



DISTRICT 6 NEWSLETTER

Fall, 2019

Volume 31, No. 4

DISTRICT MEETING

**Saturday, October 19, 2019
8:00am - 3:00pm**

Host Group

The Glass House AFG

LOCATION

First United Methodist Church
of Temple
102 N 2nd St.
Temple, TX 76501

CONTACT

Susan T.

See Directions on page 2.

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

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**Winter Newsletter Inputs Due
November 30, 2019**

¡Trabajamos el programa de Al-Anon y Alateen en español en el distrito 6!

by Pat I.

En nuestro distrito, el 2019 ha sido un año de creciente participación en los Grupos de Familia Al-Anon (GFAs) hispanohablantes y bilingües (español e inglés). Los grupos hispanos están tomando mayor parte en trabajos de servicio del programa para el distrito y aún para todo el estado de Tejas.

Los GFAs *Nueva Visión* y *La Alegría de Vivir* recientemente han atraído miembros nuevos y están creciendo.

Representantes de los GFAs *Valor para Cambiar*, *Nueva Visión*, y *Serenidad* asistieron a la reunión del distrito el 20 de julio. Por la mañana, Maria S. nos informó sobre la Quinta Convención Al-Anon y Alateen Estatal Hispana de Texas el 18 y el 19 de octubre en Pflugerville. (Véase la página 19.) Después de almuerzo, muchos de los miembros hispanohablantes participaron en la sesión de conversación sobre Alateen.

Los GFAs hispanohablantes y bilingües de Austin y su alrededor (*Esperanza*, *Fuente de la Paz*, *La Alegría de Vivir*, *Nueva Visión*, *Serenidad*, y *Valor para Cambiar*) siguen reuniéndose un sábado cada mes. Maria G. está coordinando la actualización de la información del registro de todos estos grupos locales como parte del nuevo proceso de registración de grupos del distrito. Estos grupos también están trabajando juntos para organizar la Convención Hispana.

Miembros de *Nueva Visión* tomaron

(Continúa en la página 3)

We work the Al-Anon/Alateen program in Spanish in District 6!

by Pat I.

In our district, 2019 has been a year of increasing participation in Spanish-speaking and bilingual Spanish-English Al-Anon family groups. Hispanic AFGs are also taking a greater role in program service work for the district and also for the entire state of Texas.

Nueva Visión AFG and *La Alegría de Vivir* AFG recently attracted new members and are growing.

Representatives of *Valor para Cambiar*, *Nueva Visión* and *Serenidad* AFGs attended the July 20 District Meeting. In the morning session, Maria S. shared news about the Fifth Texas Statewide Hispanic Al-Anon/Alateen Convention October 18-19 in Pflugerville. (See page 19.) After lunch, many Spanish-speaking members participated in the Alateen breakout session.

Austin-area Spanish-speaking and bilingual AFGs (*Esperanza*, *Fuente de la Paz*, *La Alegría de Vivir*, *Nueva Visión*, *Serenidad*, and *Valor para Cambiar*) continue to meet together one Saturday each month. Maria G. is coordinating the updating of the registration information for all these local groups as part of the district's new group record process. These groups are also working together to organize the Hispanic convention.

Members of *Nueva Visión* took part in the August 3 training for AMIAS certification (Al-Anon Members In Alateen Service).

Spanish-speaking Al-Anons volunteered throughout the day at the Al-Anon table at the Manor ISD Health Fair on August 13.

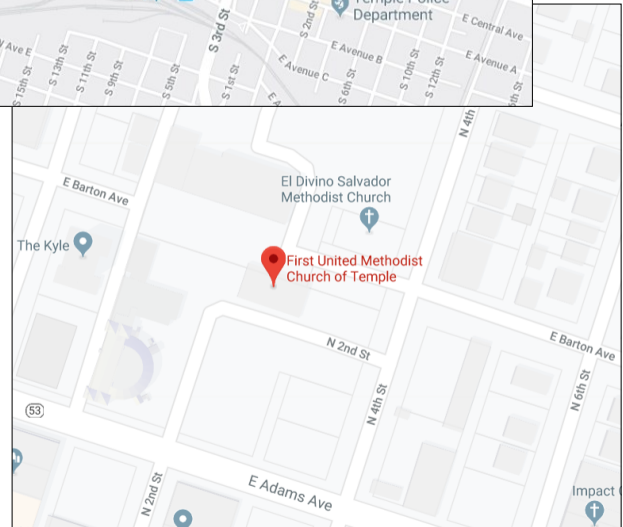
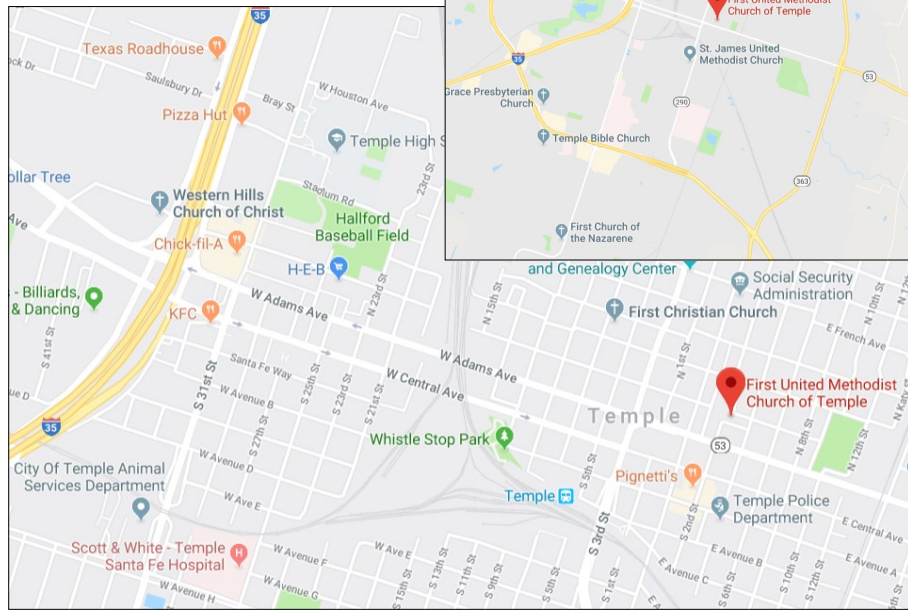
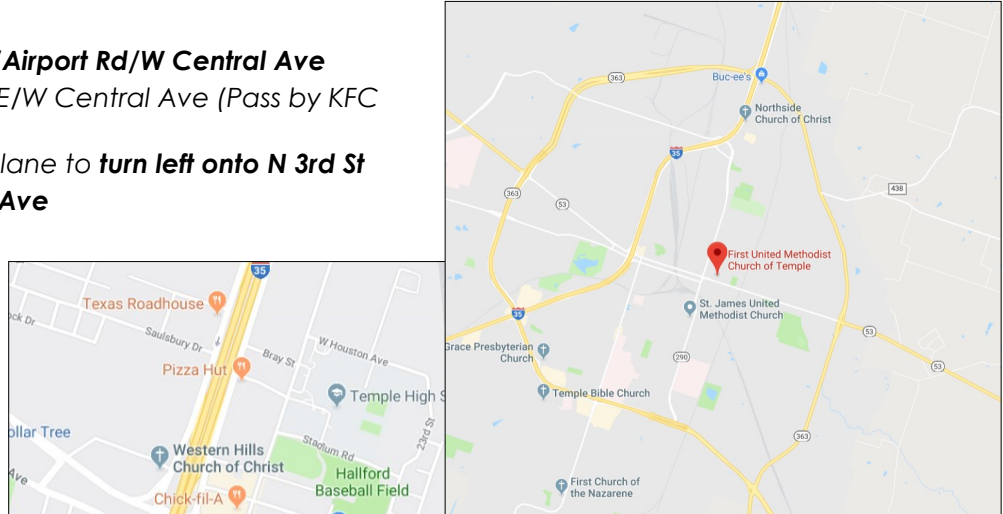
Directions to October 19, 2019 District Meeting

First United Methodist Church of Temple, **102 N 2nd St., Temple, TX 76501**

- ⇒ Take **I-35 to Temple**
- ⇒ Take exit toward **TX-53 E/Airport Rd/W Central Ave**
- ⇒ Continue to follow TX-53 E/W Central Ave (Pass by KFC on the right)
- ⇒ Use the 2nd from the left lane to **turn left onto N 3rd St**
- ⇒ Turn **right onto W Adams Ave**
- ⇒ Turn **left onto N 2nd St**

The church is on the left.

Enter at the ground level doors in the center of the courtyard.





*Please remember that
lunch is potluck so bring
your favorite dish!*



GRs should bring their service manuals for use during the meeting and are also encouraged to bring a written report to be included in the next newsletter.



(Continúa de la página 3)

parte en el entrenamiento para la certificación MAPSA (Miembros de Al-Anon que Participan en el Servicio de Alateen) el 3 de Agosto.

Al-Anons de habla hispana trabajaron como voluntarios durante todo el día en la mesa de Al-Anon en la Feria del Salud del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Manor el 13 de Agosto.



October 18-19

Fifth Texaswide Convention of Spanish-Speaking Al-Anons

Pflugerville, TX

See page 18 for details.

November 1-3

East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen Fall Assembly

Victoria, TX

November 18

AAIC Board Meeting

Information Center, Austin, TX

February 7-9, 2020

All Texas Al-Anon Alateen Conference (ATAAC)

Houston, TX

OFFICER REPORTS

District Representative

Here is a recap of the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meeting held on August 24 in Schertz, Texas.



- Twenty-six voting AWSC members attended.
- Workshop on Leadership was given by Judy P.
- Discussed topics to include in the AWSC 2020 Leadership Conference Workshop next year for ASWC members.
- A few noted updates by the delegate during her district visits included:
 - ◊ One smaller district (District 7) is using a conference call speaker to have folks dial in as well as attend their district meetings. *(District 6 will discuss on their October agenda.)*
 - ◊ "Newcomer Welcome" is no longer part of the service manual, but groups may choose based on autonomy to continue to use it. This was removed because of the wording having many "should(s)" within it.
 - ◊ "In the Loop" is an online WSO newsletter that was endorsed as a good electronic communication tool.
- Area Abundant Funds Thought Force recommended that the area proceed in having a policy on abundant funds
- "Parents Drink Too Much" is no longer in print and will no longer be sold by WSO
- DRs need to remind the GRs to

bring their orientation folders to the assemblies. *(The documents will be uploaded to the Texas East website for all GRs to access.)*

- Area Public Outreach Coordinator (Lynn B.) has had some problems with her email and phone due to identify fraud. Do not use the email for her yet, but feel free to call her at 713-494-2570.

In Service,
Judy W.

Secretary

Meeting Minutes
Secretary, Doon R.
July 20, 2019
Hosted by:
Courage to Change
AFG
2128 Barton Hills Dr.
Austin, TX 78734



DR Judy W. called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M., thanked the host group and welcomed new GRs. Peggy D. welcomed everyone and gave logistics.

A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Serenity Prayer and the reading of The Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts of Service and General Warranties of the Conference. After introductions, the Ask It Basket was passed. The Seventh Tradition donation was \$147.00.

BUSINESS MEETING BEGINS

The Business Meeting began at approximately 9:30 A.M. with DR Announcements.

Judy W. thanked everyone and reported that seven groups submitted reports electronically before the District Meeting. She was very

(Continued on page 4)



(Continued from page 3)

pleased and encouraged more involvement. She then asked GRs if they would like to know about AA events with Al-Anon participation in accordance with the Service Manual, pages 91-93. There was a positive response. In addition, Judy W. announced the host of the October 19, 2019 District Meeting will be The Glass House AFG in Temple. Hilltoppers AFG in West Austin will host on January 18, 2020. The tentative location for the April 18, 2020 District Meeting is Faith AFG in Northwest Austin.

Distributed Report Questions followed.

On behalf of Secretary Doon R. (absent), Judy W. presented the April 27, 2019 Minutes as printed in the *Summer 2019 District 6 Newsletter* and provided to Group Reps electronically prior to the Business Meeting. There were no additions or corrections. The Minutes were approved.

Treasurer Robert G. presented the 2019 District 6 2nd Quarter Operating Statement. As of June 30, 2019 we have an unallocated balance of \$14,366.99. There were no questions.

Public Outreach North Coordinator Susan T. submitted a written report prior to the meeting. In addition, she reported that since PO North had not had a coordinator for the past few years, there had not been much of the budget used previously. So far this year PO North has gone over budget by about \$46.00. Also, PO North has included Georgetown in its area since PO South is so large. There were no questions.

Public Outreach South Coordinator Dave L. provided a written report prior to the meeting. He also reported that he had staffed a health fair at

Cedar Ridge High School in Round Rock in April, and said that quite a few of the other organizations (Bluebonnet Trails, and others) were interested in learning more about Al-Anon. There were no questions.

Newsletter Coordinator Mary M., who had submitted a written report prior to the meeting, requested cover stories of 600-1200 words. She then read off the returned Newsletter contacts and asked the GRs for information about them. She also corrected the date for Officer, Coordinators, GR, & Thought/Task Force Groups to submit their reports to September 5, 2019. There were no questions.

Spanish Language Coordinator / Coordinator hispanohablante Pat I. submitted a written report prior to the meeting. There were no questions. He also helped Spanish speakers get in contact with Bill W. to help with the Manor ISD open house for parents on August 13.

Alateen Coordinator Bill W. provided a written report prior to the meeting. He also reported that there are now 30 certified AMIAS in the District. He was put in contact with an organization called Communities in Schools Central Texas that works with several school districts in the area and is eager to have Alateen in all the high schools. There were no questions.

Upcoming Events & Volunteer Opportunities were announced.

Bill W. appealed to GRs to sign up for the AMIAS training session set for August 3, 2019 at Grace Presbyterian Church in Round Rock.

Pat I. introduced Maria S. (one of the bilingual GRs who was in attendance) of Nueva Visión. She spoke on behalf of several Spanish-speaking Austin area Al-Anon family groups hosting the Quinta Convención Al-Anon/Alateen Estatal Hispana de Texas (the Fifth Texas Statewide Hispanic

Al-Anon/Alateen Convention). It will be held in the Austin area for the first time on Friday and Saturday, October 18 and 19, 2019 at Chisholm Point Community Center in Pflugerville. (Maria S. spoke mostly in Spanish; Pat I. provided a translation.)

She invited everyone to attend, distributed a flyer, and made some requests for help:

1. Groups or individual members are invited to donate gift baskets.
2. The convention organizers need information about what must be done to include Alateens.
3. If the convention loses money, as the last convention in Houston did when it was postponed due to Hurricane Harvey, would the District consider helping the convention organizers out financially?

The convention organizers plan to follow up with an email to all District 6 GRs explaining how to volunteer, providing details on what seems most useful for Spanish-Speaking Al-Anons to receive in a gift basket, and requesting Alateen help.

Maria S. said there is a need for an area for the Spanish-speaking Alateens to meet during the convention at the Pflugerville Community Center. It was later determined that Alateens in attendance will likely be included in the main convention proceedings, since there appears to be no separate space available.

Everyone appreciated a "Newcomers Welcome" skit presented by the supporting group, Three C's AFG.

Thought Force /Task Force / Committee Status Updates / Motions began.

Roll was called by Judy W. There were 49 attendees with 31 voting GRs, a simple majority being 16 votes, a two-thirds majority being 21. It was agreed by consensus that



we would use a simple majority for usual business matters and a two-thirds majority for election purposes.

For the District Workshop Format Committee Status Update, Josie R. reported the committee has finalized their process and information for the Texas website. Josie R. is to send Judy W. a request (to push to the groups' distribution list) for any other workshops /information that may be desired for the central repository.

The Spanish Website Tab Thought Force Status Update was given by Pat I. They have a design and words for the Spanish web tab which he is going to work with the Information Center to get online ASAP, so that people can start using it and suggest improvements.

During the Unallocated Funds /Day in Al-Anon Thought Force Status Update, Mary R. spoke on a need to cover Area Public Outreach Coordinator Lynn B.'s expenses. Lynn B. will be coming from Houston to provide A Day in Al-Anon training for GRs at the October, 2019 District Meeting.

The Alateen School Poster Distribution Task Force Status Update was given by Lorelei L. The Task Force continues to document the history of Alateen poster distribution. They have created a spreadsheet containing the process, who deployed distribution on the first round, and contact information. They have planned to get posters into the SHAC hands by August 15, 2019 to be put up as school starts. The Task Force wants the groups to take ownership for distribution in the future. This project is directed toward high schools, middle schools and some charter schools.

The Website Thought Force – District Domain Status Update was

summarized by Judy W. She reminded the GRs that the project will take a lot of work and will not happen overnight. After discussion on the benefits of moving forward or not, the general consensus was to continue the work.

Judy W. asked Coordinators and team leaders about any additional financial needs they will have through the rest of the year. She requested this information before the next District Meeting.

She then called for Motions. A Motion was made to spend up to \$500 for 1,000 Al-Anon/Alateen English posters. The Motion passed with 30 votes for, one against, no abstentions.

In addition, a Motion was made to increase the PO North budget by \$300.00 for 2019 for Outreach activities. The Motion Passed unanimously.

Judy W. introduced the topic of a new Coordinator's position - the District Group Records Coordinator (DGRC).

She summarized the role of the DGRC as working closely with the DR which would allow the DR time to perform more responsibilities. This Coordinator will be keeping Excel GR distribution spreadsheets current so the Alateen Coordinator, Information Office Employee, Newsletter Coordinator and Area Group Records Coordinator (AGRC) receive timely updates. The DGRC will be attending quarterly District Meetings and be available to assist GRs with GR-1s and other matters. The DGRC may also be working with other Outreach Coordinators (including Spanish and Alateen) to help verify group status. In addition, they may be turning in Quarterly Coordinator reports. A Motion was made to create a position of District Group Records Coordinator. The motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made to amend the budget to add \$250 per year for DGRC expenses to attend District Meetings and perform duties. The motion passed unanimously.

Kim C. from Cedar Park stood for the position through December 2020. She ran unopposed and was elected unanimously. *[Editor's note: Kim C. was forced to resign due to a family move and the position will be up for election again on October 19.]*

A Potluck Lunch was enjoyed from 12:43 P.M. until 1:35 P.M.

BUSINESS MEETING CONTINUES

Judy W. took a count of members still in attendance. There were 25 voting GRs, a simple majority being 13 votes, a two-thirds majority being 17.

Parallel Work Sessions began.

The GRs chose subjects that were of interest to them and broke into subgroups. They discussed additional ideas to take forward and made suggestions about what can be done next. Summaries were provided after completion.

On behalf of the District Workshop Format Committee's group, Myra and Josie R. reported they have been working on suggested service responsibilities for sharing workshop experience through a database and a binder passed from host group to host group. In addition, other groups' events (i.e. workshops, etc.) will be communicated to GRs by Judy W.

The Alateen School Poster group's discussion was reported by Lorelei L. The committee has three priorities. First is to replicate what has already been done successfully. Second is to get posters to the

(Continued on page 6)



Website



WSD

www.al-anon.org/members

(log in using your group name followed by "AFG")

Texas

www.texas-al-anon.org/

(password: anonymity)

Austin

www.austinalanon.org

(Continued from page 5)

schools that have Alateen meetings nearby. And third is distribution to counties that have no meetings.

On behalf of the Workshop for Alateen in schools, Bill W. reported that several schools are wanting to start Alateen meetings for the next school year, but we are short on AMIASes. We can't have Alateen meetings without certified AMIASes present to facilitate the meetings. The work session was attended by those, most notably several members from Spanish-speaking groups, who may be interested in becoming AMIASes. Bill provided information on AMIAS certification in general and the certification training that was scheduled for August 3, 2019 in Pflugerville. The main goal of the work session was to get as many people as possible to sign up for the August 3, 2019 certification training.

For the Unallocated Funds /Day in Al-Anon Thought Force work session, Mary R. reported that this is still a Thought Force and ideas are welcome. Donations come to and are collected in Austin, but the money is needed in the counties, particularly in rural areas. They are exploring ways for people to apply for Unallocated Funds to support groups in the counties. The Thought Force requested suggestions.

This group is also a Task Force and made two Motions. Motion to use up to \$500 Unallocated Funds to pay for Lynn B.'s travel expenses to provide A Day in Al-Anon training for GRs at the October (2019) District Meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The other Motion concerned whether to support the Spanish-language Convention in Pflugerville. Discussion focused on the District setting a precedent vs. our commitment to support the growth of the Spanish-language community. The second Motion regarded the Fifth Statewide

Hispanic Al-Anon Convention scheduled for October 18-19, 2019 in Pflugerville that has a budget of no more than \$3,000 and a plan to meet those expenses through registration fees. The motion was that upon presentation of documentation of monies spent and received, the GRs permit the Treasurer to reimburse the AFGs organizing the conference for any loss of no more than \$3,000, documented and reported no later than November 30, 2019. Any disbursement will be funded from Unallocated Funds. Motion passed with 22 for, three against, no opposed.

Updates on GR successes and challenges were not made due to time constraints.

Ask-It Basket questions and answers were not addressed, again due to time constraints. [See page 12 for Ask-It Basket questions and answers.]

A raffle was conducted and the winner of a *Forum* subscription was Mary M.

MEETING CLOSED

The Meeting closed at 3:10 P.M. with the Al-Anon Declaration in English and Spanish.

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.***

¡Que empiece por mí! Cuando alguien, dondequiera que sea, pida ayuda, que nunca falte allí la mano de Al-Anon y Alateen, y ***¡Que empiece por mí!***



District 6 AFG
Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Equity - Cash Basis
August 31, 2019

FUTURE DISTRICT MEETINGS

(Hosting Group Needed for July 2020)

October 19, 2019 – Hosted by The Glass House AFG, Temple (3rd Sat)

January 18, 2020 - Hosted by Hilltoppers AFG, West Austin (3rd Sat)

April 18, 2020 – Tentatively Hosted by Faith AFG, Northwest Austin (3rd Sat)

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

August 3, 2019 -- AMIAS training, Grace Presbyterian Church, Round Rock;

August 13, 2019 -- Manor ISD Health Fair;

August 20, 2019 – AAIC Board Meeting (Northland);

August 24, 2019 – AWSC (Area Officer, Coordinators & DRs) Meeting, Schertz, TX;

October 18–19, 2019 – Fifth Texaswide Convention of Spanish-Speaking Al-Anons, Pflugerville, TX;

November 1–3, 2019 – ETAA Fall Assembly, Victoria, TX;

November 18, 2019 -- AAIC Board Meeting (Information Center, 6301 Manchaca, Ste F, 78745);

February 7-9, 2020 -- All Texas Al-Anon Alateen Conference (ATAAC), Houston

Respectfully submitted in gratitude,
Doon R.

Treasurer

The balance sheet and income statement are included on this and the following page.



ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash Checking -GTFCU	\$ 224.30
Cash-GTFCU Savings	<u>26,291.83</u>
Total Current Assets	26,516.13
Property and Equipment	
Total Property and Equipment	0.00
Other Assets	
Total Other Assets	<u>0.00</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 26,516.13</u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Current Liabilities	
Total Current Liabilities	0.00
Long-Term Liabilities	
Total Long-Term Liabilities	<u>0.00</u>
Total Liabilities	0.00
Equity	
Unallocated Funds	\$ 12,175.08
International Reserve	1,500.00
T.E.A.M.	171.51
Prudent Reserve	5,557.50
Kristy Fund	863.38
Allocated Posters For Schools	291.40
Allocated To Cover 2019 Expens	2,600.00
Net Income	<u>3,357.26</u>
Total Equity	<u>26,516.13</u>
Total Liabilities & Equity	<u>\$ 26,516.13</u>



District 6 AFG
Statement of Revenues and Expenses - Cash Basis
Compared with Budget
For the Current Quarter and Year To Date Ending August 31, 2019

	Current Quarter Actual	Current Quarter Budget	Current Quarter Variance	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance
Revenues						
District 6 Basket Collection	\$ 147.00	\$ 125.00	22.00	\$ 479.00	\$ 375.00	104.00
Group Donations	1,721.27	1,333.34	387.93	6,714.45	5,333.36	1,381.09
Newsletter Subscriptions	11.00	0.00	11.00	88.00	0.00	88.00
Interest Income	0.06	2.50	(2.44)	6.31	10.00	(3.69)
Contribution From Unallocated	0.00	433.34	(433.34)	0.00	1,733.36	(1,733.36)
Total Revenues	1,879.33	1,894.18 ▲	(14.85)	7,287.76	7,451.72	(163.96)
Expenses						
Alateen Coordinator	56.04	166.66	(110.62)	181.04	666.64	(485.60)
Alateen AMIS Training	82.00	83.34	(1.34)	201.28	333.36	(132.08)
Archives	0.00	41.66	(41.66)	0.00	166.64	(166.64)
Rent / District Meeting	150.00	187.50	(37.50)	350.00	562.50	(212.50)
DR Expenses	89.07	175.84	(86.77)	496.74	703.36	(206.62)
District Group Records Coord	0.00	50.00	(50.00)	0.00	50.00	(50.00)
Alternate DR Expenses	0.00	83.34	(83.34)	23.22	333.36	(310.14)
Secretary Expenses	0.00	41.66	(41.66)	55.00	166.64	(111.64)
Treasurer Expenses	49.61	50.00	(0.39)	191.61	200.00	(8.39)
Newsletter Editor	0.00	16.66	(16.66)	0.00	66.68	(66.68)
Forum / Literature	0.00	58.34	(58.34)	52.80	233.32	(180.52)
AMIAS / Background Checks	0.00	8.34	(8.34)	0.00	33.32	(33.32)
Newsletter Printing	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,377.07	1,250.00	127.07
Public Outreach North	0.00	226.66	(226.66)	564.48	726.68	(162.20)
Public Outreach South	196.35	125.00	71.35	196.35	500.00	(303.65)
Spanish Coordinator	90.91	166.66	(75.75)	90.91	666.68	(575.77)
P.O.S.E. Scholarship	0.00	41.66	(41.66)	0.00	166.68	(166.68)
Gift to Delegate	0.00	25.00	(25.00)	150.00	100.00	50.00
Bank Charges	0.00	1.66	(1.66)	0.00	6.66	(6.66)
Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	58.34	(58.34)	0.00	233.34	(233.34)
Total Expenses	713.98	1,608.32 ▲	(894.34)	3,930.50	7,165.86	(3,235.36)
Net Income	\$ 1,165.35	\$ 285.86 ▲	\$ 879.49	\$ 3,357.26	\$ 285.86	\$ 3,071.40



COORDINATOR REPORTS

Public Outreach, North,

Susan T.

Schools back in session!!!! Public Outreach North plans to be busy in September getting posters put up in the Bell County Schools and carrying the message of recovery!



Public Outreach, South,

Dave L.

Al-Anons participated in two health fairs this summer, the first being the Manor school district's School Resource Fair. There were more than 700 people at the fair, and many of them stopped by the Al-Anon table to pick up literature and engage in conversation (in either English or Spanish) with a dozen or so District 6 volunteers. Parents who visited fifteen "vendors" collected stamps on their "passports" in order to receive school supplies, which made it a lively event for everyone.

The second event was a smaller health fair, the Williamson County Overdose Awareness Day. Volunteers from Round Rock's Seekers of Serenity AFG, along with district representative Judy W., passed out Al-Anon literature (and fortune cookies) and networked with law enforcement and health care providers from the county, which has a population of 556,000 as of 2018. Deanna M. of Serenity Seekers said one organizer of the annual event said she was "thrilled" to include Al-Anon participation in the event, partly because so many drug addicts in recovery turn to alcohol and then

return to their drug of choice.

Upcoming in mid-October is Al-Anon participation in two panel discussions at the Jeremiah Program, which supports single mothers who are developing educational and work skills. The Addiction and Substance Abuse Life Skills class is scheduled for Oct. 16 in central Austin.

Finally, Lynn B., the East Texas - Area 53 Public Outreach Coordinator, will come to the Oct. 19 District 6 meeting in Temple to share her experiences about how to organize a Day in Al-Anon, aimed at health care and law enforcement professionals, among others.



Newsletter, *Mary M.*

For the "Summer 2019" issue of the newsletter, we mailed 103 copies and had three returned as undeliverable. Total cost for this issue was \$433.16.

If anyone has suggestions for additional information to be included in the newsletter, please let me know.

Please make sure your Current Mailing Address is up to date with the Area Records Coordinator. If you did not change your mailing address and did not receive the latest edition of the newsletter, please let me know. Remember, you can always find the on-line version at <http://austinalanon.org/> under the District 6 tab.



DISTRICT 6 NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

The District 6 Newsletter is published quarterly. Groups receive the newsletter at no charge. Suggested individual contributions are \$11/year, which helps cover publishing costs.

Name

Address

Email

Telephone

Home Group

Send form and any checks to:

District 6 AFG
P.O. Box 342194
Lakeway, TX 78734



Al-Anon/Alateen

AAPP - Area Alateen Process
Person

AIS - Al-Anon Information Service

AMIAS - Al-Anon Member Involved in
Alateen Service

AWSC - Area World Service
Committee

CAL - Conference Approved Literature

CMA - Current Mailing Address

DAC - District Alateen Coordinator

DR - District Representative

EIN - Employer Identification Number
(tax ID number)

ETAA - East Texas Area Al-Anon/
Alateen

ETAAA - East Texas Area Al-Anon/
Alateen Assembly

GR - Group Representative

ISR - Information Service
Representative

LDC - Literature Distribution Center

P.O.S.S.E. - Program of Sponsors
Sharing Everything PO - Public Out-
reach

PSA - Public Service Announcement

TEA AC - Texas East Area Alateen
Conference

TEAM - Together Empowering Al-
Anon Members

WSC - World Service Conference

WSO - World Service Office

(A.A. - Alcoholics Anonymous)

GROUP REPORTS**Central Texas Serenity Seeker's AFG**

(Harker Heights, TX, T/Th 7pm & W noon), *Myra C., GR*

As our group is growing and thriving we decided at our last group conscience to add a newcomers meeting every 2nd and 4th Saturday at 10am. (Trinity Baptist Church address: 403 Farm to Market 2410, Harker Heights, TX 76548). In addition, we voted to host "A Day in Al-Anon" at Trinity later this year. We are planning to get first responders and other related professionals in various fields aware of our Al-Anon meetings and place our pamphlets into the right hands in our area. If any groups would like to attend or participate please let us know. You can contact Myra C. (GR) at 512-839-3114 for more information, updates or questions.

The Glass House AFG,

(Temple, TX) *Vicki L., GR*

Greetings from the Glass House Al-Anon group in Temple, TX. I am the newly elected Group Representative, Vicki L. Temple and Salado groups are hosting the District 6 meeting on October 19, 2019 at our meeting location: First Methodist Church at 102 N. 2nd Street, Temple, TX. When you arrive at the church enter at the ground level doors in the center of the courtyard. Lunch is pot luck – breakfast provided by host groups. I look forward to meeting everyone and learning the role of Group Rep.

Hilltoppers AFG

(Austin, TX) *Barbara L., GR*

Meeting safety will be the primary topic at our Group Conscience meeting on Saturday, Oct. 12. We appreciate the flyer from WSO, "Let's Talk About Safety in Meetings," which stresses the importance of Tradition 5 – "welcoming and giving comfort to families of alcoholics." We are considering adding to our group's safety guidelines in response to a number of Hilltoppers members, both long-time members and newcomers, who have become concerned about feeling safe in meetings.

We are planning to host the District Meeting on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2020, at Hillcrest Baptist Church, 3838 Steck Ave., Austin, TX 78759. Plans are well underway, and we are excited about seeing members representing other AFGs in Central Texas.

We hold a meeting every day at noon, except Sunday, plus two additional meetings on Saturday—at 9:00 and 10:30 am. The Monday noon meeting is designed especially for newcomers. We also have a women's meeting at 6:00 pm Tuesday and a men's meeting at 7:30 pm Tuesday.

(Continued on page 11)



(Continued from page 10)

One Day at a Time AFG

(Temple, TX) Susan T., GR

Happy Birthday Temple ODAT AFG! In July, Temple ODAT celebrated 33 years as an Al-Anon group! We are also grateful to have an active current member (Lou) that has been around for 30 of those 33 years! We celebrated on the fifth Tuesday of July with a speaker meeting where Matt shared his experience, strength and hope with the group and had refreshments afterwards. Thank you, Matt, and to all the other local groups that came to help us celebrate recovery! More news for our group is that starting on the first Tuesday in September, our group will begin meeting at 7:00 PM rather than 8:00 PM. If you are in the Temple area on a Tuesday night, come celebrate the gift of recovery with us!

Serenity Seekers AFG

(Austin, TX) Joyce H., GR

Serenity Seekers meets Fridays at 6pm at the Unity Church of Austin, 5501 W US Highway 290, Austin, TX.

A group member who attended the Spring Assembly was inspired by the discussion about community outreach. She brought to a group conscience the idea to donate conference approved literature to the library at the church and libraries in two nearby small towns. The group discussed which books were most appropriate and checked with our treasurer. The decision was made to purchase three sets of two books - *How Alanon Works* and *From Survival to Recovery* - and to donate them to the libraries.

2222 AFG

(Austin, TX) Natanya A., GR

Hello from the Austin 2222 AFG! We meet every Thursday night from 6pm - 7pm in Room 103 at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 3003 Northland Dr. at the southeast corner of MoPAC and 2222. Our group is very solution-focused and we base each meeting on Al-Anon approved literature. We love our literature! We average about a dozen people, but we've had a great run of newcomers recently that we are so very happy to welcome. Given our start time and location we're very familiar with the trials of Austin traffic and are understanding to those who may be a few minutes late due to unexpected delays. Please join us no matter what time you arrive!





1. Where can *The Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions* be printed for meeting use with revised and updated openings in the Service Manual?

Most groups type up their own one-page *Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions*. If Conference Approved Literature, a daily reader, etc. is not used during the meeting time to conduct the meeting, and a group wants to type up their one-page document for lamination, it is suggested you reference the source of the introduction for the *Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions* in the footer of the typed document. For example, the *Courage to Change* reader has a slightly different introductory paragraph from the *Al-Anon Service Manual*, but both are okay for use.

2. Is the “Keep coming back” saying used after the Serenity Prayer or Al-Anon Declaration Conference approved? Do groups use both with the “Keep coming back...” phrase?

In referencing the Closing in the *Service Manual* (page 20), you will notice no mention of this phrase. The “Keep coming back...” phrase said after the prayer or Declaration at many meetings is often referred to as chanting. It is not Conference approved, but if the group conscience supports use of it, based on group autonomy, it is okay for that group’s use. Many groups choose to

use the Al-Anon Declaration as a closing in lieu of “Keep Coming Back...”

3. Do we have Service Manual exercises or meetings; something to help us learn the Service Manual?

Today we do not have published exercises, but groups hosting District Meetings in the past developed workshops where games were used to reference the index in helping look up answers in the Service Manual. As we begin to record more of our workshops in our central repository, it is possible groups may share more examples to have the groups become more familiar with the Service Manual.

4. My group has a member who thinks there should be a vote on the group contributions to the District, Area, and WSO on a quarterly basis. My other groups use a formula to make contributions quarterly. A) Is it okay to use the formula? B) Is it okay for a group to choose not to donate to a service arm (District, Area, WSO)?

Please see the *Service Manual* (Group Finances / Budget, pages 55-57) and the WSO Guideline (G-41). A) This question falls under the group autonomy principle. A group conscience can decide what is best for the group (for example, if the group wants to vote on a quarterly basis or use a formula). Normally, the group is first self-supporting, caring for their own rent, the Group Representative (GR) expenses, literature, etc. Then the group is encouraged to contribute to the service

arms (District, Area, WSO, Austin Information Service (AIS) Center). The G-41 guideline suggests 25% to each service arm or a set amount be made once group expenses are met. B) Yes, it’s okay to not donate, but this is also a group conscience decision.

5. What is the process to request funds from the Unallocated Funds Committee: A) To help Spanish speaking Al-Anon Conference? B) Can money be used for scholarships to help members that cannot afford it? C) Can money be used for donating Spanish literature?

There is currently no District Committee. There is a District Unallocated Funds Thought Force trying to establish ideas for what the surplus funds may be used for and how district groups or other public outreach projects can apply for the surplus money. B and C) This has not been determined, but the GRs will vote before the process is activated within the district. A similar effort is being conducted with the area on Abundant Funds, and we also hope to get some guidance from that effort.

6. When and how does the Group Rep (GR) determine that there needs to be a group conscience (GC) meeting discussion?

Please see the *Service Manual* (Group Business Meetings and Group Conscience, page 49). Based on the autonomy principle, the group can decide on the process. The result of a business meeting is a group conscience. Some groups have a set frequency (i.e., every other month) and allow anyone to place topics on the agenda. Some groups allow anyone to call an emergency group conscience following a meeting if needed when a topic/subject cannot wait for the scheduled group conscience. Other



larger groups, e.g. Northland and Hilltoppers, have Steering Committees and can sometimes resolve questions/concerns without the business meeting needing to address a member's question.

7. How often should groups have business (group conscience) meetings?

Based on the autonomy principle, the group can decide what is best for them.

8. Is it true that the Newcomer Welcome (NW) is no longer recommended by WSO at an Al-Anon meeting? How do our members look this up in Conference Summaries or other historical WSO literature?

This falls under group autonomy and what the group decides is best for them. The Newcomers Welcome was discontinued by the Board of Trustees Policy Committee in April of 2004 by affirming that Al-Anon would only have one "Welcome." The consensus was that the Newcomer's Welcome was directive (telling newcomers how they felt and what they needed to do). At that time the Newcomer's Welcome was removed from the Group Binders. This information was published in the 2004 WSO Conference Summary and in our CAL book *Many Voices, One Journey* (page 348). In the June 2019 *Forum*, and on the WSO website <https://al-anon.org/blog/can-we-use-discontinued-literature-in-meetings/> discontinued literature is discussed. Conference summaries can be found at <https://al-anon.org/formembers/world-service-conference-wsc/>.

THOUGHT FORCE AND WORKSHOP COMMITTEE REPORTS

District 6 Workshop Committee, Josie R.

District 6 Workshop Committee Members: Josie R., Peggy D., Kathy L., Teresa S. participated in a break-out session along with Myra, Brian M., Phyllis B., and Geoff V. (sub for GR of Georgetown West) at the July 20, 2019 District Meeting

I, Josie R. continue to be so grateful to serve on this committee. I'm happy to report real progress towards honoring and preserving the workshop activities of District 6 members. Many thanks to the members who participated in the Workshop Committee break-out session at the July 20th District 6 Meeting. It was suggested that we include a definition of Workshops. Page 90 of the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2018-2021* states:

An Area, District, Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) or one or more Al-Anon or Alateen group may host a weekend, day or evening of workshops and meetings, luncheons or banquets. These activities are planned in keeping with the spiritual principles of the Twelve Traditions to address various topics of interest to members or for public outreach purposes. Weekend events often combine workshops and speaker meetings.

Another suggestion was that we add a Workshop link to a Hosting Group Checklist.

Additionally, it was suggested that we invite local groups who have presented workshops within our district, not just at district meetings, to submit their presentations.

With the *Keep It Simple* slogan in mind, I revised our original Workshop form to include all workshops, noting the date (when) and type of event (where) for the workshop presented.

The goal is to ask our District Rep., Judy W., to send this revised Workshop form out to Group Representatives (GRs) with the request for it to be filled out by anyone that has EVER presented a workshop activity in District 6.

Many thanks to District Rep. Judy W. and Area 53 (Texas East) Webmaster Dorie J., for their efforts to get our workshop pdf file on the Texas Al-Anon website under District 6.

Next Steps: Create an email with the Workshop form, a two-week due date, and the request with for it to be filled out by anyone that has EVER presented a workshop activity in District 6. Then, send the email to our District Rep., Judy W., who in turn, would send it out to Group Representatives (GRs).



Service Arms

There are five service arms that groups may choose to support after meeting their own expenses. These are listed below with their addresses. Please remember to indicate your group number, so group contributions can be acknowledged. Personal contributions are also gratefully accepted.

<p>AL-ANON INFORMATION CENTER 6301 Manchaca Road, Ste. F Austin TX 78745 (512) 441-8591 aaicemployee@gmail.com</p>	<p>AIS WACO AREA Dissolved as of the end of April 2017</p>	<p>DISTRICT 6 Robert G</p>
<p>EAST TEXAS AREA (ETAA) Treasurer—ETAA P.O. Box 1324 Silsbee, TX 77656</p>	<p>WORLD SERVICE OFFICE AFG, INC. 1600 Corporate Landing Pkwy Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617 (800) 344-2666 www.al-anon.alateen.org</p>	



District 6 Service Committee

OFFICERS

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE
 Judy W.

ALTERNATE DR
 Anna A.

SECRETARY
 Doon R.

TREASURER
 Robert G.

COORDINATORS

ALATEEN
 Bill W.

ARCHIVIST
 Barbra H.

FORUM/LITERATURE
 Michele P.

NEWSLETTER
 Mary M.

PUBLIC OUTREACH (SOUTH)
 Dave L.

PUBLIC OUTREACH (NORTH)
 Susan T.

COORDINADOR HISPANOABLANTE
 Pat I.

DISTRICT GROUP RECORDS





La Quinta Convención Al-Anon y Alateen Estatad Hispana de Texas

El viernes 18 y sábado 19 de octubre, todos los Al-Anons y Alateens están invitados a asistir a la quinta convención Al-Anon/Alateen en español del estado entero, con el lema "Valor para Cambiar," en El Centro de Comunidad Chisholm Point, 900 Broken Feather Trail, Pflugerville, TX 78660.

La registración cuesta \$10; la cena y el baile cuestan otro \$20 de antemano, \$25 en la puerta. Para los niños la cena y el baile es \$10 de antemano, \$15 en la puerta.

Por favor, regístrese antes del 21 de septiembre, mandando el pago a la tesorera, Martha Castillo, 8311 Riverstone Dr., Austin, TX 78724. (También se puede registrarse en la puerta.)

Habitaciones de hotel con descuento están disponibles en Sleep-Inn & Suites Austin North, 14004 Owen Tech Blvd., Austin, TX 78728: llame a 512-670-9188 y utilice la clave o el código de registro AL ANON.

La coordinadora de la convención, Rosario, puede responder a sus preguntas al 512-423-4294.

Las preparaciones para la convención continúan. ¡Su grupo puede ayudar! Cada Representante del Grupo (RG) recibirá un correo electrónico explicando como su grupo puede contribuir una canasta de rifa.

The Fifth Texas Statewide Hispanic Al-Anon/Alateen Convention

On Friday, October 18 and Saturday, October 19, all Al-Anons and Alateens are invited to attend the fifth statewide Spanish-language Al-Anon/Alateen convention, with the theme "Courage to Change," at Chisholm Point Community Center, 900 Broken Feather Trail, Pflugerville, TX 78660.

Registration is \$10; the dinner and dance are an additional \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. The cost for children to attend the dinner and dance is \$10, \$15 at the door.

Please register before September 21 by sending payment to the treasurer, Martha Castillo, 8311 Riverstone Dr., Austin, TX 78724. (You may also register at the door.)

Discounted hotel rooms are available at Sleep-Inn & Suites Austin North, 14004 Owen Tech Blvd., Austin, TX 78728: Call 512-670-9188 and use registration code AL ANON.

The convention coordinator, Rosario, can answer your questions at 512-423-4294.

Preparations for the convention continue. Your group can help! Every GR will receive an email explaining how groups can contribute raffle baskets.

**V Convención AL ANON/ALATEEN Estatad Hispana de Texas
Ciudad Cede - Austin, Texas
Viernes 18 y Sabado 19 de Octubre, 2019**





41st ANNUAL ALL TEXAS AL-ANON/ALATEEN CONFERENCE

February 7-9, 2020

Houston Marriott Westchase Hotel
2900 Briar Park Dr
Houston, TX 77042
(713) 978-7400

Room Rate: \$99 Single/Double each night
Includes:

2 breakfast coupons/room each morning

Online Registration @ www.ataactx.com

Speakers:

Ellen C., Addison, TX

Ric Buchanan, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Betty B., Houston, TX

Angie P., Cincinnati, OH - AA

Kent K., Houston, TX

Alateen Program

Raffle
Banquet & Luncheon

Al-Anon Discussion
Meetings

Workshops

AA Discussion Meetings
Silent Auction

Return Registration to:

ATAAC

P.O. BOX 94, Alvin, TX 77512

Make Checks payable to ATAAC

For more information contact:

ataac2019@gmail.com

Pre-Registration for only \$25 and save \$5.00 (\$30 after Jan. 31, 2020)

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Badge Name (print): _____ Al-Anon AA \$ _____

Additional Pre-Registrations:

Badge Name (print): _____ Al-Anon AA \$ _____

Badge Name (print): _____ Al-Anon AA \$ _____

Alateen Registration \$5.00 Badge Name (print): _____ \$ _____

NAME OF RESPONSIBLE ADULT FOR ALATEEN*: _____

Saturday Night Banquet** (Must be registered to attend) \$37.00 each Quantity: _____ \$ _____

Luncheon/Speaker** (Must be registered to attend) \$16.00 each Quantity: _____ \$ _____

Vegetarian OR Gluten Free Scholarship Fund / Need \$ _____

(Please make checks out to ATAAC) Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

***Alateens must be accompanied by a responsible adult and be age 13 or older.**

**** As Tradition 7 states "Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."**