

# WELCOME

Southern California World Service (SCWS)

## Electronic Groups Task Force Town Hall Meeting

- ❖ *All members are welcome to attend!*
- ❖ *Please rename yourself with first name, last initial*
- ❖ *We would love for you to indicate if you are from another state/Area!*



# Electronic Groups Town Hall Meeting

February 11, 2023; "Zoom", 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

**English:** Meeting ID: 850 4695 4885    Passcode: 429422

**Spanish:** Meeting ID: 853 9129 6299    Passcode: 296244

## Agenda

1. Opening: Serenity Prayer & Introductions
2. General Format
3. Background Information
4. Looking at Choices for Electronic Groups in SCWS Area
  - a. Flow chart
  - b. Questions regarding choice of Area
  - c. Questions regarding choice of District
5. Other Frequently Asked Questions
  - a. Questions regarding where meetings are listed & attracting new members
  - b. Questions about "Hybrid" groups and Temporary Electronic Meetings (TEMs)
  - c. Questions regarding registering new meetings or group changes
6. General Questions/Comments/Discussion
7. Closing
  - a. When/Where summary of Town Hall meeting info posted
  - b. Contact [groupandmemberconcerns@scws-al-anon.org](mailto:groupandmemberconcerns@scws-al-anon.org) with additional questions
  - c. AI-Anon/Alateen Declaration

Southern California World Service (SCWS)

## Electronic Groups Task Force

### Town Hall Meeting

February 11, 2023

Task Force Members:

Jayne C., Marcia M., Sally L., Sandra L., Teresa F., Terri P., Tim P.

\*Please see November Assembly presentation for additional information. <https://www.scws-al-anon.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Electronic-Groups-Task-Force-Final-Presentation11-22.pdf>

# Agenda

1. Opening: Serenity Prayer  
Introductions: Jayme C., Marcia M., Sally L., Sandra L., Teresa F., Terri P., Tim P.
2. Meeting Format and Electronic Groups Background Information
3. Choices for Electronic Groups (EGs) in SCWS Area
  - a. Flow Chart
  - b. Questions regarding choice of Area
  - c. Questions regarding choice of District
4. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
  - a. Where are EGs listed to attract new members?
  - b. “Hybrid” groups and Temporary Electronic Meetings (TEMs)
  - c. Registering new EGs and submitting group changes
5. Additional General Questions/Comments
6. Closing

# General Format

- We are using Zoom to “transcribe” the meeting; anonymity will be protected
- Timer 🕒 for questions/comments: (Please raise your 🖐️ “Zoom hand”)
  - 1 minute for questions
  - 2 minutes for comments
- You can also write your question in “Chat” to **Sally L.** if you wish. She’s keeping a list of questions to share when we’re on the topic of your question.
- We will rotate through different member’s questions on the designated topic (both English & Spanish room), then the Task Force will share questions sent in on the topic.
- Some questions you may have are very specific to only your Group. We will save these questions until the end of the presentation.

## Background Information

- **April 2021:** The World Service Conference (WSC) recognized Electronic Meetings as Al-Anon Family Groups included in Al-Anon service structure.
- **April 2022:** The Global Electronic Area (GEA) was admitted to the WSC and their Delegate was seated at the WSC.
- **November 2022:** Southern California World Service (SCWS) Group Representatives (GRs) voted to:
  - Welcome Electronic Groups (EGs) into the SCWS Area
  - Establish criteria: Electronic Groups registered in the SCWS Area need
    - Current Mailing Address(CMA): member that resides in SCWS Area.
    - GR would reside in the SCWS Area.
  - Add an Electronic Overlay District: for SCWS Electronic Groups not tied to a geographic District

# What are the Choices for Electronic Groups in SCWS?

(Electronic Groups Flow-Chart: separate pdf displayed)



# Electronic Groups in Southern California

## Area Participation:

Electronic Groups in Southern California have a choice between two Areas.



**Southern California World Service**  
(SCWS)



**Global Electronic Area**  
(GEA)

## Group Conscience: Questions to ask regarding Area choice?

- Are the majority of your members residing in Southern California?
- Where do you want to attract members from and be “listed”?
- Where do you want your Group Representative (GR) to bring your group’s “voice”?

## District Participation:

Electronic Groups registered in SCWS Area have a choice between three Districts.



**Geographic District**  
(such as D-8, D-27, D-69)



**Electronic Overlay  
District: D-15**



**Spanish Overlay  
District: D-64**

## Group Conscience: Questions to ask regarding District choice?

- Are the majority of your members residing in a particular geographic District and still feel connected to a geographic District and/or an Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) Office/Intergroup?
- Are your members spread throughout Southern California?
- Will your GR be able to attend a face-to-face geographic District meeting?
- Are the majority of your members Spanish speaking?
- Where do you want your GR to bring your group’s “voice”?



## Do you have questions about your Electronic Groups' Area choice?

- Southern California World Service (SCWS) Geographic Area?
- Global Electronic Area?

## Do you have questions about your EGs' choice for District?

- Geographic District?
- Electronic Overlay District? (D-15)
- Spanish Language Overlay District? (D-64)

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- Where are EGs listed to attract new members?
  - Electronic Groups (EGs) that are registered in the **Global Electronic Area (GEA)** are found at: <https://al-anon.org/al-anon-meetings/electronic-meetings/>
  - EGs that are registered in the SCWS Geographic Area are *currently* found at:
    - Local Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) directory if registered in a “geographic District” (D-17, D-69, etc)
    - SCWS Website
    - Soon will be listed on World Service Office (WSO) website!

## FAQs...(continued)

- “Hybrid” Meetings and Temporary Electronic Meetings (TEMs)
  - A “Hybrid” meeting is a group that meets at a physical location *and* has an electronic component (such as Zoom) connected live at the same time. Members can attend the meeting “physically” or “virtually”.
  - A Hybrid meeting is registered and listed as a physical group in a geographic Area. You would only know it’s a “Hybrid” when you search for a physical group on an Al-Anon website (such as the WSO or an Al-Anon Information Service website), and there is an additional note in the listing that there is an electronic component.
  - **Hybrid meetings are here to stay!**

## FAQs...(continued)

- **Temporary Electronic Meetings** were formed to “temporarily” take the place of a physical meeting that couldn’t meet due to COVID restrictions. Many of these groups are still meeting as “Temporary Electronic Meetings.” (TEMs)

*Sometime this year*, the WSO will request that these groups take a group conscience to...

- Return to meeting in a physical location, or...
- Stay as an Electronic Group registered in a geographic Area, or...
- Register as an Electronic Group in the Global Electronic Area (GEA)

***NOTE:*** WSO has not given the SCWS Area a date as to when this needs to happen!  
We will notify TEMs when we know more.

- *If your group is meeting only virtually, and you have not formally registered as an electronic group with the SCWS Area or the GEA, you are a “TEM”.*

## FAQs...(continued)

- Registering new EGs and submitting group changes



## Do you have questions regarding...

1. Where are EG meetings listed and attracting new members?
2. “Hybrid” groups and Temporary Electronic Meetings (TEMs)?
3. Registering new EGs and submitting group changes?



# Let's start with your Questions or Comments about...

1. Electronic Groups and choice of Area? (SCWS or GEA?)
2. EGs in SCWS Area choice for District?
3. Where EGs are listed?
4. Hybrid meetings?
5. Temporary Electronic Meetings (TEMs)
6. Registration and Group changes?
7. Service positions: Group level or Beyond Group level
8. Additional Questions/Comments



# Closing

- A written summary of the Electronic Groups Town Hall meeting will be posted on [scws-al-anon.org](https://scws-al-anon.org)
- If your question wasn't answered, or you think of another question, please contact us at: [groupandmemberconcerns@scws-al-anon.org](mailto:groupandmemberconcerns@scws-al-anon.org)
- **Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration**

*Let It Begin with Me  
When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help,  
let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen always be there,  
and—Let It Begin with Me.*

*(Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, 2022-2025, p.3)*