group conscience

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Area Delegate (continued)

meeting someone would bring forth information about a decision the group needed to make. Everyone had an opportunity to listen, ask questions, and voice concerns. Then we were ready to make an informed group decision. This was so different from what I had been accustomed to in my home where whoever spoke the loudest made all the decisions. There was no discussion and if you asked questions you were either brushed off as unimportant or worse not even acknowledged.

Al-Anon allowed me to participate and have a voice in our future. I love what it says in our *2014-2017 Service Manual* about Concept Four on p. 190. "Participation also responds to our spiritual needs. All of us deeply desire to belong. The Al-Anon ideal of a working partnership could never regard any member as second class. This is perhaps the main reason we have struggled to achieve participation at every level. The Right of Participation encourages us who serve Al-Anon to accept the necessary disciplines that our various tasks require. It assures us that we are truly the "trusted servants" described in Al-Anon's Tradition Two."

It is vital to Al-Anon's future that we hear all of our member's voices. It is important that each District and group be represented and participate in our Area Assemblies. Our founders Lois W., Anne B. and our pioneers gave tirelessly of themselves to establish and preserve our spiritual principles. May I as a member be willing to follow their example by giving of myself and with the help of the fellowship and guidance of my Higher Power ensure that Al-Anon is here for those who still suffer. I am reminded in the *2014-2017 Service Manual* Introduction (p. 7), "Al-Anon will always be what we its members make it. Al-Anon believes that our benefits are measured by our willingness to share them with others. For we know we can never give as much as we receive."

Thank you Georgia Al-Anon for the opportunity to serve and give back to the future of Al-Anon.

Renelle M.
Delegate

Alternate Delegate's Report

Thank you to District 19 for volunteering to host registration and the Saturday afternoon discussion meeting at our upcoming January Assembly. Thank you also to District 2 and District 20 for volunteering to host the hospitality room then. We are so fortunate to be hosting our WSO guest, Claire R., at January's Assembly. Claire is the Associate Director--Professionals at our Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters in Virginia Beach, VA. In addition to telling her story Saturday night, she will be conducting a workshop Saturday afternoon, January 20th, on "Attracting Newcomers and Retaining Members In Service". We are especially excited to have her

Alternate Delegate (continued)

share her experience on inspiring more members to be involved in service, since January's Assembly starts the third and final year of this panel. As groups and districts hold their elections later in the year and our Area officer elections will be held in September, this will be great information to take back to your home groups to help attract members to participate in service. If you haven't attended Assembly before and have always wanted to know more about it--this is the Assembly to come to. Find an Assembly Buddy to share the experience with and come for a day or a weekend of inspiration, information, and fellowship!

Please consider submitting a sharing to *The Forum* if you haven't yet this panel, especially on any of the three Legacies--particularly Steps 5 through 12, and any of the Traditions or Concepts of Service. They are very short on shares for these topics. *The Forum* Writing Guideline (F-1) has recently been updated and gives more detail on length and type of shares to be submitted. This can be found on the WSO members website under 'Featured Publications'. If you get a share published in *The Forum*, we will display it on the Let's Forum tri-panel display board under 'Spotlight On Georgia' that sits in the Registration hallway at Assembly.

Love in service,
Barbara T.; Alternate Delegate

Area Chairperson's Report

Service: What is it?

Webster says, "The work performed by one that serves." The definition of serve: "To be of use."

More than likely, those who read this article are probably serving in many areas; however, as I've experienced this term, we have a shortage of service oriented people who are willing to stick with the commitment!

Once again, we will be voting in January for another Alateen Conference Chair. This position is open to ALL Al-Anon members age 23 and over. You have to be a certified Alateen Member in Al-Anon Service OR you have to be willing to GET certified by May. The other requirement? You need to be willing to serve and you need to be willing to stay with the commitment.

We have a few more service opportunities. As I wrote, I'm having a difficult time finding people who are willing to serve on a Task or Thought Force. You cannot imagine how many have resigned their position during this term. If I haven't asked you and you WANT to serve, volunteer! Contact me! I've asked multiple people and have been turned down.

Area Chairperson (continued)

Have we gotten so self-focused that we are no good to others? Think about Al-Anon in GA and think about the big picture. If NO one is willing, we will die. Let it begin with YOU.

Cathy O
Area Chairman
Panel 56

GACS Chairperson's Report

Reflections from GACS...

As we begin our final year in this term, there are many thoughts and questions that come to mind, e.g., How well has our service furthered GA Al-Anon's ability to "carry the message"? What's left undone? and equally important, "How have I grown in my recovery as a result of my service work? What have I learned about me? I'm sure many of us may have the same thoughts and questions that we may ponder with no clear answer. What I can take comfort in for sure is what's outlined in *Paths to Recovery*, p. 339: "When we serve, we are not alone. we have all three of Al-Anon's legacies the Steps, Traditions and Concepts to guide us and each of them connects us to our own recovery and spirituality." I can say for certain that all three of these has guided the work of the GACS Committee as a whole as well as individually. As we move towards the end of our term, we will continue to rely on these great treasures of wisdom!

Yours In Service,
Char G.F.
Chair, GACS Committee



Area Secretary's Report

Hello to My Al-Anon Family,

This is a favorite time of the year for me. I love all the fall foliage. It is also a time to reflect on all that I am grateful for. Al-Anon is always on the very top of my list. It is an honor and a privilege to serve Georgia as your Area Secretary, a position I have enjoyed now for several years.

We will begin a new year and the last year of this term very soon. I want to reach out to all of you. If you are interested in knowing about the Area Secretary position please contact me by phone, email or at our January or May Assembly. I would be more than happy to answer any questions you may have.

Area Secretary (continued)

Reminder: Our Assembly minutes can be found on the Area Website/members page.

I hope you all have a Happy Thanksgiving.

With much love and gratitude for all of you,
Kathy White
Area Secretary
Panel 56

Area Treasurer's Report

Hello My Al-Anon Family,

The year is coming to an end and my days are filled with raking leaves, working, raking more leaves, getting ready for Thanksgiving and raking some more. Someone asked me the other day why don't I just pay someone to do this yard work. I'd admit that it would be nice to just look out of my windows and see everything neat and cleaned up. Nicer still, not to be stiff and sore in places I forgot I owned. Then I think as crazy as it sounds, I enjoy this simple task. It gives me time in the afternoon to reflect on my day and the day to come. I also get great enjoyment watching the yard reappear after being "buried". The yard bags all stacked like little soldiers at the curb waiting for the trashmen to pick them up. A job well done with progress showing as the hours and days pass.

As my years in Al-Anon continue, I see myself changing little by little every day. I enjoy the progress I have made in my program. I am far from perfect but as I grow in this program by small tiny steps in recovery they add up to big rewards. I uncover things that need to be changed or removed. In my program I find gratitude in these little things. They make some of the biggest impacts in my life. Just like raking all those leaves. I see an improvement and want it to continue. With gratitude I thank Al-Anon for these gifts that are truly priceless.

A gentle reminder, all contributions can be mailed to:

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

Please include your Group Name, District # and WSO # (You can find this number in your Area Directory.)

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

Coordinator Reports

Alateen Coordinator's Report

Greetings GA Al-Anon,

I can't believe how fast this year is moving. January will be here before we know it. Our current 2018 GA Alateen Conference Co-Chair has decided to step down for personal reasons. A special election will be held at our January Assembly for a new 2018 Alateen Conference Co-Chair who will then become the 2019 Conference Chair. Our Area Chair has already announced this to the AWSC members and I just completed an e-mail to all currently certified GA AMIAS.

About a 1 ½ months ago, I was contacted by the Area Alateen Coordinator in South Carolina along with other AACs from FL, SC, NC, TN, and VA. These are the states that make up the Southeast region and her hope is to create a venue for communication and fellowship, where we can share our experiences, discuss solutions to our common problems, and help Alateen grow, all of which I see great value in.

A couple of months ago, I completed my 1st AMIAS phone training and those 2 prospective AMIAS are now certified. As of 11/17/17, GA has 57 certified AMIAS and 19 Groups registered with the WSO. Speaking of Groups, CONGRATULATIONS to our most recent startup group (registered 10/11/17). Their name is unknown but meet on Saturdays at 7:00 pm at the Briarcliff United Methodist Church (room 8), 4105 Briarcliff Rd S.E., Atlanta, GA 30345. Ages 12-19 are welcome. Elise M. is the contact person.

As a reminder, the WSO is still accepting cards and well wishes on behalf of Alateen's 60th anniversary.

Yours in service,

Lauren M.
Area Alateen Coordinator (Panel 56)

*Want to stay in the loop with WSO?
Then check out this link...The link is
<https://al-anon.org/news-from-the-wso>.*

Once there click on the link *STAY "IN THE LOOP"*.



Archivist's Report

Dear Georgia Al-Anon and Alateen Members,

Here is the first installment of the 60 year history of the World Wide fellowship of Alateen. I still find it a profound spiritual awareness that the more we change...and grow, the more important it is to remember our history...not just to avoid the "bad", but to appreciate what we have known all along and forget... *Alcoholism is a Family Disease*. Recently, as an Area we are challenged as to how to effectively carry the

message of Alateen, particularly as it relates to our technical observance of the tradition of *cooperation*. My hope is that as we peruse this very early history of Alateen we will become inspired to loosen our grip on what is, and be willing to move forward by taking a look back. Let it begin with us...let's embrace our past to enhance the future of family recovery from this deadly *Family Disease*.

With Love and Gratitude in Service
Marie N., Archivist, Panel 56

Coming of Age in the Al-Anon Family

In 1957, when the Al-Anon groups were seven years old, a new arrival came into the family and the newcomer was happily named Alateen.

Now that Alateen has come of age, we thought it time to go back through the old records, to review the many ways in which the Al-Anon family nurtured and fed and taught this welcome child through its early years.

As Alateen developed and grew, its parents swelled with pride over the achievements of its offspring and couldn't wait to tell the world, through newspapers, magazines and books, that young Alateen was a truly accomplished, perceptive, loving and helpful young person, striving to overcome family problems through self-improvement. These articles and stories told what good use Alateen was making of the family's principles and insights. In fact, one often heard an Al-Anon member say wistfully: "You know, Alateen often seems to understand and use our program better than many of us oldsters do."

A wonderful thing about Alateen was how, after passing a certain stage in his development, he was eager to help other young people in trouble. In addition to continuing his progress with the family by joining an Al-Anon group, he insisted on sponsoring other young people who needed his wisdom and help so much. (Sad to say, this is a responsibility which, even to this day, many members of the Al-Anon family are guilty of shirking!)

Alateen has come of age. He serves on important committees in World Services; he willingly accepts the responsibility of being a Group Representative and a District Representative; he attends Assembly meetings as a full-fledged member. All this means that he is eligible to become elected as Delegate to represent his state or province at the family's annual get-together in April, which is known as the World Service Conference.

And now, let's review the early days:

1954. Al-Anon, now four years old, had already become aware of the need to help the younger members of the families of alcoholics. The 20th Anniversary Convention of AA was to be held next year, and the year's planning included recognition of young people's problems in alcoholic homes.

1955. On July 1, 1955, several talks were given at the St. Louis AA Convention which threw a big spotlight on the problems of youngsters. Title of this session: "Children of Alcoholics."

1957. The Board of Directors plans the first of its booklets for teenagers, and asks the cooperation of young people in their preparation.

The St. Louis Convention talks: "Children of Alcoholics!" were also made ready for nationwide distribution. Heavy demand!

HQ office in communication with young people's groups (2 in California, 1 in Durban, South Africa) about literature.

A third group started in California.

June saw the new family member named Alateen.

Lois W. corresponds with several freelance writers about articles on Alateen, one planned for Readers Digest.

Article submitted to AA Grapevine with personal stories of Alateens.

Copy prepared for Alateen booklet submitted to Alateen groups in California for their approval.

Alateen is topic of major concern at Board of Directors meetings.

Inquiries of interested young people: 25.

HQ prepared mimeographed sheet of Alateen Traditions which were sent to all Alateen groups and inquirers with a letter.

Detroit Al-Anon groups requested information with a view to forming Alateen groups.

"Youth and the Alcoholic Parent" sent to printer. Reprints of "It's a Teen-Aged Affair" (from AA Grapevine) decided upon.

Article on Teen-Aged Meetings to be reprinted from Grapevine.

All new Alateen material announced in The FORUM.

Follow-up letters sent to all inquirers; samples of all printed material sent to groups in California, Denver, Toronto.

By December there had been 53 inquiries and ten new registrations. A new group in Vancouver great success; 25 members. Decided to split into two groups. Second now has 15 members.

300 copies of "Youth and the Alcoholic Parent" sent to New Zealand for distribution. Sample copies also included with all Al-Anon literature orders for the forthcoming month.

958. Board of Directors announced 31 new Alateen groups with 39 more proposed.

Material for a two-page article on Alateen to Parade Magazine; also an article to be syndicated by United Press.

Revision of Alateen Traditions underway; letters to all groups.

Board of Directors decides to establish Alateen Committee; sends questionnaire to 45 groups to get their views on 10 questions.

Four-column article on Alateen in Detroit Free Press. Another, more brief, in Knoxville, Tenn.

Sent information about Alateen to Alcoholism Information Center, Pontiac, Mich.

Replies to questionnaire brought only 11 answers. Follow-up letter sent by Alateen Committee.

By July 1959, 15, or one-third of the groups had responded. Alateen chairman, Wanda (afterward Pres. of Board of Trustees) made a digest of these answers for distribution to all Alateen groups.

Alateen articles in Long Island Press and a Waterbury, Conn. paper.

A staff member was added to office force, to handle all Alateen matters because of the increasing volume of correspondence and other activities.

The letter which accompanied the questionnaire answers to be published in the FORUM.

At December Board Meeting, Lois suggested that revision of basic Al-Anon book, LIVING WITH AN ALCOHOLIC, include a chapter on Alateen. Unanimously approved.

Wanda reported strong response to publication of Alateen Report in FORUM.

Word from The New York Mirror tells of planning to run an article on Alateen; asks for information.

Increasing activity reported at Board meeting. A report of Alateen activities sent to 115 established and proposed groups.

The number of groups doubled in six months. Facilities for serving Alateen groups increased to meet stepped-up interest and activity.

Copies of Alateen report sent to all Intergroups.

Some groups experiencing the same problems that troubled Al-Anon; many calls for help in solving these.

Planning Alateen Workshop and speakers at the AA International Convention in Long Beach in 1960. The Denver Alateen groups will send four Delegates.

60. Next Alateen literature project brought up before Board meeting.

Alateen Workshop at Long Beach advertised in local papers as part of Al-Anon program.

Work proceeding on new Alateen booklet, made up largely of material provided by Alateens especially Fifth Avenue Group. A member of this group helped edit the manuscript.

Mary S. made a full transcript of proceeding at Alateen Workshop at AA Convention, to be published with Convention Reports and made available on Al-Anon Literature list.

A questionnaire was sent to all groups concerning new Alateen literature; result: 50 requests and suggestions from Alateen groups.

Problems of Alateen groups submitted to WSO were discussed at Board of Directors meeting.

Article on Alateen in "Listen: a Journal of Better Living" included photographs taken at Al-Anon office and Fifth Ave. Group.

"Nursing Outlook" was sent material for an excellent article on Alateen.

The Board of Directors voted unanimously to send a free copy of "Operation Alateen" to each new group.

61. Alateen material was provided for an article to appear in LIFE Magazine, to be illustrated with sketches so they would not identify the persons at the group the writer visited for supplementary material.

At the request of Yvelin Gardner, of the National Council on Alcoholism, we suggested an Alateen speaker to participate in a special program on alcoholism in Washington, D.C. Subject of program: "The World of the Alcoholic". Topic on which member spoke: "How the Offspring Looks at the Alcoholic." 150-200 people heard the Alateen speaker.

In a teaching program at University of Washington Medical School, students visited Al-Anon and Alateen meetings.

WSO provided material for articles in THE Magazine, American Weekly, Children's Family Digest, Guideposts and many newspapers. Reprinted and distributed 10,000 copies of the Guidepost article, "My Mother is an Alcoholic."

In March, material was provided for articles in SEVENTEEN, The New York Herald Tribune and by a freelance writer in North Dakota.

The LIFE Magazine story brought over 500 inquiries within three weeks and each letter was answered with information about contacts and program. The letters came from students, clergymen, teachers and many other professionals. The Worcester Council on Alcoholism asked for permission to reprint it.

A Waterbury, Conn. writer asked for information about Alateen for an article. It was provided, but photos and permission to photograph were refused and reasons therefore explained.

Reported to the Board of Directors at July meeting: Material on Alateen sent to Newark News; to The Messenger published by the Chicago Alcoholism Treatment Center ("Invitation from Tuesday Teens, an Alateen Group"); in "Listen: Journal of Better Living"; ("Youth in Need of Help"); in "Inventory" published by the North Carolina Rehabilitation Program, ("Our Parents Drink Too Much"). Material was also sent to a columnist on the New York Daily News. Seven new Alateen groups registered during June.

The Literature Committee recommended sending copies of "My Mother is an Alcoholic" and "It's A Teen-Aged Affair" to all inquirers. Suggestion passed.

Material was provided for an article in "One" a publication for Lutheran youth, and for articles in American Weekly, The New York Times and the Elmira Star-Gazette.

Alateen stories appeared in "Teen Etiquette"; in Dear Abby's syndicated column, and in a publication for psychiatric professionals, written by Dr. Frederic Wertham. The Dear Abby item brought 350 letters from young people and concerned parents, 58 from clergymen, doctors and welfare agencies. A personal reply was sent to each, along with free literature, and information as to nearby groups.

The Alateen Committee reported 154 registered groups and 34 proposed.

An Alateen group in Arlington, Virginia visited one in Pennsylvania to explore the possibility of holding an Alateen Convention.

Al-Anon members offered their homes for visiting Alateen members.

A list of all groups on the Eastern seaboard was requested and sent.

This was the beginning of ESAC.

The tremendous volume of correspondence often requires additional staff help, a most encouraging sign, since the growth of Alateen continually increases the number of well-grounded and dedicated members who pass from Alateen into Al-Anon, and often serve as Alateen sponsors, as well as being instrumental in forming new groups.

(Further synopses of reports from Board of Directors, Policy Committee and Board of Trustees sessions will appear later. When the series has been completed, reprints will be made available)

Literature Coordinator's Report

Let's start with the bad news first. The new Service Manual for 2018 - 2021 has been delayed. We had hoped it would be available for our January 2018 Assembly, but we've just been informed that it won't be ready until the World Service Conference (WSC) in April. Therefore, it probably won't be available until our May Assembly. We should have tons of copies available then. Presumably the prices will remain the same. Hopefully the Groups at Work publication (the first 75 or so pages of the Service Manual) will also be available at the same time.

At our September 2017 Assembly, the Literature Room sold approximately \$2300 in Conference Approved Literature (CAL). That's in addition to the pre-ordered literature that was picked up and paid for at Assembly. Thank you.

Looking ahead to the January 2018 Assembly, GACS is asking DRs to reach out to their groups reminding them to submit group literature pre-orders for pickup/payment at Assembly at least by Friday of the week prior to Assembly. That insures the likelihood that orders can be filled completely and helps the Literature Room have enough stock on hand at Assembly to cover casual purchases.

If you are presenting a workshop at Assembly and anticipate that it will generate interest in particular pieces of literature, please send me an email at philand123@comcast.net so I can try to have enough on hand at Assembly.

I'd like to remind you that all the Al-Anon Guidelines are available for free download on the WSO website. In addition, there are a number of Supplementary publications available for free download. Included among these are "Are You Troubled by Someone's Drinking?" (S-17), "Has Your Life Been Affected by Someone Else's Drinking?" (S-20), "Did You Grow Up With A Problem Drinker?" (S-25), "Detachment" (S-19). Also the old outreach road-map bookmark can be downloaded in a number of formats and be used as an outreach flyer.



WSO is running a \$5.99 special sale through the end of December on several books. "Discovering Choices" (B-30) regularly \$15, "Many Voices, One Journey" (B-31) regularly \$16, and "The Al-Anon Groups Classic Edition" (B-5) regularly \$12 are all available at this special \$5.99 price. Groups and individuals can order directly from WSO. Ordering information is available on the WSO website under Literature.

Literature Coordinator (continued)

Still nearly brand new is the "Paths to Recovery Workbook" (P-93) for only \$10. It's a great companion to working through the "Paths to Recovery" book (B-24, \$19). Buy the two together for \$25, saving \$4.

Please come visit me in the Literature Room at Assembly and encourage all your group reps and other attendees to do likewise. There'll be music, lights, new and old Al-Anon friends. Plus I get to trot out my "Buy some Al-Anon literature" song and dance on more people.

Philip Anderson
Literature Chair, Panel 56

Newsletter Coordinator's Report

The past few months have been challenging for me and my family. My daughter, who lives with me, attempted suicide in September as a result of several poor life choices she had made due to struggles with addiction. Once again, I found myself getting back to basics with my Al-Anon program. For me, "the basics" means focusing on self-care while staying planted in the present. My natural tendency is to deny problems and neglect myself in order to avoid conflict. I always imagine this will reduce my stress, but of course it backfires. I wind up resentful, "boundaryless," and raging like a lunatic. Fortunately, today I have a program, Al-Anon.

My self-care has included adding a new meeting to my weekly routine and I have appreciated so much the wisdom I am hearing at the new step study meeting in Hickory Flat in District 17 (shameless plug!). I have also found much solace and support at my regular home group, Serenity at Seven in Woodstock. This group knows me well, since it is where I began my Al-Anon recovery. My sponsor has listened to my frustrations, both with my daughter and with myself over how to cope with stress. My Al-Anon literature has been comforting and reminded me to keep it simple. My Al-Anon friends have lifted me up with cheery and loving texts, fellowship, and prayers. My extended Al-Anon service family has reassured me with hugs and caring words.

I write all of this to say that I am grateful for Al-Anon and its reminders to take care of myself when things get out of control. The words I hear each week at meetings remind me to focus on one day at a time. They help me keep the focus on me and not my daughter. Most of all they prompt me to practice acceptance and the principle "Let it begin with me." Never think that your presence at an Al-Anon meeting is not needed or important. We need each other's experience, strength, and hope as we travel life's journeys. We need each other's service to keep our program alive and present for anyone who reaches out his or her hand for help. The path we travel is often full of difficulties, but because of Al-Anon, we have tools and

Newsletter Coordinator (continued)

companions along the way.

So, as I prepare to put together this November edition of Georgia On Track, I am filled with gratitude for the Al-Anon program that has been there so many times and in so many ways to help me face life's challenges and stressors. I hope you will find the news, celebrations, and service ideas in this edition inspirational.

In gratitude,
Anne M., Newsletter Coordinator

Public Outreach Coordinator's Report

I'm kind of in shock as I look back over my calendar since the last Georgia On-Track in July to write this article the last one started with "Happy Summer" and this one feels like "Happy New Year" already. So grateful for all I've learned this year, the wonderful people I've come to know and love in and out of our program, and the amazing opportunity my HP has given me to grow. There's still plenty of time left in 2017, though, to bring Al-Anon and Alateen's message of hope and healing to those who may need it!

First off – 2017 is Alateen's 60th birthday. Please make sure you announce Alateen at your meetings, use Alateen tent cards, support meetings in your area even if not at the same time/location as your Al-Anon meeting, ask an AMIAS to help with an Alateen speaker at your events, like and share Alateen posts on Instagram, etc. Please make Al-Anon a welcoming place for Alateens if you don't have a local meeting. Please help make teens aware of the Chat meetings available on the Al-Anon website.

Thank you for all who participated in the PO workshop at the September Assembly. I received a lot of positive and encouraging feedback and I hope the info has been helpful in expanding thinking on Outreach activities and possibilities in every District.

NEWSFLASH!! We now have Public Outreach documents on the Georgia website. Thank you, Webmaster Mike L. for your work to make posters and a meeting pamphlet easily available. Check it out in the Member section under Documents. Let me know of other helpful items you would like to see.

Thank you to District 3 for their love, hospitality, and hard work at the Georgia School of Addiction in September. Hundreds of professionals were reached and I was inspired by their dedication to this large event. Bravo!

Public Outreach Coordinator (continued)

Many groups and districts had opportunities to bring info to events held throughout the state in conjunction with National Recovery Month in September. I am hoping to read about some of these efforts in their updates.

The last large counselor training event of the year was at Lake Lanier Islands at the Georgia Addiction Counselor Assn. training in October. After attending four of these type of events this year, our table is being recognized and even sought out for information. At this event, we were invited by Willingway to provide a speaker at their annual reunion in April, 2018, where hundreds of their alumni and loved ones participate in a 3-day event. I'm sure it will be a wonderful success and, hopefully, an annual request.

Two last reminders --- Last opportunity to order Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2018 is no later than 5pm Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018. Make sure your groups/Districts are well stocked for all your 2018 Public Outreach efforts!.....AND, be on the lookout for announcements and reminders about the 2018 Al-Anon Membership Survey conducted Jan. 10- Feb. 27. Whether you are a new or seasoned member, every member has the opportunity to perform Twelfth-Step work by participating in this anonymous survey. I'm providing a flyer to share with your group.

With Love & Gratitude, Debi S.
Public Outreach Coordinator – Area 11

Webmaster's Report

Website Activity:

- Recent fliers for submitted for inclusion in the website have been posted as well and the international convention.
- A new tab has been added and contains Public Outreach information
- A new tab has been added that supplies WSO Memo's on questions asked by members
- The issue on the contacts page has been resolved.
- We have started posting new meeting announcements on our events page. We are trying to determine how this could be made prominent on the website opening page.
- We purchased software to support accepting assembly and other registration and payment through the website during the previous panel but there were issues that delayed implementation. We will attempt to get this implemented as soon as possible.

Please send PDF fliers for events via our Area 11 website, <http://www.ga-al-anon.org/contacts>. I will ask you confirm the posting is correct after it is posted. If there is a problem with that, send it to mikeleibo@gmail.com

Webmaster (continued)

The technology work group has not had a recent meeting due to some personal issues of mine. Topics to be resolved include:

- 1) Maintain and provide access to AWSC minutes, as well as Thought Force and Task Force documents with restricted access to AWSC members
- 2) Provide a method for the area's Delegate to blog and provide information to members.
- 3) We need the assistance of an attorney to determine if there is any liability to us if MAIS telephone service volunteers offer information about meetings with children. I am looking for suggestions on how to accomplish this.
- 4) Pending Item: Area 11 telephone hot-line service – We decided that this may be resolved through the GACS restructuring Task Force.

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

In Service,
Mike L.

Convention Chairs and Liaisons Reports

2018 Convention Chairperson's Report

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*The 2018 Georgia Al-Anon Alateen Convention
Will be held
August 10-12, 2018
In Callaway Gardens
Registration information will be available soon.*

2018 AA Prepaid Liaison's Report

The Athens, GA 2018 AA Prepaid Convention Theme is "AA- A Solution for All Generations." All of the speakers have been chosen, including Lori G. of Oklahoma City, OK as our Al-Anon speaker. She is the wife of Cliff G who will also share his AA story at the convention. So this should be a wonderful opportunity to hear both sides of the story for Family Recovery. Lori has also agreed to lead an Al-Anon related workshop for us at the 2018 Pre-Paid Convention, topic to be announced. Lori will share her story on Saturday morning, October 27, 2018. We also plan to have a literature table. Registration for the Convention is open.

MAIS Liaison's Report

MAIS will be celebrating its annual Anniversary this year on December 2, 2017 at St. Martin's in the Field. Please see the attached flyer in this newsletter for more information.

NEWSFLASH!
**MAIS now has one (and only one!)
Phone number for all business.**
Please use:
404-687-0467
For all MAIS business, including the hotline and meeting info.

MAIS continues to need volunteers for several service positions. Please consider how you can help serve Al-Anon in the Greater Atlanta Area.



District Reports

District One

In addition to our on-going every three month panel discussion for family members at a local Treatment facility, we have been asked to sit in at Domestic Violence Court to be available for family members of offenders. We have made up packets of general information for them, along with a meeting list. We also give each one the magazine "Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism". Another thing we have on-going is keeping the jail literature rack supplied with Al-Anon literature. Our Wednesday Morning AFG, Dalton is funding the literature for the Domestic Violence Court.

District Two

We are cooling down and licking our wounds after a big UGA football lose this weekend. Over the past few months, we have been working on our Public Outreach plan. Many groups are initiating their own plans. Most recently there is a plan to put *How Al-Anon Works* in our Free Libraries around town. In September, we participated in a community Recovery Fest where we implemented the *Ask me about Al-Anon* buttons. They helped, and we plan to use them in the future at other events. We also have been working on the 2018 AA Pre-Paid Convention, we have selected speaker and will be working on the logistics of our workshop. A few of our members were able to attend the 2017 AA Pre-Paid Convention and gleaned some good ideas.

We are finding that more and more members are involving themselves in service in our District.

Each year, we hold a collaborative AA and Al-Anon New Years Eve Party and we are currently looking for our Al-Anon speaker, if you would like to be that person, please let me know!

In love and service,
Susie W, DR District 2

District Three

In August, the Georgia School of Addiction met in Savannah. This is a meeting of professionals from all over the state of Georgia who deal with addiction issues. We set up an information table with Al-Anon and Alateen literature and information of how to get to an Al-Anon or Alateen meeting. We met professionals from all over the state and were able to provide them with excellent information about our programs. The School took place over the course of the last full week of August, so it was a prime opportunity to get the word out to professionals.

In September we set up an Al-Anon and Alateen information table at the Wilmington Island Farmer's Market. We were able to talk to people who passed by while shopping at the Farmer's Market. We handed out "Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism" pamphlets and were able to pass the word on to many people.

District Three (continued)

In October, the New Beginnings AFG in Rincon held an outreach meeting. This was an open meeting where they invited counselors and other professionals from the area to come by and hear about what Al-Anon and Alateen are all about. They had speakers telling their stories, along with light refreshments. It was well-attended and they are planning to hold another such meeting soon.

District Nine

“We hope you will find in this fellowship the help and friendship we have been privileged to enjoy.”

I attended the District 9 workshop last Saturday. (November 18th) where over 100 members attended three forums. Each was a particularly unique learning experience where Recovery, Fellowship and Spirituality prevailed.

"Sponsorship- Grateful to Have One" discussed the value of having a Sponsor and the Sponsorship program. "Keeping the Focus on Me" opened up a discussion on what remains an important principle. The Family Disease of Alcoholism brought to the forefront how AA and Al-Anon couples handle their autonomous programs of recovery together.

I would like to thank all those who made the workshop possible. I could name you all individually, but I know who you are and in the spirit of our Traditions you shall remain anonymous. On behalf of District 9, we are grateful for your service to the district and to Al-Anon. You have demonstrated that "Participation is the Key to Harmony."

In service,

Keith F

District 9 Representative



District Ten

District 10 is alive and flourishing! Thanks to everyone at Assembly in May we now have Covington in our district and we have a new group meeting in Covington as well! Our new group, "Finding Hope", officially began on September 12 and meets every Tuesday evening from 8 - 9 p.m. It is going very well with an average of 10 people each week. It meets at an AA clubhouse at the same time as an AA meeting, so we have had some new people come to see what Al-Anon is all about while their loved one's are in an AA meeting in the next room. Please come by and visit us! We are also in the process of getting another new group started in Decatur on Wednesday evenings. More details coming soon on that one!

District 10 also had their first district-wide event in many, many years and it was a huge success! Our district came together and it paid off quite well. We had three workshops which were all awesome and we had three speakers as well. One from Alateen, one from AA and one from Al-Anon. They all did a marvelous job. We had approximately 45 in attendance, but most importantly we saw what we can accomplish when we all work together in our marvelous fellowship. Part of our focus was trying to bring all three parts of our fellowship together as a family and everyone there was very happy about that.

Kathryn M., from our district, stood up to be the Chairman for our 2018 convention and is really working hard at putting this all together for us. I know she will definitely love and appreciate any help that anyone is willing/able to give. Sounds like a great service opportunity!

Donna McGinnis
District 10 Rep

District Thirteen

District 13 had its September meeting by conference call because of dangerous travel conditions following a storm. That experience engendered an interest in possibly using this method for some of our monthly meetings each year. It was also hoped that more GRs deterred by having to get out in the infamous Atlanta traffic would participate if we met by phone. We have had less than fifty percent participation recently. So we tried a dial-in meeting, and participation was not significantly improved. Moreover, several folks said they just liked the chance to be with each other each month. We'll see if our GRs want to give phone meetings another chance; but it was lovely to hear that folks wanted to be with each other enough that they wouldn't let Atlanta traffic keep them home.

The district is continuing to pursue outreach, and we are grateful for the inspirational ideas of Debi S. and her committee. The district is fortunate to be in good financial shape, and able to afford as much outreach literature as we can use. And we are always looking for ways to improve and strengthen our outreach efforts. It is heartbreaking that so many of our neighbors are suffering from the effects of

District Thirteen (continued)

addiction all alone, simply because they don't know Al-Anon is here.

For some time, District 13 has worked and sought in vain for an Alateen program within the district. We are grateful to be able to announce that there now is one Alateen meeting in the District, and the possibility of a second if some concerns of the potential host facility can be satisfactorily addressed.

Finally, we are continuing our practice of financially helping up to two GRs 'make it to Macon' who would otherwise be unable to attend Assembly. Again, we are thankful that the generosity of District 13 groups makes possible these 'scholarships', and as well funds the important literature component of our outreach efforts.

District Sixteen

District 16 has a workshop coming up December 2, 2017 in Newnan. A flyer for this event can be found in this newsletter.

District Seventeen

District 17 would like to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas! May you be full of gratitude and keep your serenity! We look forward to seeing you at January's Assembly.

Blessings,
Diane K.
District 17

District Eighteen

District 18 has kept busy with family meetings every 3 weeks at Blue Ridge Mtn. Recovery Center. We speak to 25-50 family members who have a loved one in treatment and have seen several of them show up at our local meetings. Our new Beginners' Meeting in Cumming is thriving with a steady stream of newcomers and many long timers participating.

We traveled to Savannah to support District 3 with outreach at the Georgia School of Addiction for 3 days -- made new friends (thank you for your hospitality District 3) and brought Al-Anon and Alateen info to hundreds of professionals. We brought our outreach table to two large events in Forsyth County - The Suicide Awareness forum and the Drug Awareness Council. We had wonderful participation by members from multiple local groups at both events. We also had participation at the newly created Hall County Drug Awareness Council meeting. October brought more outreach at the TIPS (Teen Interception Program) graduation and 2 days at the Georgia Addiction Counselors fall training at Lake Lanier. We recently participated

District Eighteen (continued)

in our second "Coffee with Counselors" meeting at the high school nearest our local Alateen meeting. We're thinking December may quiet down for us.

District 18 met in the month of October to begin planning their annual Mountain Miracles event held the first Sunday in May in Sautee, Ga. (right outside of Helen, Ga.) This has always been a very popular event attended by some members from as far away as middle Georgia, North and South Carolina! The event will include 2 workshops, a special speaker, a basket raffle along with a wonderful breakfast and lunch. Mark your calendars now for May 5. More info to come after the New Year.

District 18 has been contacted about a brand new treatment center in the beautiful mountains outside of Dahlonega, Ga. They would like our (Al-Anon's) help with their weekly Family Member meetings. It was exciting to be asked. A couple of our girls will be meeting with them the first of December.

Blessings!

Illa M, District 18 DR

District Nineteen

District 19 is having their Al-Anon Day Workshop on Saturday, March 3, 2018 at Harmony Grove United Methodist Church.

Thanks!

Robyn P

District 19 DR

District Twenty

District 20 is doing well at this time. We look forward to helping with hospitality at the January Assembly and meeting all you awesome friends!

Our groups continued to maintain during the early months of fall. We have had numerous newcomers at various meetings around the district. The district came together in early October to man an Al-Anon Public Outreach booth at the Honey Bee Festival, a large festival in Hahira Georgia located near Valdosta. The reports I heard stated that they felt seeds were planted as people glanced at the booth as they passed and picked up some literature. There was not a lot of stopping and visiting that was reported. The district will again man a Al-Anon PO booth at the Whigham Rattlesnake Round-Up at the end of January 2018. This festival will be a smaller event and it is hoped that a little more interaction will take place. Groups have had recent Al-Anon speaker meetings in the district thanks to the local AA groups who welcome Al-Anon speakers when there is a 5th speaker meeting night in a month.

Love in Service, Alecia C. DR District 20

District Twenty-One

District 21 is in the planning process for our annual anniversary celebration scheduled for January 29, 2018 with theme of *New Year - New You*. Watch the website for more information.

Our meetings and members are continuing to share the message of Al-Anon and Alateen. We have seen an increase in participation at our District sponsored weekly new comers meeting. The groups in our district rotate the responsibility for chairing this meeting which is open to potential members as well as members just needing a refresher.

Best wishes for Happy and Safe Holidays to all from District 21.

Respectfully,
Lucille S.
District 21 DR

Service Corner

From Past Delegate, Vicki L

Do we create unnecessary obstacles for visitors or new members?

I've been out of town lately and attending meetings with which I'm unfamiliar. Recently, my GPS foiled my plans to get to one early and I wasn't able to use my well-honed technique of zoning in on the entrance where people were congregating. The building and room # weren't on the website so I wandered through the parking lot past a couple of groupings of cars and at the far end found more cars as well as a door propped open to a causeway. Lucky for me I wasn't a newcomer and discovered the right combination of clues. When I asked whether or not they had thought of putting out a sign, a member thought they had one stored somewhere but they had so few visitors they had stopped using it. There might be a reason they have so few visitors....

I've visited a meeting where I drove around to the back of the building, found a sign that directed people to A.A. and Al-Anon meetings near that entrance and waited with 2 other cars for the door to be unlocked. When I saw cars parking in another section of the lot and entering a different door, I ventured off in that direction. Turns out that sign wasn't current and a member went out to rescue the newcomers who were still patiently waiting.

On the MAIS phone line over the years I and other volunteers have fielded numerous calls from newcomers trying to find their way to a meeting room. Sometimes they call for help from outside the building and if we have been to the meeting we can direct them. Sometimes they are calling the next day so we reach out to the GR or contact person if needed. *I want to encourage you to look at your meeting location from the perspective of a newcomer.* Be generous with directions on the

From Past Delegate (continued)

web site and consider how signage might smooth the way for newcomers and visitors to find recovery in *your* meeting room.

Love in Service,
Vicki L
Panel 50 Delegate

Message from Claire R., WSO Associate Director-Professionals

A member called the WSO to share about the *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (AFA)* magazine. "It is so well written and right on the mark. This magazine tells what Al-Anon is really about. I need about ten to 15 copies to give to my nieces and their family members."

This call was a great reminder of why the content of *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* magazine is a success. It is because the members write the stories that are geared toward individuals who have not yet attended Al-Anon. Members recall how they felt and as a result, their sharings ease fears, explain why recovery from someone's drinking is important, and how Al-Anon is helping them.



The WSO is now ready to begin working on *AFA 2019*. Please help us by encouraging members to share their stories to the WSO. Attached is the *AFA Writing Guideline*, which suggests topics for members to address that are helpful to someone who has not yet found help and hope in Al-Anon.

Also, reminder -- Deadline for order ***Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2018*** is Wednesday, 5 p.m. February 7, 2018. Orders will be shipped by April 1, 2018.

District 14 AFG's Annual Holiday Party

December 2, 2017

6:30 Dinner

7:30 Speaker

Message of Hope
Piedmont Henry Medical Center
1133 Eagles Landing Pkwy
Stockbridge, GA 30281
(map/directions on back)



Bring Hors d'oeuvres

We will be raffling off Gift Baskets
1 ticket for \$1.00
6 tickets for \$5.00



District 16

**December Workshop & Business Meeting
Covered Dish Lunch & Raffle**

Using the Al-Anon Principles in All
Our Relationships

Speaker: Rachel F.
From Peachtree City AFG

When: Saturday, December 2, 2017

Where: St Paul's Episcopal Church

576 Roscoe Road

Newnan, GA 30263

Bring an inspirational item for the raffle and a covered dish to share.

Water and coffee will be provided.

Registration begins at 9:30 am

Business meeting will begin after lunch

Hosted by Peachtree City Al-Anon Family Group



49th M.A.I.S.
Metro Atlanta Al-Anon/Alateen Information Service
ANNIVERSARY DINNER
Saturday, December 2, 2017



i have to
i get to
i want to
i love to

LOCATION

St. Martin in the Fields
Episcopal Church
3110 Ashford Dunwoody Rd
Atlanta, GA 30319



6:00PM POTLUCK

Registration opens at 6:00pm. Please bring a dish to share



6:30PM RAFFLE

We are seeking raffle subscriptions and literature from groups, as well as program related items donated by individuals



7:30PM SPEAKERS

Alateen speaker followed by Moni S. from Atlanta

Information Contact: Anniversary@alanonatl.com



Pine Isle Fellowship

Family Recovery Weekend

**February 23-25
2018**

District 9 Presents:

The 40th Annual Al-Anon Pine Isle Fellowship Conference with AA and Alateen Participation

THEME: 'The Beginning of Love' from Courage to Change, August 31

Location:

Legacy Lodge and Conference Center

Featuring rooms with fantastic views over-looking Lake Lanier

Scheduled Speakers to date: Palmer G - Al-Anon, Miami, FL,
David B - Al-Anon, Atlanta, GA, Mike and Sarah D - AA and Al-Anon, Duluth, GA,
John S - AA, Stone Mtn, GA, Emile Joe, Atlanta, GA

Register now online at <http://www.pineislefellowship.org>

Early-bird rate \$25 until December 1

Registration \$30 from December 1 thru February 20

Registration \$35 starting February 20

Only \$1.00 for Alateen

Saturday Fellowship Dinner \$30



GIFTS OF THE PROGRAM

Al-Anon Speaker: **TBA**

Alateen Speaker: **TBA**

Saturday, March 3, 2018

9 – 9:30 am: Registration, Fellowship, and Food

9:30 am – 2 pm: Workshops, Speakers, Lunch, Raffle

Harmony Grove United Methodist Church
50 Harmony Grove Road, Lilburn, Georgia

Please donate items for raffle and silent auction: baskets, handmade and new items
(no religious items please)

Bring a covered dish to share for lunch

Seventh Tradition donations to District 19 to support this event are most appreciated!

e-mail: district19ws@gmail.com

19th Annual Georgia ALATEEN CONFERENCE

May 31-June 3, 2018

ALATEEN COURAGE To Be ME



Rock Eagle 4-H Center, 350 Rock Eagle Rd., Eatonton, GA 31024

Conference Fee: \$75 (early registration). After May 21, 2018: \$90
Includes lodging, meals, and all activities.

Important: All adults attending the Conference must be certified Al-Anon Members in Alateen Service and provide a WSO AMIAS ID number.

Georgia Alateen Permission/Medical Form will be required for ALL persons aged 19 and under. Forms are available online at www.ga-al-anon.org/alateen/alateen-forms/

For more information email alateen_conf_chair@ga-al-anon.org

(Further details, what to bring, etc., will be posted on the Area event web page prior to the Conference)

Complete, detach, and mail this portion with conference fee to:

Alateen Conference, 105 Wales Court, Savannah, GA 31410

Make checks payable to: **GA Alateen Conference** (include the name of the attendee on the memo line)

Name: _____ Badge Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: () _____ Email: _____

Alateen Male Alateen Group: _____

AMIAS Female Alateen age as of 6/4/2018: _____ AMIAS ID#: _____

I'll be arriving on (check one) Thursday Friday

Check-in Time: 3PM - 6PM.

Day of Connecting
July 5, 2018
Al-Anon's
International Convention
Baltimore, Maryland

Day of Connecting



PRESENTATIONS

- Al-Anon's International Reach—Our Worldwide Fellowship
- Telephone Book or the Internet—What's Your Digital Age? Al-Anon on Social Media
- Know Your WSO—Service IS Its Middle Name!
- Al-Anon's Financial Stewardship—Gratitude in Action

DISCUSSION MEETINGS

- Dusty Bookshelves Full of CAL – Going Beyond the Daily Readers
- Tag—You're It! NOW WHAT?—Becoming the Leaders Others Know You Can Be
- Attitudes—Are Mine Worth Catching? The Twelve Traditions
- The Three T's of Public Outreach—Tips, Tools and Techniques—Successful Public Outreach

PANELS

- Are They Still the Best Kept Secret in Al-Anon? Living the Twelve Concepts of Service
- Young Members Wanted: Alateen Opportunities
- Big "P" or Little "p" — Big "T" or Little "t"
- "FaceTime" it's not what it used to be!—The Changing "Face" of Meetings

LEADERSHIP TALKS

Learn more about how Al-Anon works. Listen to Al-Anon members in leadership roles share their service experiences. Hear about service involvement, time commitments, and how serving has affected their personal lives.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

Seize this opportunity to collaborate with someone from another Area in an informal setting. Grab a chair and enjoy sharing your experience, strength and hope.

If you are coming to the International Convention, why not come early and spend the day before the Convention, learning, sharing and deepening your understanding and commitment to our third legacy: Service.

Hosted by the Board of Trustees and members of the WSO staff.

There is a participation limit; registration is required.

There is a separate registration fee of \$40.00 U.S. if received by May 31, 2018 and \$45.00 U.S. if received June 1 through the event.

All sessions at the "Day of Connecting" will be conducted in English only.

**For more information:
al-anon.org/day-of-connecting/**

al-anon.org/al-anon-international-conventions/

Wanted: Service volunteers seeking a bumper crop of serenity!

An Area convention is an occasion for Al-Anon and Alateen members to gather for fun and fellowship, to celebrate their beginnings, enhance their understanding of the program, and to find ways to attract new members



The 2018 Al-Anon/Alateen GA Area Convention is currently seeking Al-Anon members who are willing to serve as convention area committee members/chairs for the 2018 Al-Anon/Alateen Convention at Callaway Gardens, August 10-12, 2018.

This is a great opportunity to learn about Al-Anon beyond your group or district and experience leadership as a trusted servant—not to mention have a lot of fun!



If you are interested in an opportunity to grow in service, please contact 2018 GA-AFG Convention Chair, Kathy M.: afgofga2018convention@gmail.com



65th Georgia Prepaid Convention



October 26th-28th 2018

The Classic Center: 300 N Thomas Street Athens, GA 30601

Hosted By District 16B

Host Hotels:

Hilton Garden Inn:

390 E. Washington St. Athens, GA 30606 | 706-353-6800

Holiday Inn Athens:

197 E. Broad St. Athens, GA 30606 | 706-549-4433

Holiday Inn Express:

513 W. Broad St. Athens, GA 30606 | 706-546-8122

*Request the Georgia State Prepaid Convention room rate when



AA Speakers:

- Clif G. - Oklahoma City, OK
- Korbyn B. - Springfield, MO
- Tammy Z. - Humble, TX
- Kristina W. - San Anselmo, CA
- Bill S. - Roswell, GA

Al-Anon Speaker:

- Lori G. - Oklahoma City, OK

"A.A. - A Solution for All Generations"

65th Georgia Prepaid Convention: October 26th-28th 2018

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Name for Nametag: _____ City, St, Zip: _____

Home Group: _____ Sobriety Date: _____

Please check affiliation: AA ___ Al-Anon ___ Alateen ___

Check if you are interested in the following events: (more information will be provided to you)

Golf ___ Poker Run ___ Fun Run ___ Yoga ___ Open Mic ___ UGA/FL Game Viewing ___

Please let us know of any special needs:

Wheelchair ___ Sight ___ Hearing ___ Other: _____

Mail Completed Form to:

65th Prepaid Convention, District 16B, P.O. Box 7082, Athens, GA 30604

Out-of-State registration fee: AA & Al-Anon, \$25; Alateen, \$10

Cash or checks only. Make checks payable to 65th GA Prepaid Convention.

For additional information, e-mail us at 65thPrepaid@aageorgia.org

Register Online at: <http://www.aageorgia.org/georgia-prepaid-convention.html>

2018 Al-Anon Membership Survey

**Open for Participation
January 10 - February 27**

Whether you are a new or seasoned member, or anywhere in-between, every member has the opportunity to perform Twelfth-Step work by participating in this anonymous survey.

The WSO's Conference Approved Membership Survey is conducted only once every three years. The data helps professionals learn more about the Al-Anon Family Groups' membership, in turn, leading to more referrals to our program.



Please share this flyer with your group, allowing members to tear off a slip below for information on how to access the survey!

2018 Al-Anon Membership Survey, open January 10 to February 27

Visit – dl-anon.org/18membersurvey

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AI-Anon Faces Alcoholism

Writing Guideline



The goals of
AI-Anon Faces Alcoholism are:

- to help potential AI-Anon members get past the obstacles we typically face before we reach out for help, i.e., denial; not wanting to rock the boat; shame and embarrassment to let people know there is a drinking problem; the "myth" that AI-Anon Family Groups is religious; resentment that "they" have a problem, not me, etc.
- to let potential members know that we understand
- to give comfort and offer a possible solution
- to give potential members basic information about AI-Anon and Alateen and let them know we'll be there if and when they want help

Without member sharings, *AI-Anon Faces Alcoholism*, our most comprehensive annual public outreach magazine, wouldn't be possible. Within the last year, AI-Anon members have distributed over 350,000 copies throughout the U.S., Canada, Bermuda, and Puerto Rico. Please help us continue to make this the most successful member participation outreach project in our history!

Remembering what it was like
to be a newcomer
may inspire you to write the words
that will resonate with a potential member.

Please consider writing a few words about any of the bulleted items (word count: 50 – 300). Other suggestions for topics: Remembering how difficult it was to go to your first meeting—what helped you take that first big step? Did you hear anything early on that made you want to come back?

You have something to say to a potential newcomer that will help them find their way to us and we want to hear it.

See back for important information

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism

Writing Guideline

Attach this to your sharing

Name*: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: _____

Zip/Postal code: _____ Country: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

E-mail: _____

*Regardless of how you want your name to appear in *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism*, please include your name and address so we can acknowledge your submission. Also, if your article is published, we will send you a complimentary copy of the issue in which your article appears.

____ Please use my first name, last initial, and state or province for credit

____ Please sign me "Anonymous"

Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.,
c/o *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism*
1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617;
by fax to (757) 563-1655; by e-mail to wso@al-anon.org;
Or submit on-line on the Members' Web site www.al-anon.org/members

THANK YOU for sharing your experience, strength, and hope.

****IMPORTANT — please read****

Sharings for *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* become property of Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. and may be used in whole or in part in the development of Al-Anon material—printed and/or electronic. Due to the number of stories we receive, we cannot guarantee publication of any sharing at any time.

I have read and understand that my sharing may be used in print as well as on the Internet. If used, it will be signed as I indicated above.

Please photocopy this sheet and share it with others.

**Al-Anon International
Convention**

July 6-8, 2018

**Baltimore, Maryland
Baltimore Convention
Center**

**For more Information:
<https://al-anon.org/al-anon-international-conventions/>**

Dates to Remember:

December 2, 2017	MAIS Anniversary Dinner District 16 Workshop District 14 Holiday Party
January 20-21, 2018	Area Assembly
February 23-25, 2018	Pine Isle Fellowship Conference Lake Lanier Islands
March 3, 2018	Al-Anon Day, District 19
April 21, 2018	AWSC, Macon, GA
May 5, 2018	Mountain Miracles, District 18
May 19-20, 2018	Area Assembly
May 31-June 3, 2018	Alateen Conference, Rock Eagle
July 5, 2018	Day of Connecting
July 6-8, 2018	Al-Anon's International Convention Baltimore, Maryland

Call the Marriott for Area Assembly reservations:
1-800-228-9290 or 1-478-621-5300

OR Call Candlewood Suites:
1-478-254-3530

