



March 2018

### **AREA OFFICER REPORTS**

#### Area Delegate's Report



#### In Al-Anon There Is No

#### **Standing Still**

Hello My Al-Anon Family of Choice,

Our theme in Georgia this year follows the World Service Conference Theme; *In AI-Anon there is no standing still.* This is true; the world in which we live is in constant motion. Today I realize I have choices regarding which direction I wish to go. I can either move forward towards a strong and vital physical, spiritual, and emotional life or I will slowly regress backwards to where I have already been or worse. Today I choose to move forward.

In order to progress forward it is important for me to take the time to invest in myself. I do this by beginning each day with a time of quiet solitude inviting my HP into my life asking for guidance and strength for this one day. This fills me with peace and serenity to help me face new adventures, challenges, and have fun.

I look to my fellowman and to the best of my ability treat them with kindness and understanding. I ask for help when I need it. I reach out to others and embrace what they have to offer. This is so different from the person I used to be. I used to be fearful of others, defensive, suspicious, and critical of them. I don't want to be like that ever again.

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## <u>Area Delegate (continued)</u>

that ever again. Therefor I attend meetings on a regular basis, have a sponsor and use her, pray and meditate daily, and read Al-Anon literature. I reach out to other members both newcomers and longtime members.

My life is rich and full of meaning and purpose, thanks to the Al-Anon way of life. I have truly been blessed beyond my wildest dreams. In Al-Anon I will not stand still. There is so much work to be done, so many individuals to reach out to and offer the hand of hope, understanding and love. When am of service to Al-Anon and I give of myself to others I am blessed far more than that which I give away. I keep coming back because I love what this program does for me and those whom I love and care about. The spiritual principles by which we learn to live, the service we freely give, and the fellow-ship we are privileged to enjoy, provide life's meaning and purpose for me. It is truly the language of the heart.

Renelle M. Delegate Panel 56 Georgia

#### Alternate Delegate's Report

Thank you to Districts 3 and 4 for volunteering to host registration and the Saturday afternoon discussion meeting at our upcoming May Assembly. Thank you also to Districts 10 and 21 for volunteering to host the hospitality room then. Our Saturday night speaker for May's Assembly will be Denise C. from District 16. We are also planning on starting the meeting early, at 7:30 pm, and will have some our Area Coordinators each share briefly on their experience as a coordinator to provide insights for anyone interested in a coordinator position for next panel. Area Coordinator position descriptions are located in our Area 11 Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly Information and Archive Booklet 2016-2018. Please ask your District Representative if you would like to receive an electronic copy of this booklet.

A Forum Sales report released in January from the WSO showed paid Forum subscriptions for Georgia were down from 560 total copies in Dec. 2016, to 464. That is about a 17% decrease in paid subscriptions. We are entering our third and final year of this panel, so for a new year, I have a new challenge for you. In reflecting on our theme for this year, "In Al-Anon: There Is No Standing Still", to me this is about participation. My challenge to everyone is to submit a sharing to The Forum using the updated Forum Writing Guideline (F-1) that can be found on the WSO members website under Featured Publications. Everyone that submits a share between now and May will be recognized at May's Assembly, and everyone that submits a share between May and September will be recognized at September's

#### Alternate Delegate (continued)

Assembly. Just bring a copy of the email from the WSO that they received your share in order to participate. Anyone that gets a share published will be read out loud at Saturday night's speaker meeting in addition to being placed on the 'Let's Forum' tri-panel display out in the registration hall. By participating, hopefully we can increase awareness about The Forum and increase our subscriptions.

It is time for our annual update of the Georgia Speakers List. Please send an email by April 1 st toalt-delegate@ga- al-anon.org with your full name, phone number, email address and city ofresidence, if you wish to be added to this list. AFG of GA, Inc. does not monitor this list for compliance to Al-Anon principles and traditions. This list is provided as a tool to help members find speakers for group or district functions.

Love in service, Barbara T.; Alternate Delegate

#### Area Chairperson's Report

Fellow Georgia Al-Anon Members,

Please send cards of encouragement to Renelle, our Area Delegate as she attends her last Conference for Panel 56. She has been faithful and committed to bring back to us the information from the World Service Office and she needs our support one more time.

You don't want to send the cards TOO early for they may get lost; however, you may want to allow 5 days for the mail to travel to New York. She will arrive on April 15th.

Send all cards to: Renelle Mathis (Hold for WSC 4/16-4/20, 2018) Renaissance Wstchester Hotel <u>80</u> W<u>. Red</u> O<u>ak Lane</u> <u>Wes</u>t <u>Harrison, NY</u> <u>10604</u>

Thanks to all of you who support GA Al-Anon by serving! Cathy O Area Chair Panel 56



#### **GACS Chairperson's Report**

Greetings from your GA Al-Anon Central Services (GACS) Committee. We continue to be grateful for how groups and members have "stepped-up" and supported your Area LDC. We hope to further stabilize how we offer our services by hiring a part-time employee by May 1<sup>st</sup>. The employee will be in the Office during a set day and time to manage the day-to-day operations. Having a set day and times will allow local members the opportunity to stop by to pick-up literature, volunteer or just visit! This is exciting progress and we are looking forward to even more progress during our last year in service.

We will keep you posted! Your in Grateful Service, Char Green Fareed GACS Committee Chairperson

#### Area Secretary's Report

Hello Georgia Al-Anon Family,

Today our weather is 78 degrees outdoors, plants are beginning to bud and it is the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February! I love spring and it looks like it might just be around the corner. I hope so!

As I sit and begin to think about what I will write for the 2018 March issue of Georgia on Track regarding my experience in Al-Anon service, I recall a really great quote that I think perfectly relates to this year's theme. This quote has stuck with me and it is basically what I thought about as I raised my hand to volunteer for the different positions I've held since becoming a member of Al-Anon.

#### The quote by Edward Everett Hale: *"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do."*

Isn't that how we Al-Anon's are!

There are things I cannot do, but there are many that I can do. What I know I am good at comes without a huge struggle most times. Before Al-Anon, I did not think I was good enough to be of service to anyone. It was each of you that made me realize that I am worthy and I am good enough and I can do just about anything that I put my mind to.



#### <u> Area Secretary (continued)</u>

I also understand that I am not cut out for every position that opens up, but now I recognize the things I can and will be good at. We can't do everything, but we can do something.

As I stood for the Area Secretary, I knew I could do it, although it made me nervous, as I was stepping out of my comfort zone, but I knew I had the ability to handle the position if elected.

I am very grateful that I found courage, with my HP's help and guidance and also with the tremendous support and encouragement from members of my group. I became willing to stand for each position I have held and those positions opened the door to so many opportunities, friendships and growth.

Each and every position has played a huge part in my recovery and has given me the greatest gifts that I could ever have hoped for or imagined. I will forever be on this journey toward being the best I can be, as I grow in this incredible program.

I owe it all to my HP and you, the Al-Anon members! And Yes, I must give back. In Al-Anon - There is no standing still!

With Love and Gratitude, Kathy White Area Secretary Panel 56

#### <u>Area Treasurer's Report</u>

Hello My Al-Anon Family,

I thought about our theme and what came to mind immediately was that if you want recovery in Al-Anon you can not be complacent. For me that means I must work my program daily, go to meetings, volunteer and have an open mind that no one way is right. Over the years Al-Anon has wiggled itself into my whole life, whether it be work or personal.

I find I am using my program more and more. I never thought of myself as particularly patient, but I do try if only so the people around me do not feel pressured in any way. I found myself saying to a co-worker, lets focus on a solution to this problem. I smile inside when things "leak" out from my program like that. To me, that means the message has moved from my head to my heart.



#### <u> Area Treasurer (continued)</u>

The other bonus is it really works on the "outside" world.

My days are less stress filled and I know that my higher power has my back. I like to think that things usually work out the way they are supposed to and for the most part I believe that is true. I look forward to seeing everyone in May.

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 #

Love in Service, Katherine N. Area Treasurer 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".

**Coordinator Reports** 

### Archivist's Report

Dear Georgia Al-Anon and Alateen Members,

Attached is the second installment of the 60 year history of the World Wide fellowship of Alateen. Unfortunately recent events continue to demonstrate how vulnerable our young people are. As members of Al-Anon it is our responsibility to encourage and support Alateens as they journey to recover from the effects of alcoholism and find their voice. Lest we forget, alcoholism remains a deadly *Family Disease*.

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



#### History of Alateen (continued)

(This is the second installment of the summary of the events in the life of that part of Al-Anon which is devoted to its younger members, the Alateens. From its beginning, in 1957, Alateen has been richly blessed with public interest; no opportunity for turning the spotlight on this important part of the fellowship was allowed to slip by. This, and the enthusiasm and dedication of the teenage members, accounts for its fabulous growth in numbers and in service.)

These notes are extracts from meetings of the Board of Directors and various committees, and reports in the World Service Conference.

1962. Results of a survey reported to the Board reveal that new members are acquired through schoolmates and school guidance counselors. Some groups use newspaper announcements. Alateens, and sometimes their sponsors, contact alcoholic clinics, juvenile and family courts; a great deal being done to reach those teenagers who need help. Alateens respond excellently to every opportunity to explain program.

Board members commented on a problem which (as of 1973!) is not yet solved: the difficulty in finding Al-Anons sufficiently interested and grateful to be willing to act as sponsors. ("The strongest, most progressive groups have dedicated, responsible sponsors.")

Alateens show strong desire to be self-supporting, show maturity and a desire to assume responsibility. Sponsors report that young people are amazingly good at absorbing the program and finding ways to pass it on.

Two new groups formed in correctional institutions, started by teenagers whose problems were related to alcoholism in the home.

Board announced that these findings would be made into a special report and sent to all Alateen groups. It will also be covered in The FORUM, and as a digest in the Delegates Brochure as a topic for discussion at the World Service Conference.

A report on Alateen group activities was made by Manda R., chairman of the Alateen Committee.

In the first three months of 1962 there were 60 proposed groups.

Suggestion was made to query Alateen groups as to whether they would want to send Group Representatives to their Area Assemblies. Also whether they should be represented at Intergroup meetings. As to the first, it was voted to leave the decision up to the Alateen groups; on the second question, the decision was to be made by the local Intergroups. It was noted that all Intergroups routinely include Alateen in their listings.

A questionnaire sent earlier to 160 Alateen groups brought responses from 54, along with ten letters with detailed information about meeting programs, sponsorship, attitudes, activities. Most sponsors very proud of the teens for their grasp and use of the program, "an inspiration to all," to quote one letter. Groups had from two to 25; the largest in Nemphis with 62 members. A number of original members remain until they move on into an Al-Anon group. Reasons for dropouts: marriage, working, going into military service.

Many of their parents disapproved of their going to Alateen; others were inspired, by the visible changes in attitude of their teenagers, into joining an Al-Anon group.

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Nore than 100 letters resulted from an Alateen article in SEVENTEEN Magazine, (Shadow on My Life) written by the daughter of an alcoholic.

The Board was again reminded of the importance of getting Al-Anon members to act as Alateen sponsors,

Wanda attended the Alateen meeting at the New Jersey AA Convention in South Orange. A speaker from the Newark Alateen group gave a brilliant talk and did a great job of answering questions.

of 16 proposed groups, seven registered; again, the great handicap was lack of willing sponsors.

An article in the New York Herald-Tribune (Parents Drink; Child Suffers) explained that Dr. Margaret Bailey, of the National Council on Alcoholism, is starting a 3-year study in this field.

Realizing the seriousness of the problem of the alcoholic home in which teenagers grow up, the Committee voted to plan a more comprehensive booklet-the next major effort (and expenditure:)

As of September 1962, 199 Alateen groups were functioning; 70 more proposed. Wanda reported a steady and growing flow of inquiries.

An Alateen Norkshop was held at the New Jersey Altogether at Stirling. All teenagers from N.J. and metropolitan New York groups were invited.

An article in the October LADIES HOME JOURNAL brought some 250 inquiries,

Wanda, chairman of Alateen Committee, arranged for a showing on WCBS TV to coincide with the publication of this article; also a showing on WJRZ for which she arranged to have the station manager attend an Alateen meeting. The Alateen author of the SEVEN-TEEN article referred to earlier was invited to speak at a Symposium of the American Psychotherapy and Psychodrama Ass'n.

A mention of Alateen in an Ann Landers column brought heavy response, as did a number of references in Mary Haworth's column.

203 Alateen groups registered; 54 more proposed. Registrations now averaging one-a-day!

1963. The Alateen program is becoming more international in scope. New groups have sprung up in India, Puerto Rico, Trinidad and England. In Australia and New Zealand, which have had a number of groups for some time, there has been a substantial increase during the year. Likewise the United States and Canada. Groups now registered are 262, a 25% increase over the preceding year. There has also been increasing interest among the clergy, teachers and professionals in the field of alcoholism.

Mentions of Alateen in Ann Landers column, concentrated efforts by the Delegates to the World Service Conference, frequent mention in the FCRUM end in local newspapers, all helped to make the dedicated work of the Alateens themselves bear fruit.

Two new booklets were published during the year: A Guide for Alateen Sponsors and For Teenagers with an Alcoholic Parent. They were enthusiastically received by the members of Alateen.

The AA Grapevine agreed to publish an updated revision of their article It's a Teenaged Affair in the near future.

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6.

At the World Service Conference in April, a number of Delegates asked to be allowed to sit in on the meeting of the Alateen Committee, indicating the growing interest in this part of our fellowship,

In the course of the year, there were many helpful suggestions particularly concerning the problem of sponsorship, so important to the vitality and success of Alateen.

Alateen groups participated in Conventions and Conferences, and other get-togethers, either as part of an AA and/or Al-Anon event, or on their own. They were represented in Oregon, Minnesota, New Jersey, Alabama, Texas and California.

The Eastern Seaboard Alateen Conference was held at Tufts University in Boston, Mass. Plans are already underway for next year's Conference to be held in the Rochester-Syracuse area. These events are planned, financed and attended entirely by Alateens and their sponsors.

Alateens of St. Paul, Minnesota have been asked to serve as court helpers at Juvenile Court, a tremendous recognition of the importance of Alateen.

In summarizing her report to the Board and the World Service Conference, Wanda said: "Because of the necessary fluctuations in teenage groups, we must make it an obligation to keep in close communication with them to preserve their continuity and purpose. Obviously the Alateen members of the fellowship cannot continue indefinitely with Alateen. As they grow out of Alateen and into Al-inon groups, we look to them to continue the good work they have begun, particularly as well-equipped sponsors of upcoming Alateen groups.

Those of us who have had the privilege of working closely with Alateen know how much our program can do to alter the direction of their young lives for the better. I am sure none of us would want to leave undone anything that will help them to well-adjusted adulthood."

Manda then suggested that a member familiar with Alateen-the program and its problemsbe added to the staff.

1964. During this year, Alateen continued to grow internationally as well as in the U.S. and Canada.

Numerous mentions of Alateen in newspaper columns, particularly those of Ann Landers, continued to increase the volume of correspondence with people wanting to know about Alateen.

In April, a new member was welcomed to the staff: Timmy U., who was given the responsibility for all Alateen work, including correspondence with members and groups, as well as concerned professionals. Timmy was also to be responsible for the Alateen newsletter, which started publication in July. A contest was held to select a name. The majority of Alateen groups voted for ALATEEN TALK.

Later in the year, Ritz C., a long-time member, was appointed Chairman of the Alateen Committee.

The 1964 World Service Conference initiated Delegate representation on the Alateen Committee. The first Delegates to serve were from the following Areas: Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Ontario, Canada.

Participation in regional Conferences and Conventions, both A. and Al-Anon, continued strong, as did the Alateen Conferences. The annual Eastern Scaboard Conference was held at Syracuse University. Before it closed, plans were made to hold the 1965 Conference in Haverford, Pa. At midyear, the Los Angeles area held a Round Robin which

was attended by over 100 teens and their families. Later a similar event took place at Burbank, Calif. These were but a few of the get-togethers held or shared by Alateens in various parts of the country.

A growing number of groups were being established in institutions. They were enthusiastically received by the authorities, who acknowledged the excellent work being done by Alateens.

Several new pieces of literature were added to the ..lateen material. ... is promised, the A. Grapevine published a revised version of It's a Toenaged Affair and this was reprinted as a leaflet. An article in YOUTH Magazine, Alcohol, Alibis and Alateen, was also reprinted and included in our Literature list.

1965. The report of the Alateen Committee to the World Service Conference started out with this key statement: "Lateen is becoming more and more an active

part in the .1-inon Family Group picture."

The Alateen groups contributed generously to the work of the World Service Office, clearly reflecting their gratitude for the work done by the fellowship's central office for them.

The Eastern Scaboard Alateon Conference, held at Haverford, Pa., was attended by members and sponsors from twenty groups in Massachusetts, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Connecticut and Virginia. The Burnside Group of East Hartford, Conn. was to host the next year's Conference.

The first Southeastern Alateen Roundup was held in Huntsville, Ala. Eight states were represented. At a closed business meeting it was voted unanimously to continue the Roundup, with the Bessemer group of Birmingham being host next year.

Numerous other Alateen groups took part in AA and Al-Anon regional events all over the continent as well as overscas.

"lateens played an active part in the International A. Convention in Toronto with two highly successful Workshops. Had their own Hospitality Room.

.LATEEN TALK continued to keep the registered groups informed of aleteen activities around the world.

Correspondence with the groups was at an all-time high; in instances involving serious problems, an appeal was made to the World Service Delegate, with most satisfying result

Many letters were sent to troubled teenagers and many were referred to groups.

Sponsor trouble still loomed large. A "Questionnaire for Sponsors", approved by the World Service Conference, was sent with each proposed-group letter in order to determin the background and qualifications of the sponsors.

Present number of registered .lateen groups: 315

(The third installment of this history will appear later. When the series has been completed, reprints will be made available.)

1-1-1

#### **Group Records Coordinator's Report**

Hello, Area 11 Al-Anon Family Groups.

#### News from WSO:

Groups New Registration & Update (THE NEW GR1 FORM)

When members login to the <u>http://www.alanon.org/members</u> site under the word Group one can find a new way to send group record updates. All group updates and are forwarded to the Area Group Records Coordinator. If a member Registers a new group the information goes directly to the WSO Group Records staff for processing. Here is an image of the new web page.





#### Group Records (continued)

WSO suggests all groups consider:

- > Add signs inside buildings so the meeting can easily be found.
- Leave a note on the door if the group is not meeting on a specific day.
- 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 at WSO and send it to your DR's. Consider telling prospective members how to find your meeting room. The GR1 form has a spot for this information it is called "Location Instructions"

The January 2018 version of the Area 11 Directory sent to DR's last week has an update. District 13 Courage to be free meeting changed the time to 8pm and their name to Young People's AFG. So -- not every group is made up of over 60's ...

\*\* The Georgia Area 11 Website is up to date as of 14 January 2018. All Group changes including; Young People's AFG should be correct. Please email or send me a GR1 form when you find an error.

## Now for the bad news!!

Current WSO group concerns in Georgia.

- · Groups in no mail status: (6) Mail was returned to WSO from the Groups CMA
  - o District 1 Jasper AFG in Jasper, Ga
  - o Distric 2 Courage To Change AFG in Watkinsville, Ga.
  - District 11 Lunch Bunch AFG in Augusta, Ga.
  - o District 15 First Things First AFG in Carrollton, GA.
  - o District 19 Vive AFG in Norcross, GA.
  - o District 17 Windwood Family AFG in Rome GA
  - o District 18 Hope on Shiloh Road AFG in Cumming, Ga
- · Groups with bounced e-mails: (7)
  - o District 6 Nahunta AFG Debra H
  - o District 9 Thursday Hope AFG Christie J.
  - o District 10 Conyers Adult Children AFG David S
  - o District 16 Help in the Pines AG Cathy P.
  - District 18 Choices AFG Julia S

If anyone has firsthand knowledge (DR's) about the above groups please e-mail "AreaGroupRecords@ga-al-anon.org" Dear Al-Anon and Alateen Members,

It is with great pleasure that the Board of Trustees and WSO Staff announce the mailing of a complimentary copy of the newly revised 2018-2021 Al-Anon and Alateen Groups at Work (P-24) to each registered group throughout the US and Canada.

The complimentary copy will be mailed to the Current Mailing Address (CMA). The mailings will be sent throughout the month of March and first part of April.

Please share this exciting news with groups in your Area.

## Literature Coordinator's Report

By the time you read this, it will be the week of the Vernal Equinox, March 21, one of the two times a year the Earth's axis is tilted neither toward nor away from the Sun. Day and night are roughly equal in length and the Sun is directly overhead on the Equator. It's the official beginning of Spring. It's close to St. Patrick's Day on March 17 and also close to Easter which falls on April 1<sup>st</sup> this year (no fooling), but which can fall as early as March 22nd or as late as April 25th. As I write this there are snow storms all over the Northeast and Midwest, but in my yard in Atlanta, the forsythia has already bloomed, the bloodroot, bridal veil, and snowflakes are in full flower and the hostas, Solomon's seal and may apples are poking their heads out of the ground. I'm ready to switch to my shorts and crocs for the next 7 or so months, although the cold snap this week has temporarily dissuaded me. I hope it's as lovely in your neck of the woods. We can compare notes at AWSC in April and Assembly in May.

What's my point? There is none, other than for me to wish you Happy Whatever. However. March 21 is also roughly the midway point between January and May AFG Area 11 Assemblies, so let the countdown begin till we meet again or for the first time in Macon.

At the May Assembly you are required to come visit me in the Literature Room. Attendance will be taken. I will have several large intimidating individuals (Thumper, Bam Bam, and Scary Man are currently signed up) roaming the halls to encourage and assist you into the Literature Room. Take it from me, they don't take "No" for an answer. Their motto is, "The beatings will continue until morale improves." So you might as well come of your own



volition and bring visitors, spouses, teenagers, lost AA folks, and random hotel guests. You will buy a lot of Conference Approved Literature if you know what's good for you. This might be one of those few times when Al-Anon (or at least me) favors promotion over attraction.

Can you believe that a lot of other Areas don't even sell literature at their Assemblies? They just do some literature displays/highlights. Count your lucky stars that the Area 11 Literature Room's dog and pony show stands ready to sell, sell, sell nearly every piece of Al-Anon literature available, as well as to provide upbeat, three ring circus surroundings. You never know whether you're going to hear Dolly Parton or The Clash or whether the light displays are going to rearrange the circuits in your brain.

At our January Assembly, the Literature Room sold approximately \$2000 of CAL. That's in addition to the pre-ordered literature that was picked up at Assembly. Our Assembly sales have recently been accounting for over 40% of Georgia Area Central Services (GACS) literature sales. Thank you. Looking ahead to our May Assembly, GACS, our Literature Distribution Center (LDC) for Assembly, asks that DRs and GRs remind their groups to submit literature pre-orders for payment and pick-up at Assembly by the Friday before the week of Assembly. Doing so increases the likelihood that orders can be filled in time as well as more completely. It helps me insure that I have enough literature on hand so as to not run out at Assembly. It also cuts down on lines, time in lines, and frowny faces.

The new phone book's here, the new phone book's here. No, wait, that's Steve Martin in The Jerk. I'll try again. The new Service Manual's here, the new Service Manual's here. Sounds so nice I said it twice. I'll try to have many, many, many of the new Service Manuals (P-24/27) on hand at Assembly for all your shopping needs. You may be asking yourself, well how many of these does my group need anyway? Well, let me tell you. There's the one for the GR. And, what about one for the Alternate GR? And since these folks ought to keep their copies near and dear, your group needs to have a group copy on the premises at all times (not in the trunk of your car). Your group might also want to have a copy available for sale. And since we keep it by giving it away, Sponsors might want to encourage Sponsees to step up in service and that they might want to have a Service Manual by their side in doing so. Let's see, how many copies am we up to? That's 4 or 5 and counting for each group. At \$5 each, we're only up to about \$25. See how easy math is and how cheap the Service Manuals are? There's nothing like the



hard copy version; the electronic version is for sissies (just kidding). However, the printed version, strikes a chord within me, akin to hearing the reassuring plop of the newspaper hit-ting my driveway.

Pamphlet P-24, Groups at Work, is the first 79 or so pages of the Service Manual. These should also be available in the Literature Room. It's a fabulous resource for only \$1. My group gives one to each member.

Speaking of the Service Manual, the WSO website has the new one in searchable format with new features for navigating. It's also available in a PDF format which you can search by using Control F. The new manual eliminates the alphabetical index at the back, but has a greatly expanded table of contents at the beginning, although finding relevant pages may take some getting used to.

Did you know that in addition to English, Spanish and French editions of CAL, that WSO publishes literature in 38 other languages. Most of the languages have at least one book and several pamphlets available. Check out the Literature Section of the WSO website for more information, especially if for some strange reason you need some literature in Finnish or Serbian or any of the other 36 languages.

The roll-out of new Al-Anon literature proceeds apace. "Understanding and Hope for Parents and Grandparents (Pamphlet P-94) is scheduled to be introduced at the 2018 World Service Conference in April. Our new book, tentatively titled, "Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships" is on schedule for introduction at the 2018 Al-Anon International Convention in Baltimore in July.

The new daily reader has received well over a thousand sharings, but WSO still needs many more as this will be the first reader to include sharings on each of the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service. It takes a lot of sharings to create a robust reader. All submissions will also be considered for inclusion in upcoming Forums. Information on submitting your sharings of experience, strength, and hope can be found on the WSO website.

You may have noticed that the covers of our pamphlets look different. That's because as supplies of older versions were exhausted, new "fresh" cover designs were added for the newly printed ones. However, very few pamphlets have any revised text. So if your group has "older" pamphlets, even those with text changes, it is up to the group's discretion to sell, use internally or for outreach, or even throw away and replace with "pretty ones". The old ones remain CAL. Text revisions have occurred, most notably in P-36 (Al-Anon Fact File, revised 2000), P-32 (This is Al-Anon, revised 1998), P-21 (Youth and the Alcoholic Parent, revised 2013), and P-41 (Facts About Alateen, revised 2005).

As I mentioned at the January Assembly, our Newcomer Kits (both the new bound ones and the older separate-pamphlet ones) do not contain the Steps and Traditions. This resulted when the pamphlet P-13, Purposes and Suggestions, was removed from the Newcomer Kits because the pamphlet was repetitive of other information included and also to keep the cost lower. It does not appear that WSO will change the Newcomer Kits in the near future. However, groups are free to supplement the Newcomer Kits by adding P-13, Purposes and Suggestions, or other CAL or to add the Steps and Traditions to a Meeting List which is inserted in the Kits. The most economical way to do this is to insert the Al-Anon Program



Wallet Card, M-7, in the Kits. These are only 10 cents each.

Now for a string of random one and two sentence blurbs: PAY ATTENTION If you go to the WSO website, under the Members Tab, and click on WSO and then News from WSO, you will taken to the "In the Loop Page" (News From Your WSO). There you will find a reprint of the September 1976 Reader's Digest article entitled, "An Oasis Called Al-Anon" It's a great piece of historical Al-Anon information. You can also sign up to receive future "In the Loop" issuances by email.

Still nearly 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.

Remember, all the Al-Anon Guidelines, covering a wide range of topics, are available for free download on the WSO Website.

WSO has informed the fellowship that the hardcover book, "How Al-Anon Works" (B-22, \$15) will be discontinued after current supplies are exhausted. This decision will be revisited in three years. The soft cover "How Al-Anon Works" (B-32, \$6) will become the only version available.

Those great old outreach roadmap bookmarks have been discontinued in favor of a newer bookmark, but several versions of the roadmap bookmark can be downloaded on the WSO website. They make a great eye-catching, economical outreach tool to which you can add your local meeting information. If you have a collection of old Forum Magazines gathering dust, come and see me in the Literature Room at Assembly. We'll try to see how we can make them available to other Al-Anon members in the form of an archive/ historical resource.

My three year term as Literature Coordinator will end after the September Assembly. If you have any questions or even a glimmer of interest in exploring the wacky (and fun) world of the Literature Coordinator for the next term, come and visit me in the Literature Room or send me an email at <u>phi-</u> <u>land123@comcast.net</u>. It might be that some big bad Sponsor or an inner voice is telling you to step up in service. You probably ought to listen.

Remember, at Assembly, you are required to walk up to at least 5 total strangers and introduce yourself. That's somewhere in the Service Manual, but since they got rid of the index, I'm having a little trouble finding it.



Since my report is now approaching "War and Peace" length, I'll cut you a break and end it. See you soon.

Philip Anderson Literature Coordinator, Panel 56

#### Newsletter Coordinator

Greetings Al-Anon Friends,

With spring rapidly approaching, I am reminded that the only constant in life is that things change. This in turn reminds me of our theme for the year, *In AI -Anon there is no standing still.* Lately I have had several examples of this truth show up in my life, both in AI-Anon and outside of AI-Anon.

Just three years ago I was a DR in my district, following another three years of serving as Alternate DR. Now, this year, I just attended a district workshop that took place without any leadership or planning input from me. There were new faces, new GRs, new trusted servants, and new ideas. It was exciting and comforting to experience, all at the same time.

At work, I have recently learned that the program I work with will be relocated over the summer. This means a new work environment, a new set of leadership, and new co-workers, not to mention all that packing, purging, and arranging. There is no time for standing still when one is faced with moving. This move will bring new opportunities for growth, however, so I am looking forward to seeing what unfolds.

At home, I live with my daughter, who is an addict. She is currently succeeding in living a sober lifestyle and has begun a new job. Sobriety and the new job actually demand that her schedule change and I find myself running into her and her boyfriend more frequently than I did when she was active in her addiction. She is no longer sleeping through the day and staying up all night. We are "forced" to interact with each other more often and learn new ways to co-habitate.

I am grateful for my Al-Anon program, opportunities for service, and my sponsor as I navigate these changes in my life. The support of the program has given me strength and hope.

Wishing you all peace! Anne M.

#### Public Outreach Coordinator

Greetings Area 11! I love the 2018 Assembly theme, "In Al-Anon There is No Standing Still". It speaks to me of motion and movement and reminds me of the <u>action</u> of the Twelth Step – carrying this message to others! For the last few months I have been focused on carrying the message of Public Outreach to US – Area 11. I guess I've been "in-reaching". I've been contacting various groups and Districts to engage members in Outreach activities I led last year so that our participation in these important events can continue long after I leave this position. I also conducted a Public Outreach workshop at District 19 Al-Anon Day on March 3 and had an "In-reach" table at Pine Isle Fellowship educating members about Outreach activities and growing interest in Outreach.

Thank you to all who participated in the 2018 Membership Survey. The information is in the process of being "tabulated" and will be used in upcoming Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (AFA's) brochures as well as made available to professionals interested in how our program helps and who makes up our membership. Stay tuned for more info!

Please show your gratitude for our program by sharing a piece of literature in a public place during the month of March to celebrate Lois W's birthday. AFA's, meeting schedules, bookmarks, etc. may find their way to someone in need.

On page 118 of the new Service Manual it states, "Carrying the message is essential to attracting new members. Our Twelth Step suggests that members carry the message of recovery to others and make Al-Anon known in their communities." How are YOU carrying the message in YOUR community? How is your GROUP carrying the message? I've talked to many members over the last months and many have stated they thought Public Outreach was the responsibility of "others" – WSO, Coordinators, etc. I love the Good Orderly Direction of the Service Manual. Start now! – Carry the Message! If no one is greeting newcomers and making sure they are welcome in your meetings, start there! If your group doesn't have a PO committee, consider organizing one. If no one has posted meeting locations and times in local publications, church bulletins, coffee shop community boards, etc., Let it Begin With You! The opportunities to share the message of hope are endless. Let me know how I can help.

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



#### <u>Area Webmaster Report</u>

Website Activity in 2017

- 43 events including conventions, assemblies, weekends, new meetings, and workshops were posted on the website in 2017
- Assembly reports and Georgia on Track are updated three times/year
- The meeting finder page instructions was altered to make it easier to use
- The member logon page instructions was altered to reduce questions on how to login
- A Public Outreach Tab was added under members to provide posters for meetings
- The Contacts pages not working issue was resolved.
- 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; ga-al-anon.org/ contacts.

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 areas 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.
- Pending Item: Area 11 telephone hot-line service We decided that this may be resolved through the GICS restructuring Task Force and remains pending for resolution.

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

In Service, Mike L.



## **Convention Chairs and Liaisons Reports**

#### Alateen 2018 Convention Chairperson Report

The planning committee is getting everything finalized for this year's Conference at Rock Eagle. We will have the same activities as last year. Swimming, canoeing, challenge/self confidence course, workshop and Alateen speakers. We will also offer on Saturday, June 2nd an "AMIAS" Day where you can sign up to attend and see why the kids love attending the Conference, better yet sign up for the whole 4 days. We will have a registration table set up at Assembly. Please think about joining us for "fun, food and fellowship" the Alateen way.

As our theme states "No standing still in Alanon", this also applies to our service to our Alateens.

Respectfully submitted, Anne Conner 2018 Alateen Conference Chairman

#### **2018 Convention Chairperson's Report**

The 2018 Georgía Al-Anon Alateen Convention Will be held August 10-12, 2018 In Callaway Gardens Courage to Change: Back to the Garden See flyer for more information.

#### 2018 AA Prepaid Liaison's Report

## 65th Georgia AA Prepaid Convention

#### October 26-28, 2018

### The Classic Center in Athens. Georgia

See flyer for registration. hotel. and speaker information.



#### NEWSFLASH!

MAIS now has one (and only one!)

Phone number for all business.

#### Please use:

#### <u>404-687-0467</u>

For all MAIS business, including the hotline and meeting info.

## **District Reports**

#### **District Two**

Happy Georgia Spring Time!

Since our last connection we have been trucking along in recovery. Many of our meetings are steadily increasing in size. Our brothers in recovery, AA, have decided to create a club house and have invited us to participate. This on-going project will be an exciting new endeavor for our district.

We continue to work on the 2018 AA Pre-Paid Convention. We have been working on the logistics for the day of event, working on finding volunteers and doing prep work for the workshop.

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

Many members are beginning to discuss and get reservation for the Al-Anon International Convention.

Until we see each other again- in love and service, Susie W, DR District 2



Georgia On Track



#### **District Ten**

District 10 has a new meeting in Decatur on Snapfinger Road at the Ray of Hope Christian Church. It meets on Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m. Mary M. that started the meeting goes to NABA for her meetings but felt that was a great place to start a new meeting since there are none nearby. Please stop by and visit with her at this meeting and spread the word in your districts. I have also attached the flyer for this meeting to be included in the newsletter so we can help spread the word of this great new group!

Also, Kathy M. is working hard at getting our 2018 Convention together. If you haven't already, please send in your registration ASAP. They need the funds as well as an idea of about how many to plan for. If you would like to help in any way, please contact her at <u>afgofga2018convention@gmail.com</u>.

Thanks, Donna

#### **District Seventeen**

At our workshop on March 10, District 17 members and others kept C.A.L.M. (Conference Approved Literature Minded) sharing and studying over tea and cookies! Our workshop became the Key to Harmony for the district as it unfolded successfully due to participation and support of many, many members. Service is fun!

The wonderful committee of Luann, JoAnn, Eleanor and Lynne organized our groups to each contribute to the day by donating goodies and presenting from conference approved literature (CAL). The chosen book, reader or pamphlet was displayed while presenters from each family group featured readings and thoughts from CAL. Monday Noon Study and Discussion AFG greeted everyone at registration with CAL bookmarks and collected everyone's name on butterflies for the door prizes. Friends of Lois AFG helped with set up of the room with Lynne's lovely tablecloths, teapots, tea cups and saucers and Eleanor's beautiful flower arrangements. Groups contributed literature and other gifts for the door prizes. Following the door prize drawings, members were invited to read CAL sayings attached to teas dispersed on the tables. It was nice to hear from everyone. Our DR, Diane, thanked everyone for the amazing input. Many people commented that the afternoon was terrific.

Respectfully submitted, Luann S and Merrell H



#### District Eighteen

It is springtime and Public Outreach is be ginning to bloom all over District 18. We continue to participate in Blue Ridge Mountain Recovery's Family Workshop on a monthly basis, and in January we began monthly participation in Mt. Sinai Recovery Center's Family Program. Al-Anon members from the local area also provide a weekly Beginner's Meeting on their campus for visiting family members.

In March, Al-Anon will host an Outreach table at the Forsyth County Drug Summit. The Forsyth County "Ghost Out" and "Teen Maze," sponsored by the Board of Educations and Sheriff's Department has invited Alateen to participate in the maze, as well as host an Al-Anon Outreach table for parents.

We are excited to see what outreach opportunities bloom in summer.

District 18 would like to share an upcoming event in Sautee, Georgia. We will have our annual Mountain Miracles event Saturday, May 5th from 8:30am to 3pm. All are welcome for all or part of the day's activities.

#### Mountain Miracles hosted by District 18 - Recovery is FUNdamental!

We will have 2 workshops: Fellowship Unity and New Beginnings and Public Outreach Possibilities. Both workshops will be interactive, providing time for fun and fellowship. We will share a cover dish breakfast and lunch together, and we'll end our day with our traditional basket raffle! Each group collectively pulls together a themed basket that is raffled off.

We hope to see you at Mountain Miracles on May 5th for a special day of growing together in Al-anon!

#### **District Twenty-One**

District 21 held our annual anniversary workshop/speaker event on January 29. We had approximately 100 people in attendance representing Al-Anon, Alateen and AA. The attendees were able to participate in fellowship, good food, a spiritual workshop and heard experience, strength and hope from our wonderful Al-Anon and Alateen speakers.

Our groups are spreading the word by making special donations to WSO and groups in Puerto Rico.

#### District Twenty-One (continued)

We will be sponsoring a Public Outreach event coming up during the summer. We volunteered at the event at the invitation of our Area Public Outreach Coordinator last year and have agreed to sponsor the event this year. Look for more exciting news later this summer.

We are excited to report a new Al-Anon group in our District that began meeting last month, the Hope for Today AFG group meets Thursday evening at 7pm at Mt Bethel UMC in Marietta Georgia. If you are in the area, come join us as we support this new group.

Lucille S. DR, District 21

## Service Corner

#### <u>From Past Trustee and Executive</u> <u>Committee Member J.P. M</u>

Al-Anon: There is No Standing Still (but stand)

As the Conference theme suggests there is no standing still. We grow forward or fall back. For me, service was (and is) the best way to assure that I do not fall back. Service has provided me opportunities to grow from leading a meeting, being a group treasurer, a GR, a DR, an Area Coordinator, a Trustee and an At-Large member of the Executive Committee plus numerous Thought Forces,



Task Forces and Work Groups, both at the Area level and the WSO level. Each opportunity has made me more aware of the worldwide nature of the fellowship and of areas in which I can personally grow.

Each of these opportunities came about by my praying for guidance from my HP and then being willing to stand when that was what I heard. Sometimes when I stood, I was selected or elected and sometimes I was not. Either way I learned by standing. By standing when someone else also stood, I could provide an opportunity for ' a loving God' to express himself in our group conscience. When the results came from a group conscience, I could live with the results as I believed every member who voted for me or for someone else, made their decision based on what they felt was best for Al-Anon. That made it easy for me to accept the results.



#### Continued from J.P. M

I hope each of you who read this will pray for guidance from your HP and, in September, stand for any positions to which you feel guided, independent of whether anyone else stands or not. Let's give our HP a chance to express himself in our elections. Let's take the opportunity to grow, either by being elected or learning from not being elected. A better you will come about either way.

#### Dates to Remember

April 21, 2018	AWSC, Macon, GA
May 5, 2018	Mountain Miracles, District 18
May 19-20, 2018	Area Assembly, Macon, GA
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
August 10-12, 2018	Georgia Al-Anon Convention,
	Callaway Gardens
August 18, 2018	AWSC, Macon, GA
September 15-16, 2018	Area Assembly, Macon, GA
October 26-28, 2018	Georgia AA Prepaid Convention
	Athens, GA

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

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

# New Al-anon Meeting

In District 10



God Grants Us Serenity AFG Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Ray of Hope Christian Church 2778 Snapfinger Road Decatur, GA 30034





Mountain Miracles 2018 Recovery is <u>FUNdamental</u>!

Sponsored by Al-Anon Family Groups District 18 Saturday, May 5, 2018 8:30 am

Nacoochee United Methodist Church 1371 Highway 17

Sautee Nacoochee, GA 30571

8:30 Registration and Welcome

Breakfast - Please bring a dish to share!

- 9:15-10:45 Workshop
- 11:00 Speaker Judy N.
- 12:00 Lunch Please bring a dish to share!
- 1:00-2:30 Workshop
- 2:45 Closing and Basket Raffle

Workshops:

FUN: Fellowship Unity New Beginnings - Come and join us in some FUN! Presented by Angela I. and Vicki B.

POP: Public Outreach Possibilities - We've got something you want! Presented by LouAnn A. and Debi S.

For more information contact: <u>public-information@ga-al-anon.org</u>

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<form>         Concerning on the second of the second o</form>	May 31-June 3, 2018	C Land
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: <u>GA Alateen Conference</u> (include the name of the attendee on the memo line)         Name:		
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65<sup>th</sup> Georgia Prepaid Convention

## October 26th-28th 2018



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

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"
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ded to you)
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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



Al-Anon International Convention

# July 6-8, 2018

# Baltimore, Maryland Baltimore Convention Center

For more Information: https://al-anon.org/al-anoninternational-conventions/

Volume 39 Issue 1



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



- 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.

Day of Connecting

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!

## ຎຎຎຎຎຎຎຎຎຎຎ

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



## 40th Annual Al-Anon/Alateen Convention

Courage to Change at Callaway: "Back to the Garden"



Friday, August 10-Sunday, August 12

2018

#### Callaway Gardens, Mountain Creek Inn, 178 US 27, Pine Mountain GA 31822

For reservations/directions: <u>www.callawaygardens.com</u> Phone: 877.533.9943 Room Rate \$134.39 per night (including tax and fees). Meals are not included. When making reservations tell them GA Al-Anon/Alateen Convention for the pre-arranged group rate.

#### SPEAKERS: TBA

Regular Registration through July 31" - \$35 August and Walk-In Registration - \$45 Alateen Registration - Free

Alateens attending without a parent or legal guardian must be accompanied by a certified Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS). The Georgia Alateen Permission/Medical Form (available at <u>www.ga-al-anon.org</u>) signed by parent or legal guardian must be provided to the AMIAS prior to attending. The AMIAS must present the completed form at the registration desk and sign for Alateen materials.

#### Please note that registration fees are non-refundable and non-transferable. ------DETACH AND MAIL TO ADDRESS BELOW------

Email:			ip	
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Check one:	_ Al-Anon	Alateen	AA	Other
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