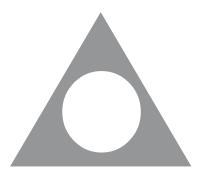
### The Bulletin



### AL-ANON AND ALATEEN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WORLD SERVICE - AREA #4

# Calendar Events

### Southern California World Service Area (SCWS) Events

SCWS Web-site: http://scws-al-anon.org

All SCWS Meetings are held at the Fullerton Senior Service Center (See map - page 3)

Please plan on attending for the duration of the meeting – if you are unable to do so, invite the Alternate to attend.

### 2006

### February 18 and August 19

9:00 a.m. District Representative (DR) Orientation 10:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. SCWS - Area **COMMITTEE** Meeting

**April 29 and October 14** Semi-Annual SCWS Alateen Sponsor Workshop – All Al-Anon members are welcome.

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

### May 20 and November 18

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. SCWS - Area **ASSEMBLY** Meetings

Other Al-Anon Events – Please visit our website for additional events' information

**2006** – March 3 - 5 – PRAASA (Pacific Regional A.A. Service Assembly) – Marriott, Woodland Hills, CA (praasa.org)

March 10 - 12 - SWRDM (Southwest Regional Delegates Meeting) - Oakland, CA

March 31, April 1 & 2 – Al-Anon Family Groups (AFG) Convention – Hilton Hotel & Convention Ctr., Burbank See flyer on page 26.

April 29 – Celebrating Al-Anon's 55 Years, 2-5p.m. WSO Open House

7p.m. Anniversary Banquet – Virginia Beach Convention Center See page 27 for reservation form (or go to SCWS website, calendar)

**2008** – July 4 - 6 - Al-Anon International Convention with AA Participation - Pittsburgh, PA

**2010** – July 1 - 4 - AA International Convention with Al-Anon and Alateen participation - San Antonio, TX

<u>FLYERS</u> - Districts often have special events – flyers announcing such events may be placed in the meeting hall also any conventions' (that are a part of the SCWS Committee) registration forms and/or flyers may be placed there. Any other Al-Anon/Alateen related conventions and/or events, without limited attendance, may place its forms and/or flyers on the counter in the main entrance lobby.

The Al-Anon and Alateen Southern California World Service (SCWS) BULLETIN is published four times annually to provide information and announcements regarding Al-Anon/Alateen to its members in Southern California. All groups with a registered GR (Group Representative) receive one free copy.

An annual, individual, subscription of the BULLETIN is \$4.00.

For previous issues of the BULLETIN, please go to the SCWS website (given at the top of this page).

NOTE: For contributions and Bulletin subscriptions, please see page 31.

For Group Representative (GR) changes and/or address updates please see page 30.

### Al-Anon & Alateen Southern California World Service

VOLUME 46 NUMBER 1 FEBRUARY 2006

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Fullerton Senior Service Center, 340 W. Commonwealth Ave. Fullerton Thomas Guide, Pg. 738. G7 91 Riverside Fwy, Exit Harbor Blvd. North. Cross Orangethorpe and Valencia, turn left onto Commonwealth.

340 W. Commonwealth	
Orangethorpe Avenue	Harbor Blvd.
91 Freeway	

## Officers'

### Delegate

I am looking forward to the WSC in April. The Theme of the Conference is "Shared Leadership - Moving forward with Confidence, Collaboration and Clarity." My assignment at the WSC is to the Admissions & Handbook Committee.

"Moving Forward with Unity" is my personal goal for all members of our SCWS Area over the next 3 years.

I will be attending the 55th Anniversary banquet on Saturday, April 29th at the WSO. If anyone is interested in attending please see me as I have a few forms, there are only 700 seats so it is filling up quickly.

I also have forms for PRAASA for those of you interested. This is a good opportunity for you to attend as it is in Woodland Hills this year, March 3rd thru 5th.

SWRDM is also next month and will be held in Oakland, CA on March 10th thru the 12th and I am looking forward to attending as this will give me a chance to learn firsthand from other Southwest Delegates, past and present. I have attended SWRDM in the past and it really is beneficial to our entire southwest area.

As predicted I have been receiving many letters and envelopes in the mail and many more emails than you can imagine. I have received the new Hope for Today in Spanish and in French. Did you know that most of our literature is in these languages? I also received newsletters in Spanish and French. Just recently I received the new "Alateen Safety Guidelines (G-34)" along with the fall issue of Alateen Talk, I wrote to Barbara O. at WSO and requested that we send these new guidelines to all Alateen meetings. She emailed me back and thought this was a good idea, and just this past week she emailed me again and let me know that the Alateen Guidelines will be inserted with the next issue (Winter 2005) of Alateen Talk, which should be in the mail next month.

Willie's resumé has been accepted by WSO for Southwest Regional Trustee. We will learn at the Conference who has been chosen to serve our Southwest Area for the next two vears.

Most of you know that the Delegate usually takes "Love" gifts to share with all the other Delegates at the Conference. Districts 36 and 39 are busily making items for this. Jay, DR from District 36 has been preparing bags to take and I believe she has one to share with all of you today. I thought it would be fun to take a bag with our Area on it so that the Delegates can put other "Love" gifts inside our SCWS bag.

In doing some research on old motions, I have been contacting as many "longtimers" as I can and would like to request that you do the same. I am trying to find any old "Bulletins" from 1975 to 1980 so that we can fill in the blanks on our SCWS motions for those years and have all printed on our website.

The Hispanic Convention is in San Marcos on February 24 thru 26th. Conrado is the contact person, his email is (deleted), and his phone number is (deleted).

WSO has requested that we read Judy P's report in the December Forum, page 19 regarding the Strategic Plan for Al-Anon and the three goals.

One last item, March 4th is Lois' birthday and WSO asks that we leave a piece of literature wherever we go on that day.

How can I express what a great joy this is to be your Delegate and to represent all of you at the Conference. Keep me in your thoughts and prayers the week of April 23-29th.

Love in Service, Mary M., Delegate, Panel 46

### Alternate Delegate

I'm thrilled to begin this new commitment for 2006-2008 and I thank Suzanne P. for doing a fine job ahead of me. My duties include: Conducting the pre-committee District Representatives' (DR) orientation in February and August, the Ask-It-Basket, and The Forum. In addition to those three main things, I am also the "understudy" for the Delegate, filling her shoes if she is unable.

- DR Orientation: I look at this commitment as a privilege, but more than that, it's an opportunity to serve the fellowship. I remember being a nervous Group Representative (GR). I remember being a nervous District Representative (DR) hoping I was "doing it right". I had questions and not a whole lot of answers and the orientation helped me find the resources that I needed. If you somehow missed today's, there will be another in August.
- Ask it Basket: We will circulate a basket containing forms for questions that you have. We will do our best to answer them and cite the answer's reference. If you are asked to answer a question, please answer it in writing and referring to your source in Al-Anon literature and return it to me so they can be published in our Bulletin.
- The Forum: This wonderful publication from World Service is truly "a meeting in your pocket." It contains stories and sharings from Al-Anon members from all over. In the center is "Inside Al-Anon", a look into new ideas and new things coming from the World Service Office. The DRs and GRs are the main promoters (attractors?) of this publication. Encourage subscriptions, share your thoughts with your meetings. We will pass around a can in order to hold a drawing for a personal subscription to the Forum for every \$10 collected. You could be a winner!

Please know that your board is here to help you. Don't be afraid to ask.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Sandie E., Alternate Delegate

### Past Delegate

We have several items that have carried over from the previous term for us to continue. They are:

- ▼ In May 2003, the GRs voted to begin a 3-year trial period to restructure SCWS Coordinators into ACTION Committees. Now that it has been 3 years, at our Assembly in May 2006 we need to vote whether or not to adopt our Action Committees. Or, as the World Service Conference (WSC) decided when they went through this similar process, the GRs could decide to continue with another 3 years of trial period.
- ▼ It has been suggested that we develop a written policy should it become necessary to remove elected officers or coordinators who cease to fulfill their duties. Such a policy could be done as a revision to our bylaws.

As Immediate Past Delegate, one of my duties is to chair the By-law's committee. Please let me know if you would like to serve on the By-law update committee.

- ▼ The WSO is planning a celebration in 2006 for our 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, at the WSO office after WSC, on 4/29/06. Because this event occurs before the May Assembly, I would like to ask you today, as the SCWS Committee, to form a consensus to have our Delegate, Mary, attend the WSO 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event and to have SCWS pay her expenses. The expenses will be less than \$500 since she will already be in Virginia Beach at that time to attend the annual World Service Conference (WSC). Because the expense is less than \$500, a vote of the GRs is not required.
- ◆ Our Southwest Regional Service Seminar (RSS) is normally held once every 3 years. Because we plan to have an Al-Anon International Convention in 2008, the WSO will not hold any RSSs that year. Therefore, our RSS will be pushed back to 2009, leaving us with no RSS during this 3-year term. SCWS Board members normally attend an RSS during their term. Since there is no RSS during this term, let's discuss alternatives at our next committee meeting (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat in August 2006).
- There has been some brainstorming about creating another Assembly Area in California. If there is interest, and if it is allowed by WSO, it could take years of discussion and votes before it might occur. Nothing new had happened but I am willing to support Mary in this early stage of discussion.
- ◆ Last year a question submitted by our Area was selected for discussion at WSC. It is important that we discuss it here in our Area too and I plan to find opportunities for us to do that. The question is: In what ways can we support and/or protect those members affected by the increasing number of high-pressure groups (dictatorships rather than sponsorship)?

I ended last year and began this year by taking a trip around the world. WOW. We never know what the future holds. I would never have guessed I would "let go" of the Delegate position in such a way. During the trip I was able to experience first-hand just how wonderful our worldwide fellowship is. I got to attend Al-Anon meetings in Malaysia, South Africa, Argentina (even their one Alateen meeting there), Chile, and met up with a Lone Member that I correspond with in Turkey. Our program is alive and well all around the world. And members just like us are filling service commitments in all those places too. **Thank You** for your service; your willingness to **fill the shoes of our pioneers**, to practice Step 12 and to pass on the principles of our Al-Anon/Alateen fellowship to other members who live here - and around the world.

Please keep Mary and all the World Service Conference members in your thoughts during April.

With Al-Anon/Alateen love, Miriam M.

### **Chairperson**

Welcome to the first Committee Meeting of Panel 46. I want to thank you all for your commitment to service.

Every once in a while you'll hear an old-timer tell a newcomer to "stick with the winners". When I was a newcomer, I kind of resented that. Perhaps that was only because I felt like such a loser, but I resented it nonetheless. But I found that the

people I wanted to stick with, the people who appeared to be the "winners" in the program, were the people who were of service. These were the people who shared about the same kinds of difficulties that I was experiencing, the same kind of pain I was feeling, but their attitude was different. They knew the things that we learn by being of service. They knew that "this too shall pass". They knew how to "let go, and let God". And that knowledge changed them. It gave them some measure of that quality that we all come here seeking, serenity. I wanted what they had, so I did what I saw them do. I learned to be of service.

This is all a fairly roundabout way of saying that by the very fact that you are all here today, that you are choosing to be of service to the program of Al-Anon, that you are the winners in Al-Anon.

I look forward to being of service to the program that I love with all you winners. Let's get to work.

Love in Service, David B., SCWS Chairman

### of Area Committee Meeting

### Minutes of Southern California World Service Committee Meeting

### Saturday, February 18, 2006

Fullerton Senior Service Center, Fullerton, California

The meeting was opened at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman, David B. with the Serenity Prayer.

Kathi L.read the Traditions.

### Reports:

- Delegate, Mary M., see report.
- Alternate Delegate, Sandie E., see report.
- Immediate Past Delegate, Miriam M., Past Delegates in attendance, Willy W., Hester B., Kary L., and Pat R. introduced themselves. See report.
- Action Committee Reports:
- Membership Communications, Cindy R., see report.
- Group Services, Kathi L., see report.
- Public Outreach, Kary L., reported that she met with the Public Outreach coordinators earlier. She would like to encourage the Districts to have a Public Outreach chairperson. She is spearheading a special pilot project for WSO.

### Minutes:

Marge V., Minutes secretary, read the minutes of the August Committee meeting. Minutes were approved as read and printed in the Bulletin. Marge requested that all reports need to be emailed or typed and given to secretary and Bulletin Coordinator one week prior to or no later than a week after the Committee

### Note: personal contact info + last names have been deleted for web publication, per Tradition 11.

and Assembly meetings. Each prefers an electronic transmission.

### Records:

Records Secretary, Jayme P., took the roll. She needs the city boundaries for District 8 and will redo map. See report.

### Treasurer's Report:

Suzanne P. reported a bank balance of \$25,830.74 as of Dec. 31, 2005. New contribution forms have been printed; use the WSO ID number, which is on the GRs' Bulletin label. DRs should also have all the group ID numbers. See report.

### **Old Business:**

Update of liability insurance: Lee T. will bring an update to present at May Assembly meeting.

Keith, a past DR, presented his concerns about some Service Manual inaccuracies. Consensus was that this information should be given to the Delegate to take to the WSC or forwarded to WSO by Keith.

### **New Business:**

- May Assembly agenda: PRAASA discussion on the agenda. Mary M. reported Ad Hoc committee will give a report and recommendation at Assembly. Discussion followed.
- Audit Report: Ron S. reported that as of Dec 31, 2005, 90% of the data was tested and there were no irregularities. See report.

**Meeting reconvened at 1:02 p.m.** Juli read the Twelve Concepts.

### New Business (cont'd.):

- Residency policy: Consensus to put the adoption of a policy on the agenda for May Assembly discussion and vote.
- David announced that Lone Member coordinator position was not filled and that a Web Site Coordinator position has been added, Alvar was appointed to fill that. Discussion followed. Will be placed on agenda for vote at May Assembly.
- Extending the 3-year trial period for restructure was discussed. It will be on agenda for vote at May Assembly. Discussion followed on assignments to Action Committees. DRs will rotate. Action Committee assignments will be made by the May Assembly.
- Consensus that SCWS pay costs for Delegate, Mary M., to stay two extra days following April Conference to represent Area 4 at the 55th Anniversary celebration in Virginia Beach.
- Portia expressed concern about "voice" at Assembly meetings. Members have a voice during new business and any member of the Assembly can bring concerns up during Assembly. Discussion followed.

Chairperson, Coordinators, District Representatives, and Intergroup Liaison Reports followed new business. See Bulletin for reports.

Hospitality Coordinator, Ajit S., announced the <u>following</u> <u>Districts are responsible for breakfast foods for the May Assembly meeting: 7, 8, 12, 42, 54, 60 and 3,11,24,39</u>

[Editor's note: the last 4 districts were added by the new Hospitality Coordinator, Mary Lou V.]

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:43 with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted, Marge V., Minutes Secretary

### **Treasurer**

Welcome to the beginning of a new panel! It is Our total assets (cash & 3-Certificates of Deposit) as of 12/31/05 are \$25,830.74 That means we are just slightly above our reserve and are probably going to be below that amount shortly. Because of the expenses at the beginning of the year, I expect our balances to drop about \$1000 - \$1500. So your contributions are greatly appreciated.

I have new contribution forms for you all to take back to your District meetings and Intergroups. It is important that these forms be used because the Area Assembly voted, in the last panel, to change the group ID numbers to correspond to the WSO ID numbers. So we are no longer using the SCWS ID numbers. If your group would like their contribution correctly posted in the group contribution report, the group treasurer will need to send their donation in with the correct ID number. The WSO ID numbers can be found on the GR's Bulletin label (the one with no letters, just numbers). Your Group Reps and District Reps will have this number, and, if all else fails, you can check with the WSO directly.

Since the WSO has appx. 800 groups registered in our Area, as opposed to our listing of more than 1200 groups – the decision reached by our Area Assembly in the last panel will, hopefully, have an added benefit. More of our groups might register with the WSO, making them "official" members of the worldwide fellowship of Al-Anon Family Groups. How wonderful would that be for all of our groups!!!

The post office box address (SCWS, PO Box 350, North Hollywood, CA 91603) is still being used. Checks and money orders should be made payable to "SCWS", not me, please. Thank

But SCWS relies on your donations, especially for our efforts to carry the message. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication; you

Love in Service, Suzanne P., SCWS Area Treasurer

### Editor's note:

For the Group Contributions, please go to the SCWS website http://scws-al-anon.org and then click on "What We Do" and then click on "Financial Reporting."

### The Audit Report of Southern California World Service of AFG, Inc.

To: The Delegate

The Alternate Delegate
The Past Delegate
The Chairperson

The Treasurer
Tax Return Preparer
The Minutes Secretary

Dated:

January 8, 2006

Subject: Year 2005 Annual Audit

We have reviewed the books and records of the Southern California World Service of AFG, Inc. for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004, and 2003. Our review was limited to the Balance Sheet accounts, which included bank reconciliation review of the Cash and Cash Equivalent Accounts and analyses of the remaining Balance Sheet accounts. We believe the Balance Sheet accounts are fairly stated as of December 31, 2005, 2004, and 2003.

Due to the nature of the collections of the revenues, we were unable to perform testing of those Revenues as recorded in the books of account. We did limited testing of the disbursements (expenses) made through the checking account. Consequently, we cannot offer an opinion on the Statement of Revenues and Expenses, nor the Financial Statements as a whole.

We prepared a Statement of Cash Flow for the Years Ended December 31, 2005, 2004, and 2003. Due to the limited scope of our review, we cannot express an opinion in regard to the Comparative Statement of Cash Flow.

There were no irregularities discovered throughout our review. Our current recommendations are presented in a separate letter to the Treasurer and the Executive Committee.

Debra Debra

Ronald I

[Editor's note: last names have been covered for web version]

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Debra T

Ronald I

[Editor's note: last names have been covered for web version]

# Prepared from Books and Records without Audit

Current Assets:

Southern California World Service of AFG, Inc.

Net Equity at January 1

Sub-Total

Southern California World Service of AFG, Inc.

For the Years Ended December 31, 2005, 2004, and 2003

Comparative Statement of Cash Flow

	i c		000
	<u>c007</u>	2004	2003
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	\$ 32,955.83	\$ 34,552.00	\$ 27,112.92
Changes in Working Capital: (Increases) Decreases in Assets: SOS Prepaid Rent/Expenses Working Capital (Increase) Decrease in Assets:	0.00	0.00	857.56 857.56
Net Change in Working Capital:	0.00	0.00	857.56
Equity Increases (Decreases):			
Excess Revenues over Expenses Write off Old Outstanding Checks At Beginning of Year Total Increase (Decrease) in Equity	(7,125.09)	(1,596.17)	8,781.52
Contribution to AFG, Inc. (Virginia Beach, Va.)	1	1	(2,200.00)
Net Increase (Decrease) in Equity	(7,125.09)	(1,596.17)	6,581.52
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(7,125.09)	(1,596.17)	7,439.08
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	\$ 25,830.74	\$ 32,955.83	\$ 34,552.00

Prepared from Books and Records without Audit

### Coordinators'

### No report from:

Archives Coordinator, Hospitality Coordinator, Lone Member Coordinator (vacant position), Public Information Coordinator, Group Services Action Committee Chairperson

### **Alateen Coordinator**

Hello, my name is Daniel and I'm your SCWS Alateen Coordinator. Now for my report. First I would like to thank David for letting me be on committee. Well, the San Fernando Valley just hosted its SFV Convention at the Burbank Hilton. Great turn out. Tons of Alateens. More than I've ever seen. There were a couple of issues with Alateen Hospitality. But other than that everything went smoothly. The SCAC Committee is pulling together flyers and events in preparation for SCAC. Sorry to say I am not here [at the Committee Meeting] due the SCAC Bar-B-Q today in San Diego at Balboa Park from 2 to 5 p.m. The SCAC website is up. Scac.ipbfree.org. Keep in mind there was a mistake on the tiny flyers the SCAC committee sent out. The correction is dot-org not dot-com. Anyways thanks again to David for electing me and I'll try my best to keep in touch with all the Alateens in Southern California.

Love in service! Daniel.

### **Alateen Sponsor Coordinator**

Support Alateen participation at SCAC, AFG, SCAAC through your own participation. We currently are looking for an AAPP ...Area Alateen Process Person to handle all the paperwork. [Bulletin editor's note: Susie L. has accepted the position as AAPP.] Heidi T. is our Alateen newsletter editor.

--Cynthia P., Alateen Sponsor Coordinator

### **Bulletin Coordinator**

Bring your November and February Bulletins to the May Assembly Meeting — since the Nov. Bulletin contains the minutes from the Nov. Assembly Meeting, and the February Bulletin contains the Agenda for the May Assembly Meeting.

For today's Committee Meeting reports, please give a printout today to the Minutes Secretary (Marge V.) and please give an electronic version to me (by e-mail within one week before or after the Meeting). The electronic version will speed production and reduce errors since it avoids re-typing.

The Bulletin is a record of the reports that were delivered and/or submitted at the Committee meeting or Assembly, respectively. These reports are a great way to share experience with everyone in the SCWS Area, so I hope to print a full set of reports in each Bulletin. The Feb. Bulletin (reporting on today's Committee Meeting) will have an updated Directory, containing the contact information for all new Committee Members.

The November Bulletin has been posted on the SCWS website for two weeks now - with last names & contact info deleted. (Go to the website and click on "Bulletin.") If you want to receive a .pdf version of the Nov. Bulletin, containing last names & contact info, just let me know and I'll e-mail it to you as an attachment. To view the .pdf version, you need Acrobat Reader, which is downloadable from a link on the Bulletin page.

Thank you for this service opportunity, Elizabeth K., Bulletin Coordinator

### **Institutions Coordinator**

I met Mary Lou V., past Institutions Coordinator, at the Alano Club in Garden Grove, where she introduced me to the AA Committee for the 2006 AA Hospitals and Institutional conference committee. The conference is being held april 28-30 at the Double Tree Hotel in Orange. Convention Flyers are on the Lobby counter.

Danelle M.is again serving as Program Chair. The program is in place; however, Al-Anon does need the following: 1) a Registration Chairperson to work with the AA Registration Chairperson. Help is needed early Friday evening from 4-7, Saturday noon from 11am to 2pm, and Saturday early evening from 4-7. 2) a Literature Chairperson to purchase and set up a display for Al-Anon. SCWS provides \$50 to \$100 for literature. Help is also needed from 6-9 Thursday to stuff the Conference envelopes.

Since the Conference is being held before the Assembly, please take this report back to your District meetings and let it serve as a sign-up sheet. We are seeking a Registration Chair, Literature Chair, help with registration and help with the literature table. You can mail the sign-up sheet back to me, call me, or e-mail me.

Shirley M., Institutions Coordinator

### **Hospitality Coordinator**

The following Districts will be the Hosts for the upcoming May 2006 Assembly Meeting... 3, 7, 8, 11, 12, 24, 39, 42, 54 and 60. Please bring breakfast foods for approximately 60 people. Breakfast foods are, for example, fresh fruits, bagels and cream cheese, muffins, cookies, ETC. If you have any questions or cannot attend this function, please notify me. My telephone number and e-mail address are listed in the Bulletin.

Thank you for your help!

Mary Lou V., your incoming Hospitality Coordinator

### **Literature Coordinator**

Dear Al-Anon members: I am the new area literature coordinator. It is always a privilege to serve and I look forward to "listening and learning." My thanks to Helen C. for her loving support and encouragement.

The daily meditation book, *Hope for Today*, ("Esperanza Para Hoy") is now available in Spanish (SB-27) and can be purchased through the Information Offices or World Service. The price is \$10.00 plus shipping if ordered through World Service. The 2004-2006 *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*. Spanish version, will be available in May, 2006.

I will have Service Manuals available for sale at the next Area Assembly in May.

Love in Service, Lucía C.

### Website Coordinator

The web site at <a href="http://scws-al-anon.org">http://scws-al-anon.org</a> has been updated with new information, including Bulletins. There is a map based web page to find meetings in all of California. It is linked from the WSO main site and the SCWS site at <a href="http://camaps.scws-al-anon.org">http://camaps.scws-al-anon.org</a>. We are missing some meeting information. If you have new meeting information, please send it to <a href="https://camaps.scws-al-anon.org">(deleted)</a>—Alvar

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### CPC, Cooperating with the Professional Community Action Committee

Greetings to everyone in Southern California. I am very excited to be your new C.P.C. Coordinator. A big thank you to Lee T. for reaching out and inspiring so many of us these last three years. I have big shoes to fill.

I am just starting to communicate with the Public Outreach Team from WSO. FYI, when a professional (doctor, judge, therapist, teacher, etc.) from our area requests information from WSO about Al-Anon or Alateen, that request is sent to the CPC Coordinator. I shall be reaching out to the DRs for help in making contact with these professionals in their districts. I am also hoping in the next year or so to visit each district and discuss ways in which we can continue to carry the message.

"Prescription Al-Anon" is an on-going two-year project devised to increase awareness of Al-Anon and Alateen through medical and health care professionals. Did you know a membership survey shows that over half of Al-Anon members attended their first meeting through a professional referral? A new 50-sheet referral pad (M-77) was devised to give medical, counseling, religious, legal and other professionals an easy means to refer clients to Al-Anon and Alateen. WSO will be sending me samples. You can order the pad on-line at <a href="https://www.al-anon.alateen.org/members">www.al-anon.alateen.org/members</a>. The pad is not yet on the literature order form, but you can find it (M-77) through the search engine. The cost is 50 cents apiece for a pad of fifty.

Feel free to E-mail me, call, or just corner me and tell me you'd like to help carry the message in your district. The more the merrier.

Love and fun in service, Sandra W., CPC Coordinator

### MCAC (Member Communications Action Cmtee)

Greetings, first of all, thank you to the Board for asking me to be of service in this capacity. What an honor. And a special thanks to Barbara W. for her time & notes passed on to me and to my friend Rita M., who continues to be a source of World Service knowledge.

LIS, Cindy R.

Membership Communications Action Committee Chair

### **Evaluation Summary of ACTION Committees**

The following is a summary regarding ACTION Committees from Kay D., Immediate Past Delegate who served as Chair for the Southern California World Service (SCWS) ad hoc Restructure Committee from 2003 to 2005. This information was presented at the Turn Over meeting of the SCWS Board held in January 2006 and is being placed into the Bulletin and forwarded to the Districts as requested by the District Reps at the February 2006 SCWS Committee meeting.

I remain convinced that the District Representatives and the Intergroup Liaisons are the key to the communication and action. Your officers and coordinators depend on the District Rep (DR) to carry forward the information and enthusiasm to the Group Representatives (GR) (the real soldiers of service). The GRs relay this information and opportunities for individual action to their group members. If that doesn't happen nothing ever gets done.

You'll see several conclusions as you look carefully at the Evaluations: (the actual comments we received on the feedback evaluations are copied into a section further below)

- 1. That the Assembly likes the Action Committees, but hasn't had a chance to really use the process.
- 2. That many questions and information are not getting to the GRs from the District meetings (the Alternate Delegate's DR orientation is really important).
- 3. That our communication methods need revision. The good news is that the GRs "get it": note the many comments on giving input on The Bulletin.
- 4. That the GRs want their Action Committee to have an agenda, driven from their input and from WSO information, they want minutes and to read the action in print later.
- 5. The Districts want to have some of their GRs attending each Action Committee for continuity of report-back.

My opinion after this trial period is to assign Action Committee membership to the DR and ask each GR to join an Action Committee when they check in with Records Secretary. i.e., let them choose and remain on that committee all three years. Submitted by: Kay D., Ad hoc Restructure Committee, 2003-2005

### Evaluation of Action Committees (combined from Assemblies May 2005 and Nov 2005)

### Questions:

How can we better meet your needs in the Action Committee (A/C) at the Assembly?

Public Outreach:

- More GR participation
- -Real life example from people on how they did Outreach.
- -Have a specific opportunity to work on as a group. I actually feel the Outreach Committee is very well done
- -No groups
- -Doing a great job! /
- -Have Action Committees earlier on the agenda
- -Add activities to the Website.
- -I feel positive about continuing the trial-it is better than taking notes-I think GRs have excellent ideas and how to do things for us to draw on .
- -Study the Service Manual
- -I got a lot out of all of them.

### **Group Services:**

- -Great! I don't believe any changes are necessary. (2)
- -Don't know enough about Action Committees.
- -Provide an agenda of each Breakout session.
- -Have a short outline (general) to help the members with discussion.
- -The facilitators can take the LEAD and ask individuals for participation of whatever Project might be agreed upon within this committee. PROJECTS can rotate from year to year or be expanded on each year.
- -Have some ideas ahead of time. Have a project for us to do. Not have these every time maybe once a year.
- -Be more organized-cover specific committees.
- -The A/Cs are good brainstorming. List Dist 72 in the Bulletin so we know where to go.
- -Please explain before the B/O sessions what they are about.
- -Talk about forward-reaching ideas and not only be report-backs (as previously). Perhaps ask a DR or several, before the

Assembly, to present ideas or how they do things within their own District.

- -I think a facilitator to lead the discussion should cover the selected topic brainstorming, and then open discussion.
- -We were very spread out throughout the room. For running the meeting we need an agenda of what we want to brainstorm on.
- -It will be better next year as Alateen took up too much time.
- -Have specific measurable results proposed for the action committee. Example: 50% of the GRs say they have a new action to enroll their group into.
- -We are a new District and as we progress in our group will be more aware of how the service is.
- -Really explain what their areas (of service) are and what is expected.
- -Maybe have more GR participation.
- -Focused "actions" to discuss rather than just "reports".
- -Finish Alateen issue and move on with implementation.

### **Membership Outreach:**

- -I'm not sure what all the "initialed groups do". I make a place to keep all the papers I receive as GR from WAS using the bunch of papers handed me by a former GR and I keep all my stuff as GR to pass on to the next GR.
- -Great job. Keep it up.
- -Communicate more with the members between assemblies to actually do action.
- -I like the sharing of ideas vs. just getting information. Mix of both information and flow down sharing is good.
- -More than a third of our group were new GRs. Have experienced GRs to share
- -Offer an agenda or a brief explanation of the purpose of the AC.
- -Make them interesting and fun.
- -State the purpose of the Committee at the beginning. Want more input on <u>The Bulletin</u>, <u>The Forum</u> and literature.
- -Have more specific ideas on projects groups can do.
- -Have interaction between member and ideas on how to encourage action/service from our group members.
- -Have enough handouts.
- -I am disappointed in our A/C writing today; the reports were good. We didn't discuss hot topics, How are the panels working we decided last time, what ideas were generated. I see this as an interactive session designed to generate ideas we can take back to our districts. Not just quiet time to write our personal stories.
- -How can we better reach Lone Members and people that are temporarily out of meeting? (Illness, death, moving, etc.?)

Do you feel your participation today in the Action Committee will empower you to take an Action idea back to your group? For all the Action Committees, the answers were overwhelmingly, Yes. The few No's said we just heard reports: wanted how-to's and decision-making.

### What do you wish we did in the Action Committee today?

- -Talk about e-mail vs. mailing the Bulletin, Generate enthusiasm for SOS.
- -Break into smaller groups.
- -Exchange contact info for continuous communication.
- -More sharing of ideas to encourage my group participation.
- -Offer to receive a list of questions or ideas.

- -Have written handouts to share at our meetings.
- -No time to discuss topics/questions.
- -Put all handouts in a packet to be handed out at once.
- -Want to discuss Bulletin.
- -More time to discuss issues such as The Bulletin.
- -End Assembly early. Action Committees earlier.
- -Have an agenda with more concept/discussion points.
- -Break into separate groups for discussion. Discuss more ways to participate.
- -We did no Action today. Explain Goals of the session first.
- -Share on actual group problems. How to increase the Group.
- -More of a Thank You for our Officers, Job well done!

### What do you hope we do at the next Assembly?

- -Discuss whether Action Committee members should be appointed or elected.
- -Establish a goal of the committee. What do we want to accomplish during our term?
- -Panels on Concepts / Traditions.
- -Need to hear ideas and experiences in talking to the churches.
- -Bring topics for discussion.
- -Find ways to encourage people to take (and fulfill) service commitments.
- -Have more interaction in the A/C committees. i.e., Discuss using last names in the Bulletin.
- -Make a By-law for removal of officers/coordinators committee members who don't attend meetings.
- -Pick one topic and do it in great detail so some of it can get done. Three topics are too much to deal with without turmoil.
- -Have reports with more time for Q&A. Then have discussion about action items.
- -Talk more about other aspects like the Lone Members, or International services.
- -Discuss GRs having a sense of ownership in being on A/C.
- -Input from members on action at Group or District level.
- -More ideas for refining Alateen sponsorship process.
- -Keep up this wonderful, well-run organized meeting.
- -Don't burn time on the coordinators reports: print them. Announcements should go into the main meeting so all can hear.
- -Anything to further the 5th Tradition.
- -The A/Cs are so good and the Agenda is so tight. Makes for a busy day.
- -Readings out loud from the different Literature.
- -Brainstorm a project on specific idea or concept and Focus on Specific action idea to toke back to our District
- -Today (Nov.) was the first smooth, peaceful Assembly in three years. (6) ——Continue with the Action Committees.
- -Refine solutions with the member services.
- -Hope we have a new Booth.
- -Contact Districts or communicate before the Assembly with A/C concerns.

### I'm still confused about?

- -Coordination between Group/ SCWS.
- -Why we don't spend more time on this type of activity at the Assembly.
- -I got a lot out of this day.
- -The intended purpose of the breakout sessions.
- -I'm new I'm just learning about how the Assembly works.
- -My role as DR is in these Action Committees.
- -Why we had these reports separately.
- -How the Board affects my Group and me. (New GR)

Note: personal contact info + last names have been deleted for web publication, per Tradition 11.

-Why we didn't give something to the WSO.

-Are we going to do anything to carry the message within the membership or just listen to reports?

-How do people in one breakout session learn what happens in other sessions?

-How to get my group to start getting interested in reaching

-There seems to be a language amongst those who have been involved that newcomers aren't understanding the terminology.

The structure of Al-Anon s officers and who does what.

-How and what to implement this committees mission based on the information provided today.

### Did you appreciate having the background on the **Agenda Items?**

Comments:

That was a good idea.

Must have missed this. (2)

It's good you had By-laws on the website.

I absolutely appreciate it. It gives me a point of reference.

No. Could have a (tendency?) for the person/people to put their slant on it.

Well run Assembly today. Kudos!

I don't recall getting background items. It would be interesting. I may have missed the hows and whys.

Very informative about the evolution and working of the A/C. When you give an email address, please print it big enough to

Very helpful especially for the new GR.

Wording of the agenda items is not clear and concise. Work

It would help to have the previous minutes handed out.

The more information, the better to take action and remember it as the weeks go by.

We had (Alt. Delegate) come to our District meeting and discuss the agenda. It was the best way we received background information.

### Intergroup

### No report from:

Oficina Intergrupal Hispaña, Inland Empire Los Angeles County, Santa Barbara County

### **Orange County**

Hello again! The last time we communicated was in November, 2005 and, though, with only one month left to the old year, we continued to have fun raising funds. Our Holiday Alathon/Auction netted over \$4400, we trimmed a tree for SCAC monies, and had more holiday phone coverage than we've ever had before. Since the start of the New Year, we've updated our antiquated computer, vastly improved our turnaround time for publication of the Orange Blossom, and are busy making plans for the OCAAC, the AFT Convention, Round Robins, panels, health fairs, and Alateen events. As always, Al-Anon is alive and well and flourishing in the OC. Peace, love, and joy to you all,

Kathy R., OC IR WS Liaison

### Palm Springs/Palm Desert

Please see the report for District 72 in this Bulletin.

### Ventura County

Greetings from Ventura County and first-time writer, Rosanne S. Ventura County Intergroup would like to extend our great big Thank You to Jerry W, Tracy L, Debbie Mc, Foster H, John W, Judy D, Si-Si P for serving on VC's Al-Anon Intergroup Service Board during this past two-year term.

I am both humbled and honored to have been elected to serve as VC's Intergroup Chair for the next two-year term. It is a privilege to introduce the other new Service Board Officers -Cyndy P CoChair; Jerry W, Past Chair; Mary M, Secretary; Gabriela A, Spanish Liaison; Rafaella M & Darcy B, Public Information; Judith R, District 12; Julie H, Round Robins; Shirley M, Institutions; Anton C, Website; Tracy L, "Scoop" Editor; Foster H, Treasurer; and Jake L, Alateen Representative. We still have open positions: Archives, Alateen Coordinator, and CPC. I am blessed to know each member and am looking forward to being of service to the best of my ability. One thing that is especially exciting is the addition of a new Service Board position for a one-year trial basis - Alateen Representative, and we are proud to announce that Jake L was unanimously voted in to serve in this very important position. Jake will serve as the link to the Alateen meetings and will work closely with the Ventura County Alateen Coordinator. Welcome Jake!

We have re-instituted the Ask-It-Basket into our Intergroup Scoop newsletter and have already received questions about Alateen sponsorship, meeting autonomy, and Alateen safety at conventions. Tracy L is excited to be the new Scoop Editor as she comes from a long line of journalists – yay! Responses will be posted in the Scoop to be shared by the IGRs at their

Gabriela A, Spanish Liaison, has created a flyer seeking articles, announcements, and happenings from our Spanish members for our Scoop newsletter.

Julie H, Round Robin Coordinator, extends much gratitude to the Westlake Al-Anon Women's Writing Group and Ventura Wednesday Night Topic Group for hosting our recent Round Robins. Members from all over Ventura County were on hand - fellowship was fantastic, wonderful shares, and desserts.

We held our annual VC Gratitude Faire on November 12th and everyone agreed, it was another Best-Ever! And if that wasn't enough, we held our Intergroup Holiday Buffet on December 15th. The Serenity by the Sea AA Round-Up with Al-Anon and Alateen Participation will be held March 31-April 2, 2006 in Oxnard – hope to see you all there. We're especially excited about our upcoming District 12 & Ventura County 55 Year Al-Anon Anniversary Celebration to held on April 30th at the Camarillo Community Center. It will be a Potluck Speaker Luncheon with Al-Anon longtimer, Helen W from Atascadero, CA, plus a very special Alateen & AA Speaker – recovery for the whole family. It will be awesome and you are all invited. The Santa Paula Pig Roast will be held in July, and our Ventura County AA Convention with Al-Anon and Alateen Participation will be held on September 8-10, 2006 in Westlake...whew! Lots going on here in Ventura County, stay tuned!

Lovinservice, Rosanne S,

**Southern California World Service** 

District 12-Ventura County Intergroup Chair

### Convention

### **SCAA 2006**

The Convention will be held Sept 22,23 & 24 at the Town & Country Hotel in San Diego. Make your plans for a wonderful time at the So-Cal Convention (Southern California AA Convention with Al-Anon & Alateen participation). See you all there!!

Love In Service, Sandie E., 2006 SCAAC Al-Anon Chairman

### **AFG 2006**

I fall in line with all past chairmen when I say I can't believe there are only six weeks until convention time. I am happy and proud to report your committee is excited, working hard and ready to go! The 30th annual Southern California Al-Anon Family Groups convention "Come Home to AFG" will be held at the Burbank Hilton Hotel and convention Center March 31st, April 1st and 2nd. Our invitation is open to all for a wonderful weekend of fellowship.

Our program includes wonderful speakers along with our luncheon speaker, Betty Ann Z. (Al-Anon) from Thousand Oaks and Cara W. (Alateen) from San Diego. Our banquet speakers are John and Karin A. (AA and Al-Anon) from Laguna Woods. Friday night there will be a welcoming ceremony you won't forget along with "Our Voices from the Past" and our "get down" Choir for your entertainment. There will be a vocalist and comedian performing live for your enjoyment at the banquet. What a weekend we have prepared for you!

There will be continuous marathon meetings from 5pm Friday to 8am Sunday. The meeting topics are great. An example and one of my favorites is "what are you doing with what you got?" In the lobby today our Ways and Means are back with all our convention memorabilia. Now is the TIM for you to purchase for yourself, sponsor and friend. The raffle committee is busy creating exquisite gift baskets to be given away at our luncheon. Raffle tickets are available today at our Ways and Means table as well. Our Carry the Message committee is continuing to spread the word to our meetings to register for the convention. Book your room at the hotel and most importantly, bring newcomers with us. Our Boutique is prepared to showcase your special creative talent, "DON'T MISS OUT". We hope you will join us in the 30th year celebration of AFG. Our website is www.afgconvention.org. Use this site to register with the Hilton for your room and to get updated event information including our "For Sale" link and our "In Store" link to view and purchase Ways and Means items. Make sure you register and send in for your ticketed events.

Looking forward to sharing the weekend with you and all who have served our convention along with attending and enjoying it for the last 30 years.

Love in Service to our Fellowship, Kay B., 2006 AFG Chairman

### District Representatives'

### No report from:

Districts 11, 21, 30, 39, 40, 42, 51, 69, 78 Verbal reports given by:

Districts 6\*, 8\*, 10\*, 12\*, 24\*, 33\*, 36\*, 63\*

### **District 3**

Hello from District 3! The 22nd district AA convention with Al-Anon participation will be held August 25, 26 and 27, 2006 in San Luis Obispo. On Saturday our Al-Anon Luncheon speaker will be Kathy H from Cincinnati, Ohio. We hope you will join us for lots of fellowship and recovery. Look for flyers at the May Assembly.

The Women's Al-Anon Lake Lopez Campout will be June 2, 3 and 4, 2006.

When I went to the District meeting on January 18th I had not planned to be the District Representative. I was planning to be the District Treasurer. I guess my Higher Power had other plans. I was just willing to be of service. I have started visiting the meetings in our district. What a great experience!

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Julie Marie R.

### **District 9**

Hi, I'm Myra K., D.R., District 9 – serving the Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys and surrounding areas.

Since the Assembly in November we've had two district meetings; one in December and the other last Saturday. I have been focusing primarily on getting all of our group records straightened out with SCWS and WSO as well as following up on our Alateen Sponsor Certifications and Alateen Group Certifications. I'm still not sure where we stand as far as our group records go – I hope to have a better understanding after this meeting.

As far as our Alateen Certifications go, I was able to get confirmation last week from Cynthia that all of our outstanding certification requests have now been processed and she has sent me a spreadsheet with all of our certification numbers. I was also able to get confirmation from Barbara O. in Virginia Beach that our Thursday Night Alateen Meeting in Santa Clarita was officially certified on February 1st and she emailed me the certification number during this last week. This was a huge relief to the Alateens who attend that meeting as well as the sponsors and other members of our district since the meeting was "de-listed" by WSO and L.A. Central Office despite all requirements having been met for at least six months. Some of our sponsor certification requests have taken up to a year to process. We are very hopeful that the process will run much smoother from here on out!

We are still encouraging more members to become involved in Alateen service. We feel we can never have enough sponsors or "back up" sponsors! We are also collecting money for SCAC scholarships and have SCAC registration forms as well as forms and flyers for El Cap and the other fundraisers in circulation district wide.

The Antelope Valley Al-Anon Convention, which usually takes place in April, will be held in November this year due to the large number of activities in the spring. The Santa Clarita

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Convention of AA with Al-Anon Participation will be held in October at the Hyatt Hotel in Valencia.

Our public outreach coordinators have panels going in to several locations in both the Santa Clarita and Antelope Valley and are working on adding other facilities to their list. A couple of our GRs brought up the possibility of having a District-wide event such as an Alathon or some kind of workshop - not necessarily for the purpose of fundraising but more for the purpose of just sharing program and having other areas participate. Two of our members are working on finding a location and we will keep everyone informed of when and where and what we'll be doing.

See you all in May! Love in service, Myra K.

### **District 17**

District 17 has recently elected a new District Representative. YEAH!!! Since this district has not had a DR for the past year, the short-term goal is to verify which meetings are in our district, ensure that they are all registered with WSO, and that they all have a Group Representative. The next goal is to unite all of the GR's by having District meetings at regular intervals and sending the information to those meetings that did not send representation to the District Meeting.

This is quite a task for a new DR that is also a new GR, so I will be reaching out and asking for guidance. I am willing and hopefully able. I expect to be able to provide a more in-depth report next time.

Thanks for letting me be of service! Tarisa R., DR for District 17

### **District 27**

We send a big Thank You to our outgoing officers and especially to Sandra W. (our outgoing DR), who set a fine example! There was so much enthusiasm at our January district meeting as we excitedly began a new 3-year term with some returning GRs and lots of new GRs. We are beginning an ongoing outreach project to those groups currently without a Group Representative.

Our Alateen Liaison is Heidi T.. We currently have 3 preteen meetings in our District. Our Alternate DR, Tim P., is interested in the possibility of our starting an Alateen meeting.

We are looking at the excellent DR reports from 2005 on the SCWS website for ideas on Public Outreach. Our current theme is Let It Begin With Me. Our March Forth\*\* project will be to distribute 1000 Crying House bookmarks via members of the District 27 meetings. This public outreach project is so popular nationwide that WSO already printed 600,000 copies by the 3rd printing at the time of the SWRSS last September. Depending on the arrival time of our back-order, we might march forth in May, the month of Al-Anon's 55th Anniversary and our next district meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of the odd-# months). Elizabeth K., DR for District 27

### **District 45**

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Though I don't have the final reports yet, our 9th annual Alathon was a success. We had meetings that focused in the Steps, Traditions and Concepts. The chili was hot and the salad was crisp – I certainly left with a full tummy as well as a full spirit. Thanks to all who participated!

At our last District meeting in January, we voted to disburse some of our funds. We had more in our treasury than anticipated due to our expenses being less than planned; therefore, we

voted to send \$300 to the Area as well \$300 to our local Information Center. In addition, we voted to spend \$1,000 on literature to be distributed around the community (libraries, schools, professional offices, etc.). We hope to have the literature order filled before our next District meeting on March 4th so that it will be available to the Group Representatives at that time. We will ask for a report from each Group Representative who takes literature so that we can report back as to where the literature was placed.

Our next District meeting is March 4th, at 7:30 PM at the Covenant Presbyterian Church, 6328 W. 80th Street, Westchester (@ the corner of Sepulveda & 80th, one mile north of LAX). If you're in the area, come join us!

Gratefully, Cathy W. District 45 Representative

### **District 48**

It is an honor to report the great response and cooperation to the District from the groups in the Area.

District 48 has been through changes since it became active again in 1991. Before the 1960's, the Southeast area of Los Angeles was an Anglo Community with more English speaking groups, and today the area is mostly Hispanic with 98% of the groups speaking Spanish.

When the District was reactivated, it became a bilingual District to serve the District's groups.

As Al-Anon as a whole, we are spreading the message of serenity, strength and hope. The District meets the last Monday of each month at 7:00p.m, (Salt Lake Recreation in Huntington Park) and every other month a different speaker shares an interesting topic.

On March 4, for Lois' birthday, the District is having a Public Information meeting at 2:00p.m in the City of Long Beach (855) E. 6th Street).

The District had completed the safety requirements for its Alateen sponsors. There is one large Alateen group in the area with Al-Anons who are willing to be at service as sponsors.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

With Love, Julia T

### District 54

"Gratitude Brings Freedom." District 54's annual Alathon will be held Sat. March 25th, 9am - 5pm, at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 2200 Via Rosa, Palos Verdes Estates (Thomas Guide 792-H3).

Our district is actively carrying the message of Al-Anon to our community. We are purchasing books for the local libraries and various group meetings are taking their own action to distribute literature.

I wish to thank the Alateen Sponsors & Liaisons for being of service. It would be great to see more Al-Anon members/GR's attend the Alateen Sponsor's meeting held on the first Friday of every even month at the Catalina Coffee House.

Thank you Marge C., (a former Trustee-at-Large) for sharing our last District meeting about closing prayer adversity and the use of the Al-Anon Declaration. Real growth shows when the GR practices the Traditions and Concepts to communicate back to their Group. Sometimes it can be uncomfortable and challenging.

Very grateful to serve as District 54's Representative, Roxanne S.

### **District 57**

Greetings from District 57. I want to first express thanks to Jayme P for her service as our District Representative this past year. Jayme began the revitalization of our District after several years without a District Rep. She has accepted the position of SCWS Records Secretary and we wish her all the best. We held our last District 57 meeting at Jayme's house on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and our meeting attendance continues to grow. We elected our new DR! We also reviewed group efforts to support Alateen through SCAC donations and several Public Outreach campaigns that our GRs are conducting with their groups.

I am grateful and excited to be serving District 57 and look forward to continuing our growth.

In love and service, Adrienne K, DR District 57

### **District 60**

Greetings from District 60!

District 60 ended 2005 with a public outreach project to schools - sending out over 2000 packets and distributing approximately 4000 of the latest CAL bookmarks throughout our district.

Currently, we are placing Al-Anon books in libraries in the district with the group reps having books donated by their meetings. Our district works well together in these public outreach projects and there is unity!

Our next District meeting has a temporary location and different day:

It will be on Friday, March 3, 2006 in Fullerton at St Paul's Lutheran Church at 111 West Las Palmas (& Imperial Highway). Room location to be announced.

Love in service, Celeste B.

### <u>District 64 (en español)</u>

Hola todos:

El dia de ahora, queremos darles las gracias a todas las personas que hisieron posible esto para la Comunidad Hispaña Al-Anon. El Distrito 64 Celebrará su 15vo. Aniversario en Mayo próximo tendremos a un antiguo miembro de Al-Anon compartiendo. Todos están invitados a nuestra fiesta, tenemos mucho agradecimiento a todos ustedes y mucha alegría de que nos puedan acompanar en nuestra celebración.

Estamos trabajando en los regalos amorosos que enviaremos a la Conferencia el próximo Abril. Y muuuuy contentos de comenzar el Año con 2 RGs Alateen en nuestras juntas de Distrito.

Gracias por la oportunidad de Servir

Rosalba R. Dist.64

### **District 64 (en ingles)**

Hi everybody:

Today we want to give special thanks to the people who made it possible for the Al-Anon Spanish Community. District 64 is going to celebrate its 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in May. We would appreciate it if you could join us. We are going to have a WSO member as speaker and a lot of food. Everybody is invited to our fiesta.

We are also working on the love gifts to send to the Conference in April. And we are very happy to start the New Year with 2 Alateen GRs in our meetings.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve... Rosalba R.. Dist.64.

### .District 66

As we start our 2nd year term, we are continuing our theme of developing "magnetic meetings" (thanks Kristen)...in short, all of our efforts are motivated by service to our meetings in the form of education and interaction. We recently had our 1st meeting for 2006 and exciting things are already evident.

We enjoyed record attendance at our 1st meeting with 30 GRs, Alt GRs and Coordinators. The word is out in Dist 66. If you want answers to the tough questions the District Meeting is a good place to go.

Last year we put much effort in getting the word out to our meetings and encouraging them to establish a connection at the District level, preferably a GR and ideally a GR + Alt. We're seeing this develop this year - several new GRs have also recruited Alternates.

To insure these "new recruits" get off on the right foot, Pete B. has developed a clean, concise easy to understand packet of info for the newGR. Pete presented this at the last meeting and it was accepted (and appreciated) unanimously.

Our treasury is growing as a result of clarifying our mission and encouraging support at the District level from our meetings. As a result, we will be able to do some exciting things this year in support of general outreach as well as support of our Alateens.

At each meeting we tackle one of the Traditions of Al-Anon, or ne of the primary principles of the program. The subject generally is established out of the needs and discussion of GRs at the previous meeting. Someone with the District with some time in the program volunteers to facilitate the discussion. This past meeting was on Outreach, as both a principle (12th stepping) and a means to strengthen meetings. Out of this discussion came the birth of the Dist 66 Outreach Committee (4 GRs) who will bring back to the next District Meeting suggestions for outreach, and provide the leadership and support of it to the District; very exciting.

Our next meeting is in April, the "Magnetic Meeting" topic for discussion is "The Al-Anon Focus" facilitated by Jill W. Respectfully, Garry L., Dis 66

### **District 72**

My name is Bernie and I am the new D.R. for District 72. Dist 72 was one of the districts that recycled in 2006, so most of the GR's are new to this level of service. The May Assembly will have a lots of new faces. Our first meeting was on January 21, 2006. We meet at the atonement Lutheran church in spring valley, CA, on the 4th Saturday of the month. New District Officers were elected, including Secretary, Treasure, Alateen Liaison and Alternate DR.

The district is preparing for our long timers tea in late spring and our fall service forum in October. Our goal is to be very pro-active in public outreach and continue efforts to expand our Alateen meeting schedule. We have four meetings that have come back on line and I am pleased with the cooperation of the Groups in the District. We will be reaching out to the Spanish element of our District to bring them back into active participation as in the past.

I look forward to serving as DR for the District and participating at this level of service in order to expand my Al-Anon experience.

Recovery Through Service, Bernie S., D.R.

### Note: personal contact info + last names have been deleted for web publication, per Tradition 11. District 75 A3: Point out that you are doing your best as a trusted servant

Happy Spring Everyone!

Thanks to a crackerjack team of GRs and to the enthusiasm of our Alternate DR, Louise K., District 75 had a wildly successful Fall fundraising event. Funds raised approximately doubled last year's revenue from this same event. We assessed that soliciting the inherent gifts of our talented members district-wide and selling raffle tickets throughout our district in advance of the event were keys to our success.

Also successful was our public outreach project; placing CAL into 35 local libraries. We are planning our next phase of public outreach by investigating the placement of CAL into a women's shelter, a shelter for abused children, and in high schools.

Also, we are pursuing outreach within the fellowship in order to generate more group representation (GRs) in our district. We are including a discussion topic in our meeting format in order to inform ourselves. Our first topic at our March 4 meeting is The Role of the GR.

Thank you all for your ideas and your sharings. Love in service, Anne J., DR

### Ask-It Basket Ouestions

ASK-IT-BASKET QUESTIONS Feb 18, 2006 Committee meeting

**Q1:** From a concerned GR in our District: A professional is coming to an Al-Anon meeting and then afterward is soliciting newcomers for their practice. How is this best handled?

A1: This is a group conscience decision. Some groups have a Steering Committee to decide on a way to handle this. One group read a statement at their meeting that they were aware this was happening and that it is not appropriate. The new Service Manual says on page 100: "...the Sixth Tradition suggest that there be no promotion or endorsement of any outside therapies." On page 98 it says "Since Tradition Eight states that Al-Anon Twelfth Step work should remain forever nonprofessional, individuals who are professionals do not use their titles in conjunction with the Al-Anon name."

**Q2:** I've been hearing rumors that it is required to have 2 Alateen sponsors in order to have an Alateen meeting, but according to the WSO minimum safety requirements <u>and</u> the SCWS addendum that was voted on last October/November, only one sponsor is required. Please clarify this for me.

**A2:** See page 68 of the 2004-2006 Service Manual. "An Al-Anon sponsor is essential to every group in order to keep the focus on the Al-Anon interpretation of the program.... It is recommended that there be 2 Alateen sponsors each of whom is a minimum of 21 years old, currently attending Al-Anon meetings and an active Al-Anon member for at least 2 years in addition to any time spent in the Alateen program."

**Q3:** What to do with a "black belt" Al-Anon who always criticizes and corrects after every report I make to the group?

A3: Point out that you are doing your best as a trusted servant and that it is part of your responsibility to report back to your group. Refer to Concept 4: Participation is the key to harmony. Concept 10: double-head management is avoided. Warranty 2: That no Conference (and also by extension, group, committee) member shall be placed in unqualified authority over other members. Warranty 4: action never to be personally punitive or incitement to public controversy. You might say, "I'm just the messenger" or "I'm sorry you feel that way."

**Q4:** I have a long-time member who refuses to give up his CMA (current mailing address) of a group to the GR.

A4: Page 30 of the 2004-2006 Service Manual says, "The CMA may be but does not have to be a group officer's address...." Page 133 says, "The GR has the responsibility of seeing that mail from the World Service Office is reaching his group. If mail is not being brought to meetings by the person who is listed as the current mailing address, the GR consult first with the CMA and, if a change is warranted, contacts the District Representative and the WSO to provide an up-to-date current mailing address...."

**Q5:** Is there a suggested guideline for contributions to the four Service Arms (WSO, SCWS, District, Intergroup)? What has been done traditionally with no <u>official</u> guidelines? What is an appropriate percentage distribution?

**A5:** Page 51 in the 2004-20006 Service Manual describes the financial policy. The groups usually discuss appropriate percentages, keeping in mind that there are less groups supporting each district and more supporting the WSO. It might be more appropriate to allocate the higher percentage to the more local service arms.

(Editor's note: Another source is the pamphlet "The Seventh Tradition Suggests" – item S-21)

**Q6:** Can I report from Committee Meetings to my group?

**A6:** Yes, see GR, DR responsibilities in the Service Manual. But especially at District meetings to help the GRs understand what to expect at Assemblies and understand the issues, and so that they can report to their groups. There is nothing secret going on.

**Q7:** Is the "Lord's Prayer" an acceptable closing prayer at an Al-Anon meeting:

**A7:** Page 47 of the Service Manual addresses this in the Suggested Al-Anon/Alateen Closing. "It is suggested that groups close in a manner that is agreeable to the group conscience." Some groups close with the Serenity Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, or the Al-Anon Declaration.

**Q8:** We have an Al-Anon with Adult Child Focus meeting in our Area. The secretary and others refer to it as an ACA meeting and places an ACA meeting directory on our literature table. I believe this gives the appearance of "affiliation."

**A8:** It does. Page 100 in the Service Manual under "Dilution of the Al-Anon Program" "Outside Therapies" states: "Publicizing other organizations' activities creates an appearance of affiliation." The Third Tradition says "The relatives of alcoholics...may call themselves an Al-Anon Family Group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation...." Also, page 86 states "To keep Al-Anon's message in focus, it is suggested that only Conference Approved Literature and

Al-Anon/Alateen service tools be displayed, distributed and used at Al-Anon/Alateen meetings...."

**Q9:** In what way are members being affected by an increasing number of high-pressure groups (dictatorships rather than sponsorship) as indicated in the immediate past delegate's report?

A9: Members who have been in groups that they now see as "high-pressure" groups have shared the pain they felt as a result of being controlled by their sponsor. Our fellowship as a whole can be affected if dominance, or dictatorship, becomes pervasive. Al-Anon is not a cult. We are here to learn that we are powerless over others, not to practice being powerful over others by turning sponsorship into dictatorship. Page 59 of the new Service Manual says that a sponsor "...shares the experience, strength and hope of the Al-Anon program." One result of the submission of this question for discussion at WSC is that the WSO is developing another piece of literature about sponsorship. Future discussion in our Area can help us understand the effects of sponsorship that gets carried to the extreme and that changes positive love into negative control.

### Sharing of Service Ouestions

January 2006 SOS Service Manual Workshop Questions

### **GROUPS AT WORK**

- 1. What's the difference between an Intergroup and a District? What functions do they have that are alike/ different?
- 2. Why do we need a WSO? What does it do?
- 3. What is an Area? What does the Area do? Why do we need an Area?
- 4. What is the purpose of the World Service Conference? Who gets to go to the World Service Conference? Why is it closed to non-conference members?
- 5. What do the following terms mean? GR, DR, WSO, WSC, RSS, ODAT, CTC, SCWS.
- 6. Where can you find the conference charter and what is it? Who wrote it? Do we need it? Note: it contains the warranties.
- 7. How is a new piece of literature created? Who decides if it should be a book or a pamphlet or what?
- 8. Why do we do things at AA conventions when we're not supposed to affiliate with any other organization?
- 9. Who are the members of the Area Assembly? The area committee?
- 10. What is a Panel of Delegates

### DIGEST OF AL-ANON/ALATEEN POLICIES

- 11. Can a convention have a yard sale to raise money?
- 12. What is the age limit for Alateen?
- 13. Is there a difference between a "regular" Al-Anon group and an Institutions group?

- 14. Do we pay speakers to come to our meetings? Can we give them gas money?
- 15. What is the difference between a group and a meeting?
- 16. Can our Intergroup close a meeting if they break the Traditions?

### USING THE WORLD SERVICE HANDBOOK IN ALL MY AFFAIRS

- 17. What is an AFG GSO? (General Service Office) and where can I find one?
- 18. What is the Board of Trustees authorized to do in managing the affairs of WSO?
- 19. What are the requirements to be the group representative?
- 20. How is the conference funded?
- 21. Which members of the Area World Service Committee need not have prior experience as a group representative?

### THE CONCEPTS, AS I UNDERSTAND THEM

- 22. Which of the Concepts discusses the relationship of the Conference delegates, Al-Anon as whole and the Areas?
- 23. "In all its proceedings the World Service Conference of Al-Anon shall observe the spirit of the Traditions" is part of which Concept?
- 24. What does Concept 10 mean to me personally? In service?
- 25. Can we apply the Concepts of Service to our local Intergroups?
- 26. What is the relationship between the World Service Office and the Board of Trustees?
- 27. What is the difference between the traditional rights and legal rights discussed in Concept 7?

### (Bulletin editor's note:

Instead of publishing the "answers," let me suggest doing what we did at the SOS. All of these questions are answered in the Service Manual. Each room at the SOS broke up into smaller groups and researched a subset of these questions, which in turn stimulated some very interesting discussion. Try using these questions sometime in your home group as a way of letting your group members know that the Service Manual is very user-friendly!)

### Guidelines

The following pages have some guidelines to start us off well in this new panel, 2006-2008. To obtain any other "free" Guidelines to download (you may want to visit this yourself to see the variety that is available), here's the link to the WSO site:

### http://www.al-anon.org/members

For the password, type scwsafg and it will let you in. When on the site, click on Group Services in the left column, then on Guidelines and, voilà, there they are to print or download.

### **Group Representative**

G-11

The Group Representative (GR) is a vital link in the continuing function, growth and unity of world Al-Anon.

### REQUIREMENTS

Any Al-Anon or Alateen member who is willing to represent the group at the district and area assembly, and who is not also a member of AA, is eligible to serve as GR. A GR should have a basic knowledge of Al-Anon and Alateen Traditions and Concepts of Service and how they work.

### **TERM**

GRs are elected by the group for a three year term (see the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* (P-24/27) for information about electing Group Representatives).

### **DUTIES**

- Attends district meetings and area assemblies.
- Keeps members informed about information from the Area Delegate and the World Service Conference.
- Encourages members to subscribe to and submit arti-
- cles for *The Forum*, Al-Anon's monthly magazine.
- Suggests participation in Public Outreach (Public Information [PI], Cooperating with the Professional Community [CPC] and Institutions) and Alateen service projects.
- Informs members of the need to become Alateen Sponsors.
- Asks the Alternate GR to attend district meetings and assemblies.
- Assists the Alternate GR in serving as the Area Information Service Representative (ISR).
- Keeps the Alternate GR informed to insure the group is represented if unable to attend district and area assembly meetings.
- Explains the need for self-support at the group, district, area and world service levels.
- Consults with a Service Sponsor or trusted servants.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- Group business meeting
- District meeting
- Area assembly
- Alateen conference

### TIPS ON REPORTING BACK TO YOUR GROUP

- Take notes at district and assembly meetings.
- Request time from your group to offer a report.
- Be brief.
- Be enthusiastic.
- Focus on group needs.

### AS A GROUP REPRESENTATIVE

You are the first link in the chain that leads to our World Service Conference.

You elect a District Representative from all the groups in your district.

You elect a new Delegate to our World Service Conference at the area assembly from among the District Representatives and eligible officers once every three years.

### LINKS OF SERVICE

- divide responsibility
- **x** multiply involvement
  - + add awareness
- = equals a good group

Group + Group = District

District + District = Assembly

Assembly + Assembly = Conference

### NEED-TO-KNOW INFORMATION

You will need to know the names, addresses and phone numbers of the:

- Area Delegate
- Area officers
- District Representative
- District contacts

(Secretary, Treasurer, etc.)

Area Coordinators

(Alateen, Public Information, Archives, Literature, Group Records,

CPC, Institutions, Forum, etc.)



This Guideline may be photocopied.

This piece may be adapted by a General Service structure and distributed within that structure.

### **REMINDERS**

You are not "in charge" of your group and you are not alone. The Second Tradition tells us, "Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern."

You don't have to have all the answers but you can help the group look at the Traditions, the Concepts and the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* for guidance.

Your group may ask you to chair your group's monthly business meeting (see sample agenda).

Holding a business meeting is an opportunity to arrive at a group conscience, and to experience fun and fellowship as well.

### HELPFUL TOOLS

Each group receives a copy of the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*. It is a valuable tool in answering your questions and those of your group. *When I Got Busy, I Got Better* (P-78) is another valuable piece of Conference Approved Literature (CAL). Look for it in your group's literature display or order one. Other helpful tools available free from the WSO are:

- Getting In Touch With Al-Anon/Alateen (S-23) for information about Al-Anon worldwide.
- Catalogue of Conference Approved Literature (CAL)
- · Guidelines for many areas of service work
- Seventh Tradition Leaflet (S-21)
- Al-Anon Family Group Service Plan

### SAMPLE AGENDA FOR GROUP BUSINESS MEETING\*

- TREASURER'S REPORT
- ✓ Expenses and income since last report
- ✔ Balance
- LITERATURE REPORT
- ✔ Present inventory
- ✔ Discuss group's literature needs
- PUBLIC INFORMATION/CPC REPORT
- Explain public outreach activities of group members since last report
- AL-ANON INFORMATION SERVICE (AIS) REPORT
- ✔ Discuss highlight of previous AIS meeting
- GROUP REPRESENTATIVE REPORT
- ✔ Report highlights of previous district meeting
- ✔ Have multiple copies of assembly reports available.
- OLD BUSINESS
- ✓ Status of previous group issues
- NEW BUSINESS
- ✔ Group concerns
- ✓ Vote on issues
- GENERAL UPDATES
- $\bullet \ ANNOUNCEMENTS/QUESTIONS/COMMENTS$
- DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

Each individual group's autonomy can and will decide business meeting format and content.

GROUP REPRESENTATIVE EX	XPENSE SHEET*
DatePurpose	
EXPENSES (Attach receipts and explanation	ions as needed)
ITEM	AMOUNT
Hotel	
Transportation	\$
1	\$
Meal	
Miscellaneous	\$
	\$
TOTAL EXPENSES	
LESS CASH ADVANCE	
BALANCE DUE	\$
Submitted By:	
(Signature)	

### BENEFITS OF BECOMING A GR

Individuals who wish to gain self-confidence, spiritual growth, and improved self-esteem are encouraged to make themselves available to serve. Service activity connects you with people who have experienced recovery at another level. Your fears will diminish; you will reap the benefits of giving to others and you will learn that by placing our common welfare first, you will receive much more than you give.



\*Adapted from Alberta/NWT GR Survival Kit

7-10M-03 G-11



AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS

1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617

### **District Meetings**

G-15

The district representative (DR) is the link in the service chain that connects the groups within a geographical boundary. One of the primary means of communication from group to group is the district meeting. Good district meetings can improve the health of the groups within its boundaries and lead to the growth of Al-Anon and Alateen as a whole.

DISTRICT

**MEETING** 

HERE

### WHAT HAPPENS AT A DISTRICT MEETING?

District meetings are held for the purposes of:

- uniting groups within the district;
- encouraging members to become involved in service;
- planning social events for fun and fellowship;
- coordinating service projects;
- · conducting fund raising events.

### HOW OFTEN ARE THEY HELD?

Regular meetings may be held monthly, bimonthly or quarterly — this is up to the autonomy of the district. In addition, some districts hold special meetings or workshops to either celebrate special events or to meet new service needs.

### IDEAS TO INCREASE ATTENDANCE

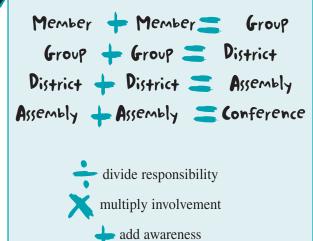
- Rotate the district meeting among the groups in the district, meeting an hour or two before the regular group meets.
- Send postcards a week in advance reminding group representatives (GRs) of the meeting and asking for input on questions that will be discussed.
- Call GRs a few days before the meeting.
- Acknowledge new GRs who attend their first district meeting.
- Provide an orientation to new GRs to help them understand the service structure.
- Serve refreshments and ask for donations to help
- · Invite Al-Anon and Alateen members to attend a district meeting in their birthday month to introduce them to service.
- Go out to lunch or dinner after the meeting for fellowship.
- Use carpools to transport members to and from meetings.
- Have the DR write a letter to GRs asking a question and inviting them to the meeting.

Keep it fun! Make it interesting!

### **REMINDERS**

- Have the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* (P-24/27) and other Al-Anon Conference Approved Literature (CAL) available.
- Use the meeting as an opportunity to update the list of Al-Anon and Alateen groups in the district. Follow area procedures to forward this information to your Al-Anon information service, area group records coordinator, and the World Service Office.
- Explain suggested times and uses of contributions made to the district, area and World Service Office.
- Send an article to your area newsletter telling what the groups in your district are doing for Public outreach (PI, CPC, and institutions), Alateen, literature, etc.
- Discuss issues pending before the area assembly.

### LINKS OF SERVICE



equals a good district



This Guideline may be photocopied.



### \*SUGGESTED WORKSHOP TOPICS

- Links of service
- see Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, Part II.
- Group representatives (GRs) see Guidelines for Group Representatives (G-11) and other WSO handouts.
- Group information see Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, Part II.
- Al-Anon/Alateen policies see Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, Part III.
- · Delegate's report

- Twelve Concepts of Service
- discuss regularly see Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, Part IV; and Paths To Recovery (B-24).
- Discussions and decisions see Conference Summary (P-46).
- Ask-It Basket questions see Conference Summaries or create your own.
- Taking a group inventory see Guidelines for a Group Inventory (G-8).
- Sponsorship/service sponsors see Sponsorship, What It's All About (P-31).

### **SAMPLE MEETING AGENDA**

### MORNING SESSION

- **1** Open with Serenity Prayer.
- **2** Everyone introduces themselves by name and group
- **3** Read the Twelve Traditions and the Concepts of Service from the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*.
- **4** Conduct workshops (\*see Suggested Topics)

### AFTERNOON SESSION

- **1** Minutes of last meeting
- **2** Treasurers report
- 3 Reports: Group representatives reports
- 4 Committee chairperson reports
  - ✔ Public outreach
  - ✓ Institutions
  - ✔ Alateen
  - ✓ Literature
  - Two or three people prepare a 5-10 minute presentation on a piece of literature. This helps to make members aware of CAL.
  - ✓ Cooperating with the professional community
- **5** The hosting group asks one member to briefly discuss a Tradition (one Tradition each meeting for 12 meetings).

Discuss contents of area newsletter, Area Highlights, Inside Al-Anon Xtra or The Forum



Note: Various types of meetings may be held within a district to unite and inform local groups. See the World Service Handbook section of the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual for a description of district meetings and a list of the duties of the district representative.

# guidelines

The Shared Experience Of Al-Anon and Alateen Members.

### District Representative

G-37

The District Representative (DR) is an important link between the groups and the area assembly. The district is a geographical segment containing a number of groups, located relatively close to one another.

### REQUIREMENTS

Any incoming, outgoing, or active past Al-Anon or Alateen Group Representative (GR) who is willing to represent the district at area world service committees (AWSC) and area assembly and who is not also a member of AA, is eligible to serve as DR. A DR should have a basic knowledge of Al-Anon and Alateen Traditions, the Concepts of Service, and how they work.

The GRs in the district elect the DR. The DR assists the Delegate in passing on information about World Service Office (WSO) activities and World Service Conference (WSC) decisions to the GRs in district. The DR is a member of the AWSC.

GR

DR

WSO

WSC

RSS

PO

### Acronyms

- Group Representative
- District Representative
- Area World Service Committee AWSC
- World Service Office
- World Service Conference
- · Regional Service Seminar
- Public Outreach



### **TERM**

The election of the DR and alternate DR usually takes place in the fall of the year after the election of GRs and before election of area officers. DRs are elected for a three-year term, usually coinciding with those of area officers and Delegate. (SeeAl-Anon/Alateen Service Manual [P-24/27].)

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- District meeting, area world service committee meeting, area assembly
- Al-Anon Convention, Alateen Conference, Region al Service Seminar (RSS), World Service Conference

### INFORMATION THE DR NEEDS TO KNOW

You will need to know the names, addresses, phone numbers, and (optionally) e-mail addresses of the:

- · Group Representatives
- · Area Delegate
- · Area officers
- District officers and coordinators
- Area Coordinators (Alateen, Archives, Group Records, Forum, Literature, Public Outreach)

### DOS FOR DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

- DO encourage members in your district to participate in service
- DO help groups understand Al-Anon is a worldwide fellowship and help them understand the structure of their assembly and WSO
- DO visit and encourage new groups, making sure they receiving proper information and help
- DO urge groups in your district to complete and promptly return the groups' annual update sheets sent out by WSO to assure accuracy in the database
- DO remind Group Representatives to update their meeting and group mailing information with the district, local information service (intergroup), and area group records coordinator
- DO schedule district meetings at regular intervals and keep in touch with GRs
- DO attend area assemblies and area world service committee meetings and report activities within your district.
   Remember you are the link between the groups in your district and the AWSC
- DO help your Delegate spread information and reports from the WSC
- DO study the Service Manual so you may have guidance in fulfilling the responsibility of a DR and in turn may be able to guide the groups in your district
- DO study the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Service; they are guides for group unity, growth, and service
- DO remember to offer suggestions, not to issue orders.
   Each group operates within the frame of its own autonomy insuring growth
- DO encourage groups to invite area coordinators to give reports and hold workshops
- DO keep the alternate DR informed and involved in the district activities
- DO get a service sponsor and ask for help when feeling overwhelmed
- DO be loving and patient with other members as well yourself, we are all at different stages of recovery
- DO remember to have fun (See the Ervice Manual for the duties of the DR.)

This Guideline may be photocopied.

This piece may be adapted by a General Service structure and distributed within that structure.

### CALLING AND CHAIRING MEETINGS

 Regularly scheduled meetings help the Group Representatives plan ahead and to come prepared for the meeting

Some districts meet monthly, others\
have bi-monthly or quarterly meetings

Continuity is the most important factor \
in deciding when to schedule meetings

 They can be held at the same location or rotated and hosted by the groups in the district

 Fun activities and food attract members

• Scheduling fellowship events may encourage members to take responsibilities that lead to more committed service positions (SeeService Manual.)

### HELPING THE DELEGATE

The Delegate's report of the World Service Conference activities is an important message to carry to the Group Representatives at the district meeting. The Delegate may ask for feedback to take to the WSC and the district meeting is the place to collect that type of information.

### HELPFUL HINTS

- · The best district meetings have an agenda and they follow it
- Ask the GRs to share about their group needs, problems and solutions based on the Traditions
- · Create and carryout district PO projects
- Make sure WSO and the Area Group Records Coordinator have all your group addresses and updates

### THE ALTERNATE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

- Completes the term when (if) the DR resigns
- · Attends information service meetings
- Attends all service meetings that DR attends
- Assists in visiting district groups
- · May serve as:
- **X**Treasurer
- Secretary
- **XPO** contact
- Chairman of periodic meetings on the service structure, Traditions, and Concepts of Service
- \*Member of Al-Anon information service board (SeeService Manual.)

### KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH THE GRS

Some DRs send newsletters to provide a report or recap to the GRs about the area assembly and Delegate report. The DR asks the GRs for reports from their groups. These reports include problems and solutions the group may be experiencing. A GR roster listing the name, address, phone, and (optionally) e-mail may be helpful in establishing communication and service sponsorship between the GRs.

### **VISITING GROUPS**

Visits may be spontaneous or scheduled. These visits can verify that the group is receiving the mail from the WSO and the area. Registration/change forms can be made available during these visits. If the group does not have a Group Representative, the DR can encourage members to hold an election and be represented at district and area meeting groups and newly registered groups may require the most attention.

### SOME BENEFITS OF BECOMING A DR

In addition to meeting Al-Anon members from other cities and towns in your area, the District Representative is eligible to stand for the Area Delegate position after completing a three-year term. You may read about the benefits of service in Conference Approved Literature; some of the subheadings in *When I Got Busy I Got Better* (P-78), are:

- · Replacing Isolation with Community
- Learning Trust
- Learning to Take Risks
- · Increased Self-Esteem
- A Sense of Purpose
- · Making a Difference
- Reaching Out to Others



### FINANCES \$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Groups may make regular contributions to the district treasury, assuring that the District Representative expenses for visiting groups, copies and postage, attending AWSC meetings, PO activities, and other expenses are adequately met. If the DR is also a GR, the group usually pays the expenses to the area assembly. Some districts send their DR to the Regional Service Seminar (RSS). Districts may have fund raising events. (Seervice Manual.) The district treasurer may develop an expense report for reimbursements like:

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE EXPENSE SHEET  Date  Purpose/Event  Expenses:(Receipts attached with explanations* as needed)  Copies \$  Postage \$  Transportation \$  Meals \$
Purpose/Event  Expenses:(Receipts attached with explanations* as needed)  Copies \$  Postage \$  Transportation \$
Copies \$ Postage \$ Transportation \$
Copies         \$           Postage         \$           Transportation         \$
Miscellaneous \$  Hotel expenses \$  TOTAL EXPENSES \$  LESS CASH ADVANCE \$  BALANCE DUE \$
*Explanation for expenses:
Submitted by Signature Date

1-5M-03 G-37



**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS** 

### A.A. Guidelines

### Relationship Between A.A. and Al-Anon

from G.S.O., Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

A.A. Guidelines are compiled from the shared experience of A.A. members in the various areas. They also reflect guidance given through the Twelve Traditions and the General Service Conference (U.S. and Canada). In keeping with our Tradition of Autonomy, except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole, most decisions are made by the group conscience of the members involved. The purpose of these Guidelines is to assist in reaching an *informed* group conscience.

The Fellowships of Alcoholics Anonymous and the Al-Anon Family Groups have a unique relationship. They are naturally drawn together by their close ties. And yet the Twelve Traditions, the General Service Boards, and the General Service Conferences of both Fellowships suggest that each functions more effectively if it remains "separate," cooperating but not affiliating with the other.

Each Fellowship has always had its own General Service Board, General Service Office, Conference, publishing company, and directory. Each has established its own policies and maintained its own services. This separate functioning has served both A.A. and Al-Anon Family Groups well. A.A.'s policy of "cooperation but not affiliation" was established as long ago as the early 1950s, and both Al-Anon and A.A. recognized at that time the importance of maintaining separate Fellowships.

However, from time to time, questions come to both A.A. and Al-Anon General Service Offices indicating confusion as to how A.A. and Al-Anon may best cooperate in the groups, intergroups or central offices, and area and regional conventions and get togethers.

A.A. and Al-Anon have shared on these questions, and A.A.'s General Service Conference approved the following suggested guidelines:

### **Question:** Should a group be affiliated with both A.A. and Al-Anon?

Answer: As the primary purpose of the A.A. group is to help the sick alcoholic to recover and the primary purpose of the Al-Anon Family Group is to help the Al-Anon to live with herself or himself, as well as with the alcoholic, it is suggested they not be combined, but remain separate groups. This enables both Fellowships to function within their Twelve Traditions and to carry their messages more effectively. Thus, the group name, the officers, and the meeting should be either A.A. or Al-Anon, but not both. "The A.A. Group" pamphlet suggests, "Whether open or closed, A.A. group meetings are conducted by A.A. members, who determine the format of their meetings." At open meetings, non-A.A.s may be invited to share, depending upon the conscience of the group. Naturally, all are welcome to open meetings of both A.A. and Al-Anon groups.

### Question: Should "family groups" be listed in A.A. directories?

**Answer:** "After discussion, the Conference reaffirmed A.A. group policy that only those with a desire to stop drinking may be members of A.A. groups; only A.A. members are eligible to be officers of

A.A. groups; nonalcoholics are welcome at open meetings of A.A. It is suggested that the word 'family' not be used in the name of an A.A. group; if A.A.s and their nonalcoholic mates wish to meet together on a regular basis, it is suggested they consider these gatherings 'meetings' and not A.A. groups. Listing in A.A. directories: It was the sense of the meeting that the family groups should not be listed under the family group name in the directories."

### Question: Should A.A. and Al-Anon have combined central (or intergroup) services and offices?

**Answer:** Experience and the Twelve Traditions of A.A. and Al-Anon suggest that each Fellowship will function more effectively if each retains separate committees, staffs, and facilities for handling telephone calls, as well as separate telephone answering services, intergroup activities. bulletins, meeting lists, and Twelfth Step services of all types. Also, that the members involved in each service committee or office be A.A. members, if an A.A. facility, and Al-Anon, if an Al-Anon facility.

### **Question:** How may A.A. and Al-Anon cooperate in area and regional conventions and get-togethers?

**Answer:** In accordance with the Twelve Traditions, a convention would be either A.A. or Al-Anon—not both. However, most A.A. convention committees invite Al-Anon to participate by planning its own program, and the committee arranges for facilities for the Al-Anon meetings.

### Question: When Al-Anon participates in an A.A. convention, what is the financial relationship between the two Fellowships?

**Answer:** The relationship and the financial arrangements usually follow one of two patterns:

When an A.A. convention committee invites Al-Anon to participate with its own program, A.A. may pay all expenses (for meeting rooms, coffee, etc.) and keep all income from registrations, etc., in a single fund used to pay all convention bills, after which any excess income reverts back to A.A.

Alternatively, Al-Anon may have a separate registration and pay its own direct expenses, plus a proportionate share of common expenses of the convention. Al-Anon, in this case, receives its own share of the registration income and also shares in any losses that may be incurred.

### Question: Should an A.A. convention committee make a contribution to Al-Anon from the financial profits of the convention?

**Answer:** In accordance with the self-support Traditions of both Fellowships and to abide by the concept of "cooperation but not affiliation," it is suggested that A.A. should not make gifts or contributions to Al-Anon. By the same token, A.A. should not accept contributions from Al-Anon.

If separate registrations have been kept for both A.A. and Al-Anon members, however, income may be easily assigned.

### Question: How may I get in touch with Al-Anon?

**Answer:** Check your phone book for local intergroup office, or write: Al-Anon/Alateen Family Group, Inc., 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617. Tel: (800) 356-9996; www.al-anon.alateen.org.

### A.A.'s Debt of Gratitude to Al-Anon

The following resolution of gratitude to the Fellowship of the Al-

Anon Family Groups was unanimously approved by the 1969 General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The delegates of this, the 19th General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous, meeting in official session in New York City, this 25th day of April, 1969, do hereby declare:

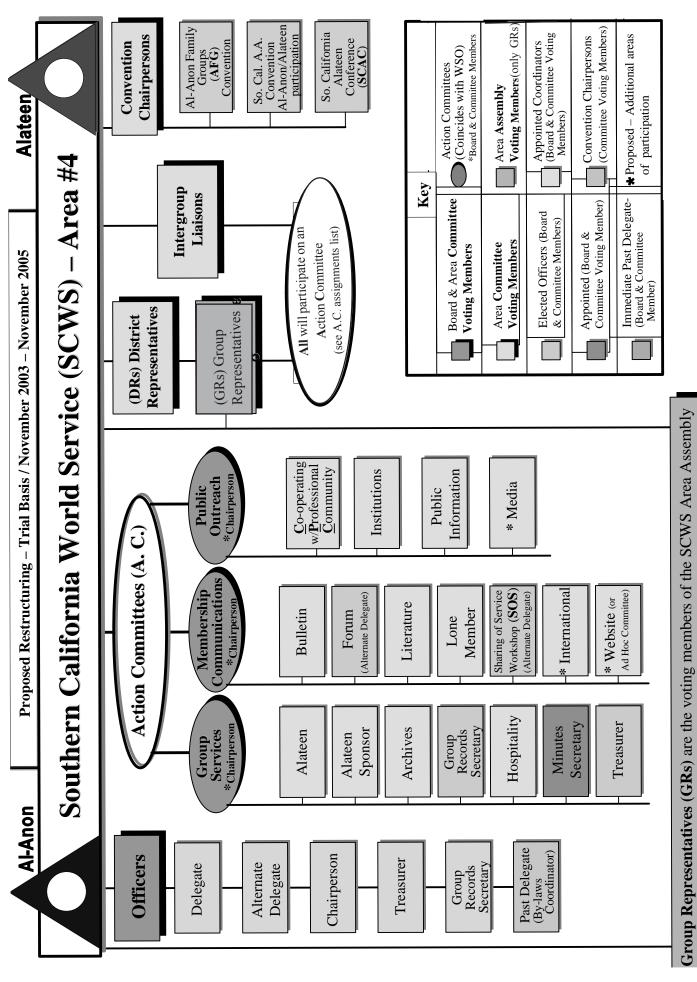
WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Conference to confirm the relationship between Alcoholics Anonymous and the Al-Anon Family Groups, and

WHEREAS, it is the further desire of this Conference to acknowledge A.A.'s debt of gratitude to the Al-Anon Family Groups, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Alcoholics Anonymous recognizes the special relationship which it enjoys with the Al-Anon Family Groups, a separate but similar fellowship. And be it further resolved that Alcoholics Anonymous wishes to recognize, and hereby does recognize, the great contribution which the Al-Anon Family Groups have made and are making in assisting the families of alcoholics everywhere.

www.aa.org

5M - 11/02 MG-8



Revised June 23, 2003

## Actonyms used in Al-Anon/Alateen

AFG - Al-Anon Family Group(s)

AIB - Ask It Basket

AIS - Al-Anon Information Service

AWSA - Area World Service Assembly

AWSC - Area World Service Committee

CAL - Conference Approved Literature

CAT - Conference Approved Tapes

CMA - Current Mailing Address

CPC - Cooperating with the Professional Community

DR - District Representative

GR - Group Representative (WS)

GSO - General Service Office

(Countries other than U.S. & Canada)

H & I - Hospitals & Institutions

IAGSM - International Al-Anon General Service Meeting

IR / ISR - Intergroup Representative /Information Service Rep.

LDC - Literature Distribution Center

LRSP - Long Range Study Panel

NPIC - National Public Information Canada

PFA - Publications Francaises Al-Anon (Canada)

PI - Public Information

PO - Public Outreach

PSA - Public Service Announcement

RSS - Regional Service Seminar

RT - Regional Trustee

SCAC - Southern California Alateen Conference

SCWS - Southern California World Service

SOS - Sharing Of Service

SWRDM - Southwest Region Delegates' Meeting

SWRSS - Soutwest Region Service Seminar

SWRT - Southwest Regional Trustee

TAL - Trustee At Large

WS - World Service

WSC - World Service Conference

WSO - World Service Office

Revised August - 2004

### Voice and/or Vote?

Area World Service

### **Assembly**

### **VOICE**

Group Representatives
District Representatives
Officers
Coordinators

Past Delegates

(Intergroup Liaisons and AWSC Convention Chairmen give report only – No voice nor vote unless also a Group Repesentative.)

### **VOTE**

**Group Representatives** 

Area World Service

### Committee

### **VOICE**

District Representatives
 Officers
 Coordinators
 Intergroup Liaisons
AWSC Convention Chairmen
(Conventions: AFG, So-Cal & SCAC)
 Past Delegates

### **VOTE**

District Representatives
Officers
Coordinators
Intergroup Liaisons
AWSC Convention Chairmen

Revised August - 2004

### Note: personal contact info + last names have been deleted for web publication, per Tradition 11. SCWS Group Registration

WSO ID#	Dist	rict#_	Ar	ea <u>04</u>	
Changes: Group Rep (G	R) 🛮 Alt.Group Rep	(AGR)	☐Contact		
(circle all that apply)	] Meeting Time	□Ме	eting Location	□Disbanded M	leeting
Meeting Information					
Group Name			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		<del></del>
Meeting Day Su Mo Tu We Th Fr S	a Meeting Time		_ DAM DPM		
Meeting Location			City/Zip		
Current Mailing Address (A	III group mail w	ill be se	ent to this a	ddress)	
	Т	his perso	on is the:		
Name			☐ GR	Alt.GR	_
Street/PO Box					
City/Zip					
Phone	E-mail	(opt.)			
Additional Meeting Contact		his nerso	on is the:		
Name			_Alt.GR	☐ Contact	
Street/PO Box					
City/Zip					
Phone	E-mail	(opt.)			
Changes to: District Officers	s / Intergroup Lia	isons/(	Convention (	Chairs	
Name					
Street/POBox					
City/Zip		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Phone	E-mail	(opt.)			<del></del>
This person is the:☐ District Rep	☐Alt. District Rep				
☐Intergroup Liaison for			(Alateen, PI, 0	CPC, etc)	

**Send to:** SCWS Group Records Coordinator (01/06 to 12/08) Jayme P., Group Records Secretary, PO Box 350, North Hollywood, CA 91603 \*

### **SCWS Group Contributions**

### **Please Print** (For use during the term 1/1/06 - 12/31/08)

Al-AnonAlateen Group Nar	meDistrict #
Group City	DayTime
WSO ID#	Contribution Enlosed
Group Address	
Submitted by: Name	Phone #
Address	City/Zip
Please Note: The WSO ID number is on	n the mailing label of the Bulletin.
Make check or money order payable to:	scws
Mail Contributions to: Treasurer - Suzanne P. PO Box 350 North Hollywood, CA 91603	

### **Bulletin Subscription**

**Please Print** 

(For use during the term 1/1/06 - 12/31/08)						
New Subscription RenewalCorrection						
Cost: \$4.00 per year Enclosed is \$forYears						
Name						
Mailling Address						
City/State/Zip						
Make check or money order payable to: SCWS						
Mail Subscriptions to:						

Treasurer - Suzanne P. PO Box 350 North Hollywood, CA 91603

### **SCWS** Committee

### **OFFICERS**

Delegate Mary M.

AlternateDelegate Sandie E.

Chairperson David B.

Treasurer Suzanne P.

Past Delegate Miriam M.

Minutes Secretary Marge V.

Group Records Jayme P.

### **COORDINATORS**

Alateen **Danny K.** 

AlateenSponsor Ajit S.

Area Alateen Susie L.
Paperwork Person (AAPP)
Archives Martha M.

Bulletin Elizabeth K.

CPC Sandra W.

Hospitality Mary Lou V.

Institutions Shirley M.

Literature Lucía C.

Lone Member

Public Information Amanda C.

Website Alvar G.

### **ACTION COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Group Services Kathi L.

Membership Cindy R.

Communications

Public Outreach Robin J.

### **INTERGROUP LIAISONS**

Inland Empire
Los Angeles
Orange
Palm Springs
San Diego
Spanish Intergroup
Ventura

JR D.
Jennifer B.
Kathy R.
Beverly S.
Bernadette P.
Patrick B.
Rosanne S.

### **CONVENTION CHAIRPERSONS**

AFG 2006 Kay B.
SCAA 2006 Sandie E.
SCAC Sponsor 2006 Sean P.
SCAC Chair 2006 Cara

### **DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES**

- 03 Julie R.
- 06 Anita J.
- 08 Ashe C.
- 09 Myra K.
- 10 Gail N.
- 11 Twiggy G.
- 12 Judith R.
- 17 Tarisa R.
- 21 Lydia H. L.
- 24 Portia S.
- 27 Elizabeth K.
- 30 Maria L. G
- 33 Kathy G.
- 36 Jay P.
- 39 Carolyn S.
- 40 Anne C.
- 42 Jim B.
- 45 Cathy W.
- 48 Julia S. T.
- 51 Emily L.
- 54 Roxanne S. 57 Adrienne K.
- 60 Celeste B.
- 63 Chuck B.
- 64 Rosalba R.
- 66 Garry L. 69 Kitty R.
- 72 Bernie S.
- 75 Louise K.
- 78 No DR

### SOUTHWEST REGIONAL TRUSTEE

Position currently vacant. We elected an Area RT nominee (Willie W.) at the November 2005 Assembly, to be submitted to the WSC for regional election and vote of approval by the WSC.

### **PAST DELEGATES**

Name Phone	Email	Panel		
Cecelia B.		55-year member	(not available for contact right now)	4
Norris R		7		
Elsie Q		13		
Pat R		19		
Bob L		25		
Hester B		28		
Joyce K		31		
Kary L		34		
Rita M		34		
Willie W		37		
Kay D		40		
		INICODMATION (	CEDVICE CENTEDO	

### INFORMATION SERVICE CENTERS

Al-Anon Inland Empire Service Center			
1012 East Cooley Drive, Suite J-2, Colton 92324	(909) 824-1516	www.ca-inlandempire-alanon	.org (available soon)
Officina Intergrupal Hispaña de Al-Anon, Inc. L.A. County			
11627 Telegraph Road, Suite 150, Santa Fe Springs 90670	(562) 948-2190		
Intergrupal Hispaña de Al-Anon, Inc. Inland Empire			
P.O. Box 5665, Riverside 92517	(951) 689-4084		
Al-Anon Information Service Kern County			
Post Office Box 894, Bakersfield 93302	(805) 322-1102	www.mykernlife.com/179/	
Los Angeles County Al-Anon Family Groups			
4936 Lankershim Boulevard, North Hollywood 91601	(818) 760-7122	Los Angeles (213) 387-3158	www.alanonla.org
Al-Anon Information Service Office of Orange County			
12391 Lewis Street, Suite 102, Garden Grove 92840	(714) 748-1113	www.orangecountyalanon.org	
Palm Springs/Palm Desert Al-Anon Family Groups			
74228 Angeles Camp Road, Palm Desert 92260	(760) 341-9335		
San Diego Al-Anon Office			
3108 Fifth Avenue, Suite E, San Diego 92103	(619) 296-2666	www.alanonsandiego.org	
San Luis Obispo Office (new!!)			
c/o Laurie Aguilar, P.O. Box 6951, Los Osos 93412	(805) 534-9204		
Al-Anon Family Groups Santa Barbara County			
Post Office Box 30428, Santa Barbara 93130	(805) 962-1287		
Ventura County Al-Anon Family Groups			
Post Office Box 6754, Ventura 93006-6754	(805) 495-0270	www.alanonventura.org	

# AL-ANON - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WORLD SERVICE (SCWS) - Area #04 AREA ASSEMBLY MEETING - SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2006

Fullerton Senior Service Center, Fullerton, CA

AGENDA

Host Districts: 3, 7, 8, 11, 12, 24, 39, 42, 54, and 60

# 10:00 a.m. - Starting time– Please be Prompt

# Chairperson - David B

Serenity Prayer and Welcome

of District # **Fraditions** read by:

# Delegate - Mary M

World Service Converence (WSC) Report

# Minutes Secretary - Marge V

Approval of November 2006 Area Assembly Meeting (<u>Please read them</u> prior to the 5/20/06 meeting)

# Alternate Delegate – Sandie E

- SOS (Sharing of Service) January 21, 2006
  - Start passing Ask it Basket & Forum can

# **Freasurer's Report –** Suzanne P Observe 7th Tradition

# 12:00- Lunch Break

unch available for \$5 from Alateens - SCAC Committee fundraiser

# 1:00 p.m. - Reconvene Full Assembly – Please Be Prompt

Concepts read by:

of District #

# Past Delegate - Miriam M

# Records Coordinator & Roll Call - Jayme P

DRs - Please notify Jayme whenever there is a change in the number of votes for your district)

# Old Business:

- 1. PRAASA Report from Ad Hoc committee Mary M
- Update on Liability-Insurance research Lee T

# **New Business**

- Extending the 3-year trial period for restructure and Action Residency policy
- Coordinator changes? Website, AAPP, Lone Member က်
- Develop a written policy should it become necessary to remove elected officers or coordinators

### Hospitality Coord. – Mary Lou V - Host Districts for 8/19 Meeting So-Cal. AA Conv. 2005 – Al-Anon – Sandie E So-Cal. Alateen Conf. (SCAC) - Cara W AFG Convention 2006 – Kay B **Convention Chairpersons**

# Intergroup Liaisons

Coachella Valley: Beverly S

Inland Empire: J.R. D

Intergrupal Hispaña (L.A. County) - Patrick B

Los Angeles County: Jennifer B

Orange County: Kathy R

San Diego County: Bernadette P

Santa Barbara County:

Ventura County: Rosanne S

# 2:00 - 3:15 p.m. Break-out Sessions - Please be Prompt

**Action Committees:** 

Membership Communications - Craft Room Group Services – Meeting Hall

Public Outreach - Hospitality Room

# Coordinators' Reports in respective Action Committees

# 3:15 p.m. - Reconvene Full Assembly - Please Be Prompt Membership Communications - Cindy R Action Committees Chairpersons' Reports: Group Services - Kathi L

Ask It Basket - Q's & A's: Alternate Delegate, Sandie E

Public Outreach - Robin J

Al-Anon related Announcements (only if time permits)

Please help - clean up & stack the chairs against the back wall 4:00 p.m. Closing time - Close with Al-Anon Declaration

PLEASE LIMIT REPORTS to 2-3 minutes (does not apply to Officers)

and the white folding chairs in the Craft Room.

opinion has already been shared, please sit down to avoid repetition. DISCUSSION on a motion - please keep to 2-3 minutes at the mic; if your

submit printed report <u>and</u> media copy (disk) to the Minutes Secretary.

THANK YOU! Cell Phones: please turn them off or set to silent mode

Committees

# ACTION COMMITTEE - ASSIGNMENTS for Trial Area Restructure period 1/06 - 11/08

Public Outreach Facilitator: Robin J.	District Representative** From Districts 8, 11, 21, 30, 39 45, 54, 63, 69, 78	<u>Group Representatives**</u> see below	Intergroup Liaisons Los Angeles County San Diego County Spanish Intergroup of L.A. County	Board members Cooperating w/Professional Community (CPC) Coordinator Institutions Coordinator Public Information Coordinator
Membership Communications Facilitator: Cindi R.	District Representative** From Districts 6, 10, 17, 27, 36 42, 51, 60, 66, 75	Group Representatives** see below	Intergroup Liaisons Inland Empire Ventura County	Board members Alternate Delegate (Forum & SOS) Bulletin Coordinator Literature Coordinator Lone Member Coordinator
Group Services Facilitator: Kathi L.	District Representative** From Districts 3, 9, 12, 24, 33 40, 48, 57, 64, 72	Group Representatives** see below	Intergroup <u>Liaisons</u> Orange County Santa Barbara County	Board members Treasurer Group Records Secretary Minutes Secretary Alateen Coordinator Alateen Sponsor Coordinator

Suggestions: Each District assign at least one GR to each Action Committee to have representation \*\*GRs may attend any Action Committee they prefer or the one they are assigned to by their DR. and feedback from all three committees to the District.

Each GR attends their preferred Action Committee for the entire 3-year term.

Southern California World Service of AFG, Inc.

**FEBRUARY 2006** 

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### **DATED MATERIAL**