

District 8 Report Assembly Spring 2017

It is with great appreciation that we share this report with Assembly regarding the activities of District 8 (Hillsborough County) Al-Anon Family Groups.

Events: Our district has developed our calendar of events with unanimous approval. Our holiday party was a great success! The theme was "Out With The Old Attitude", with a potluck and a 50/50 raffle. In addition, District 8 has agreed to host the 2018 Convention. Meetings for that have already begun and committee chairs are already seated.

Alateen: We are happy to report a new Al-Ateen meeting held on Sunday mornings at a centrally located meeting place. The District has three active A-lateen meetings and two have Al-anon meetings at the same time. The Change for Change program, which was so successful in raising funds to the Al-Ateen conference, is continuing.

AA Liaison: Our Alternate District Representative holds the role of AA Liaison and works with various efforts in our district to ensure that public outreach is a part of our relationship with AA. An Annual Housekeeping Retreat was held on the second weekend in March and it was noted that half of the members of the planning board are also Al-anon members. Soberstock was also held in March and the message is "It Is Your Lucky Day". The Tampa Bay Fall Roundup meetings are also starting with that event slated for Labor Day Weekend in September.

Some concern has been expressed in our district about the appropriateness of our efforts with AA. A thought force has been formed and great interest will be placed in the related red light green light topic that will be shared out at our Spring assembly.

Cooperating with Professional Communities: Since our last report, we have sent packets to everyone on our list of professional contacts. These contain literature for review and distribution. Our district also observed the tradition of leaving a piece of Al-anon literature somewhere on March 4 (Lois' birthday).

Financials: We are happy to report that we are operating with a balanced budget and have a good prudent reserve for 3-5 months. At the request of our group representatives, we allocate more time in our district meeting at the beginning of each new quarter to review the status of our financial situation more thoroughly. To further support our financial situation, we have decided to hold two fundraisers in the year. One was our calendar sales, which generated over \$700 and a rummage sale in October.

Institutions: After a considerable time as a vacant seat, we have an Institutions Chair! She is starting to move forward with ACTS, DACCO and Phoenix House and they are all asking for Where and Whens.

Literature Distribution Center: Our Literature Chair is very active. Due to her efforts, all goals for 2016 were met.

Newsletter: Our newsletter, The Serenity Messenger, has been very useful as an adjunct to the online version. In addition to the online version (that has no names or phone numbers), 200 copies a month are printed and distributed.

Meeting Locator: Our meeting locator, Where & When, is an important part of our communication effort to reach families and friends of alcoholics. Copies are printed and distributed at each district meeting.

Web Page: Our web diva has updated and refreshed the web site and meeting list. There is a password protected area on the web site and we are working to develop procedures and guidelines for that part of the web page.

Yours in Service, Diane M, DR and Michelle S, AISL