



# THE LEGACY

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June-July 2013

North Florida Area Website: [www.northfloridaAl-Anon.org](http://www.northfloridaAl-Anon.org)

**CHAIRPERSON:  
WENDY R.**

**TREASURER:  
CINDY J.**

1. One thing I would really like North Florida Area to do in 2014 is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. One thing I think I can do for North Florida Area in 2014 is \_\_\_\_\_.

Hello North Florida!

We are halfway through Panel 52 and it has been fantastic so far. The Concepts workshop at Assembly was so informative; I hope you were able to attend.

As an Area we will now be conducting background checks for all AMIAS. We will work through this process in our AWSC task force to further define the processes around this and add to our Area requirements.

At AWSC we will continue to work on our task & thought forces. Some of our topics are;

Job Descriptions for Officers and Coordinators to further define the responsibility,

Archives; digitalizing our documents and pictures for electronic storage

Assembly Inventory results; how we can best address issues important to our membership

Election Procedures; reviewing and adjusting as needed

Everyone seemed to enjoy the new hotel in Orlando, we have a few kinks to work out but overall it was a smooth transition.

We have such a great Area and I am so grateful to be a part of it!

Love in Service,

Wendy R.

North Florida Area Chairperson

"Communicate Recovery"

What a great Assembly we had! So much excitement with the changes to our meeting place, and the super Concepts Workshop by Ric from WSO and all the anticipation building toward our Convention in September! I feel very fortunate to be part of the North Florida Area and to bring you the information you need about our money and our finances.

I hope you all have a copy of my Treasurer's Report and Quarterly Appeal. If you need a copy by email, let me know. I can also send a hard copy to anyone who would like that.

We are into the Budget preparation process again, and I am looking for your input. If you have information, suggestions or questions about how we are allocating our Contributions for the upcoming fiscal year – please put them in writing and send them either via email or snail-mail. I am fortunate to have a wonderful group of members who continue to attend the Budget Roundtables, and stay in touch throughout the year, helping this process maintain the Al-Anon tradition of a group conscience. As I said at Assembly, I'm not a Chief Financial Officer, nor am I the boss of the money! I'm here to help you make the decisions and choices YOU want to make. It is our money – our voluntary contributions – that allow us to reach out to families and friends of alcoholics.

Part of the focus going forward would be helped a lot by your participation in the following way – complete these statements:

Don't worry – I won't hold anyone to anything in particular! But it would be wonderful to see some of the ideas that come from our diverse and active membership. I look forward to sharing these answers, and our recommendations for the 2014 Budget at the Area World Service Committee meeting in August.

As always, please feel free to contact me if I can be of service!

Sincerely,

Cindy J., Treasurer Panel 52

## NEWSLETTER "THE LEGACY":

Hello North Florida –

What a wonderful Spring Assembly. If you didn't go, you missed a great workshop by Ric Buchanan of the WSO on Al-Anon's 12 Concepts of Service.

I, myself, use the Concepts not only in my Service Work, but also in my day-to-day life.

Love in Service,

Janet O:)

District 4



## DELEGATE: TERRY K.

Hello North Florida!

In April, I attended both the South East Delegates Get Together and the 2013 World Service Conference. At the Spring Assembly, I asked the G.R.s from the following groups to stand and be recognized because these groups have all joined North Florida since the start of panel 52. They are the following: Acceptance AFG, Winter Park; Cove Life AFG, Green Cove Springs; Hope for Alateen AFG/Alateen, St. Petersburg; Lem Turner Road AFG, Jacksonville; Let Go and Let God AFG, Palm Bay; Let It Begin With Me AFG, Summerfield; Prime Time AFG, Winter Park; Step Four Study Group AFG, The villages; Sunny Side Up AFG, Riverview Thursday AFG, Sarasota; Yulee AFG, Yulee; AND all the G.R.s representing groups from District 13.

As I report to you, I'd like you to remember the Kirkpatrick view of Al-Anon. First are the Groups, then Districts, then the Areas—all traditional. Then below the fellowship is the business, Al-Anon Inc., made up of the Board of Trustees, the Executive Committee and finely, World Service Office (WSO). This is exactly opposite of almost any organization in the world, and people have come to study us to see how such an organization could function for 63 years.

Part of it is at the point where the fellowship and the business, known as Al-Anon Inc., come together. It's called the World Service Conference (WSC). The WSC was held in Virginia Beach, Virginia on the 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> of April. As I listened to the topics, discussion and occasionally spoke at the mike myself, I began to see a theme emerging. It may not have been planned, but this is the theme that emerged for me.

First, Step 12: "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps we tried to carry this message to others..." Then Traditions 5 and 7: "Each Al-Anon Family Group has but one purpose: to help the families of Alcoholics..." and "Every group should

be fully self-supporting..." And finally Concept 1: "The ultimate responsibility and authority for Al-Anon world services belongs to the Al-Anon groups," who have the responsibility for public outreach, making sure that those who need Al-Anon get it, and continue to get it.

"Each Al-Anon Family Group has but one purpose: to help the families of Alcoholics..." This is what we do. It's important because it's part of our own recovery. Someone said that Al-Anon recovery is very simple: "trust God, clean house and help others." You all know how good it makes you feel when you see someone come into the rooms and after a few weeks, they start smiling. Part our recovery!

"Every group should be fully self-supporting..." No passing the buck, no looking for others to do it for us. When we're self-supporting, we put into the group to make it successful, not only financially but by giving of our time and our talent. And don't we feel good when we do? It's part of our recovery.

"The ultimate responsibility and authority for Al-Anon world services belongs to the Al-Anon groups." That's those people who sit around the tables each time your group meets – It isn't district, or area or WSO – it's us. And yes, it is part of our recovery.

Then what's WSO's part in all this? If we're to do the work, why do we need them? Let me tell you a little about WSO. There are only 46 Employees at WSO. They're the ones who answer the phone, fill the literature orders and do all the other things that WSO does. Most, but not all employees of WSO, are members of Al-Anon. They have home groups and support those groups. It's part of their recovery.

Let me highlight one or two of the things the departments in WSO are involved in.

Membership Outreach – It's function is to support the structures from the district, and Area, to the world service levels. This year the Membership Outreach Department will be facilitating the 2013 International Convention. Translates Conference Approved Literature (CAL), Public Out-

reach materials, and the Public Outreach and Member Web sites for the Spanish- and French-speaking members worldwide.

Fellowship Communications Department – Processes requests to re-print CAL in Area newsletters, books, and articles written by members, and by professionals who are publishing research. This process protects our copyright and ensures that Al-Anon's printed material is presented accurately. Coordinates the production of all new literature, including selecting a writer, preparing the contract for the writer, making edits, and preparing the drafts for review by the Literature Committee, Policy Committee, and Executive Director. Sometimes the staff makes minor revisions to books or pamphlets.

Group Services Department – Group Records, Alateen, General Group Services, Electronic Meetings, Inmate Services, Literature Distribution Centers, and Al-Anon Information Services make up the Group Services Department. Group Services: Registers new Al-Anon and Alateen groups and electronic meetings, sends a complimentary *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* (P24/27) to each registered group, and sends a complimentary *Groups at Work* to each registered group.

A District Treasurer had stolen about \$1,500 in district funds. The district was not sure what do to, so they contacted the Group Services Department. "What recourse do we have as a district to recoup our funds? Do we have grounds for legal action? There is some concern this may cause a public controversy, which is clearly a conflict with our Traditions and the Al-Anon principles. Any guidance you could provide to help us move forward in a healthy way would be appreciated."

Group Services replied in part: Al-Anon service is not above the law, and while it doesn't happen often, there have been occasions where service arms have had to take legal action against members. It is always better if it doesn't have to be done this way, but theft is theft, and individuals have to be held accountable.

The Public Outreach Department at WSO:

- Produces *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* - Al-Anon's largest, member-participation public outreach project.
- Develops **radio and TV PSAs** that reach English-, Spanish-, and French-speaking audiences in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Bermuda, and Canada.

Administration and Business Services Departments: (Wasn't it Lois who said that there is no romance in paying the rent?). Receive and process all literature orders, contributions, and *Forum* subscriptions from the fellowship. Maintain inventory in a safe and easily accessible fashion to ensure adequate stock of material, as well as process, package, and ship as many orders as possible on a daily basis.

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This is only a small sample of what goes on at WSO. You can see it's a lot for those 46 people to do.

In accordance with tradition 7, WSO is supported by Al-Anon. That support comes from two sources: donations and the sale of literature. Only about 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of WSO's income was from donations. 2/3<sup>rds</sup> came from literature. That's almost exactly opposite of AA. One of the Trustees pointed out that Al-Anon has gone from a fellowship to a publishing house.

Depending on our literature to support the functions of WSO isn't a sound policy. For example, last year our literature sales dipped. Because of that, WSO is projecting a budget shortfall of \$3,000 dollars.

The loss would have been a lot greater but the staff worked very hard to cut costs. One way was to put off publishing the new Service Manual for a year. Another was to postpone merit raises. Still another is to cut staff by attrition. One comment at Conference was, the people at WSO are Al-Anon's employees. How do we want to treat our employees? Another comment was that Al-Anon is mostly funded by newcomers, because they buy the most literature. I've got to admit, it made me squirm in my chair, to hear that. It's not that \$3000 is such a big loss, but if it continues, the support from WSO will suffer and when that

happens the fellowship will suffer.

WSO gives about \$250 worth of service to each group, but receives only about \$111 from *groups that contribute*. And only about 60% of groups contribute to WSO. (If you're wondering how North Florida did, 70% of our Groups contributed and contributions were up by almost \$4,000 in 2012.)

I've done a lot of thinking why less than two out of three groups send contributions to WSO. I've come up with a couple of Ideas.

We believe that because there are over 25,000 groups worldwide, other groups will donate to WSO.

Our groups are "in the room." District is just up the road, they supply us with stuff we need, like literature, information on conventions, workshops and gratitude dinners. Area... Well most members aren't too sure about our area, what is it that area does? Isn't it somewhere over by Disney World? And WSO? That's on another planet! I wonder if we would give more support to WSO if it were in the next room?

I don't want you to think that I came away from Conference with a negative attitude. The truth is I heard something about supporting WSO from a very different point of view. The finance folks up at WSO have come up with some unusual way that we can show our gratitude. Besides the quarterly appeal letter - which is a way Members can give directly to WSO - groups and individuals can send a contribution for each year of Al-Anon.

WSO will also accept contributions in memory of past Al-Anon members, *if the donation is made by an Al-Anon member!* "Why," you ask? Suppose the president of a large company had been a member of Al-Anon. Suppose, after he became a member he changed from a fire eating dragon to a really nice guy that most of the employees loved. The company wanted to contribute something to Al-Anon.

Would that not break tradition seven, by accepting outside contributions? Even if it were the Wife or child of the person, if they didn't belong to Al-Anon, it could be looked upon as a conflict of interest. (A taskforce is looking at this. Here's part of the live discussion we had:

The source of all contributions to the WSO are anonymous to the Al-Anon membership.

The current WSO practice requires verification by the WSO staff that any contribution is from an Al-Anon member. This practice may be in conflict with our principle of anonymity.

Would acceptance of memorial contributions from family members compromise our spiritual foundation?

Interesting, right? So take it to your groups and talk about it. It's really up to you. Remember, this is part of your recovery.

Other things that occurred at the WSC: The Conference ratified name changes for four areas. You may remember that last year AWSC passed a motion of support for Alabama to change its name to Alabama/Northwest Florida. There were three other areas involved - New Mexico/El Paso, Wisconsin/Upper Michigan, and Manitoba/Northwest Ontario. The motion passed.

Another interesting tidbit - NFA is: "**FLORIDA NORTH**" at WSO not "North Florida".

**Dual Members:** The **Policy Committee** continues work on text with the goal of bringing it to the WSC for discussion and approval. This year part of the discussion at WSC involved Identifying Service jobs for Dual Members. They highlighted the jobs that Dual Members CAN do. Note: Dual members cannot vote on Al-Anon Policy.

For further information on any of the above information, keep an eye on the member's website where the Conference Summary will be posted.

Terry K

NFA Panel 52 Delegate

## ALT. DELEGATE: SHELLEY C.

Hello North Florida!

Whew! We have just completed compiling the results of our N FL Area inventory that was taken at Fall 2012 Assembly. We had 160 responses, so I think we have a really good sampling of those attending. Thank you to the Task Force whose job it was to assemble, compile, and condense all this information. The raw data (all responses) and a condensed report have been posted to the website for your reading pleasure. Keep in mind as you peruse the data that not everyone answered every question, so you won't add to 160 for each question. Also, some responses add to more than 160 because some questions have more than one part. I think you will find it fascinating. I know I did.

Thank you, thank you to the districts that invited me to visit them recently. Early in April I attended a District 7 (Pinellas County) meeting and was given an opportunity to lead a Forum writing workshop. What fun! At the end I collected a huge envelope of responses that went straight to the Forum magazine to be published.....we hope. Then they fed me!

My next visit later in the month was to District 2 in Ocala. They asked me to speak at their District meeting on how I have fun in service. I always appreciate an opportunity to share my enthusiasm for service and what I have learned. I came to believe as I shared that the fun I experience is because I know, like and can be myself. And then they fed me!

We have half of Panel 52 to go so I have many weekends, or weekdays, available. Please invite me...I will come! And you don't have to feed me!

If you would like to submit a Forum sharing on your own, not from a workshop, you can do that directly online on the members' WSO site or bring it to me at the next Area meeting, and I'll be happy to mail it.

Are you leading a meeting on one of our legacies this month? Check out the articles in the latest edition of the Forum as a great way to introduce the topic. Did you find the missing rice in the May Forum? You'll have to read the Forum to find out.....

Love in Service  
Shelley C.

Alternate Delegate Panel 52 N FL  
Communicate Recovery

*The Forum* publishes (now online) in December, an index of topics that have appeared in *The Forums* during that year which is great for looking up if you want to do a workshop or chair a meeting on a particular subject. Problem is – if you share your *Forum* or pass it along so that someone who needs it might pick it up and find out about Al-Anon, you don't have it to reference. One thing that I have started doing – I have two (2) copies of *The Forum* mailed to me – one to keep and one to share. It is two (2) times the money but I think that an additional \$11.00 a year is worth it to be able to have that valuable reference on-hand for just that time when you really need that article that was in the March *Forum* and its now January of the next year. It also helps out on The Forum subscriptions for the District, North Florida and WSO (hint, hint).

- **Anonymous**

## PUBLIC OUTREACH: ANN Q.

Dear Al-Anon Family,

Our mantra this Panel is to **Communicate Recovery!**

Welcome District 13! Try and guess how many actual meetings (including Alateen meetings) are in North Florida now with the inclusion of District 13?

**Public Outreach** is everybody's job. Have you left a meeting list in a place where someone who may need it can

find it lately? As I read the reports so many of the Districts are distributing meeting lists and "Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism" at fairs, in hospitals, in police stations, in fire houses, in libraries, in Laundromats, in book stores etc. Wow keep up the great work !

Our Thought Force committee suggested two projects which will be formally presented to AWSC in August and then hopefully at Assembly in October. We hope you can support them in your District.

We have put the order on hold for the WSO approved bumper stickers until we are assured the GR's have a chance to vote in October. Our plan is to order 600 for all of the North Florida Area.

We will distribute them by the number of meetings in your district. If each group put one bumper sticker on their car or even in a bus stop., (They are magnetic & attach easily to any metal surface.) it would be like magnetic moving billboards. If accepted as a project, please help by putting them in key places in your district, and then letting me know if you get any feedback as a result of someone seeing them.

Thanks for approving the background checks for AMIAS. It is another way we demonstrate Al-Anon takes every effort to protect and serve our teens.

Please help the Alateens in your District to find a program that has helped all of us to recover. Remember Alateen is a part of the Al-Anon Program. Spending money on Alateen Literature is not restricted to Area only. Individual Districts can make it a pet project too. The second motion which will be discussed at Area is one that involves spending Area money to buy Alateen Literature to help all 13 Districts attract potential Alateens. If approved each District representative will be given a bundle to take home and decide who in their district would be best able to disseminate this material geared for Alateens. We realize not all Districts have a PO at this time, so we will trust in HP that the DR will find the right person or persons to lead the way in that district.

Our goal is to let the Alateens know there is help available, and it is called Alateen.

Schools, Treatment Centers, or Recreation Centers or any place teens hang out and can be reached are fertile grounds for them to see and hear the message. If you are fortunate enough to have an ad in the local news paper make sure you include the fact you have Alateen meetings that are available too. If you need a sample ad for the news paper, please contact me.

We know some districts are having difficulty distributing materials to the schools.

As a former employee of the schools, I always look for connections.

Do you know a social worker, guidance counselor, librarian, superintendent?

Are any of your district members teachers or administrators?

Do any of you have a contact in the schools as a result of running a meeting in the schools?

I, as part of the Area Public Outreach Team, would love to give you a hug for all you do to help get the message out there that HOPE (Hang On Pain Ends) is a reality.

Fully Relying On God



Thanks for all you do in service,

Ann O.  
North Florida Area Public Outreach

**AAPP  
RENE**

Hello North Florida Area  
Al-Anon/Alateen Family,

The Journey continues.

Since the AWSC Meeting in February, I know District 7 passed to have subscription to Teen Talks for the Middle and High School in the District, but as usual with the School System it is a

difficult project to pursue. Need permission and a way to distribute to the Schools. They are not making it easy to pass recovery opportunities to young people. I still think this is a good idea worth pursuing.

I am pursuing on having a get together with AMIAS of Districts 5, 7, and 8 to have a sharing session among them. Discuss Alateen meetings and what works and what doesn't.

If this works out, maybe we could do the same with other Districts that have borders that are close together. If you have an idea please let me know.

I want to encourage all AMIAS to hold meetings to get to know each other and offer their knowledge, strength and hope. I still think this is a good thing and would like to hear if there have been any meetings of the AMIAS, and how they went.

I am planning on attending the Alateen Conference for 2013. Got my Background Check and I passed! YEH! Counting on having a great time and fellowship with the AMIAS attending the Conference and getting some suggestions on what we can do to reach out and spread the recovery.

I was able to attend a workshop in District 9. I was a surprised guest as I didn't know if I would be able to be there until the last minute. I really enjoyed being able to attend a training session for AMIAS as I needed to get recertified. Mary Lou did a Great Job, class was small but dynamic.

Thank you North Florida for this opportunity to grow in service.

Rene E.  
NFA 09, Panel 52, AAPP

**See 160 responses to the  
North Florida Area Inventory  
Taken at Fall Assembly 2012  
at**

**[www.northfloridaAl-Anon.org](http://www.northfloridaAl-Anon.org)**

**SECRETARY;  
LLEW E.**

Hello North Florida Al-Anon/Alateen members.

This is Llew, your new North Florida Area Secretary. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve in this capacity during the second half of Panel 52. Kimberly, your outgoing Secretary, has shown me some of the tricks that she has used to keep up with the AWSC and Assembly minutes, so I will work to follow closely and provide the information to all those who are supposed to get it to the best of my ability.

One word that I have learned to use in my time in Al-Anon is **HELP**. It never hurts to ask for it when needed. There is a bumper sticker that I quote quite often: 'People Plan; God Laughs'. This sums up my plan most of the time and relates back to October 19<sup>th</sup> in C2C. Ric's wonderful interpretation of the Concepts at Assembly changed my plan - let's see how it works out.

Thank you again for your vote of confidence.

Llew E.

**WEBSITE:  
SHELLY F.**

Hello North Florida Area!

I am feeling a teeny-weeny bit lost as a result of not being at the "best assembly ever." Everyone I have talked to has had nothing to say but great things to say about the fellowship shared on that special week-end. Thank you for welcoming my stand in, Michael D., into your loving presence.

If you didn't hear about the new map added to our website, please find a moment to visit [www.northfloridaAl-Anon.org](http://www.northfloridaAl-Anon.org). You will see it pictured on the home

page. When clicked, it takes the viewer to the Meeting page where a larger interactive Map of Districts will connect them to a district website of their choice. We have been getting fewer email inquiries about how to locate local meetings, so it seems to have been well received.

An area for articles from *The Forum* was also launched recently. We hope our visitors will see that they are not alone when they read the experience, strength and hope of those who have been affected by someone else's drinking. Including sharings will help put a face to our fellowship and show strangers to Al-Anon that it is a safe place to be. By attraction we possibly will compel someone to take action, and get to a meeting. This undertaking presents a new opportunity for someone to participate and reach out to others. It would entail checking for articles published on the WSO members' site that are reprint able with WSO's permission. Then cutting and pasting each selection into the Word-Press text editor online. *The Forum* articles can be submitted as often as your time permits or on a monthly basis. Come be a part of our wonderful Web Team! Please contact me if you are interested in helping.

Lastly, if your district or group would like to share information about an event or anniversary with the entire area on our website, please send a hyperlink (webpage address) to me for the flyer/calendar on your district's website. Updates are made at the middle and end of the month. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve you!

Love in service,  
Shelly F.

**ALATEEN**  
**BOBBI M.**

Greetings to All,

Did YOU attend our Spring Assembly; did YOU enjoy the Concept Workshop

as much as I? WOW, totally one not to be forgotten soon by myself. My thanks to Ric B., who shared his knowledge and information for sure!! The 2013 Alateen Conference hosted by South Florida will be held June 7/9, 2013. It has been shared that there will be Alateen's and Al-Anon members from North Florida attending. Great news for sure, perhaps Concept 4 is being applied here. *"Participation is the key to harmony."*

At Spring Assembly it was voted on, and approved, that North Florida Area 09's Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) members be required to have Background/Finger printing process performed. Processing methods and procedures for members to complete this task was shared with our District Officers and District Alateen Chair/trusted servants doing record processing. More on this matter as time passes. Thanks again to our TASK Force for their knowledge and time researching this matter.

As shared at Assembly, the Alateen Chat meeting room needs "helpers." Any Area certified "AMIAS" member(s) who are or MIGHT be willing or interested in this service please contact me ~ lets talk!! Also, please share within your District the Chat meeting needs support from your teens.

The 2014 Alateen Conference will be hosted by North Florida Area 09!! Thank you to District 5 who has volunteered their service for this event. All Districts are encouraged to contact District 5, share your willingness to support this teen event.

The World Service Office (WSO) E-communities site continues to educate me. There is a revision to our Alateen Registration/Group Records Change Form (G-3). District Representatives, Alateen Chairs/trusted servants doing record processing may have gotten this from our Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) already. WSO encourages that we start using the new version when submitting records.

There will be a WSO Conference call for our world-wide program, for Area Alateen Coordinators in June. It is my intent to participate in this call.

On an ending note here, please share with neighboring Districts when you're District will be having a training/orientation session. Our Area web site is a very good way to "communicate" the news. Well that's it North Florida, thanks for being here for me, as I am for you.

Hugs and Smiles to all,  
Bobbi M.  
Panel 52 NFA09

## GROUP RECORDS TONI C.

Hello North Florida.

It's hard to believe we are half way through this panel already. I'm enjoying the position as your group records coordinator and I would like to thank all of you for filling out the GR-1 form when information needs to be updated for your group. Because of your prompt group updates given to your district group records chair that passes the form on to me, I have been quite busy updating meetings in the North Florida Area. Thus far in 2013, we have eight new Al-Anon meetings. How great is that?

How many have received the group's annual update sheet in March or April from World Service Office (WSO)? Perhaps, you might inquire to see if your groups CMA received it. Was it filled out and mailed back to WSO? If it wasn't received, it could be that your group is in the 'No Mail Status'. Meaning, mail was sent back to WSO as undeliverable. Your group should also be receiving the Forum magazine each month. There have been a number of times the US Postal Service sends mail back to WSO when there has been no address changes at all. (After all, they're not perfect either.) Please work with your district group records chair. The information they receive helps keep your district where & when, district website, and the WSO data base up to date. WSO has contacted me to say that a member went to a meeting that was in the data base and no one showed up at the meeting and asked me to contact the

group. I found that the group changed the meeting location and didn't pass the information to the District, North Florida Area or WSO. This brings to my mind the –

***Al-Anon Declaration:***

Let It Begin With Me

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help,

let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen

**always** be there, and - *Let It Begin With Me.*

Thank you for getting this information back to all of your groups and helping members and prospective members find our meetings.

I am grateful to be your NFA Group Records Coordinator.

Love in Service,

Toni C.

## ARCHIVES CHAM B.

**A LOOK AT THE FUTURE With Help From the Past**

After serving for a year, visiting other Districts, attending an Archives Workshop – learning realistically the primary purpose of those involved in archival service work and learning that all of our service work is to carry the message of Al-Anon to families and friends dealing with the decease of alcoholism and its efforts – 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/Alateen 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 and grows. (Al-Anon information is found in the Library of Congress.)

WSO in conjunction with Areas, Districts, Intergroup and AFG groups developed Archives' instructional information for collection to preserve our history. WSO Guideline 30 was developed to assist with "our" needs.

Guideline-30 is under construction by a Thought Force Committee made up of Al-Anon Archivists and by Archive Coordinators across the country lead by WSO.

Learning by attending educational seminars, workshops, (as often as possible) to become familiar with all aspects of correctly storing, keeping, maintaining and growing information, and the importance of all items. Continue to learn to recognize what may be appropriate and vital for those that come after Panel 52.

Correct storage information and what is needed to preserve 'Your' service contribution to Al-Anon for NFA has been provided in the past year. However, if anyone needs any information, I am always available by email or phone. Refer to the CMA.

There are items from other panels that need attention.

**Future**—keep members informed especially DRs and AISLs about the latest updates concerning how Al-Anon's Archives work effectively; referencing WSO Guideline 30. As your Archive Coordinator, I am relying on AISLs and DRs to forward Archive information and requests for information directly to AISL members, Archive Chairs, GRs etc. For example, when Districts are asked to provide information reflecting each District, think about representing your area in a unique way or not! Personally, I believe when I enjoy my endeavors, it helps me remember what is so positive about this Fellowship and the Al-Anon program. Working toward the goal of Communicating Recovery can be therapeutic for me. Please enjoy all your most welcomed efforts and contributions, i.e., "NFA Archives Traveling Show;" and the "Lois W. and Anne B. Traveling Show". We have had items contributed by many Districts, groups, individuals! Thank you all for all of your efforts. Let's do it again!

I would love to have direct response from each District's AISLs, District Archive Chairs; District Group Records, DRs, and GRs willing to assist in achieving "our" goals.

For example, the representation of "your" District with posters, etc. that expresses what is happening in "your" Al-Anon District; Group Originating Date, compiled by District Group Records and forwarded to Archives for inclusion in the "60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Group Originating Date Project" begun by WSO in Panel 49.

*If any member willing to allow NFA Archives to have copies of words, photos, etc from any NFA Al-Anon members in CAL...books, The Forum that members are willing to have presented as part of an ongoing NFA Panel 52 poster. Pamphlets, books memorable that may be exclusive to area of Florida. Look at your books for publishing dates. See if you may are "Original." That is exciting! Please provide anything you or your District group conscious feels is appropriate! Communicate Recovery by allowing NFA to see the great contributions your District, Group, etc have made.*

*New task force forming to have all Archives scanned and stored in Virtual/Cloud storage site for NFA.*

*Florida AA Archives Workshop will be held February 15, 2014 in Orlando. Also, national will be held in late summer of 2013 in Illinois near Dr. Bob's home.*

*Respectfully request all reports sent out to please print 1-only for Archive inclusion.*

*The necessity for 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! Carrollwood area in District 8 is the present location of NFA Archives. Come on over! Or allow me to come over and pick up.*

Something learned from others that may be considered—having an Archivist and an Archives Coordinator. In some states across the country, this has already been accomplished; others are

working on an Archivist "job description."

For example, Areas have a constant location for Archives Storage with a Volunteer Archivist. An Archives Coordinator that rotates every 3-years; travels to Districts, meetings, conventions, and any other areas of request to support and encourage the continuing of NFA AFG saving of "treasures."

Thanks all of you very much for contributing to Archives and using WSO guidelines, and especially for your willingness to work together. Panel 52 "Rocks."

Love and hugs in Al-Anon Service,

*Cham*

Archives Coordinator

## DISTRICT 4 REP: DAVID H.

At AWSC in February we had lots of plans for the coming months in District 4 and I'm happy to say that we have good results to report. We took our District meeting on the road in February by meeting in St. Augustine rather than our usual place in Flagler Beach. We had twenty-one people in attendance which is about normal for us. Thanks very much to the St. Augustine "Let it Begin With Me" group for hosting and providing refreshments for the meeting.

We have developed a questionnaire and collected input for our District Inventory. We are in search of a facilitator from outside our district to review this and assist in our completing the process.

Our Day of Workshops on March 2, 2013 in Palm Coast was GREAT! We had 50 people participate. The focus of the workshops was Service and Sponsorship. The Literature Distribution Center table and boutique tables were busy during breaks. Thanks to Diana and Cheryl for taking the lead on this and to everyone who helped make this a great day.

We held our annual District 4 Picnic in the Sunset Pavilion at Tomoca State Park on April 21, 2013. There were plenty of hamburgers and hotdogs with all the fixings and a wide selection of side dishes and desserts. The rain held off long enough to toss a few horseshoes and to get the cooking done. There was room for all 47 of us to stay dry under the pavilion while listening to an AA and Al-Anon speaker. The fellowship was great! Thanks to Priscilla for taking the lead, Diana for organizing the raffle, David and David for cooking and Holly securing our location.

We have a Gratitude Dinner scheduled for November 9, 2013 in Westminster Hall at First Presbyterian Church in Palatka. Keep an eye out for flyers on this in the fall. We would love to have folks from other districts come and enjoy this time with us.

We have a lot of adults in District 4 that would like to get Alateen meetings going. We continue to have a challenge getting the teens to attend. Lucy is off to great start as AISL. She had to slow up a bit in April due to health issues but is looking forward to really developing this position through the rest of this panel.

Thirteen of us made it to the Spring Assembly in Orlando. Thanks to our District Secretary Christina, who kept great notes and distributed to all GRs a wonderful report on the proceedings before our next district meeting. We were preoccupied on Friday evening with our Fun Shop skit on Traditions 5 & 6—W-ANON Talk Radio that we all agree Diana did a great job writing and organizing. We had a great script and the cast did a wonderful job. Thanks to all. It was great to have Ric B. from WSO participate in the Assembly; he has great energy and is a great representative of WSO. It was great to have the Area approve background checks for AMIAS, putting in place a structure to support our previous decision to do this at a district level. District 4 is looking forward to hosting, along with District 6, the hospitality suite at the Fall Assembly.

Yours in Al-Anon Service,  
David H.

## DISTRICT 10 REP: MICHEL S.

Hello North Florida!

Thank you for a GREAT Spring Assembly and a great experience together. One of our "long timers" said to me, just as I was leaving, "this is the BEST assembly that I've ever seen... and I've seen many". She went on to say that it was "organized, informative, and FUN"! On that, I couldn't agree more.

The Saturday Concepts Workshop, with Ric B., executive director of WSO, was a highlight for me, personally. It shed new light on several concepts and principals that seem to escape many of us when we're "just reading the words on the page". This is some of what I *heard*: "Changing me to we". We "get as we give"! And that leadership is not **dominance**.

Also, and most importantly, I heard this: "when we give people jobs to do... we don't just hand them a job description. We hold a conversation. We do whatever is necessary to help each other succeed".

At our last District meeting, we reviewed the results of our most recent District inventory. We found several positive attributes that we can certainly be proud of. An example would be; we are Welcoming, Open, and Well Prepared.

On June 15<sup>th</sup>, Lois M. will be holding an Alateen Workshop. Questions about Alateen is the topic. Examples would be.

I'm certified, Now What?  
I need a background Check?  
How will I do that?  
Where do I go?  
When can I start?

Finally, Lois M. and Michel S. have successfully completed their "VECHS" background check, without incidence!

Yours in service,  
Michel S.

## RESEARCH FROM CAL FOR RED LIGHT/GREEN LIGHT QUESTION:

How do we handle groups that do not have GR's or if they do, they do not attend District meetings or Assembly? If we were to somehow get the information to them, would that be enabling?

[Presented at May 2013 Assembly]

**Note:** This is one page of five pages of research. The entire document is on the North Florida Website.

Principles found in the Conference Approved literature state that we are powerless to change any person, and by inference, any group. It further suggests that when we see error in a group's practice of their program, we might need to take our own inventory and/or group conscience. In any case, solutions can be revealed by talking with all parties involved, asking our Higher Power for guidance.

The question under consideration illustrates our concern for Al-Anon as a whole. Of course, we take no action that is punitive. While everyone has the potential to be a leader, those of us in leadership positions are called upon to observe the defined authority and responsibilities listed for carrying out certain tasks. The District Representative, for instance, is charged with helping groups understand the Traditions and Concepts of service. Mindful of the Al-Anon principle of abundance, DRs may delegate tasks, and/or new service positions may be created to reach out to groups via a study program of the Traditions and Concepts. By giving we receive.

Two points need to be kept in mind when considering whether to "somehow get the information to" the non-participating group. The first comes from the principle of responsibility; alcoholics do not benefit when we assume the alcoholic's responsibilities; nor does it help to cover or protect the alcoholic; that a more helpful action is to allow the natural consequences to take place, thus to allow the opportunity to learn.

The second point to keep in mind is that the literature also teaches that we are obligated to help anyone who has been effected by another person's drinking -- and, of course, groups are made up of members who have been effected by another person's drinking. There are indeed healthy ways to be of assistance, and thankfully those ways are gleaned by a careful study of the Traditions, Concepts, and guidelines, including those listed below.

### **Principle: Enabling**

"I learned that when I cleaned up the consequences of alcoholic behavior, I enabled the alcoholic ... A more compassionate way to respond to those I love might be to allow them to face the consequences of their actions ... (*Courage to Change*, p. 5)

### **Policies**

"The Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts of Service are the framework which defines what Al-Anon is and how it should operate." (*Al-Anon Fact File-Service*, P-36, p.3)

"A Delegate at the 1983 Conference asked about groups that violate the Legacies: 'If groups are doing their own thing and not following Steps and principles, can others be informed and discouraged from further attendance?' The official answer was, 'The WSO does not do this. It has come to our attention that this is sometimes a practice at the local or Area level. Our recommendation would be to try to help the group to better practice Al-Anon principles.' The Policy Committee discussed this same question at the 2010 World Service Conference." (*Many Voices, One Journey, Al-Anon Family Groups*, p. 232)

"Al-Anon's Twelve Traditions are guides for the conduct and unity of the groups, just as the Twelve Steps are guides for the lives and growth of individual members. *The Twelve Steps and Traditions*, P-17, p. 10

**NORTH FLORIDA AFG AREA  
AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE (AWSC) AND AREA ASSEMBLY  
PANEL 52 – 2012 HOTEL INFO AND ASSIGNMENTS**

DATE S (2013)	EVENT	LOCATION	ROOM RATES	ASSIGNMENT	DISTRICT	NOTES
Aug. 16-17th	AWSC	Sheraton Lake Buena Vista- 12205 South Apopka Vineland Rd. Orlando, FL 32835 1-800-423-3297 www.sheratonlakebuenavistaresort.com	\$95	Hospitality  Spiritual Meeting Sat  Sgt At Arms	District 10  District 3  District 1	
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 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
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  Spiritual Meeting Sat  Sgt At Arms	District  District  District	District Assignments  To Be Determined
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 Fun Shop Fri Light Side Sat Raffle Sat Registration Fri Sat Red/Grn Light Sun Spiritual Mtg Sun Sgt. At Arms	District District * District District District District District District	District Assignments  To Be Determined  *D Traditions 9&10  *D Concepts 9&10

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**

<u>Delegate</u> Officer	Terry K, Dist. 7	<u>Newsletter</u> Coordinator <i>'The Legacy'</i>	Janet O, Dist. 4	<u>Dist 5</u> Rep	Sharon N
<u>Alternate</u> <u>Delegate</u> Officer	Shelley C, Dist. 8	<u>Literature/</u> <u>LDC</u> Coordinator	Di T, Dist. 8	<u>Dist 6</u> Rep	Eva N
<u>Chairperson</u> Officer	Wendy R, Dist. 12	<u>Public</u> <u>Outreach</u> Coordinator	Ann O, Dist. 7	<u>Dist 7</u> Rep	VACANT
<u>Secretary</u> Officer	Llew E, Dist. 11	<u>Spanish</u> <u>Intergroup</u> Liaison	Leticia R, Dist. 8	<u>Dist 8</u> Rep	Charon L
<u>Treasurer</u> Officer	Cindy J, Dist. 1 <b>North Florida Assembly</b> 1700 N Monroe Street Suite 11-120 Tallahassee, FL 32303	<u>Website</u> Coordinator	Shelly F, Dist. 7	<u>Dist 9</u> Rep	Jill O'B

**District Representatives**

<u>Alateen</u> Coordinator	Bobbi M, Dist. 11	<u>Dist 1</u> Rep	VACANT	<u>Dist 10</u> Rep	Michel S
<u>Alateen</u> <u>Area</u> <u>Process</u> <u>Person/</u> <u>(AAPP)</u>	Rene E, Dist. 7	<u>Dist 2</u> Rep	Elsa M. C	<u>Dist 11</u> Rep	Pauline C
<u>Archives</u> Coordinator	ChamB, Dist. 8	<u>Dist 3</u> Rep	Charlene S	<u>Dist 12</u> Rep	Sandy P
<u>Group</u> <u>Records</u> Coordinator	Toni C, Dist. 3	<u>Dist 4</u> Rep	David H	<u>Dist 13</u> Rep	Ellie B