



THE LEGACY

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North Florida Area Website: www.northfloridaAl-Anon.org

DELEGATE TERRY K.

Hello North Florida!

The theme of the **2013 World Service Conference** was **"Our Legacies: the Spiritual Journey of Changing 'Me' into 'We'.** At first I was baffled by this. Wasn't Al-Anon about taking the focus off others and putting it on ourselves? But the opening remarks by the chairperson said in part:

"The first experience of changing 'me' to 'we' was in a home group. At these first group conscience meetings, members came together to make the best decision for the group, not for any one person. The next time 'me' became 'we' was at the district meeting, where it was now the best decision for the district as opposed to the best decision for one or two groups. Then, on to Area Assembly, where decisions have to be made on what is best for the Area, not just one city, urban or rural community. So, now here we are at the World Service Conference. The 'we' is Al-Anon worldwide, and our discussions and decisions must be looked at from not only our structure's perspective, but from how those decisions might affect structures worldwide."

So the idea of "Me" came full circle. So many times I've heard a newcomer say, "But I was just trying to help!" As we take the focus off those around us and put it on ourselves we begin to get healthy. Then We're asked to share what we've learned, not only in words but in actions. To use that "Me" we've discovered to help guide the "We" that we are.

Giving a report to AWSC is always a challenge, because I want to find information that will be of interest to this level of service. I also want to make sure the coordinators are able to fully report on their areas of responsibility.

All of the information in this report can be found in the *2013 World Service Confer-*

ence Summary. But these are some of the questions that were answered at Conference that I thought would be of interest to you.

One of the questions for the finance committee was:

Q: What has been the revenue for the new e-book?

A: *We have sold about 500 units, but we haven't received and distribution yet.*

As you know last year Al-Anon Inc. ran at a loss. One of the "belt tightening" programs involved employees. The following question was asked:

Q: Can you explain what steps were taken to reduce employee benefits?

A: *Some of the staff has started using their Medicare benefits since they are eligible. Other have dropped their spouses from the health insurance provided by the WSO, or have been added to their spouses health insurance and dropped from the WSO's insurance.*

The WSO Annual Report always brings up useful questions, and straightforward answers. The interest in electronic literature is alive and well. This is one of the questions:

Q: When will *The Forum* be available electronically? Will other pieces of Conference Approved Literature be available in electronic Format as well?

A: *Initially, it was believed that the use of third-party vendors would be simpler than the WSO developing its own technology, which would be time-consuming and would require constant updates and additional manpower. During the process, the WSO learned that some of the vendors are not prepared to handle the workload as the WSO had anticipated. Currently, The Forum is on queue with the vendors for electronic media. The Web Consultant is currently working on making The Forum available. In addition, the e-book and any future magazine subscription can be viewed on any electronic device, like a cell phone or computer, by downloading certain programs and applications.*

Two years ago, the Finance Committee approved printing a softcover version of *How Al-Anon Works for Family & Friends of Alcoholics* (B-32) with the intent that the membership pay its gratitude forward for the program by giving the softcover version of the book, free of charge, to newcomers. However, it appears that some members of the fellowship have a misconception of the intent of the softcover version of *How Al-Anon Works*, as groups are charging newcomers for the book. The Finance Committee, in an effort to revive the intent of the project, has agreed to extend the trial of the softcover version of the book in English for an additional three years, to be sold only within the World Service Conference Structure. The price of the softcover version will increase from \$5 to \$6 per copy. WSO plans on doing a comprehensive marketing campaign so members can understand the idea behind the softcover version...

The Finance Committee approved, and the Board agreed, to offer a digital audio version of *How Al-Anon Works for Family & Friends of Alcoholics* (B-22), in English, for \$24.99. It will also be available soon. The WSO feels that making this important basic book in various formats will help to further carry the message for the fellowship and the newcomer.

- How will people obtain the audio version of *How Al-Anon Works for Family and Friends of Alcoholics*?

The audio version, which can be downloaded, will be available through amazon.com, iTunes, and audible.com.

There were several different questions about WSO's plans for the direction of our literature:

- Is there a major cost-difference between the softcover and the hardcover version of a book?

It is not our goal to go in the direction of softcover books. Hope for Today (B-16) is available in softcover so it could be used in prisons, as the majority of the audience in prisons are adult children of alcoholics. Many older

books are available in softcover version, but the WSO is not planning on printing all books in softcover.

- Is there more background on the WSO's decision not to print all of our books in softcover? Our Area really appreciates the softcover version of our literature to do outreach to prisons.

The WSO printed 10,000 copies of Courage to Change in softcover and it took about five years to sell those copies. The Finance Committee decided, based on the fellowship's response to the softcover version of Courage to Change, that it wasn't a desirable product. Therefore, it was discontinued. There is also an issue in terms of storage at the WSO's warehouse. In addition the WSO surveyed the fellowship and there was an overwhelming response from the fellowship indicating that they did not want the daily readers in softcover.

- Is the WSO considering making other books available in electronic format?

The WSO is studying the impact of the e-book on literature sales for the WSO and Areas. Until the WSO determines the results of this next(?) e-book and whether it had a positive or negative impact on the fellowship, we will not be considering other e-books. If it does affect LDC sales, then the WSO will reconsider publishing e-books or look at other options.

- Are there any plans to translate the Concepts posters into Spanish?

Not at this time. The WSO is no longer printing the Legacy posters because they do not sell. However, each Area has the autonomy to create a version of those posters as long as they do not make a profit from the sale of the posters; the WSO is the sole publishing agent of the Legacies but has given the Areas permission to create posters for the groups provided the approved wording of the Legacies is used and a "Permission to reprint" is submitted to the WSO for approval of the wording.

Here are some of the topics The Director of Business Services presented to the conference.

Interactive Voice Response System: This system will allow the WSO to provide

automated meeting information in three languages 24-hours a day, seven days a week, on its toll-free meeting information line. This system will prompt the caller for:

1. A zip code within the U.S., or a city and province within Canada
2. Preference of meetings on a weekday, weekend, or no preference
3. Preference for meetings during the daytime, night time, or no preference

By providing this information, the system will conduct a 25-mile radius search and read back one meeting location, time, and day of the week.

The staff has already selected text for the scripts in all three languages. The staff is waiting for the vendor to complete the recordings and afterwards, the staff will begin setting up test data. Our phone maintenance company will complete application development on the WSO's PBX in the upcoming week. If everything goes as planned, the preliminary testing is scheduled to begin on or about April 22, 2013.

I've checked the number, **(888) 4AL-ANON (1-888-425-2666)** and it is up and running.

The WSO is in the process of replacing e-Communities with a new program called "Communities." Testing of the program is in the final stages. This new program will enable the staff to do some customizations, which will make the system more user-friendly. In addition to this upgrade, the WSO is moving to a new shopping cart which will make purchasing literature, subscribing to *The Forum*, and making contributions simpler.

Here's one of the comments from The Associate Director of Communications—Media

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2013: The fellowship ordered and received 136,700 copies of *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2013* magazine in time for April 2013 Alcohol Awareness Month. Although the total number of copies of *AFA 2013* ordered was 12 percent less than *AFA 2012*, the recent Area Public Outreach Coordinator conference call reported very energized local campaigns to distribute the magazine. Professionals have been saying "thank-you" for the magazines that are going to their clients, and they are asking if someone will put more copies of *AFA* in their lobbies and waiting rooms.

From the literature committee

"Last year, the Literature Committee recommended a piece to the 2012 World Service

Conference focused specifically on abuse in alcoholic relationships, including verbal abuse. As discussion at the 2012 Conference continued, there seemed to be little unanimity. Therefore, the Committee Chairperson announced that the Committee would continue to discuss the topic using the Knowledge-Based Decision-Making Process to Reach an Informed Group Conscience (KBDM) questions by conference calls and discussion forums before possibly bringing forth a presentation at the 2013 Conference...."

The Literature Committee did have a consensus to present a recommendation for a pamphlet to address parents and grandparents whose children (teenagers and young adults) are problem drinkers.

...In February 2011, the Executive Committee requested that the Literature Committee review the existing pamphlets for parents of alcoholics and to consider the creation of a new pamphlet that would address parents whose children (teenagers and young adults) are problem drinkers...

...In March 2013, the Literature Committee returned to the Executive Committee's request, and discussed it in light of the fellowship's reaction (over the previous year) to the title change of the P-16 pamphlet (**To Parents of Alcoholics**), the revision of the P-9 pamphlet (**How Can I Help My Children?**), and the introduction of **-R-18 Parents of Alcoholics - Timely Reprint**. As a result of this discussion, the Committee agreed to bring a recommendation for a new pamphlet to the 2013 Conference to address parents and grandparents whose children (teenagers and young adults) are problem drinkers. "The Committee suggests modeling the pamphlet after *Al-Anon Sharings from Adult Children* (P-47), which presents an introduction, personal stories from members, and a section of text on each of the Twelve Steps as related to that particular relationship. This Step study, as well as more diverse, contemporary sharings, would differentiate the new pamphlet from the existing pamphlet, *To Parents of Alcoholics* (P-16).

When the floor was open to discussion some of the comments and questions were:

"It's about time..."

"Will this be expanded beyond a pamphlet?"

(The general feeling of the Literature Committee was that there was not a consensus for a book. It was also pointed out that a book takes up to five years to be published where a pamphlet can be turned around much sooner.)

"I didn't believe that we needed another pamphlet. However, after hearing everyone share, I believe we truly need it. Would there be information in the pamphlet that addresses a child in recovery?"

The pamphlet will be based on the sharings we receive from our fellowship. The Committee is aware that having a child in recovery presents its own dilemmas.

"Your perspective completely changes when you become the grandparent of an alcoholic, even if you have a child who is an alcoholic. I would consider submitting a sharing for this pamphlet. I know how difficult it is to be a grandparent of an alcoholic. I've always felt our literature has been missing something for the grandparents."

Following the discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and carried to give conceptual approval to develop a new pamphlet to address parents and grandparents whose children (teenagers and young adults) are problem drinkers. So be ready to share.

The longest sessions were those dedicated to the changes in Al-Anon policy. (The complete changes can be found in the Conference Summary.) I'm sure the Policy Committee felt they had a perfect document going into the sessions. I'm sure they came away thinking, "thank God that's over with." We often went through a sentence word for word, making sure that we all agreed on the meaning. We didn't all agree on everything that was being said, but we were reminded of the question, "Can you live with it?" And as you can see by the vote, we could.

As you can see, topics at WSC are wide and varied. We not only discussed, but we voted.

To approve the Conference Leadership Team's recommendation that the requests of the Alabama Area, the New Mexico Area, the Manitoba Area, and the Wisconsin Area to officially change their Area names to the designations of Alabama/Northwest Florida, New Mexico/El Paso, Manitoba/Northwest Ontario, and Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan respectively be accepted. (97 yes, 1 no, 0 abstentions, 0 void)

To approve the 2012 Audited Financial Report. (98 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions, 0 void)

To approve the 2012 Annual Report. (96 yes, 1 no, 1 abstentions, 0 void)

That the 2013 WSC give conceptual approval to develop a new pamphlet to address parents and grandparents whose children (teenagers and young adults) are problem drinkers. (97 yes, 1 no, 0 abstentions, 0 void)

To amend the text on pages 88-91 beginning with the section "Anonymity and the Media" on page 88 and ending with the new section "Anonymity in Al-Anon /Alateen Publications" on page 91 in the Policy Digest section of the 2010-2013 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual...(98 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions, 0 void).

Terry K
Panel 52 Delegate—Florida North

**ALT. DELEGATE:
SHELLEY C.**

Hello North Florida!

What can we find on the Forum page of the World Service Office (WSO) website? The Forum page can be found under "Publications" on the Member site. It is a wealth of information on current topics, previous editions, a calendar of events, and much more.

Do any of the following interest you?

1. Lord's Prayer
2. Parents of alcoholic children
3. Group Representatives report
4. Crosstalk-or loving interchange
5. I Felt Abandoned

Members have contributed to the above discussions to share their experience, strength and hope.

You will also find excerpts from the current month's Forum. Click on the Forum cover to find the complete index. Then click on highlighted titles to read a sampling of articles.

F-1 Forum Writing Guidelines and F-2 Tips for GRs as Forum Representatives can be downloaded as aids for Forum service.

The Calendar of Events lists international Al-Anon happenings by month. Our very own North FL Area Convention was listed under September.

Are you curious to know what topics have been covered in the Forum since 2006? Or maybe you're planning to chair a workshop and want to read all you can about a specific topic in our Conference Approved Literature (CAL). You will find

an index of Forum articles from 2006-2013.

Would you like to subscribe to the Forum either online or physically send in an order form? You will be able to either download an order to complete and mail in or order directly online.

How do I read my Forum subscription label? This is where you learn everything you need to know about your subscription details.

Would you like to submit a Forum sharing online? Yes! Yes! You can do that as well from this very same page.

Shelley C.

**CHAIRPERSON
WENDY R.**

Hello North Florida!

I am looking forward to seeing you all the first week of October! There is a lot going on in our Area.

Currently we are discussing ways to digitally store archives, job descriptions for Coordinators and Officers, facilitating our Alateen background checks, guidelines for our events, review of our election procedures and much more!

At this upcoming Assembly we will be approving our budget for 2014, and some Public Outreach projects. It is so exciting to see how our Area "communicates recovery" by embracing knowledge-based decision making; assuring our GR's come to Assembly informed and ready to participate in discussion and vote.

The theme of the 53rd World Service Conference is "Our Legacies: The Spiritual Journey of Changing "Me" to "We". This reminds me that as a new Group Representative in Al-Anon how I came to understand the group conscience; then, as a District Representative, the District group conscience; now, as Area Chairperson, the Area group conscience; and at WSO, the conference makes decisions for our worldwide fellowship. I have learned at all levels we make these decisions for the good of Al-Anon, for our common welfare.

If you are reading this and you are not in service, think about it! Come to an AWSC or Assembly. You will be amazed at your growth in recovery. As someone once said, it is like sprinkling miracle grow on your program!

Love in Service,
Wendy R.

**TREASURER:
CINDY J.**

Thank you for the courtesy and support during our recent AWSC regarding the proposed budget. I think we were able to cover a lot of material, and really bring some transparency to our financial picture. I believe our NFA Secretary is sending out the Budget Worksheets (Recommendation #4) and I hope everyone will get this information to your Group Representatives and all of our Al-Anon members.

Here are a few things to remember about the budget:

It can seem like "a lot of money" and it is. But our North Florida Area service covers such a large part of Florida, and includes literally millions of people. We do our best to keep costs low, and our focus on outreach and support for families of alcoholics. Lots of people give a little bit, and we are able to make a big impact.

Money that is given to North Florida Area is money that is supposed to be spent—not hoarded. So we continue to build our Reserve Fund, as our prudent financial policy, but we are trying to get these contributions out and in support of all of our Al-Anon members who are reaching out to those who still suffer, and don't know about our program.

Coming to our Meetings, staying at the Hotel, and participating in the Area-wide group conscience is good for all of us. Find ways to make it affordable. Reach out in your Districts, and come, stay, participate. Get some of the support and information that is offered. Be part of this worldwide fellowship! We need you!

Anyone with any question is welcome to contact me – by phone, by text, by email, by snail mail. Contact your DR and get involved. No question is too small, and all information is YOURS for the asking!

Our budget is our best way of making a plan to carefully, and thoughtfully, steward the trust everyone has placed in us. It is a group effort, and I hope that all of our Group Representatives will feel that support and come give their input and vote at Assembly.

I recommend that everyone go on the

World Service Member's Website and download a copy of the "Reserve Fund Guideline" G-41. It is a wealth of information about WSO, and also regarding Area, Districts and Groups.

Thank you for letting me serve as the North Florida Area Treasurer, and be sure to let me know if you have any questions at all!

Sincerely,
Cindy J.

NFA Treasurer, Panel 52

**NEWSLETTER
"THE LEGACY":
JANET O.**

Hello Florida North,

I would like to thank District 2 for a wonderful Day of Workshops. I hope that I encouraged someone to stand for my service position at the next panel elections. If you missed the Day of Workshops, the Area will be having another one before our elections next year. So try it out and see how service at the Area level is performed.

FYI: Did you know that World Service refers to our Area as "Florida North"? I didn't until I heard our Delegate, Terry K. call us "Florida North". This and other information is in the 2013 Conference Summary. (P.46)

Remember, "When you get busy, you get better!"

Hugs,
Janet O

Newsletter Coordinator



**SECRETARY;
LLEW E.**

Hello North Florida Al-Anon/Alateen members.

I have heard that we learn from those that have gone before us. How true that is! I recently attended the North Florida Area Day of Service Workshops and was asked to lead a workshop on the ins and outs of

the Secretary's position at the Area level. Having never taken the minutes at AWSC nor Assembly, I relied very heavily on the job description and notes of the previous secretaries. Whew! I was able to not only to lead the workshop but also learn valuable tricks and tips from the prior three (3) secretaries. That came in very handy at AWSC, as I was asked to go back in the historical "stuff" and pull information—and I found it!

I am looking forward to Assembly, however, with some apprehension. I feel that it is an awesome privilege and responsibility to be able to serve North Florida Area in this capacity. Thank you again for the vote of confidence. One special request when you have a question or comment at Assembly: "Please come to the microphone". I don't want to miss anything.

Thank you,
Llew E.

**PUBLIC
OUTREACH:
ANN Q.**

Public outreach is inviting others into this worldwide fellowship. Be part of the silent majority of Public Outreach workers! You become the new army of message carriers. Some projects success is less visible because we do not know the impact they have for a long time. Two projects are closer to being implemented—the bumper stickers (magnetic stickers) and literature for Alateen—because of the affirmative votes at AWSC on Aug. 17, 2013. By October, perhaps, these will be resolved with HPs help. District 6, we appreciate your financial support & request to attract Alateens, using literature to carry the message to future Alateens.

District 5 has been placing brochures in the libraries. They need brochure holders if you have extras. We will now attempt to extend this program to adding to the books in the library by having our members clear their Bookshelves!!

De-Clutter & Do Public Outreach by donating your extra Program books to Public Libraries, High School Libraries or Church Libraries. At our Ocala, meeting it was pointed out by our Legacy Editor that it is important to visit the books often to check

on their circulation. I suggest you check out the books occasionally. Libraries discard books not accessed within a two or three year period. This is another case, where you are the messenger of the program's message. These projects that are less glamorous, involve donating **one program book (Al-Anon, Alateen or AA) at a time**, to Public libraries or Jr. / Sr. High Schools. I checked the library's catalogue and discovered only 2 books on Alcoholism in a 5-major Library System. So I thought of how many of us have extra books on our own bookshelves. Then it dawned on me to donate books in memory of people in my life who had been impacted by this disease. I started by donating two books to a Public library with an inscription inside saying "in memory of my mother and father". (As I left the library I thought that after I finish this group I would add books for those who were a great influence in my recovery.)

The librarian was glad to accept the two new program books and she put me in contact with another librarian in the main branch of the library system. They have a special label for donated books to recognize the donor's message. As I mentioned this to another Al-anon that afternoon she said, "I'd love to do that too. I was looking for an easy way of doing service. I will contact LDC tomorrow." **How about donating a book to your Public Library or Jr. or Sr. High School Library, or College, Rehabilitation Center or Church Libraries?**

When newcomers come to our meetings, the very most effective way to refill that empty chair is to smile, be understanding and when someone shares the pain, then **invite them back to another meeting, gratitude dinner, anniversary, out for coffee etc.** That "one on one" is how most of us arrived here. These ideas boil down to people listening and helping others.

What is your behavioral message? (Is it – "Welcome & come back, there is help here"?) **Is your attitude inviting?**

At the August 2013 meeting of AWSC, members approved the first Public Outreach Task Force project which includes targeting Pre-Al-Anons namely Potential Alateen members as one of our Al-Anon

target groups. How do we attract young people into this great fellowship of Alateen? Send the message through our literature. **GRs –Please vote for the Alateen Literature Proposal in October 2013.**

Beth, District 7 LDC—Special thanks to you for all the help with picking the Alateen literature.

The bumper stickers (metallic message stickers) proposal's audience for that second message of recovery will hopefully be drivers & passengers all across North Florida Area. Those who are on the road are the targets. Maybe you will see an Al-Anon bumper sticker on a car, police car, fire truck etc. in front of you someday soon. You might even see the metallic message on a refrigerator in a faculty room. **GRs – we need your vote for Bumper stickers at the October Assembly.**

Al-Anon's Public Service Announcements reached a combined audience of 17 million in the US and Canada. **If you personally hear one—stand up and SHOUT. Tell people in your group or announce it at the district meeting! Please try to get Al-Anon people in your District to acknowledge the PSAs in their areas as often as they can.**

Ask them to send the "Thank you" notes by sending a post card, a formal note, an e-mail message or a phone call.

Before beginning any outreach project, please encourage local members to take a look at ***The Best of Public Outreach***, located on the Members' Website at www.alanon.org/members under Public Outreach. You will find sample scripts, letters, and forms that can help everyone get organized. For interview questions or talking points when contacting the TV stations or Newspaper editors, go to www.alanon.alateen.org. Go to the task bar and click on media center. Again try to get them to mention open meetings information or articles about recovery through Al-Anon participation.

Write, Write, Write—Be an Author! Now is the time to try your hand at writing for **Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism, the FORUM, or your District's Al-Anews. Articles on Intimacy are still desperately needed!**

Good ideas are always worth sharing. Don't keep them a secret.

Love & Hugs,

Ann O.

Fully Relying On God



GROUP RECORDS TONI C.

Hello North Florida,

I would like to thank all the members who send in updated changes for their group's information. Your updates help members and perspective members locate your group as well as making sure your group receives mail from WSO.

At Fall Assembly, I am asking the Group Reps to PRINT LEGIBLY when at the registration table signing in. This also includes all NFA Officers, Coordinators, District Representatives and AISL. It is important to PRINT LEGIBLY as the District Representatives read the names from the registration sign in sheets while at the microphone introducing their district. I also have been asked to provide the registered names from each district for the hotel master bill to compare names to better assist our NFA Treasurer. Some of the handwriting is questionable, and your help is greatly appreciated.

Love in service,

Toni C.

NFA Group Records Coordinator
Panel 52

ALATEEN BOBBI M.

Hello North Florida,

It sure was great seeing everyone at our AWSC meetings, Thank you all for being here for me, as I am for you.

Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) members are encouraged to have your Background check/finger printing process completed before we meet in

October at our Fall Assembly. Please contact our Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) or myself if there are concerns or questions.

Thank you to our Districts who have shared with me of your District trainings. Remember you can post your training sessions on our NFA website and invite neighboring District members.

Our North Florida Area chat room for Alateens is still open. We had an email from an Al-Anon member, not from our state, inquiring additional information of the room. Thank you to our Area webmaster for sharing that message with us, and responding to the inquirer. Please continue to share with your Alateen meetings; the chat room needs support. Thanks so much!

District 5 will be hosting our 2014 NFA Alateen Conference. The site has been selected, the date has been set, and many committees have come together. More on this event will be shared when we meet at Assembly ~ "I" can't wait!!

District Representatives, and District Alateen Chairs/trusted servants doing service for Alateens, recently received an email asking if an AMIAS gathering at lunch would be of interest at Assembly. Please share with me if your members are interested; the hotel will need time to prepare a room for us.

WSO's E-communities website continues to educate me. Thank you to the District Representatives who have responded that you are able to view your District Alateen meetings and your AMIAS members.

Thank you North Florida Al-Anon/Alateen family for all your service; indeed, you are appreciated. Please know I am here for you as you are for me!!!

Love in Service,

Bobbi M. NFA09

Panel 52 Area Alateen Coordinator

"Communicate Recovery"

**ARCHIVES
CHAM B.**

SERVICE THROUGH ARCHIVES

**AL-ANON/ALATEEN ARCHIVES VISION:
BY LOIS W., October 12, 1986**

"We have an archives in part to provide a record of our development for future historians...but also because, as time passes

and our Fellowship continues to grow and expand, we find ourselves further and further away from the events of our past... we must be assured that the facts will always be available to guard against a misunderstanding of what has taken place."[Reprint permission Al-Anon WSO]

After serving for a year and a half, attending an Archives Workshop, learning realistically the primary purpose of those involved in archival service work is to carry the message of Al-Anon/Alateen to families and friends in need, Archives are more than merely custodial activity. It is the means by which we collect, preserve, and share the rich and meaningful heritage of Al-Anon Family Groups. It is by the collection and sharing of these important historical elements that our collective gratitude for Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups is made stronger. My vision of the Archives Job Description will follow.

WSO Guideline 30 was developed to assist with all of "our" volunteer needs—in an endeavor to preserve all of our work. WSO had a group conscience to re-develop Archives' collections to preserve our history. As your current Archives Coordinator, I was able to join the current process by being a member of WSO's Thought Force Committee made up of Al-Anon Archivists and Archive Coordinators across the US. As a result, we now have a **New Guideline 30 as of 2013. Please read it.**

This current report covers the time that a number of us from Florida North attended Al-Anon's International Conference held in Vancouver, BC, Canada. For me as a person who loves history and Al-Anon's history in particular, I was a bit disappointed not having any Archive Displays. At the first International I attended in Salt Lake in 1998, there was a tremendous amount of archive information from all over the world, including WSO. Trust Baltimore in 5-years will have that covered. Those of you that missed the festivities would have loved "your" pink Flamigos, J and Bill S's commentary.

Bullet Points

Respectfully request all reports sent out please print 1-only copy for Archive's Workbook inclusion.

Florida AA Archives Workshop will be held February 15, 2014 in Orlando. Also, AA Archives National will be held in late summer of 2013 in Illinois. The proper equipment to use for NFA Archives is low. Those members willing to provide shelves, file cabinets, new scanning equipment, etc. would be MOST Welcome and Appreciated! Carrollwood area in District 8 is the

present location of NFA Archives. Come on over—we'll do food! Or allow me to come over and pick up or please bring to AWSC or Assembly perhaps!

New task force forming to have all Archives scanned and stored in Virtual/Cloud storage site for NFA. Currently have not been provided with any information or update.

Please date all information, correspondences, reports etc. Do you want to find it?

Archives Traveling Show". We have had "works of art" contributed by many Districts, groups, and individuals! Please participate again at NFA 2013 Convention and Assembly. Thank you.

With sincere appreciation for Al-Anon and Florida North Area and its rich history,

Cham

**WEBSITE:
SHELLY F.**

Greetings Florida North!

My experience in service has taught me that if I take time for myself, I will be better prepared to serve others. My trip to Vancouver for the 2013 Al-Anon International Convention was no exception. A few of our fellowship friends and I left calling cards in the form of pink boa feathers while strutting our stuff in The Language of Love Parade. I highly recommend everyone start saving for the 2018 Convention in Baltimore!

I returned energized and ready to revise the "unofficial" *Website Coordinator Position* job description. It was submitted to the assigned Task Force, along with a *Website Guidelines and Policies* document for NFA consideration. It will define in greater detail the website's purpose and ongoing routine administrative procedures.

A warm welcome goes out to Marie S. from District 10. She has joined our Web Team and now answers the email inquiries from the website. The preceding email correspondent, Michael D., will begin adding articles from *The Forum* as our Forum Contributor. We hope that our new and frequent visitors will read them and be inspired. You may sign-up to receive these entries in your feed reader by using <http://www.northfloridaal-anon.org/category/ais/ldc/the-forum/feed/>.

With the holidays around the corner, your neighboring districts may like to join you at your celebrations. Please send a hyper link (webpage address) for the flyer or calendar from your district's website. Ordinarily, updates and additions are made at the middle and end of the month.

In attending the Area Service Workshop in Ocala, I was once again reminded that my growth in service frequently takes place on the way to and coming home from any Al-Anon gathering. My recovery offers endless opportunities to understand (and practice) God's gift of free will in deciding for myself what's good for me, and no other. As my HP does, I must respect in turn the choices of others and have faith in the decisions made by my fellow trusted servants. This trip brought home to me how the question, "Does it serve the greater good of AFG as a whole?" has become my spiritual litmus test to any decision I make in service.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve you!

Shelly F.
 Website Coordinator, Panel 52
webdudette@northfloridaal-anon.org

**RED LIGHT/GREEN LIGHT
 QUESTIONS FOR OCTOBER
 2013 ASSEMBLY**

1. Is it OK or does it make sense for a District to send a Growth Investment Person (GIP) to N FL Area (NFA) meetings if he (she) is a dual member?
2. How do you handle it when someone sharing during an Al-Anon meeting refers to the "3rd Step prayer" or the "7th Step prayer", or the "Promises from the AA Big Book" or the gifts of Al-Anon?

**DISTRICT 6 REP:
 EVA N.**

Greetings Everyone:

We are looking forward to the Convention in St. Petersburg. Thank you to several members from District 6 who will be presenting workshops and to all the groups who provide baskets for the raffle.

District 6 continues with 44 Al-Anon groups and 1 Alateen group. There is a new meeting starting up in Longwood on Tuesday night. Participation in district meetings has been good with about 30-35 people in attendance.

Our district continues to provide speakers at the UF & Shands Florida Recovery Center in Longwood quarterly, and they have been well received.

We continue to look for someone to fill our Public Outreach & Alateen chair positions. We have a new Speaker Chair and she will maintain a list of people willing to speak at other meetings and events.

That's all for now, we look forward to Assembly.

Yours in Service,
 Diane C., AISL
 Eva N.,DR, District 6

**DISTRICT 7 REP:
 ANDY M.**

I have just returned from my trip west, including the International Convention in Vancouver, BC and scenic points upon my return trip home.

I am just now assuming the role of District 7's District Representative, planning to resume District meetings beginning on September 14th. I will also be attending Assembly in October.

I am extremely pleased with the growth and management of our district under the excellent care of our Alternate District Representative, Melanie B, and our AISL, Ginny. I look forward to rejoining the full activities of this District and this Area and fulfilling the trust my District has placed on me.

Andy M.

**DISTRICT 9 REP:
 JILL O'B.**

District 9 has been busy refilling service positions! We have a new AISL, a new Archivist and a new LDC. It is exciting .

We have 17 active groups in District 9. At the last District meeting we had 11 voting GR's. We also had 3 members from groups that are not on the Panel or GR's visit our meeting. That was very exciting and encouraging.

Sad news from our district is that we believe our Archives no longer are available. Our new Archivist will be attempting to start again. Those of us that have reports, newsletter, fliers, etc. in our computers will be printing them again for Archives.

Because I missed getting my report in by the dead line for the last Legacy, I would like to share about our Day of Workshops we held on April 20th. The theme was "Al-Anon the Musical" and all the workshops were names of songs. We enjoyed a skit and had very cool decorations. Lisa P. from Jacksonville was our speaker and also did a great workshop on "Writing Your Own Song." Marilu M. conducted an Alateen Training session at the workshop with three in attendance. There is only one thing that could have made this workshop better - the attendance.

Our Newsletter Chair, Richard G. has had a couple of great articles in the past two newsletters. One was on ANONYMITY and another on CROSSTALK.

Our website is updated and current information is in place.

District 9 Phone Service continues by individual groups taking a month at a time and getting volunteers in their groups to cover certain days or weeks at a time. This system seems to be working very well.

Our Public Outreach Chair, Connie A. has been extremely busy this year. District 9 has participated in:

- 5 health fairs
- "Leaving Hope" – Members leaving literature to celebrate Lois W's Birthday
- Making Where and When's available in Public Libraries and encouraging groups to donate a copy of How Al-Anon Works to their local libraries

- Sharing e-mail addresses so people can say "Thank You" when the newspaper mentions Al-Anon
- We have two recovery centers that are visited by members from three local groups doing their individual Outreach
- Delivering Where & When's to AA Intergroup and Recovery Centers in Polk County
- Public Outreach project for September "Recovery Month" consists of members taking AFA's 2013 with Professional Letters and meeting schedules to professionals in our area.

I have been reminded by my Higher Power recently that none of us are responsible for the outcome of anything...We are only responsible to do exactly what our Higher power asks us to do. So, we will continue to attempt to *Communicate Recovery* in District 9.

Jill O'B DR
Lois W, AISL

**DISTRICT 10
REP:
MICHEL S.**

Here in District 10 we are so grateful that the area has moved their Assemblies to Orlando. We hope you are pleased too. What a pleasant panel to have in our backyard.

September brought us the excitement of the convention at another great locale. So many of us went to the Gulf and enjoyed the festivities. Thank you for your hard work, planners, committees, and volunteers. We are grateful.

Spring and Summer 2013 in our district saw three good workshops. We met in April to present the how-to, the where and the recovery involved in "Writing for the Forum and CAL". In June we had a FAQ workshop on Alateen - sort of "I'm an AMIAS, what now?" (Excitement is growing for a 2nd high school Alateen meeting, by the way, to meet in one of our midtown schools. We already have a healthy meeting in a Southwest Orlando high school.)

Back to workshops - in August we had a crafting workshop for convention, and discussed the 7th Tradition work. District 10 has a workshop scheduled on

the third Saturday of every even-numbered month. Our next one is set for the evening of October 19, 2013 and it is our annual Gratitude Dinner. The flyer is posted on the North Florida website, so check it out and plan on joining us that evening.

Our district's business meetings are held on the third Saturday of the odd-numbered months. We are making a push, now that we are more than halfway through Panel 52, to encourage our group representatives to COMMUNICATE RECOVERY by inviting a member personally to ride along with them to the gatherings - district's workshops and business meetings.

An interesting phenomenon has blossomed with Panel 52. Begun in Panel 49, the TRAVELING SUPPORT TEAM has visited a different meeting within the district each month. Members who attend the fellowship beforehand at a restaurant and then travel to the meeting, have found new-found interest in Al-Anon meetings just by stepping outside the box every once in a while. New friendships have formed and I, for one, have been on roads in my own county that I have never traveled in almost 20 years. We can so easily get set in our ways.

It's been a delight to share for the first time as District 10's Alternate District Representative in this issue of "The Legacy". I do enjoy reading it as well.

See you soon.

Grateful in service,

Bernie M. Alt. DR. #10

**DISTRICT 11
REP:
PAULINE C.**

Greetings all.

District 11 is alive and well. Our DR met with the Brevard County Sheriff, Wayne Ivey, Lt Mike Scully and the Titusville Chief on 7/31/13. We were granted 15 minutes and she actually stayed 45. She was able to have an open discussion of what AL-Anon has to offer the Police and Sheriffs' Department as a resource for those they come in contact, as well as their members.

I was very happy to hear that we were so well received. Though I was disheartened by the lack of knowledge of what we are.

I have been mailing Where and Whens to the Sheriffs Office, local Police departments' Guardian Ad Litum, Deputies offices, etc. during this panel and when I was AISL on panel 46. How sad to know that our mailings are not being received. This reaffirms my decision to NOT do mass mailings and to request help to have members go and speak with someone at these departments face-to-face. Our Where and Whens, AL-Anon Faces Alcoholism and Forums will now be kept in Human Resources for the Sheriffs Dept. I will be asking for volunteers to do this at our District meeting. Further I am going to steal something I heard at the Service Workshop about contacting the Boys and Girls Clubs, reaching out to the Local College Library and Student health facility again. Did anyone see the Dear Abby from July 23 suggesting Al-Anon meetings - if so did you send a thank you?

Hugs to all,

Susan M. D#11 AISL

**DISTRICT 12
REP:
SANDY P.**

Hello North Florida,

District 12 has now 42 Al-Anon meetings. We continue to hold our district meetings every 2 months with good attendance. We have a total of 36 Group Representatives. We invited our Area Treasurer, Cindy J., to present at our May district meeting and also invited our groups' treasurers to attend along with the GRs. It was a great meeting and we are thankful for Cindy's time and assistance. Financially we are feeling strong and healthy. Something my panel found interesting is that we have 6 groups with no GRs and we have 5 groups that have not contributed financially to our district this year. But every group that does not have a GR has contributed financially. In speaking to members of our groups who do not currently have a GR, we have also learned that they do have members that share information about what is going on in our district. It is our feeling that overall we have a well informed district where information flows readily and participation at the district level is strong.

During our district meetings this panel we have held workshops on GR orientation, KBDM, preparing for assembly, group

conscience, group inventories, how to handle changes in group records, our concepts, a demonstration of all our Al-Anon websites, financial matters and Al-Anon Acronyms.

Our district has several new outreach projects we approved at our July district meeting. We are excited for some new grass roots efforts in outreach. Additionally, we have a potential new institutions meeting at First Step for Mother's and Infants. They are ready to start Al-Anon meetings right away so we have begun searching for volunteers. We have also heard that our Women's Resource Center is interested in getting Al-Anon meetings started there. These were prompted by our participation at an information sharing at a Women's Resource Center event. Our outreach to spiritual leaders has been making progress in getting literature into places of worship.

Our AA Liaison is working on getting Al-Anon meetings listed in the AA Where and When if the meeting coincides with an AA meeting. She also reported that AA World Service voted to expand their 11th Tradition to include anonymity at the level of Facebook, twitter and other electronic platforms.

DISTRICT 13 REP: ELLIE B.

District 13 is located from Nokomis on the north to Punta Gorda on the south and from the Gulf of Mexico west to Arcadia to the east. We have 24 active Al-Anon groups and 7 active Alateen groups. We are actively working on getting additional AMIAS to fill the positions in other Alateen groups. The Al-Anon groups include 1 Beginners group, 1 Adult Focus group, and 1 Men's group.

I have attended group anniversaries and again have enjoyed the interaction with the members and their celebrations. I recently attended the group anniversary for my original home group and was made to feel very welcome. I shared about my beginnings in the program and in the group. Another group anniversary featured a speaker and lots of refreshments. It's a relatively new group, but the anniversary was very successful and enjoyed by all.

We have a Tea & Card Party (greeting cards), Linda L. hosting, with a speaker and a light lunch scheduled for September 19th. This will be at the regular Thursday morning Steps & Growth meeting and will

give members a chance to purchase program related greeting cards.

Our Alateen Sponsors and Alateens (Christine M. - chairing) are sponsoring a picnic, rain or shine, at the Englewood Garden Beach Club. It's located on the beach and has indoor and outdoor accommodations for us. It was a success last year and we expect it will be again this year. The teens especially enjoyed the day and all the food.

Our district, Sandy H. & Carole S., will be hosting a Speaker Marathon on Saturday, November 9. This has always been well attended and enjoyed in the past. It's one of our larger fund raising events. There will be several speakers, lunch, and a raffle. One of my favorites parts will be a recovery countdown.

We are looking forward to the convention in St. Petersburg and seeing all our new friends and meeting many more.

Love,
Ellie B. District 13 DR

WHAT'S NEW IN THE WORLD OF AL-ANON LITERATURE?

* * *

"REACHING FOR PERSONAL FREEDOM"

Living The Legacies

(P-92)

This new piece of CAL was introduced at the Al-Anon/Alateen International Convention in Vancouver in July. It can be purchased at your local LDC.

It is a workbook covering Al-Anon's Three Legacies: The Steps, The Traditions and The Concepts of Service.

A MESSAGE TO ALL FLORIDA NORTH AREA GROUPS

- Is your Group registered with the World Service Office of Al-Anon? If so, does WSO have a "Current Mailing Address" for your Group? [Note, if your group is not receiving mail from WSO, then your group is on a "suspended" list with WSO and your group needs to file a form G-1 with your District's Group Records Chair.]
- Does your Group have a Group Representative (GR), as well as an Alternate Group Representative (AGR)? The term of service is only 3 years per panel.
- Has your Group been represented at the District level with attendance at District meetings by either a GR, AGR or Group member?
- Has your Group been represented at the Area Assembly?
- Does your group have a subscription to *The Forum* magazine? [Did you know that all registered Groups receive a "free" copy of The Forum for their group?]
- Is your group self-supporting and does your group contribute to your District, Area and WSO?
- Has your Group had a Group Inventory?
- Does your Group have a "Service Manual"?

If you have answered "no" to any one of these questions, it may be time for your group to have a group conscience to discuss Concept 4: "Participation is the Key to Recovery".

**NORTH FLORIDA AFG AREA
AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE (AWSC) AND AREA ASSEMBLY
PANEL 52 – Oct 2013 & 2014 HOTEL INFO AND ASSIGNMENTS**

DATES (2013)	EVENT	LOCATION	ROOM RATES	ASSIGNMENT	DISTRICT	NOTES
Oct 4-6th	Fall Assembly	Sheraton Lake Buena Vista- 12205 South Apopka Vineland Rd. Orlando, FL 32835 1-800-423-3297 www.sheratonlakebuenavistaresort.com	\$95	Hospitality Fri & Sat Fun Shop Fri Light Side Sat Raffle Sat Registration Fri & Sat Red/Grn Light Sun Spiritual Mtg Sun Sgt. At Arms	District 6&4 District 7&8 * District District 12 District 9&2 District 1 District 11 District 3	*D7 Traditions 7&8 *D8 Concepts 7&8
DATES (2014)	EVENT	LOCATION	ROOM RATES	ASSIGNMENT	DISTRICT	NOTES
Feb. 7-8th	AWSC	Sheraton Lake Buena Vista- 12205 South Apopka Vineland Rd. Orlando, FL 32835 1-800-423-3297 www.sheratonlakebuenavistaresort.com	\$95	Hospitality Fri&Sat Spiritual Mtg Saturday evening Sgt. At Arms	District 8 District 13 District 4	
May 2-4th	Spring Assembly	Sheraton Lake Buena Vista- 12205 South Apopka Vineland Rd. Orlando, FL 32835 1-800-423-3297 www.sheratonlakebuenavistaresort.com	\$95	Hospitality Fri & Sat Fun Shop Fri Light Side Sat Raffle Sat Registration Fri & Sat Red/Grn Light Sun Spiritual Mtg Sun Sgt. At Arms	District 13 & 10 District 6 & 3* District 4 District 7 District 11 & 12 District 9 District 5 District 2	*D6 Traditions 9&10 *D3 Concepts 9&10
Aug. 15-16	AWSC	Sheraton Lake Buena Vista- 12205 South Apopka Vineland Rd. Orlando, FL 32835 1-800-423-3297 www.sheratonlakebuenavistaresort.com	\$95	Hospitality Fri&Sat Spiritual Mtg Saturday evening Sgt. At Arms	District 1 District 7 District 4	
Oct 3-5	Fall Assembly *Elections for Panel 55!!	Sheraton Lake Buena Vista- 12205 South Apopka Vineland Rd. Orlando, FL 32835 1-800-423-3297 www.sheratonlakebuenavistaresort.com	\$95	Hospitality Fri & Sat Fun Shop Fri Light Side Sat Raffle Sat Registration Fri & Sat Red/Grn Light Sun Spiritual Mtg Sun Sgt. At Arms	District 4&2 District 1&6* District TBD District 9 District 8 & 13 District 10 District 3 District 5	*D1 Traditions 11 & 12 *D6 Concepts 11 & 12

Remember to get a confirmation number when you make a reservation. When rooming with someone include both names on the reservation. Reservations must be made 30 days in advance of the event. There is a 48 hour cancellation notice. Make sure you inform the hotel you are with NFA AFG (North Florida Area AFG) to get the room rate and a reservation for blocked dates. Tax exempt applies only to payments made by the North Florida Area Treasurer.

CURRENT MAILING ADDRESSES

Panel 52 Officers & Coordinators

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<u>District Representatives</u>					
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