



THE LEGACY

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

DELEGATE TERRY K.

My theme recently has been World Wide Al-Anon. I want to continue that theme by returning to the question of the World Service Conference Structure. As you remember we were involved last year when we took the request from District 130, South Florida to join our Area.

The Board of Trustees "World Service Conference Structure" Task Force —

The trustee said, in part, "...We asked you to consider three things: freedom, vision, and no-holds-barred. We asked you to come 'out of the box.'..."

What's happening with this...

I reported on the move of District 13 from South Florida to North Florida.

I framed my report by explaining the demography of Florida and how it shaped our areas.

I explained that we devised a three step plan.

First: the district would have to officially vote as for the move. Once they did this, they would need to formally petition North Florida.

Second: our assembly would vote on that petition.

Third: South Florida would have to vote to release the District.

The three steps would had to be done in that order because North Florida needed to know if it were the entire district or part of the district and if they would become part of district 12 or maintain their identity. And South Florida couldn't release them until they had an area willing to take them.

Throughout the process a lot of people were working in the background. Finances and Alateen had to be considered, as well as logistics for Assembly, and communication. For example the District changed its name from 130 to 13.

Because a lot of people did a lot of work, it went very smoothly.

Jayme C., Panel 52, California South:

"...I presented my Delegate's report at our May 2012 Assembly. I talked about Conference Structure asking the question, 'Does our current Area structure best serve the needs of our members?' I added we have been asked to think out of the box and that we have the autonomy to redesign our structure, even in cooperation with California North, as long as implementing those plans do not affect Al-Anon as a whole. As I looked out into the room, their response was the 'deer in the headlights' stare. No one commented...."

"I introduced the topic again in

August at our AWSC meeting. We decided to form a Thought Force that would include individuals from all sections of the Area....

"I have spoken to the California North Delegate many times regarding their progress. The Delegate introduced the topic at the California North October 2012 Assembly. The topic led to lots of discussion. From that discussion, a Thought Force has been formed. We both realize that one of the possibilities could be a central California Area..."

"To see that we are at the point of considering some sort of action after all these years is really exciting.

It shows how slowly and thoroughly ideas are vetted. What we learned from all of our discussions is that the idea is good, but *implementation* (if that is what our Area wants) will also need to be very slow and carefully thought out. There are so many unknowns and so much to learn from others that this will be a focus of California South's attention for a very long time."

Nancy M., Panel 52, Texas East

"From the outset, we have agreed that **restructuring is but one** possible outcome. We don't know for sure, but we all expect restructuring that affects the Conference is not likely to be very important in our Area...."

"However, the possibility of restructuring is a fine excuse to look for ways for our service structure

to better serve our groups. We expect that our approach to researching the needs of our groups will continue to evolve.

1. We believe the role of our service structure is:

- To increase public visibility of Al-Anon.
- To improve the welcome experienced by new people.
- To support groups in retaining new members.
- To increase willingness to do Twelfth Step work.
- To increase participation in district and Area service.
- To improve involvement of Spanish-speaking groups.

2. Therefore, the goal of our Committee is to ask groups:

- How can we grow Al-Anon?
- How can we involve more members?

“One person sharing something that he or she does gives everyone else in the room the opportunity to recognize, ‘Ah-ha, that’s something I could try in my group.’”

Maryon K., Panel 53, Alberta/Northwest Territories

“For years, the Canadian Delegates have been discussing the complexities of how to best serve the members and groups in the Northwest Territories. This vast region, located directly above Canada, consists of approximately 456,792 square miles of land, 34 official communities, many cultures, and over 12 languages. The capital city of the Northwest Territories is Yellowknife, and because it is located directly above Alberta, it **initially made sense**, structurally, to include the Northwest Territories with Alberta as part of the same Assembly.

In 1999, the eastern three-fifths of the Northwest Territories became a separate Canadian Territory called Nunavut, yet the Conference Structure still it under the

umbrella of Alberta/ Northwest Territories despite it being on the other side of the continent...

“...Many of our members are using the opportunity for ‘no-holds barred’ restructuring to research and consider how to achieve the best possible representation of our districts, Area Assemblies, and the Conference. We have to trust the process and believe it will reflect positively in our Area.”

David G., Panel 52, Rhode Island

“This is what we are doing in Rhode Island and how structural freedom can impact small Areas.

“Facts: We are geographically small; the state size is 48 miles long and 37 miles wide. We are within a one- to two-hour drive of every New England state. We only have 49 groups. We have five districts.

We have 15 Area positions. We have trouble filling the service positions in the Area. We have trouble getting GRs for our groups. Many people fear group or Area service, as they don’t want to have to go to Assemblies or Area service meetings.

“Ideas that came out of our discussion include:

- Have the November Assembly as part of the workshop.
- Change from five districts to three: North, South, and East.
- Expand the pool of candidates for Delegate to include District Representatives and AWSC current and past active members.
- Create shorter terms of service for GRs (and possibly AWSC officers, Coordinators, and DRs).
- Create GR training, job descriptions, handbook.
- Embrace technology.
- Network with other Areas.
- Encourage GR Service Sponsors.
- Stagger terms of office for AWSC officers, Coordinators, and DRs.

- Create apprenticeships to educate new officers/Coordinators.

“We also discussed what we like about the current Area structure:

- AWSC meets every six weeks.
- E-mail correspondence.
- Keep the number or increase the number of officers/Coordinators to minimize the amount of work.

“We are also looking at job descriptions and seeing if they are needed, or could be better defined. If we can’t fill Area jobs, do we really need them?”

“We are using this opportunity to look inward at the Area to address our own structural weaknesses. How can our small size be an advantage in organizational structure?”

* * *

So there you have it. From the very large, population wise (California South has over 1200 meeting!) to the very large geographic Areas (Texas and Alberta/Northwest Territories.) to the very small, Rhode Island.

And now you got to peek into the World Wide Fellowship of Al-Anon/Alateen. When I came into Al-Anon, it was one room big. As I grew, so did my view of Al-Anon. Look around the room. We’re one Assembly of over 60 Assemblies in North America.

Terry K.
Panel 52 Delegate

COMING
OCTOBER
2014
PANEL 55
ELECTIONS
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ALT. DELEGATE: SHELLEY C.

Hello North Florida!

Here are some interesting things I read in our October 2013 issue of *The Forum*:

"In keeping with Traditions Eleven and Twelve, *The Forum* respects the anonymity of all Al-Anon and Alateen members. When any full-face image is published in this magazine, the person in that image is not an Al-Anon or Alateen member."

"Our Three Legacies—

The threefold guides of Al-Anon point the way to a normal, useful life for the individual. They also are a framework within which the groups can carry on their affairs in harmony. Recovery Through the Steps, Unity Through the Traditions, Service Through the Concepts."

"*The Forum* Statement of Purpose: The Forum is an international monthly publication of Al-Anon Family Groups, a fellowship that offers strength and hope for the friends and families of problem drinkers. In the pages of this magazine, Al-Anon and Alateen members share their challenges, insights and progress along their path of self-discovery and spiritual growth much in the way that they contribute when attending Al-Anon or Alateen meetings. Such sharing is important in helping readers find personal growth and peace of mind through the Al-Anon program. The magazine also includes topics for discussion at meetings as well as news and information from Al-Anon's World Service Conference and World Service Office."

"Share the sharing with parents:

Every issue of *The Forum* has at least one sharing written by a parent of an adult or teenage alcoholic. Are the parent newcomers to your group aware of this source of understanding and support? Share your copy of the Forum with them, and encourage them to read *The Forum* every month. Sharing in this way welcomes and gives comfort to families of alcoholics. (Tradition Five) Members of the worldwide fellowship of Al-Anon share their recovery in the pages of *The Forum*."

"Is there a piece of Conference Approved Literature that has been particularly helpful in your recovery? Please tell us about it. Send your sharings to The Forum, 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617; wso@al-anon.org, Attention "CAL Corner;" or www.al-anon.org/members."

"The Knowledge-Based Decision-Making process to reach an informed group conscience is another way of making decisions. It involves a series of questions that can lead to an informed decision where everyone has the right to be heard and no one has to take sides during the discussion because we are only gathering information. For more information about the process, see the Conference Summaries from 2006 to the present. Available on the Members' Web site at www.al-anon.org/members."

Last but not least, on the subscription order form page:

"The story of Al-Anon recovery today. Experience and insight that you won't find anywhere else. Newcomers and long-timers share what they've learned as they apply the principles of the Al-Anon program to their life's challenges.

- News updates from the

World Service Conference and World Service Office.

- How the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts apply to your personal recovery.
- All you need to lead an Al-Anon meeting at a moment's notice.
- The voice of the Al-Anon fellowship today."

And I haven't even mentioned the articles written by members! So much interesting and helpful information within 33 pages....in a small size that fits easily into a ladies' purse or your computer case or book bag. You are missing out if you don't subscribe or borrow your group's copy. Give yourself a love gift by subscribing and reading *The Forum*... and see how it adds to your recovery!

Love in Service
Shelley Campbell
Alternate Delegate Panel 52 N FL
Communicate Recovery

CHAIRPERSON WENDY R.

Hello Florida North!

Things are moving along for Area 9! We had a successful Assembly passing our 2014 Budget and some great Public Outreach Projects. We also broke out into groups to discuss some things we could do better from our Area inventory.

It is always a wonderful experience to me to see how Area challenges and issues are worked out in Assembly and AWSC meetings using courtesy, presuming goodwill, and allowing all opinions to be heard without prejudice.

At our next fall assembly in 2014 we will be electing a new Panel to serve Florida North. I encourage everyone to become involved in Service; I truly get so much more than I give. The traditions and concepts are put in action and for me, I can see how they can be used in my service life and my personal life as I walk this path of recovery.

If you as a member would like to attend an Assembly or an Area World Service Committee meeting just ask your District Representative. Each District has specific assignments at assembly and AWSC (registration, hospitality) so the Districts are usually looking for members to volunteer. It is a great way to experience the business side of the Area!

Love in Service,
Wendy R
Chairperson P52

**TREASURER
CINDY J.**

I'm often asked 'what is the money spent on?' I could open up the checkbook, but I think the answer is more complicated, and more grounded in the Legacies of Al-Anon Family Groups.

Tradition 6 is a good place to start – especially the caution that “problems of money, property and prestige” can “divert us from our primary spiritual aim.” We spend our money on a variety of things that both reach out to families suffering from the affects of alcoholism, and we also spend money to support the volunteer service of our members. Bringing people together from around the Area is a key toward building harmony and unity.

Tradition 1 is fundamental – our common welfare does come first as we generously share our time, talent and treasure with each other to strengthen our Area. We spend money to support all Districts participation in Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meetings. We support our Conventions, and our Alateens. We provide reimbursement for Background Checks and provide translation equipment for Spanish speaking members. These are just a few of the ways we spend our contributions to support unity.

Concept 9 allows us to exercise a new kind of leadership, one built on the principles of trust, mutual concern and unity of purpose. So different from many past experiences in our families where either we had total responsibility or were shut completely out of decisions. Our decisions to spend money come from working together in Thought and Task Forces, and then after discussion and vote at Assembly.

Our North Florida Area spans 51 counties in the State of Florida. Within those counties there are over 10.5 million residents. There are also millions of visitors. We have 13 Districts that organize meetings, workshops, gratitude dinners and a wide variety of public outreach. Think of it – our 13 Districts are the gateways for over 10 million people who may be affected by someone else's drinking. And they do this for free. Our meetings are free. The pamphlets are free. Our work in prisons, rehab centers and schools is free.

The work we do here – at AWSC and at Assembly – supports our continued service. Our service work is given freely because this program has helped so many of us discover the priceless gift of serenity. Take a moment to stop and

ponder. Let your mind stretch to include the possibility that what we do today may have a much wider affect if we allow the recovery, the information and the tools of our program to reach out among the general population around us.

Which brings me to **Traditions 11 and 12**. Attracting new members starts with us. Placing principles, especially those outlined in our Legacies, above personalities ensures that Al-Anon Family Groups will continue to be strong in the North Florida Area. All of the money we spend goes to support our work to keep Al-Anon Family Groups strong, active and available.

Thank you for your generosity and your support - and for allowing me to serve as your Treasurer for Panel 52.

Cindy J.

**NEWSLETTER
“THE LEGACY”:
JANET O.**

Thanks to Florida North for all your suggestions for editing your newsletter.

As I reported at the Fall Assembly, I attempted to translate a portion of the last issue of *The Legacy* into Spanish using Google translator. This was passed around at Assembly for comments and/or suggestions.

Ana G., a GR from District 8, has offered to help revise the translation. Ana and I are going to work together to get this issue translated and posted on the Area Website.

Janet O

Newsletter Coordinator



SECRETARY; LLEW E.

Hello North Florida Al-Anon/
Alateen members.

I have gone through an Area World Service Conference (AWSC) and then the Fall Assembly early October, and I feel much more confident as well as clued-in. I have found that my perspective of a situation can be completely different with some additional knowledge and that is exactly what is happening for me. Being able to listen and hear what is being said when the motions are made and then discussed makes a world of difference – side-conversations really can rob some people of being able to get the full impact of the comments from the microphone. Having to be sure that I get the actual motion and final outcome makes me pay attention, which is also another great benefit to me personally. I guess it goes back to Tradition One.

I want to give a shout out to the North Florida Area Secretary's who have gone before me who have added to the Motions Chart(s) as well as the Conventions Chart so that I was able to pull those up and find the requested information. You helped me and you didn't even know it. Thanks again.

Llew E.
NFA Secretary, Panel 52

PUBLIC OUTREACH: ANN Q.

Thank you all for the overwhelming support you gave to the two PO projects at the Oct. 5, 2013 Assembly meeting. Hope you find ways to attract more Alateens in your districts. Please let our task

force members know the avenues you used to attract and distribute your literature. **Your efforts** may change the lives of many families. Thanks to all who helped to bring this to fruition, especially District 6 for the donation and Beth, District 7 LDC, who patiently helped me count out and organize the bags of Alateen Literature. Step 12 – ...we tried to carry the message to others...

The bumper stickers / magnetic signs are in the printing stages as I write this report. As soon as they are ready I will give all the DR's a shout. Those who are on the road are the targets. Maybe you will see an Al-Anon bumper sticker on the car, police car, fire truck etc. in front of you, someday soon. You might even see the magnetic message on a refrigerator in a faculty room.

Kudos goes to Cindy for all her patience & financial assistance. Thanks too to Beth R from WSO who knows how to make things happen! Thanks to all the PO Task Force members, to Wendy, Shelly, Kimberly and then Llew and all the other officers and coordinators who shared our angst and supported this project. Hope you see the sign on a car or in a key place soon. Let me know if you do, please.

Survival Al-Anon was the theme, but hard work, growth and lots of love were the end result. Yeah to District 12 –The Convention in St. Petersburg was fantastic. Thanks for the experience of Public Outreach to all the other Districts and to the newcomers who came as well. Now onward and upward to District 4-Daytona to cook up Recipes for Recovery on Sept.5-7, 2014!

Public outreach is inviting others into this worldwide fellowship. Be part of the silent majority of Public

Outreach workers! Join the new army of message carriers **with HPs help.**

I had the good fortune to see two Districts in action this weekend. I attended the Gratitude Luncheon in Melbourne & Gratitude Dinner in Orlando. Both District 11 and 10 were warm, receptive, inviting & generous. WOW can Al-Anons cook! My goal this year is to travel more to other districts to see Al-Anon Districts in action.

Donate Program books to Public Libraries, High School Libraries or Church Libraries. Janet, Legacy Editor, reminds us it is important to visit the books often to check on their circulation. This is another case, where **you are the messenger of the program's message.** De-Clutter your bookshelves. How about donating a book in **honor of people who had enhanced your recovery**, namely a sponsor, or another program person.

This time of year is tough for Families of Alcoholics. When newcomers come to our meetings, **invite them back to another meeting, gratitude dinner, anniversary, out for coffee etc.** That "one on one" is how most of us came to stay here. The ideas boil down to people listening and helping others. **Is your attitude inviting?** Encourage them by smiling, listening, being warm and inviting the newcomer to come back. "Welcome & come back, there is help here"!

Our Thought /Task Force Writing Contest is on hold till after the end of the year. Michel DR from District 10 will be collecting the writings. We are working on prizes for submissions. All you have to do is—Tell your story; Write about your favorite slogan; Man-Up; How I came to Al-Anon; I was thrown out so I came to Al-Anon; Have you ever

heard of Al-Anon?; etc. These are just a few of the topics. More information on the contest will be coming after the New Year.

Write, Write, Write—Be an Author! All your submissions will be forwarded to WSO. Now is the time to try your hand at writing for **Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism, the FORUM, or your Districts' Al-Anews. Your Article is needed.**

SHOUT if you hear an Al-Anon's Public Service Announcement 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 to the station airing the PSA.

"Before beginning any outreach project, please take a look at *The Best of Public Outreach*, located on the Members' Web site at www.al-anon.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.

I recently read an article about Helping Families of Alcoholics. It was an invitation by District 7 to come to Al-Anon printed in a newspaper that was unwilling to print this type of message for years. The PO person did not take no for an answer and asked in the

"Thank you" note to please continue printing which they have done. **Persistence pays.**

Good program ideas are always worth sharing. Don't keep them a secret. Tell me and I'll share them for you.

Love & Hugs,
Ann O.
Panel 52 NFA P.O.



Fully Relying On God

GROUP RECORDS TONI C.

Thank you for continuing to update your group's changes with your district's group records chair. By doing so, your group is helping new and potential members to find your meeting.

Did you know the GR-1 form is available on the www.northfloridaal-anon.org website along with the directions on how to fill out the form? The form and instructions are also available at the www.al-anon.org/member-site.

When filling out the GR-1 form for registering a *new meeting* please keep in mind the following:

WSO will not accept a GR name without an address.

WSO will not accept a GR name for more than one group.

WSO will not accept a church or building name without an address.

WSO needs a CMA in order to mail your monthly Forum, quarterly appeal letters, and annual update sheet to your groups.

WSO needs contact names with phone numbers to give members requesting a meeting in that city.

Without the above information, WSO will not register a new group until the information is provided.

Speaking of new groups, we have six newly registered groups since spring assembly.

My journey in recovery has truly grown while doing service work. I have learned so much about myself while being blessed with the opportunity to serve in this position. And for that I thank you for letting me serve as the North Florida Area Group Records Coordinator.

Toni C..

P52GroupRecords@aol.com

ALATEEN BOBBI M.

Hello North Florida Al-Anon Family,

Special "thanks" to Districts who have had training sessions and sent off invitations to surrounding Districts.

Special request here please, any member who has received the "Fall 2013" edition of *"ALATEEN TALK,"* share with me the response(s) from Alateen's of the "Throw A Coin" game. Sure would like to send those thoughts to World Service Office (WSO). On the same note, if anyone used this game in a Al-Anon meeting, would also like to hear those thoughts; thanks so much!!

Alateen Group sponsors are encouraged to share with their Alateen's that WSO is looking for Alateen sharing's, both for *The FORUM*, and *Alateen Talks*.

We have received information from World Service Office (WSO) once again sharing they are looking for Area's to share their calendar of event(s) that include

Alateen's. WSO is also putting together Task/Thought Forces for these events. Information on this has been forwarded to our 2014 Alateen Conference Committee for information and knowledge.

Further sharing from WSO is that the Instructions for completing the Alateen Group Registration/Change Form (G-3) are available in Spanish. This document can be found on the WSO website, or contact me by email or phone, and it can be forwarded.

North Florida Area Alateen Chat room is still up and running. Attendance has been up and down. Any Al-Anon Member Involved In Alateen Service (AMIAS) willing to serve this group, please contact me; thanks so much. Group Sponsors; please share with your teens that the chat site is available.

Did you attend Convention? DID you see the Alateen's? They sure were there!!! Thank you District 12 for all your efforts, making the weekend one to remember for ALL!!

Districts are reminded October 4, 2013 was/is the date chosen by NFA09 for their Al-Anon Member Involved In Alateen Service (AMIAS) members to complete the Background/Finger printing process. Please be mindful of this, please remember "we" as an Area voted on this requirement to further protect our program Al-Anon/Alateen, ourselves, and our teens.

Well that's it from this end. Thank you all for your service, time, energy and your dedication to serve Alateen; you are appreciated and loved by me.

Love in Service,

Bobbi M., Panel 52
NFA09, Area Alateen Coordinator

AAPP RENE E.

It's been a busy time since the last Assembly: my life will never be the same. The Jury is still out on whether it is better or needs a lot more program. I didn't realize how much program was needed to step up to this service. The WSO Recertification process will be a breeze now that I have an understanding of it and the help of Valerie and Jennifer at the World Service Office.

We have worked on all the requirements, and procedures affecting all the AMIAS's getting background checks. I came up with a standard denial letter to be used if the background check does not come back to meet the requirements we have setup.

I worked on consolidating the information for handouts at training sessions, hoping to cut down on the cost and use of paper. These were used during the training at the convention, which I believe went very well. If anyone wants a copy, please let me know.

I'm looking forward to hearing more plans on the Alateen Conference being planned by District 5.

At this time we have 44 Alateen Groups, 169 AMIAS, and about 60 of them have had their background checks.

With the Grace of my Higher Power and working my program, progress not perfection, the final year of this panel, has to be better.

Yours in Service,

Rene E.,

NF—Area Alateen Process Person

ARCHIVES CHAM B.

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 Archives Job Description has been submitted.

WSO Guideline 30 (revised 2013) was developed to assist with all of "our" volunteer needs—in an endeavor to preserve all of our work. WSO had a group conscious to redevelop Archives' collections to safeguard 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.** Note one of the most important suggestions is to date all material.

This current report covers the time that a group of us from Florida North attended Al-Anon's International Conference held in Vancouver, BC, Canada. I love history and Al-Anon's history in particular, I was a bit disappointed not having any Archive Displays. The first International that I attended in Salt Lake in 1998, there was a tremendous amount of archive information from all over the world,

including WSO. I trust Baltimore in 5-years will have that area covered. Those of you that missed the festivities would have loved "your" pink Flamingos, J and Bill S's commentary.

Bullet Points

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

Each District please report your Groups' Originating Dates. In Archives we are to comply with the Originating Date Program according to WSO.

Florida AA Archives Workshop will be held February 15, 2014 in Orlando. Also, AA Archives National Workshop was held in August 2013 in Illinois.

The proper equipment to use for Florida North Area 9 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 here we goooooooooooooo;

Did I say shelves; oh wow.... DR Jill O' and two others from District 9 Debra and Bernie not only delivered shelves to Archive Storage Facility in Tampa, but also brought many other tools including a great camera on September 22, 2013. Jill coined "Metro Self Storage Fine Dining" as we were having lunch in the hall. In addition we had FL No Area Webmaster Shelly F. (District 7) who coined the invitation "[Update] Archives Intervention THE

PLAN!" and separated material especially noting history and heritage. We had District 8 represented by two GRs Cindy G and Lydia O' who separated, deduced contents and wrote (like mad-Cindy G) on each 3-ring binders. Every person worked like a well-oiled machine. Items we cannot scan for iCloud we have pictures, which we will have forever, i.e., banners. I was so excited and thrilled by the work we accomplished!

HP was definitely on site! AISL District 1 Diane Cl was with us in spirit and prayers. Every person's service to Al-Anon and Area will live on in infinity. We have the pictures to prove it.

Please date all information, correspondences, reports etc. Help us find your work now and in the future.

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

Why have an Archives Inventory? Below are pearls of wisdom shared with permission from WSO.

- Each piece of literature tells a story and an inventory helps to explain when the piece began and ended.
- Discovering the first printing of a local newsletter or minutes of a committee are easily found.
- "Missing Units" are easily identified.
- Unnecessary duplications are easy to locate and remove.
- Misfiled items are discovered and easily corrected.
- Future research is faster and more reliable.
- The last printing helps to determine the discontinued date.
- Creating chronological displays are more accurate and simple.
- Color, graphic, and size changes are recognized and sometimes of-

fer insight into the period which was produced.

- Sometimes the year in which changes were made can be established.
- Trends can be identified by comparing several inventories.
- Developing an Area "Wish List" is simple.
- Responding to members interested in donating is quicker.
- Interest in language translations are revealed.

With sincere appreciation for Al-Anon and Florida North Area 9 and its rich history,

Cham B.
NFA Archives Coordinator

SPANISH INTERGROUP LETICIA

On August 30, 31 and September 1, 2013 the Intergroup and the Tampa and Kissimmee groups participated in the 41st NACIONAL CONVENCION HISPANA OF AA WITH AL-ANON PARTICIPATION at the Tampa Convention Center and Embassy Suites. There were 3,500 registered attendees from all over the USA: Illinois, Connecticut, Georgia, North Carolina, Indiana, Kansas, etc. We were able to have a literature table in the event. We heard from many people that they were happy to have us there. Others loved to get information on how to register Al-Anon groups because some of them just have some books but they didn't know how to get literature or how to contact area offices. Some AA members shared that at some places where they meet, the wives and family just wait in the kitchen. But these AAs want to help their families so they bought Al-Anon service manuals and literature to encourage them to have Al-Anon meetings. They asked us for

suggestions — I never even dreamed I could witness something like this. I am grateful for all of Al-Anon's support and feel we really were able to plant the seeds. I trust that my Higher Power has a bigger plan. We just trust the process. Throughout the weekend, we gave away 2,000 bookmarks and 200 "Al-Anon se enfrenta al alcoholismo 2014", (Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism) magazines. At one point, we realized that some people just left the magazine lying around. We did not want to get a resentment about that — so we made a decision to sell the magazine at one for .50 cents, 3 for \$1 or 10 for \$3.50. Well, we sold 217 more, LOL! TOTAL SALE \$2,001.17. Please note that last year we received a grant from FL-N, and we used that money to make this sort of literature purchase; then we sell the literature and the money comes back as our message of hope and recovery keeps spreading and growing.

Of course, for those of you that went to the 2013 Al-Anon Convention in St Petersburg, you saw that we had people translating the speakers from English to Spanish. We had 2 on Friday, 6 on Saturday and 2 on Sunday. Oh, boy, it feels so good to be busy. Also, we had the chance to be part of 2 skits in the Spanish workshops, and our meetings had great sharing on different topics. This convention was a wonderful opportunity to bring many members together and carry our message.

On Saturday, September 14, Intergroup gave welcome to Evelyn T., as our volunteer to work with the professionals. She informed us that on August 8, 2013, she received a packet of information from WSO. She has created an email account, alanon.ayuda@yahoo.com, and she has updated letters for police and spiritual professionals with Intergroup's 407-253-9848 phone number.

Evelyn contacted the organizers of the Sept 7th Osceola Woman's event, but the booth cost was \$375 dollars. We could not spend this amount of money, so they offered to contact her if there was an opening. Then, through a contact with the show's sponsors, the Osceola county sheriff's office said that with a written request, they might be able to place our literature in their booth. She sent the request along with a pdf of the brochure, "Los alcohólicos sus familias y el sistema judicial", and two days later the request was approved. They requested 300 brochures! Through the help of some groups and members, enough money was collected to get the brochures, print and attach labels with the intergroup phone number and web site and make the delivery by September 4.

Evelyn also visited 5 primary care doctors, a specialist and two churches. She found the 1st Presbyterian Church of Orlando on September 19 from 10:30 to 2pm is having the 10th Annual Health and Fitness Fair with a \$10.00 table cost. An Al-Anon member gave a love gift to cover the cost so we will be represented there. Evelyn informed us that on Nov. 28 from 10 am to 2pm the Colonial Orlando Fairgrounds is having its "Annual Take a Love One to the Doctor" event. The radio station 94.5 FM has been hosting this for the past 12 years, and we plan to participate. Also, she has plans to visit the Kissimmee/St Cloud Convention and Visitors Bureau to get the list of upcoming events in the area.

Evelyn offered the labels and flyer printing as a love gift to the Al-Anon Intergroup, but we suggested she present the receipts so our costs can be documented for future reference. Intergroup voted a temporary budget of \$50.00 for spending. We want to practice our Seventh Tradition.

As you see, we have been a little busy. We are so happy to count our awesome volunteers that God keeps bringing our way. What a blessing. Thank you Districts 8, 10, 12 and all of you out there.

God bless you and change me,

Leticia R,

NFA Spanish Intergroup

WEBSITE: SHELLY F.

First, I'd like to thank all the districts who shared with me information about their events and where I can send our online visitors to find more details on their local website. In general, I'm able to update and add items to our website twice a month. In between time I manage to take care of the rest, like the [Map of Events](#). It now shows the upcoming holiday get-togethers and our yearly events for 2014. The [AMIAS page](#) also has a variety of updated forms supplied to me by our Area Alateen Process Person, Rene. All your submissions are appreciated!

If you attended the Fall Assembly, you likely witnessed the excitement that spread over the magnetic stickers proposed by the Public Outreach Task Force. Wonderfully, all their hard work paid off. The trial run was not only passed, but some members didn't want just one (per group), they asked for more! The stickers are now in the printing process, but you can sneak a peek at them on our website.

My position as Website Coordinator involves a bit of technical knowhow, but when it comes to one of my most important responsibilities, I need to rely on the guidance of others. It's safe to say, we all agree that protecting every one's identity in public and online

is unified. Regrettably, the line goes fuzzy when each person observes their own personal anonymity in a different light. Many times the Service Manual and guidelines are helpful and to the point. Yet, as the use of email and social platforms became common place, the practice of anonymity was relegated to individual interpretation. I am pleased to share that more definitive guidelines about this have been adopted. Our *2013 World Service Conference Summary* contains in detail, Motion #7 which was carried unanimously. It recommends how we can all create anonymous email addresses and use them in a manner that's respectful to our Traditions. Revisions to our "Anonymity Policy," in their entirety, can be found on pages 90-93 of the summary (available online at http://www.al-anon.alateen.org/pdf/summary_2_013.pdf or in print through your Literature Chair).

It seems to me, just like the pages in my daily reader, the principals of our program become crystal clear once I see it placed on paper before me. I humbly ask that you consider their suggestions and lead by your example when carrying the Al-Anon/Alateen message into future.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve you!

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

**DISTRICT 1 AISL:
 DIANE C.**

Greetings from District 1,

We had an awesome time at Convention in St. Pete Beach! District

1 had 10 members in attendance and two of those presented workshops. All of the workshops were fabulous. It was hard to decide which ones to attend. Thank You to all who worked to make the Survivor Convention such a success!

At our last district meeting we had 8 in attendance and we had reports from our GR's on their groups. There were 3 GR's who shared what's happening in their groups, challenges and successes. One of the groups will need to relocate soon, another is losing the GR (3 yr. term is up) and hoping a member will step into that service position and the third is concerned about finances. We had a round table discussion on ways to up basket donations and will have to see how they work out. Our groups are all well attended and average 10-18 people per meeting. Our Newcomer's meeting is averaging 15-16 per meeting.

We also asked our Public Outreach person to consider forming a committee to help distribute literature and pamphlets throughout the communities around us. At this time we are getting 1 call per week on our phone line. Our group records chair is working on some new Where and When designs.

Gratitude for Service,

Diane C.
 D-1 AISL

**DISTRICT 2 REP:
 ELSA C.**

Hello fellow Al-Anon Members.

In our district, we now have a newsletter that will come out monthly. Thank you to Rick, our webmaster guru, and our GR's

who made the suggestion.

We have not filled some positions in our district; our Alateen Coordinator and our Phone Service Coordinator and Public Outreach Coordinator. We are hoping to have them filled by the end of 2013.

The end of the year is quickly arriving and our annual District gratitude dinner will be on November 9, 2013 at Queen of Peace Church from 6-9PM. If you want to have a great evening of fellowship, make plans to join us. We have an Al-Anon Speaker and AA Speaker from Tallahassee.

Our groups meetings have been very supportive of our district and have stepped up by providing financial support. I am proud to say we have become more self-supporting. We are grateful for all the groups' efforts. We have just approved our district budget for 2014. We have also separated the LDC account from the district account. Both, LDC coordinator and treasurer are pleased to go in this new venture and try a different approach. What a way to work the program with an open mind!

Furthermore, I am proud to announce that our public outreach to Marion Co. Woman's jail is being successful. We are glad to spread the message through this type of service. They feel grateful helping those suffering from the disease of Alcoholism. The program is about attraction not promotion. The meetings are held the first and third Sundays of each month. The meetings are from 7:30 -9:00 pm.

We are looking for volunteers to chair the meetings, at least once a month. The only requirement is to get background clearance from Mario Co. Jail. If you are interested in service, or want some more information, please email ssprague@embarqmail.com.

We are looking to have a district workshop day in Gainesville, during spring. As a district we have been growing in service. During the 2013 Alanon Convention, 7 of our members produced a well-prepared workshop. We are going to gather some ideas to be of service and provide some needed workshops. If you would like to see a topic, please do not hesitate to bring the idea to our district meeting. With our higher power's help, we will make it happened.

We have two members that have been coming from Lake City, Kathy and Jan. We are grateful for these two members that have been joining us for our district meetings. We are hoping to get a place to meet in Micanopy or Macintosh to conduct our district meeting closer to Gainesville to get more group participation from Gainesville and Lake City.

We will have some more exciting news on our next Legacy report! Communicating Recovery!

Elsa C. DR#2

**DISTRICT 3 REP:
CHARLENE S.**

We are really excited to welcome fall to District 3 (Jacksonville, Beaches, Orange Park, Fernandina)! We are working hard within our District to attract members into service, especially some of our groups who are working on gaining GRs. We recently applied KBDM (Knowledge-Based Decision-Making) and created task-force groups to brainstorm this, as we are reaching out towards a significant number of groups that currently have no representation at our District meetings. (Update to follow next year!) We love our website and our Telephone Answering Service, although our

phone calls are decreasing as our web hits increase.

We are proud of our pamphlet boxes, which are in place in offices and emergency rooms, and we have organized a procedure for keeping track of them and keeping them well-stocked. Our loving volunteers continue to carry our experience, strength, and hope to others:

- Our Introductory meetings continue in treatment centers,
- We alternate monthly speakers at one treatment center with Celebrate Recovery,
- We have a monthly Al-Anon speaker for the staff at Gateway Treatment Center, and
- We keep a supply of Al-Anon literature in the Juvenile Justice waiting rooms.

District meeting attendance remains around 24-25, 12 or so GRs. We have a good supply of wonderful "concerned and interested" Al-Anons that just come to share their support.

We have several pertinent vacancies on our panel...Secretary, Alateen Chairman and Public Information. Just had a volunteer as Alternate DR, but have not voted to make it official. Can't wait to formally share responsibility with her.

At the September district meeting, we voted to remove a registered group from our Where and When. We recognize they are registered with WSO, but we refuse to advertise their meetings since evidence shows they do not follow Al-Anon traditions.

There is one thing for certain about District 3 – put a small group together to discuss a topic

and miracles appear. Last meeting we experimented with doing just that. We had 26 present and we numbered off by fives to form thought groups. I gave each group a prepared question to discuss and fifteen minutes to meet together and then report back to the whole meeting. (They did not know at the time, but each group had the same question.) There were five groups and when we came back to share answers, there were five different solutions. Amazing!! (My agenda for the next meeting was prepared in a jiffy.)

Al-Anon works if you work it.

Charlene S. DR#3 and
Kathryn C. AISL#3

**DISTRICT 5 REP:
SHARON N.**

Hello to everyone,

At our September District meeting, we discussed having a budget, and each chairperson will come up with a brief synopsis of what they spend for a year. This information will go to our treasurer to be discussed at our January meeting in 2014. Hopefully, we will pass a budget next year.

The Alateen Conference was discussed; especially how important it is that AMIAS not only support their individual meetings, but also, support the Alateen Conferences. We need security support from our AMIAS at the Conference. At Fall Assembly, the Alateen chairs presented a small skit on one of their conference Workshops, "Angry Pillows". They also sold "Slogan" bears and "Fully Relying On God" frogs.

Our Gratitude Luncheon, November 9, 2013 will have an Alateen

Boutique to support teens attending the 2014 Conference.

We will lose at least 50% of our sponsors since implementation of Background Checks. The sponsors we will lose were inactive sponsors who were not available to support Alateen in our district; so I don't see this as a negative for us.

Volunteers signed up for the following events for 2014, Gratitude Luncheon, Day Of Workshops, & our District Picnic. We established a Holiday Party event in 2012, which we will have again in 2013. Please go on our website for a flyer. www.nfldistrict5.com

We have an opening for a chair for the Holiday event in 2014. To be sure, we will close our panel with lots of fun in 2014.

Our new Website has been a positive part of our District and offers much in the way of communication.

Sharon N. DR#5

**DISTRICT 6 REP:
EVA N.**

Hi Everyone:

District 6 continues to be financially solvent and we are very grateful that more than half of our registered groups donate to the District, Area, & WSO. We try to encourage all the groups to participate in District and Area events.

The Al-Anon group, "Recovery Through the Steps", from Casselberry has stepped up to coordinate our Gratitude Dinner for 2014. More will be revealed as plans are made.

As you all may know, District 6 will be hosting the 2015 Convention.

Thank you to everyone for this wonderful opportunity to serve Al-Anon. We have begun to share our ideas, and two members have stepped up to serve as Co-Chairs of the 2015 event.

Our last District meeting for 2013 is in a few weeks and we will be discussing our 2014 budget, reviewing the Alateen Public Outreach project and gathering volunteers for the 2015 convention.

It's a busy time. Wishing you all a prosperous and blessed New Year.

Eva E. N., DR
Diane C., AISL

**DISTRICT 7 REP:
ANDY M.**

I am humbled and so very grateful for the unconditional love and support extended to me by all the District members, Group Representatives, AIS chairs and panel officers in their urging and re-election vote following Ana's resignation. Her strength and leadership as DR will be hard to mirror, but I will do my best to meet or exceed my District's expectations of me. Sadly, Melanie (our Alternate DR) recently suffered a tragic loss and also chose to resign her position. So as of this writing, I am without an alternate as well.

Returning to my first District meeting, following my election to the position, I was informed that we were losing our District meeting place in 30 days! Scrambling to secure new meeting space in such a short time has been challenging, but we are hopeful that a referral may prove golden.

Our District has several open AIS chair positions that remain unanswered. The most urgent is the

Alateen meetings Chair. This will be my primary recruiting goal in the following months. Our CPC chair position remains vacant as well.

We currently have 45 meetings / mailing addresses in our district.

Good to be back!

Andy M., D#7 DR

**DISTRICT 8 REP:
CHARON L.**

The 2013 AFG Convention was wonderful. Our fantastic volunteers chaired five meetings. We saw a sea of green there and lots of cool hats. District 8 Participates!

Our District Treasurer held a Budget Planning meeting following a District meeting. Thirteen members attended and lunch, a sub platter, chips and drinks, was provided. We reviewed our past and year to date income and expenses — then drew up a proposal for 2014. It does show more going out than coming in. We noted that allotted money is often not spent, but we still want those trusted servants to have money in their budgets. Our Treasurer presented this budget for discussion at our October District meeting.

We have been asked to participate in an AA meeting's birthday party. We are providing the cake, the quiche and the kids to chair an open Alateen meeting. AA is providing the rest of breakfast, a barbeque lunch and speakers. Families and friends are encouraged to come enjoy a nice day of fellowship.

Our annual Gratitude Dinner is November 23 at 4:30 p.m. at 5902 Himes Ave. in Tampa. There will be food, speakers, raffles and lots of gratitude. Come join us!

We will work on District position guidelines in March and election procedures in April. This is in preparation for election of District officers and chair people in the fall of 2014.

We have done a lot of public outreach. At the AA Fall Round Up, Labor Day weekend, we chaired open Al-Anon and Alateen meetings. We also gave out lots of information and sold \$600 in literature.

Our LDC delivered \$1000 to our Treasurer. Our Public Information Plan reminds us to thank the facilities where we hold our meetings. PI also distributed bookmarks in Spanish and asked us to let her know if we see or hear any AFG public service announcements. CPC has been networking with WSO and our District on ways to get into schools. Our Web coordinator continues to keep our site updated and has added analytics to check our statistics. Our Archivist found an old CMA that will let us update a number of lost group birthdays.

Our Alateens sold drinks at our Day of Workshops. They also served breakfast at a couple District meetings but it turns out mornings are too early for them to continue. Our AMAISs are all re-certified and have had their background checks completed. Our Alateen meeting now has *two* AMIAS in regular attendance – it is great to have support for such an active meeting.

Our AIS chairs are working on being a team so they can support each other by sharing ideas and carrying their perspectives on news and requests back to their groups. Our current open positions are Alateen, Speaker Keeper and Serenity Messenger Newsletter. We do have a new Institutions chair that is enthusiastic to carry

our message of recovery to the community. Together we can make it!

Yours in Service,

Charon L. Di#8 DR

DISTRICT 9 REP: JILL O'B.

District 9 had a new meeting start up in Bartow on Monday, October 14th at 7:00 PM. We are excited to have a meeting in Bartow as there has not been one there for quite some time. We now have 18 groups in Polk and Highlands Counties.

District 9 made a grand showing at our Convention in St. Petersburg as we wore our lime green attire. We even had one of our GR's, Richard, wearing lime green nail polish & a lime green mustache. I think I even saw someone with green hair there! We enjoyed chairing 4 of the workshops over the weekend. We had over 30 from our District attending and even a dog!! He really like the clapping and wanted to be involved!

I was appointed to a Task Force Committee, at the last AWSC, for organizing NFA Archives. The committee decided to meet at the storage unit on Sunday, September 22. We were to bring another member from our District with us. I had hoped to bring our new District Archives Chair, but she was unable to attend due to work responsibilities, so I sent out an email asking for help. Debra S, one of our GR's volunteered to go with me. District 9 had recently changed LDC, and the new LDC did not need the 3 bookshelves that were being used for literature. We donated them to NFA Archives. Bernie B, Dist. 9 new LDC, loaded the bookshelves in

her truck and off we all headed to Tampa. Cham had sent me an email a couple of days before stating, "Does anyone have a man? I have lost mine." I emailed her back and said, "We don't need a man, we can handle it." Well, our HP thought we needed one and provided one at exactly the right time. We were just about to attempt getting the bookshelves out of the truck, when a nice, good looking, big, strong man appeared with a cart. He asked if he could help us. He took each one out of the truck, put them on the cart, took them upstairs and placed them in our storage unit. AMAZING! It was so totally a God thing and it was worth the trip just to be involved in that part of the day. Of course the Tampa Metro Storage Fine Dining was special also (lunch, in the hallway of a storage unit). It was a long day and frustrating at times, with much more work to do, but a start has been made! I sure was surprised after spending all day with Cham that she thinks my name is Pauline! ;-)

September was Recovery Month and District 9 Public Outreach continues to communicate recovery as we handed out AFA's to Professionals in Polk and Highland Counties.

District 9 will not be having a Gratitude Dinner again this year due to the lack of interest in organizing it. We will send out an appeal letter as we did last year and will be oh so grateful if we get as good of a response.

Our District Panel made a decision to create a survey to send to all members in our District to try and determine their thoughts on continuing to have our Day of Workshops and the Gratitude Dinner. The survey was given to the GR's at our District Meeting on October 19. Results will be tallied at the beginning of the year.

Our District-wide Holiday Party will be held on December 7th, from 11:00 to 3:00 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Lakeland, after a brief District Meeting.

Communicating Recovery in District 9,

Jill O'B, D#9 DR
Lois W, D#9 AISL

DISTRICT 10
REP:
MICHEL S.

Hello North Florida !

Here is what's happening in our District 10

Our "Soaring Into Serenity" Gratitude Dinner was a huge success. Great Food. Great Speakers. Plus tremendous D-10 participation. NFA Public Outreach Chair, Anne Q., was our surprise visitor (Guest).

Speaking of Public Outreach, we in District 10 have done a little of our own. D-10 participated in "Take a Loved One to Doctor Day", as a part of the Womens' Expo this month. Marie S., our AISL, distributed Al-Anon information at a local Health Fair in downtown Orlando. Also, our phone volunteers have logged an amazing 83 informational calls, and counting, since July 20th '2013.

Geraldine R., our Newsletter editor, has included some D-10 Trivia history in this months edition. Here are a few tidbits from her efforts; Treasurers reports were often 1 page in length, and handwritten – not typed. Minutes were typed, and mailed out using "Postage"! Further, in 1977, the Florida Spring and Fall assembly's alternated between Ft. Lauderdale and Orlando.

Last but not least, we have two (2) new meetings in D-10 as of this month. **Saturdays Hope** is in St. Cloud @ 10:00am, with **Hope 4 Alateen** at Boone High School on Tuesdays of each school week. D-10 is thrilled to have these two new opportunities to help spread our message.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season and Exciting New Years!

Yours in Service,
Michel S., DR, D#10

DISTRICT 11
REP:
PAULINE C.

Hello Everyone,

District eleven is geared up for a fun end of the year.

Our gratitude lunch held Oct.19, 2014–Garden of Serenity—including, raffle, games and two speakers AA and Al-Anon had plenty of food and a great ending to the day.

Our second event will be a day of workshops titled: Searching for Serenity with a brown bag lunch and an Al-Anon speaker.

We are planning to take part in the AA round-up February 1st, 2014 in Cocoa Beach. We will have three Al-Anon meetings planned for Saturday, and will also have our Al-Anon books for sale.

The big news is – ON APRIL 26, 2014, THE AREA SERVICE WORKSHOP IS TO BE HELD AT CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH AT LAKE WASHINGTON, AND CROTON STREET IN MELBOURNE, FLORIDA. DOORS WILL OPEN AT 8:30AM. There is a campground on the street just before the church. State park Wickham Park.

Also there is room at some of our

homes for those of you who wish to come here instead of a hotel.

That is all our news for now.

In service and still having fun,
Pauline, DR, D#11

DISTRICT 12
REP:
SANDY P.

Hello NORTH FLORIDA AREA! -

District 12 was very busy hosting the Area Convention last month. There were more than 800 people in attendance and when the committee has been asked if it was successful, it is with those in attendance in mind that the committee says, yes! It was very successful! We had over 30 Alateens in attendance at the Convention, and those that shared their stories were truly brave, touching and inspiring. The convention committee provided a full separate report at Assembly, and they will be passing the torch to next year's committee on Sat., Nov. 9th.

Our outreach efforts have picked up since the last Assembly and we are pleased to begin a new institutions meeting at First Step for Mothers and Infants. We will have a booth at a festival in October and have ordered a banner we can use at events. We are also hosting a meeting on wheels event on October 22.

We are planning for a Gratitude Dinner on January 11 and a Speaker Event in February 2014. We hope you will consider joining us.

In our Spring Assembly report we shared with you our experience in dealing with an Al-Anon member who was inappropriately contacting other members and being

disruptive and even threatening during meetings which was scaring some members and making many uncomfortable. Our DR and Group Liaison had met with the GRs of the groups involved and made a plan on how to go forward. The plan did not go through because the member stopped attending the meetings and reportedly moved out of the area. But, alas, he is back, going to new meetings, and we began getting reports from other GRs and members with some of the same complaints. We decided to have a discussion at our last district meeting and many people shared their experience. Several members had called the police, requested restraining orders, told him never to contact them again, etc. We heard what had worked and what had not worked. We also shared what WSO had sent to us and what our literature says about some of the things that had been encountered. The issue of anonymity came up several times and how this plays into these types of situations. Here was WSO's response:

"Greetings from your World Service Office! Thank you for contacting us in writing, as well as on the phone, about a matter that is affecting a group in your district. We are happy to respond.

"As Tradition One says, '...personal progress for the greatest number depends upon unity.' Groups are encouraged to discuss matters in light of the Traditions. Establishing principle-based guidelines for meeting conduct helps to maintain principles above personalities and promotes a unified and harmonious environment. Although your group conscience decision to add a statement at the beginning of the meeting to avert inappropriate behavior by all members was a good step, when a member does

not heed this direction, the group may need to address the specific issue with the individual whose behavior is causing discomfort. This can be very difficult, but no one has to do it alone.

"Al-Anon groups agree to abide by all of the Traditions, and Tradition One refers to the greatest good for the greatest number. The group may need to discuss this individual's behavior in a principle-based manner and apply each of the Twelve Traditions to this particular situation. The matter could also be discussed at a district meeting so other groups can share how they've dealt with such situations. The group with the current problem could then make an informed group conscience decision about the next step to take.

"Should the group decide to approach the member about his behavior, it is recommended that two or three members do this (not the entire group, and not one member alone). Experience shows that the best way to discuss the matter with the individual would be in terms of the Traditions. This approach supports "principles above personalities," avoids demeaning the individual, and respects his anonymity as well. The individual can be informed that he is threatening the unity of the group and that the behavior is preventing the group from fulfilling its primary purpose of offering help to families and friends of alcoholics. The specific behavior that needs to be changed should be stated, as a group conscience decision, so it is very clear that this is the will of the group."

Other references: Pg 39 in our Service Manual on Anonymity (see Note); and Pg 51 on Group Problems and Solutions (in particular the last paragraph).

Our district meetings are held every other month on a Saturday from 9-11am. We continue to get lots of positive feedback about our meetings and our goal is to provide our GR's with the information and tools we hope are helpful for our groups. We have 42 Al-Anon meetings and 2 Alateen meetings.

Sandy P., DR #12, and
Ginny W., AISL #12

DISTRICT 13 REP: ELLIE B.

District 13 is very happy to be a part of Area 09 and to enjoy the fellowship of the officers, coordinators, DRs, AISLs and GRs. This past year has been an exciting and wonderful experience for us all.

Last week we held a Tea & Card Party (greeting cards), Linda L. hosting, at our Thursday morning Steps & Growth group. We had a speaker, Sandy W, our GR, and served a light lunch. Members had plenty of time to purchase program related greeting cards, and we played some games with prizes. It was a wonderful success and really enjoyed by all who attended. We all had such a good time, we just might do it again.

Our Alateen Sponsors and Alateens, Christine M. and Bunny V. - chairing, sponsored our annual picnic at the Englewood Garden Beach Club. It was a gorgeous day, warm and sunny with a light breeze. The Beach Club is located on Englewood Beach and has indoor and outdoor accommodations for us. We had hamburgers and hot dogs and lots of homemade salads and sweets as well as great fellowship. The teens especially enjoyed the day and all the

food. There were raffle baskets and little door prizes. Our district, Sandy H., Julie M., and Carole S., will be hosting a Speaker Marathon on Saturday, November 9. This has always been well attended and enjoyed in the past. There will be five speakers, lunch, and a raffle. One of my favorites parts will be a recovery countdown.

Our groups continue to celebrate their group anniversaries. Our oldest group, Englewood Friday Night, celebrated 41 years on Friday, October 11. They had refreshments and a guest speaker, Kathleen R, and a raffle basket. The meeting was well attended, and the speaker was wonderful.

Then on November 10, the Keep It Simple Sunday Group will host their 25th Anniversary. They will have a special (special to us) speaker, Jackie O, from Tennessee, and will also provide refreshments. This will be at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church on the island in Venice at 7pm.

We have currently filled all our district and event positions. Our members within the district have stepped up to provide support and a very positive outlook going into next year.

District 13 thanks the members of Area 9 for their warm welcome!

Love,

Ellie B., D#13 DR

**Report from Red Light/
Green Light Fall Assembly
2013 North FL Area**

The purpose of the following report is to share with you the Conference Approved Literature,

commonly known as CAL, that was used to answer the Red Light/Green Light questions that were discussed on Sunday morning at the Fall Assembly October 2013. The purpose is not to tell an individual or group what to do in a given situation, but to identify the literature so that you may do your own research and arrive at your own decisions and group conscience.

Question #1: Is it ok or does it make sense for a District to send a Growth Investment Person (GIP) to N FL Area meetings? Refer to Al-Anon Guideline G-3 Cooperation between Al-Anon and A.A. Also, our current Service Manual, last paragraph page 78 and top paragraph page 79.

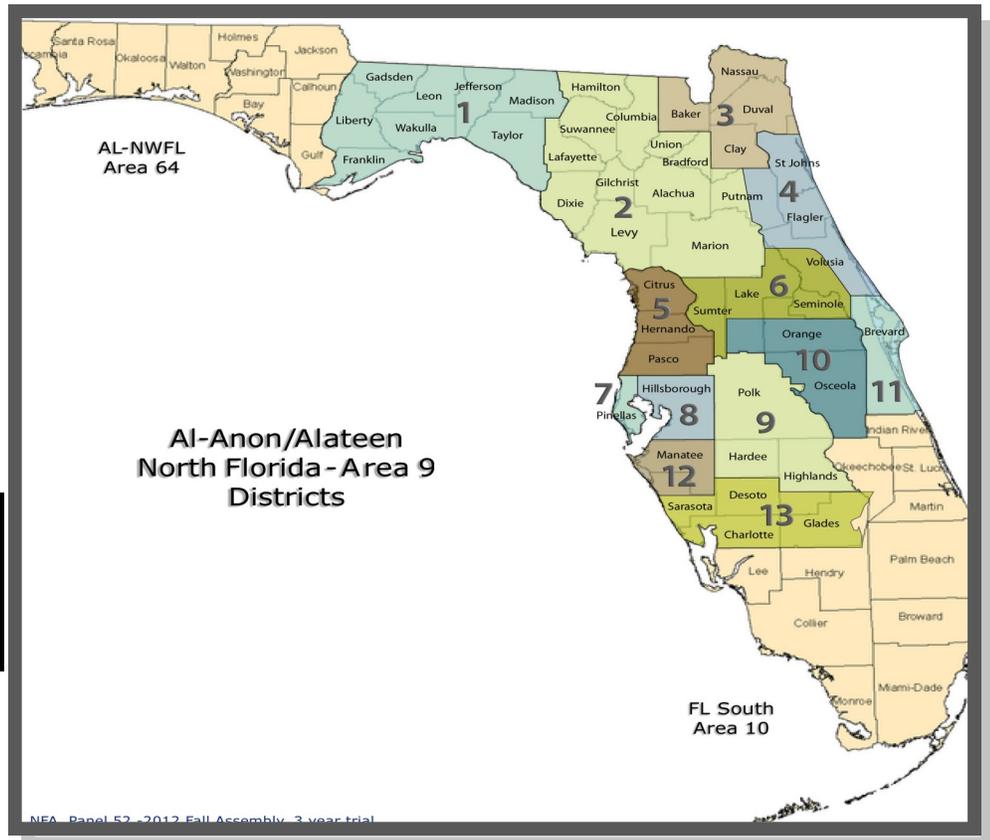
Question #2: How do you handle it when someone sharing during an Al-Anon meeting refers to the "3rd Step prayer" or the "7th Step prayer, the "Promises from the AA Big Book" or "the gifts of Al-Anon"?

Refer to:

- Guideline G-3
- Conflict Resolution S-71
- Service Manual:
 - Page 117 Dual Membership
 - Pages 103-104 Copyright laws
 - Page 213 Warranty Four
 - Page 99 CAL process
 - Paths to Recovery page 184
 - Tradition 6, page 187, 2nd paragraph
 - Many Voices: pages 184-5 and page 225 same language as last paragraph as G-3
- Memoranda from WSO Executive Director to Conference Members:
 - October 20, 2006, "Question regarding use of "Early Al-Anon Literature and the AA big book"
 - Panel 46-NF AWSC Mar 2007 Delegate's Report, "Dual Members in Service Policy"
 - May 1, 2009, "Al-Anon Promises"

* * *

*(Please contact the **Alternate Delegate (Shelley C.)** if you would like to see copies of these memorana.)*





Save the Date
September 5-7, 2014

Be our Guest . . .
To a Cullinary Bash!

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Speakers
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S'mores by The Fire
Evening Banquet
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AA & Alateen Participation
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REGISTER BY MAIL:

Complete one registration form per person
 Make check payable to: **NFA AFG Convention 2014**
 Mail to: NFA AFG Convention 2014
 P. O. BOX 957
 Flagler Beach, FL 32136 – 0957

REGISTER ONLINE:

www.recipesforrecovery2014.com

Everyone attending must register, even volunteers. Pre-registration is critical to the success of our convention - please consider supporting this event by making your plans early. To receive confirmation of your registration, please provide either your email address or include a self-addressed pre-stamped envelope.

Requests for a convention refund must be submitted in writing & postmarked by August 1, 2014; include a self-addressed stamped envelope for reimbursement.

ALATEENS attending convention must be registered by August 22, 2014. Alateens must submit a signed behavioral contract, a notarized permission form and medical form at the time of registration. See website for more details.

Group room rate is \$119 per night, up to four people per room. When making reservations, request NFA AFG group rate. The Shores charges a \$5 parking fee for non-overnight guests.

Email Questions to recipesforrecovery2014@hotmail.com

2014 CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Full Name _____

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____

E-Mail _____

I am a member of: Al-Anon Alateen AAA Other



REGISTRATION FEES:

September 8, 2013 thru April 30, 2014	\$35.00	-
May 1, 2014 thru August 5, 2014	\$40.00	-
August 6, 2014 & At the Door	\$45.00	-
Alateen	\$15.00	-
Saturday Evening Banquet	\$35.00	-
<u>Circle Entree Choice:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken <input type="checkbox"/> Fish <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian		
Apron	\$20.00	-
Tote Bag	\$10.00	-
Travel Mug	\$10.00	-
Ceramic Mug	\$10.00	-
Donation to Hospitality		
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TOTAL check: _____

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I would like to help during Convention:

Boutique Greeter Hospitality Raffle
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**NORTH FLORIDA AFG AREA
AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE (AWSC) AND AREA ASSEMBLY
PANEL 52 – 2014 HOTEL INFO AND ASSIGNMENTS**

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/Gm 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/Gm 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 *D8 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.