

District 6 Newsletter "The E-News"

Spring 2021

Volume 34, No. 2

District Meeting



Saturday, April 17, 2012

We will be meeting on-line

The information to join the meeting will be provided via email. If you are not sure if you are on the district email distribution lists, please contact Anna A. (District Representative) at etx.district6@gmail.com.

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The New District 6 Electronic Newsletter

We welcome you to the District 6 Al-Anon Electronic Newsletter (E-News) and hope you will find in this publication the information and functionality we have tried to provide.

We who live, or have lived, with the problem of change and trying new things understand as perhaps few others can. We, too, were bleary-eyed and frustrated, but in Al-Anon we discover that no newsletter is hopeless and that it is possible for us to find contentment, and even happiness, whether we use the E-News or choose to print it for us and others to use.

We urge you to try our E-News. It has helped many of us find solutions that lead to serenity. So much depends on our own attitudes, and as we learn to place this newsletter in its true perspective, we find it loses its power to dominate our thoughts and our lives.

Our use of the E-News is bound to improve as we apply the Al-Anon ideas. Without such spiritual help, living with a change like this is too much for most of us. Our thinking becomes distorted by trying to force solutions, and we become irritable and unreasonable, and we know it.





Did you know that the World Service Office has a member blog? You can find that blog

HERE.

Anonymity is an important principle of the information in this E_News. Everything that is contained herein should be held in confidence. Only in this way can we publish what is in our minds and hearts, for this is how we help one another in Al-Anon and District 6.

A few words on the use of this E-News. To the extent possible, I have tried to make it behave like a web site by providing links to and between the various sections. In the Table of Contents, clicking on the page number takes you to the corresponding section (I hope). At the bottom of each section, clicking on the Return to T.O.C. will take you back to the Table of Contents on the first page. I have tried to make it easy to read on-line while preserving the capability to print it. If you choose to print this newsletter, it should be possible to print on most standard printers using 8-1/2 x 11 inch paper, and each page should be numbered.

As we proceed down this path, please feel free to provide feedback and suggestions about what you like, what works well and what doesn't' work so well, and desired content or functionality that is not currently being used.

Tom B

District 6 Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes Secretary, Mimi C. January 16, 2021 Virtual meeting held online via Zoom

District Representative Anna A. called the meeting to order at 9:00 am, thanked everyone for attending, and welcomed seven new GRs. After introductions, the group said the Serenity Prayer, and members read The Twelve Traditions in English and Spanish, Twelve Concepts of Service, and General Warranties of the Conference.

DR Announcements-

Anna reviewed basic protocols. Voting will be conducted by virtual raised hand, yes/no options, or through the chat feature. The polling feature will be used for the elections that will be held to fill two service positions that are currently open.

7th tradition contributions can be sent to Treasurer Robert G. Any donations resulting from this meeting will be reported in the next newsletter.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic many meetings' details have changed. Anna is working on distributing a reformatted comprehensive list with all updated information and will distribute this information to all Group Representatives as the AIC will take time to update the information on the web site.

If you are interested in being District 6's Area Alateen Coordinator, please send your information to Paula H.

January 30, 2021 9am-1pm there is an Area World Service Committee (AWSC) Zoom meeting.

WSO news- Coming soon, there will be an on-line newcomer packet (K-10) for \$2.99.

Distributed Report Questions-

Secretary - Paula H. Noted there was a mistake in the last meeting's minutes. ATAAC is in Ft. Worth (not Houston). Last meetings minutes were approved with this update.

<u>**Treasurer</u>** - Robert presented assets, liabilities, and equity for the fourth quarter. Costs were much less due to the pandemic, as were contributions.</u>

Newsletter - 2 copies of the newsletter were undeliverable.

<u>Austin Al-Anon/Alateen Information Center (AAIC)</u> – The AAIC Board held its elections in November 2020, and the Information Center Liaison service position was not filled. A brief description of the position was provided, and Paula H. shared her experience, strength, and hope regarding the position since she is a past liaison. If you are interested, please send your information to Anna. She will notify the AAIC Chair.

New Business-

A new GR asked about acronyms, and the acronyms that had been used in the meeting thus far were explained. Everyone was also informed that a list of commonly used acronyms is in each edition of the District 6 Newsletter in one of the sidebars.

The All Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Conference will take place virtually February 19-20, 2021. Everyone was asked to visit www.ATAACTX.com for more information.

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Hilltoppers and Wimberley AFG support Al-Anon in the women's Lockhart Prison. Due to Covid-19 they cannot currently hold meetings, so they have requested jigsaw puzzles and The Forum magazines. If you are available to donate these items, please contact Kathy S. at KSchraub@gmail.com.

District 6 is hosting the Spring Assembly in 2023 and we need folks to volunteer for committee positions. Anna said she would send a sign-up sheet via email before the next district meeting.

10:21 Break

Roll Call – There were 32 voting GRs, with 17 being a simple majority and 22 being a two-thirds majority.

Elections for District Positions-

<u>Treasurer</u> - Debbie P. was elected Treasurer.

<u>Alateen Coordinator</u> - still looking for someone as no-one stood for this position.

Newsletter Coordinator - still looking for someone as no-one stood for this position.

Spanish Coordinator/Hispanohablante - Kelly T. was elected Spanish Coordinator/Hispanohablante.

Prior to approving the 2021 budget, there were two amendments. The Treasurer's budget was increased by \$150 and the Hispanohablante's budget was increased by \$175. With these two amendments the budget was passed. Mary R. made the motion to pass the 2021 budget as amended, Lydia FM seconded the motion and it passed with an overwhelming majority.

April 17, 2021 is the next District meeting. There was a short discussion regarding whether the meeting would be in-person or virtual due to COVID-19. There was a unanimous consensus vote in favor of having the next meeting via virtual platform.

Outreach is to bring Al-Anon to places where there are not currently meetings, to make the general public aware of who we are, inclusivity of Spanish and all races, and register groups who don't attend the district meetings. Please note Lynn and Anna are working on registering groups who currently do not attend district meetings.

Virtual Alateen Posters Thought Force-

Myra- reported on our posters. WSO did not approve the use of the District's existing and previously approved Alateen posters from 2014, therefore we will take it to the Area as to what to do with these posters. In March WSO will be sending out newly approved Al-Anon and Alateen posters. We will continue this discussion in April after we have talked to the Area, and we can see the new WSO approved posters.

Newsletter Thought Force-

This Thought Force was tasked with whether or not to continue a paper version of our newsletter. The Thought Force presented their thoughts, and there was quite a bit of discussion from members as to the pros and cons of a solely virtual or a virtual and printed newsletter. Linda B. made a motion to discontinue the paper version of the newsletter for 6 district meetings and the revisit this matter after a 6-issue period. Mary R. seconded this motion, and it passed with a simple majority.

The District Representative, Anna, shared a poll regarding how you found out about Al-anon. Out of 128 responses the top three answers in order were a professional, member of Al-anon, and member of AA. The full results of this poll can be found on the East Texas Area Website at <u>https://texas-al-anon.org/</u>

Unallocated Funds Task Force-

Dissolved due to the problem resolving itself.

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District Workshop Committee-

Josie stepped down from heading this committee, and no one stood to chair this committee. The group came to consensus to keep resources gathered from this committee on the East Area TX website and put the committee on hold for now.

Group Representatives shared their successes and challenges. Anna thanked everyone for coming and invited anyone to email or text any suggestions for improvements to her directly. Meeting was adjourned at 2:09pm.

Future District Meetings

April 17, 2021 - Hosted via Zoom (third Saturday)

July 17, 2021 - Hosted by _____ (third Saturday)

October 16, 2021 - Hosted by _____ (third Saturday)

Other Important Dates

March 13 - Newsletter Deadline for District Officers, Coordinators, GRs, and Thought/Task/Committee Team Reports

March 26-28 - P.O.S.S.E. 27th Roundup (Gonzales, TX). Information available online: <u>https://texas-al-anon.org/event/p-o-s-s-e-27th-round-up-weekend-2021/</u>

District Representative/Alternate District Representative Reports

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Happy spring, District 6.

I hope everyone is recovering from the brutal winter storm we experienced and enjoying the beautiful spring weather. The new season is bringing with it buds on the trees (Yay!), events in our District and Area, and new District initiatives. Here's a rundown:

<u>Events</u>

- District Meeting on April 17 It will be virtual, so hopefully, we'll continue to see the larger attendance that's been part of our last three virtual district meetings. Please invite others from your groups who are interested in seeing what goes on at our district meetings. I'm also hoping we can elect a District Alateen Coordinator and Newsletter Coordinator. Please let me know if you are interested in standing for either of these service positions or know someone else who may be interested. Keep in mind that the Alateen Coordinator must be an Al-Anon Member in Alateen Service (AMIAS).
- East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Area Assembly (ETAAA) on May 15 This event will also be held virtually, so hopefully, you and others from your group can attend. The Assembly Business Meeting agenda will be consent-based, which means that all reports and the minutes from the last Assembly will be distributed well in advance of the Assembly date to be read and any issues made known to the Area Chair early to allot time for questions and discussion during the Assembly. Group representatives attending the Assembly should also be prepared to vote on an equalized expense for the Area Delegate, the permanent establishment of an Assembly Mentor position, and election of an Area Alateen Coordinator and Public Outreach Coordinator. All necessary Assembly information can be found at https://texas-al-anon.org/spring-2021-assembly/ (password anonymity).

New District Initiatives

- Group Records Changes Since our last district meeting, I have met with our District Group Records Coordinator and Area Group Records Coordinator several times to discuss greater efficiency in updating and maintaining our group records. Because of this effort, we're asking that all group records information, including changes due to COVID-19 like Zoom connection information and meeting cancellations/reopenings, go through our District Group Records Coordinator Cathy M. More information can be found in the District Group Records report on Page 9 of this newsletter, and there will be opportunity for questions at the district meeting.
- Hybrid Meetings I'm optimistic that we'll be able to entertain the idea of having face-to-face meetings before the end of the year, and with that, I'd like for the District to consider holding hybrid district meetings. That would allow our members to attend even if they can't make the drive or still have public health concerns. After attending the Missouri Area's hybrid AWSC meeting, I've learned more about what holding hybrid meetings will entail and how the District will need to prepare to make them a reality. Hybrid meetings will be a topic of discussion at the district meeting, so please bring your questions, thoughts, concerns, ideas, etc.

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- Visiting Groups At last count, District 6 has 83 registered groups with 34 groups regularly attending district meetings. Our Alternate DR Lynn P. and I are planning to reach out and hopefully, attend meetings of those groups within our district who do not regularly attend the district meetings. Our goal is to let them know the role the District plays as a service arm and how their voice and vote is vital. We don't want to leave anyone out, though, so if your group is regularly represented at district meetings and would like one of us to come visit, please let me know. We'll get back to you with schedules and plan a visit. We're going to start with visiting those groups meeting virtually but eventually, plan to get to those groups meeting face to face. I'm looking forward to meeting so many more folks in our District.
- ETAAA Spring 2023 Host Committee District 6 will be the host district for the 2023 ETAA Spring Assembly. I've sent out a request for volunteers and have received replies from three people. Mary R. has volunteered to be our Hospitality Chair; Gail H. has volunteered to be our Registration Chair; and Lynn P. has offered to be our Co-Chair. We still need several more volunteers since these events only come together with teamwork. Please keep an eye open for reminders prior to the district meeting and please consider volunteering.

Thank you to everyone for your service. In grateful service, Anna A., DR

Treasurer's Report

| Income | 2021 Budget | 1st Qtr | 2nd Qtr | 3rd Qtr | 4th Qtr | Actual |
|--|-------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| District 6 Basket Collection | 250.00 | 5.00 | | - | | 5.00 |
| Total Group Donations including | | | | | | |
| Newsletter Subscriptions | 5,000.00 | 833.81 | | | | 833.81 |
| Bank Interest | 10.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Collection for Delegate/Gift | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Contribution from Unallocated Funds to | | | | | | |
| cover proposed expenses | 4,545.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Total Income | \$9,805.00 | 838.81 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 838.81 |
| | | | | | | |
| Expenses | 2021 Budget | 1st Qtr | 2nd Qtr | 3rd Qtr | 4th Qtr | Actual |
| Alateen Coordinator | 300.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Alateen Liaison Coord. | 225.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Archives | 125.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Rent / District Meeting | 300.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| DR Int'l Convention | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| DR Expenses | 750.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Software for Virtual Mtgs | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| District Group Records Coordinator | 100.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Alt DR Expenses | 300.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Secretary Expenses | 250.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Treasurer Expenses | 400.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Newsletter Editor | 100.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Forum/Literature | 250.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| AMAIS/Background Checks | 50.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Newsletter | 2,000.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Public Outreach No. | 500.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Public Outreach So. | 375.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Spanish Coordinator | 675.00 | 179.31 | | | | 179.31 |
| P.O.S.S.E. Scholarship | 1,750.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Delegate to Assembly | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Gift to Delegate | 150.00 | 150.00 | | | | 150.00 |
| Bank Charges | 5.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Misc. | 200.00 | 0.00 | | | | 0.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$9,805.00 | 329.31 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 329.31 |
| | | | | | | |
| Reserves | | | | | | |
| International Reserve | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 | | | | |
| T.E.A.M. | \$171.51 | \$171.51 | | | | |
| Prudent Reserve | \$4,902.00 | \$4,902.00 | | | | |
| Kristy Fund | \$900.00 | \$900.00 | | | | |
| Allocated Posters for Schools | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 | | | | |
| Allocated to Cover 2021 Expenses | \$4,545.00 | \$4,545.00 | | | | |
| Unallocated Funds | \$5,684.36 | \$5,684.36 | | | | |
| Net Income | \$846.57 | \$846.57 | | | | |
| Total Liabilities & Capital (Bank Balance) | | | | | | |
| (3/30/21) | \$20,049.44 | 20,049.44 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 20,049.44 |

Coordinator Reports

District 6 Alateen Coordinator Report

Hope everyone is faring well with all we have been through with COVID-19 and the severe winter weather. Spring is here and it is time to start fresh. It seems our Alateen groups have been hit hardest as most haven't been able to meet due to the closed facilities and lack of attendance. We had one Alateen group that tried virtual meetings but could not get it going. The teens have been doing schoolwork virtually meeting from their home computers.

Currently we have four registered Alateen groups in District 6. We have I8 certified AMIAS and three of these are newly certified this year. We have only one group that is currently meeting face to face. Two Alateen meetings in schools have been discontinued.

The decline in Alateen membership is very distressing. Once we are able to meet face to face again, I am hopeful this will change, but we will all have to make this happen. The Alateens are our future Al-Anon members. If we start announcing the Alateen meetings in our Al-Anon meetings, this will help get the word out. Also, it needs to be announced at the AA meetings. Our teens are unable to get to the meetings without transportation.

The Northland Clubhouse is open for meetings with limitations. Masks must be worn. Only meetings rooms and restrooms are open. The meeting rooms are open 30 minutes before and after the meeting. The rooms have to be cleaned before and after the meeting. We have not been having Alateen meetings on Thursday night. Hopefully, we can all get back to face to face meetings by fall.

We have a lot of certified AMIAS in District 6, so we need everyone's help to get our Alateen meetings going. Remember, we were unable to help ourselves without Al-Anon and we can't fix our children. They do need other teens to identify with to help find recovery. TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE IT!!!

Respectfully submitted, Pat E., District 6, Alateen Coordinator

Group Records

Keep Your Meeting Information Current and USEABLE

We have great Group Records news to share. A concerted effort has been made to make the WSO meeting list as accurate and informative as possible. This is important because many newcomers looking for Al-Anon information go first to the WSO site at www.Alanon.org. The meeting lists on the website now have more complete information, including Zoom/COVID information, map directions, and mileage, making it a great tool for finding meetings.

Of course, accuracy of those records is important. For that reason, the WSO has agreed to let me, as District 6 Group Records Coordinator, work with the Area Group Records Coordinator to directly update WSO records, including adding the "COVID" meeting information. As you can imagine, keeping track of all the meetings in as big an Area as ours is a challenge. We don't want a delay, which might mean a newcomer is wandering around in search of a meeting. If you have changes to your meeting in any form-Zoom, GR, CMA, time, etc.-email

etx6grouprecords@gmail.com

with a copy to

areagrouprecordsarea53@gmail.com

so together we can ensure your group's information is accurate.

If you have any questions, email Cathy at:

etx6grouprecords@gmail.com

Please remember, when your group decides to return to in-person meetings, we need this information as soon as possible.

Cathy B., District 6 Group Records Coordinator

Newsletter

First electronic newsletter; see front page. Please send comments to:

etx6.newsletter@gmail.com

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Archivist

Hi. I am Barbara M. your new District 6 Archivist. I am reporting that the transfer of archivist material has occurred.

I am diving in and getting more familiar with the history of Al-Anon in our district.

Full of desperation and fear, I stepped into the rooms of Al-Anon in Fairbanks, Alaska. The possibility of recovery became real as I listened to the experience, strength, and hope of other Al-Anon members. My healing slowly began by learning to trust my Higher Power, God, and working the Steps with a trusted sponsor.

The desire for more growth lead to service. Becoming a Group Representative gave me opportunities to practice the principles of our program in a safe and loving environment. My commitment to continue growing and giving back to the program which saved my life, lead me to the position of the area's District Representative.

Moving to Texas, I felt accepted and welcomed by Al-Anon. I strongly believe that I get better and stay healthy by serving. I am the outgoing Group Representative for Georgetown West AFG and sponsor other women. I want to continue working, growing, and recovering. I will always be grateful for what I have learned and continue to learn in Al-Anon. I am excited to see the next adventure my Higher Power has for me. Thank you for letting me serve as your Archivist.

Thank you, Barbra M.

Public Outreach - North

I'm grateful for service as Outreach Coordinator. I've been in the Texas area for a year and a half now, originally from Northern California and I look forward to getting more familiar with my territory and Texas. My intentions as I get things rolling is to visit the meetings in my area in person, hopefully in the near future. I will place AFA's (Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism) booklets in meetings rooms. I will also contact treatment centers and ask if I can bring in an Al-Anon meeting, set up in a Speaker Format hopefully to share experience, strength and Hope with families and friends. Susan T, Outreach South, and I have talked, and we would like to work on a "Day in Al-Anon" to attract the professional community. Hopefully, this is something we can work on in the future. Thank you for letting me serve.

Grateful in Service, Gail H,

Outreach North

Virtual Alateen Poster Thought Force

(Teresa S., Ilene F., and Myra C. (Chair)).

The posters from WSO came out early this March of 2021 for Al-anon/ Alateen's Public Outreach. Please take a look on their website if you have not already done so. You can look at the posters on WSO's website by clicking on the tab indicated Members (top the website on the blue tab bar line), then scroll down to click on Public Outreach, and then you will scroll down to click on the tab Public Outreach Posters for Al-Anon/ Alateen. WSO also has Road Signs from the Public Outreach webpage. Here is also the hyperlink to look at all posters:

https://al-anon.org/for-members/public-outreach/.

Just click on Road Signs or Public Outreach Posters from the hyperlink illustrated. As a reminder, if you have any physical posters left please consider recycling them or pass them along to our Archivist before recycling. Our Thought Force would like to consider at our next district meeting relinquishing our duties over to the Public Outreach Coordinators (North and South) and the Alateen Coordinator. We want to thank everyone involved who has supported our findings and who has helped us along the way. We had a great time!

Please let me know if you have any further questions or comments. Thank you for your service work.

Grateful in service,

Myra C.

Virtual Alateen Thought Force: Chair

Al-Anon/Alateen Acronyms

AAPP.....Area Alateen Process Person AIS Al-Anon Information Service AMIAS Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service AWSC..... Area World Service Committee CALConference Approved Literature CMA Current Mailing Address DACDistrict Alateen Coordinator DR.....District Representative EIN..... Employer Identification Number (tax ID number) ETAA..... East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen ETAAAEast Texas Area Al-Anon/ Alateen Assembly **GR**..... Group Representative ISRInformation Service Representative LDC Literature Distribution Center P.O.S.S.E. Program of Sponsors Sharing Everything PO.....Public Outreach **PSA**Public Service Announcement TEAAC... Texas East Area Alateen Conference TEAM...... Together Empowering Al-Anon Members WSC......World Service Conference WSOWorld Service Office A.A.....Alcoholics Anonymous

ASK IT BASKET

Question: If a group is no longer meeting, is there still an acting GR?

<u>Answer:</u> If your group is not meeting due to COVID and plans to begin meeting again in person once this health crisis is over, it's recommended that you leave your group status as Active and retain a GR, or at a minimum a Current Mailing Address (CMA), to continue to receive information from the Area and WSO. If you don't currently have an elected GR but want someone to be on the GR email distribution list for District 6, email the DR at etx.district6@gmail.com to have them added to the list. That way, the group will continue to receive District emails.

If your group has decided to become Inactive permanently, please notify the District Group Records Coordinator at etx6grouprecords@gmail.com to have the group's status changed to Inactive with WSO. The District Group Records Coordinator will also notify the Austin Information Center, so the group can be removed from their meeting list.

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Group Reports

2222 AFG

The 2222 AFG continues to meet Thursdays at 6:00pm via Zoom. We are hopeful we'll be able to be back in person in a few months. Our meetings are literaturebased with a strong focus on practical solutions. We are grateful for the new members who have joined us at this time and those who have taken advantage of the electronic meeting to join us from afar. Thank you for your service, Natanya

Serenity Seekers

Serenity Seekers, which used to meet at the Unity Church in southwest Austin at 6 pm on Fridays, is continuing to meet virtually until the church opens its meeting rooms. We're gratified that many of our members are getting vaccinated and look forward to a day when we can meet in person again. Since we've been meeting virtually for a year, we accumulated a year's worth of The Forum magazine. One of our members lives outside Austin in a small community. A group conscience agreed that this member could donate the issues of The Forum to the community's library. They weren't doing anyone any good sitting in her desk drawer!

Joyce

Women In Recovery

The Women in Recovery have been meeting outside of our facility (on conference calls) at 617 Clifford Street since April of 2020. We quickly learned how to have Zoom meetings and are happy to report that we've had a meeting every week on Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. during the pandemic. The clubhouse is back open, and we will continue to meet on Zoom until our group can reestablish meeting in person. The good news is that we have welcomed a few new women into the fellowship who have found our electronic meeting. We have also been able to re-connect with members who have moved away from Austin but can join us in Zoom meetings. We often remark how this pandemic has shown us a number of things to be grateful for even in the darkest of hours. Angela

Suburban Friends

Suburban Friends Al Anon group has continued to meet by zoom throughout the pandemic. We are hoping to start doing hybrid simultaneous meetings soon - in the parking lot of the church and on zoom. Sadly, we lost some our long standing members this past year. And while nothing ever remains the same, their presence will be dearly missed. Diane M, GR

Personal Freedom Group

The Personal Freedom Group is a Literature Study Group using conference approved literature (CAL) and we meet on Thursdays from 6-7pm. We are currently meeting virtually using Zoom (see Austin meeting list for Zoom info).

When we are able to meet in person again, our meetings are located in South Austin at the Holy Cross Lutheran Church. We have continued to make donations to the church during the pandemic, as they have been generous in holding our space and literature until we can return. We have a strong core group that show up weekly to share their experience, strength and hope and we welcome newcomers and visitors with open arms. We are fortunate to have several service positions filled, including Group Representative, Secretary, Treasurer and Literature Rep. We hold quarterly business meetings and when needed a group conscience. Come join us! We would love to see you!

Tina

Lakeway Tuesday Noon

Lakeway Tuesday Noon AFG continues to meet virtually on Tuesday and Thursday at noon as well as Tuesday noon face to face using safety precautions. We are keenly aware of reaching out and welcoming the many newcomers and provide a space for questions before and after meetings. We also have How Al-Anon Works and a Newcomers packet sent to them. We created a Newsletter Coordinator position which provides local, area, District and East and WSO information in a monthly newsletter bridging us in service to the greater whole. An updated phone list is attached and available for all to use to connect with others as needed. Lakeway Tues. Noon AFG is a strong fellowship about 30 or so now, and we welcome

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anyone to our meetings and look forward to all being physically together as soon as possible in these times of Covid-19 challenges. In service and gratitude Lakeway Tuesday Noon AFG Louise D., GR

San Marcos AFG

San Marcos AFG is continuing to meet via Zoom on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Some members are continuing a social-distance meeting in the First Lutheran Church parking lot on Saturdays. We are happy that everyone is finding recovery in a way that works for them, and we look forward to being together again soon. Our group celebrated birthdays on February 27th. It was a wonderful day filled with experience, strength, and hope. Danielle

Living Solutions AFG

The Living Solutions Al Anon family group of Georgetown meets on Thursday nights at 7 PM. As of March 30, we are only meeting by zoom. The zoom link is <u>https://zoom.us/j/532217874</u>

We will begin meeting in person soon once enough members have been vaccinated for the Covid virus. We meet at the Hope House in Georgetown at 1303 S. Elm St. We welcome all newcomers with open arms. We recently had some new additions for service positions for our group. They are as follows:

Group Representative- Eric B

Alternate Group Representative- Kristi H.

CMA/group phone contact- Susan D.

Secretary- Kristin C.

Treasure/literature coordinator- Michelle S.

Information Service Representative- Marianna G. Greeter/Hospitality- Jimmy T.

We are very open and welcoming group and if you show up on the right night you might just find Jimmy playing his guitar and singing a song. GR Eric B. Hi! My name is Donna M., newly elected GR and first time contributor to the newsletter. Our group is doing well on Zoom, we have 4 meetings a week and a F/F, once a week. The church where we had been meeting has finally reopened for our use. Yay!!! We have a GC meeting, coming up, to discuss our options and determine if we want to resume F/F. Looking forward to some semblance of normal!?

Central Texas Serenity Seekers/Harker Heights

Donna M.

Freedom to Recover AFG

The Round Rock-based Freedom to Recover Al-Anon Family Group changed its meeting time from Wednesdays at 7:30 pm to Wednesdays at 7:00 pm effective February 10, 2021. The group will continue to meet on Zoom until further notice pending reopening of our in-person meeting room. Carey D.

Information Center



Austin Al-Anon/Alateen Information Center 6301 Manchaca Road, Ste. F, Austin TX 78745 512-441-8591 inside Texas: 888-287-2115 Office hours: 10 AM to 2 PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10 AM to 6 PM Wednesday

If you have questions about Al-Anon / Alateen or local meetings, please call the office or send us a message at inquiry@austinalanon.org February 2021

Appeal Letter to Individual Group Members and Groups

Dear Al-Anon and Alateen Members:

We at the AAIC hope that your groups continue to find experience, strength and hope in your meetings. Hopefully, you were able to meet the challenges of 2020 (as well as 2021!) with the serenity and hope that our program of recovery brings.

As you probably already know, that due to COVID concerns the information center has remained closed to in-person sales. We want to assure you that we have literature inventory in stock, and we continue to employ Janie to serve the literature and informational needs in this area.

However, as a result of closing the center to foot traffic and groups moving to online meetings, our income was drastically reduced in 2020. Our expenses stayed mostly the same (rent/salary). Not only have our literature sales dropped but the donations we typically receive from groups also declined considerably.

This appeal letter is to request that groups consider resuming donations to the information center as well as asking its members to consider making an additional donation. Donations can be mailed to the address above. The center has also implemented a curbside pick-up protocol for literature sales. Please make your order arrangements by contacting Janie at 512-922-8962 or via e-mail at <u>AAICEmployee@gmail.com</u>.

Thank you for all you are doing to fulfill Al-Anon's primary purpose of helping friends and families of alcoholics.

Many thanks,

Terry F. Finance Committee Chair aaicfinchair@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

May 15, 2021

Spring 2021 East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Area Assembly (ETAAA)

Welcome!

We are so excited to see everyone virtually this Spring. Everything you need to know about the Assembly will be here on this page. Please keep an eye on it as new information will be added regularly.

✔ When – Saturday, May 15, start time coming soon

✔ Where – Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83300521188?pwd=RDRQZDd0K3I1eUNmazdrd1I5STIyZz09 Meeting ID: 833 0052 1188

Passcode: Spring!

We highly encourage you to join us on May 8 or May 9 for a practice session before the assembly

✓ Registration Information – coming soon

For more information including information about practice sessions, go to Texas Al-Anon website at: https://texas-al-anon.org/spring-2021-assembly/

(Password: anonymity)

July 17, 2021

District 6 District Meeting (details to be determined)

October 16, 2021

District 6 District Meeting (details to be determined)

SERVICE ARMS AND DISTRICT 6 SERVICE COMMITTEES

Tradition 7 Contributions

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

WORLD SERVICE OFFICE AFG, INC.

1600 Corporate Landing Pkwy Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617 (800) 344-2666

DISTRICT 6 Debbie P

(800) 344-2666 EAST TEXAS AREA (ETAA)

Treasurer – ETAA P.O. Box 450675 Laredo, TX 78045

AL-ANON INFORMATION CENTER

6301 Manchaca Road, Ste. F Austin, TX 78745 (512) 441-8591

District 6 Service Committee

| OFFICERS | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| District Representative Anna A. etx.district6@gmail.com | Alternate DR Lynn P. | Secretary Mimi C. | Treasurer Debbie P. | | | | |
| COORDINATORS | | | | | | | |
| Alateen | Archivist | Forum/Literature | Newsletter | | | | |
| Pat E. (Interim) | Barb M. | Peggy D. | Tom B. (Interim) etx6.newsletter@gmail.com | | | | |
| Public Outreach | Public Outreach | Coordinator | District Group | | | | |
| (North) | (South) | Hispanohablante | Records | | | | |
| Gail H. | Mary R. | Kelly T. | Cathy M. etx6grouprecords@gmail.com | | | | |

NOTE: Contact details for these individuals is not included here in order to protect anonymity and general release of personal information. Details are available from your Group Representative or District Representative.

Meetings Notice

Meeting information form the central Texas area can be found on the Austin Al-Anon Alateen Information Center web site at:

https://www.austinalanon.org/meetings.htm

Assistance finding meetings throughout the entire state of Texas can be found on the Texas Al-Anon Alateen web site at: https://texas-al-anon.org/meetings/

Information about electronic meetings can be found at the World Service Office web site at: https://al-anon.org/al-anon-meetings/electronic-meetings/

During the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, many of our local meetings are using on-line formats such as Zoom. Information for those meetings, where available, is included below. <u>COVID-19-related Meeting Changes</u> (attachment; last updated: 3/12/2021)