



# District 6 Newsletter

Summer 2017

Vol. 30, No. 3

## District Meeting

July 15, 2017

### Host Group

None specified; volunteers

### District Meeting Location

First Presbyterian Church  
300 Burleson Street  
Smithville, TX 78957

### Contact

Lori L. (512) 705-3591

### Agenda

Registration/Breakfast.....8:00 A.M.  
Workshop.....9:30 A.M.  
Business Meeting.....10:30 A.M.  
Potluck Lunch.....11:30 A.M.  
Adjourn.....2:00 P.M.

(Cont'd on Page 2)

## Newsletter Highlights

Officer Reports/Minutes.....Page 4  
Ask It Basket.....Page 5  
Treasurer's Report.....Page 6  
AIS Report.....Page 8  
Coordinator Reports.....Page 9  
Group Reports.....Page 10  
Service Representatives.....Page 15  
Meeting Schedules.....Page 16

FALL NEWSLETTER INPUTS DUE  
AUGUST 21, 2017

## My Story

A long, long time ago, in the plains of Kansas, an Al-Anon was born (that's me). I was not born into a family of alcoholism or grew up around alcohol abuse. My parents encouraged me in all aspects of my life and taught me the work ethic I have today. With all those blessings, I never felt a part of things. I was always comparing my insides to your outsides. You were cuter, more talented, smarter, and if you were another girl, you always got the guy I thought I wanted.

I tried to fill that hole inside me with books, dreams, and associations with people who lived on the edge. From an early age, I ran around with people who drank too much, and I loved it. I even participated in the drinking and merrymaking. Why I did not become an alcoholic, only God knows; for that, I am truly grateful.

Situations happened (he got a divorce and needed to move to Ohio). I was having trouble in school, so I thought it was a good time to get married. I was not getting my way in graduate school; he did not ask me to marry him, so I did what was natural and moved to another state. This was one more geographic fix to try to get the result that I wanted. Situations again happened, and we did get back together and married.

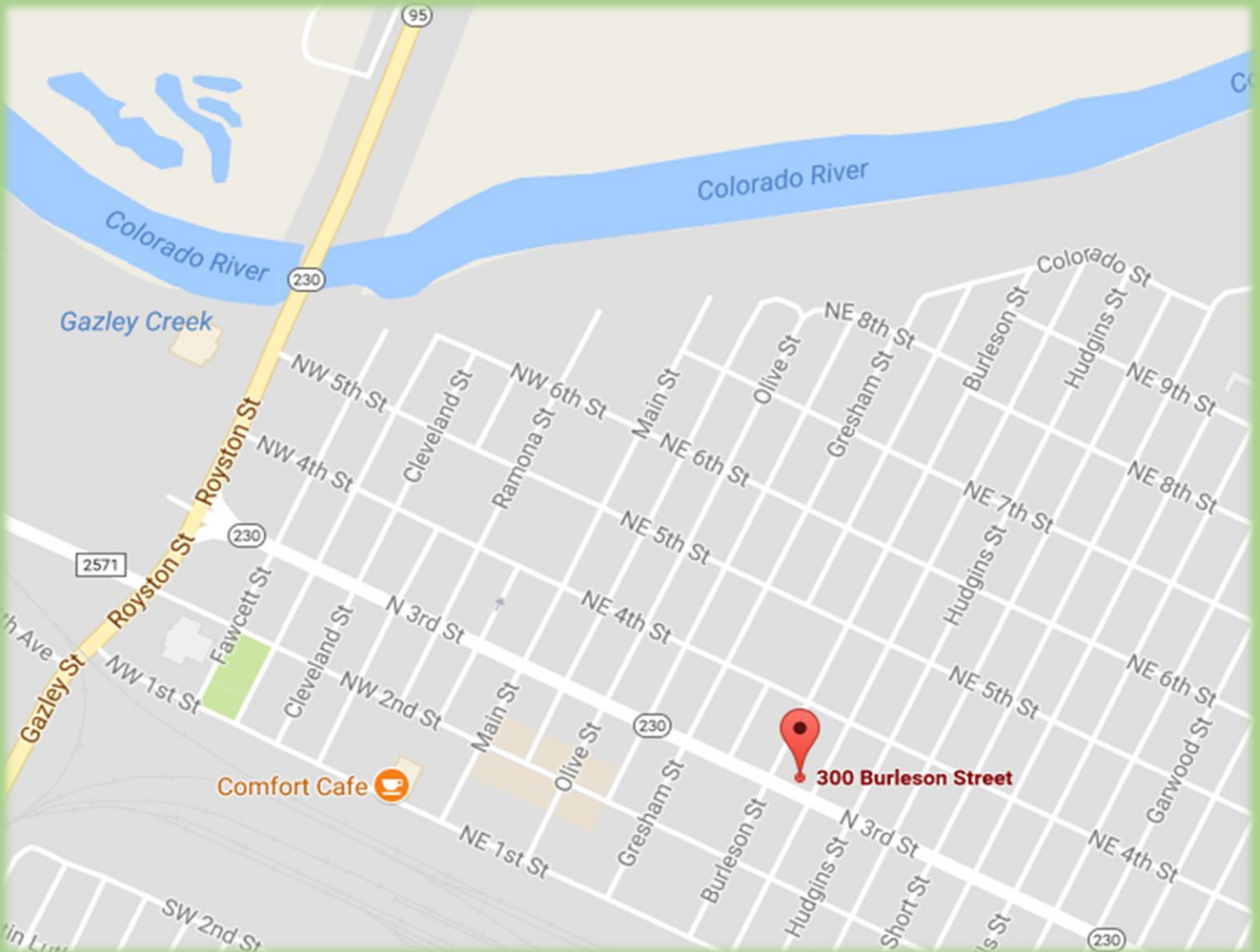
In Southeast Texas, we both hit bottom, and luckily, he knew that alcohol was the major contribution to the unhappiness in our marriage. I was okay with him getting help as long as I didn't have to participate in anything (like therapy), and it had to be on our insurance plan. I was angry and said some very hateful things to him at this time. I had become hateful and unloving to my parents, and I was not a stellar employee. Oh, I went to work every day, but everyone avoided me so that they did not hear my harsh words. No one wanted to work for me, unless forced.

We started down the AA/Al-Anon path with kind and loving people. They loved us when we did not love ourselves. I was sentenced to six meetings during family outpatient day, and I went because I thought it would keep him sober. I was so angry, but when I got in those meetings and whined about how he had messed up, the kind and loving people just let me talk and told me to keep coming back. I did not want to be there. It was his problem, not my problem. I kept going back because they seemed to understand. They shared with me one-on-one what it was like in their households, so I did not feel alone. The group asked me to make coffee, so I started my first service job. I kept hearing, "If you want what we have,

(Cont'd on Page 3)



Directions: District Meeting – July 15, 2017  
First Presbyterian Church, 300 Burleson Street, Smithville, TX 78957  
Contact: Lori L. (512) 705-3591



- Take Texas Highway 71 East
- Take Texas Highway 95 South
- Turn left onto Texas Highway 230/3<sup>rd</sup> Street
- Turn left onto Burleson Street
- The church will be on the right

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Please remember that the 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 group report to be included in the next newsletter.

### Future Events

July 15	District 6 Meeting, First Presbyterian Church (Smithville, TX)
Aug. 22	Austin Information Ctr. Board Mtg. (Northland AFG)
Oct. 21	District 6 Meeting, ELECTIONS First Methodist Church (Taylor, TX)
Nov. 3-5	East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly (Austin, TX)
Nov. 13	Austin Information Ctr. Board Mtg. (Information Center)

### District 6 Newsletter Subscriptions

The *District 6 Al-Anon/Alateen Newsletter* is published quarterly. Groups receive the newsletter at no charge. Suggested individual contributions are \$11/year for a subscription, which helps cover publishing costs.

#### District 6 Newsletter Subscription Form

Name:  
Address:  
E-mail:  
Telephone:  
Home Group:

Send form and any check(s) to:  
Doon R.  
P.O. Box 342194  
Lakeway, TX 78734

### My Story (cont'd)

you have to do what we do.” I asked what that was, and they said to watch how people laugh and have a sparkle in their eyes. Ask them what they do, so I did. They told me to make Al-Anon my first commitment, get a sponsor, do service work, work the Steps, and my life would change. I was so desperate to get rid of the emptiness; I just did what they said since my way sure was not working. I got a sponsor and started working the Steps. My group needed a GR. I said I had not been coming long enough (about one year), but they said to just do it and that they would help. I got busy in service, and that was a blessing was for me. Active alcoholism had returned to my household, but service work kept me busy and my mind off of him.

Eventually, I became the DR for District 8 (east of Houston). At area assemblies, I met people that would help me when I moved to Houston and Austin. My job moved to Houston, so we moved; we were also deep into active alcoholism again.

During this time in Houston, I hit another bottom in my life. You see, at this point, I had not truly given my will and my life, or the alcoholic’s life, over to the care of the God of my understanding. I was still trying to get my husband sober by being the Al-Anon cheerleader. I would cheer him on if he decided to go to meetings. I would also huff and puff if he did not go to meetings. I had come to the point of decision – could I live with active alcoholism or not? What a turning point in my spiritual growth, I finally let go of trying to manipulate an outcome. I started asking God to help me be of

service and to live with an attitude of gratitude. I became grateful for the days he did not drink. I eventually could be happy whether he drank or not and could love him where he was at. I attribute that to the solid foundation from Al-Anon because at this time, I was not in touch with my sponsor. I was finally in a situation where I really had to rely on the God of my understanding for my peace and serenity. Since that surrender, my life has taken off. My husband did get sober, and we both changed careers and moved to Austin shortly after 9-11 (that’s another story). Today, I have two committed Al-Anon meetings, and I attend open AA meetings.

I have done various service activities at the district and area levels. My position as the Texas East Area 53 Chair has rocketed my spiritual growth into the fourth dimension. I have learned a new understanding of unity and how issues, or small decisions, can affect Al-Anon as a whole. I try not to let small things become large issues and have learned that discussing issues prior to taking action (e.g., a vote) is much more effective than jumping right to action.

I can guarantee Al-Anon will be there for others in my family by continuing to go to meetings; doing service work outside of my group; sponsoring others; and giving back to a way of life that has made me a kinder, gentler, and more accepting person. Today, I know that I have received a blessing from God and that my purpose in life is to pass that blessing on. My small amount of service, inside or outside of the group, rewards me ten-fold every time.

Love and blessings,  
Kay C., Texas East Area 53 Chair

## Officer Reports

### District Representative

Hi, All. I hope you enjoyed your spring and are ready for some summer fun! Our last meeting was held April 8 in San Marcos and hosted by San Marcos AFG. They had us break into groups, and our individual groups came up with a skit to act out the slogans for the others to figure out which slogan it was. The movie people out in Hollywood will be knocking on our doors soon! It was a lot of fun, well thought out, and very interactive. Thank you again, San Marcos AFG.

The next district meeting is scheduled for July 15, and while we do not have a hosting group, we do have volunteers from Let It Begin With Me AFG to come and set up a light breakfast and set out the potluck lunch in Smithville at the Presbyterian Church on 300 Burlison (at Loop 230). Our delegate will join us and share her report from her attendance at the World Service Conference (WSC) she attended in April. We are looking forward to Joyce coming to be with us.

Here are highlights from our April 8 district meeting:

- We had 23 voting GRs, including one Alateen GR (Yes!).
- We took up a Love Gift to send to our delegate, and two cards were passed around that members signed – sending words of encouragement and love to our delegate.
- District 6 has a new District Alateen Coordinator! I had the pleasure to formally introduce Bill W. He stated that he wants to get more Alateens active at the district meetings and welcomed any suggestions.
- WACO AIS did two appeals to the groups in that area to continue, but due to no interest at this time, it was determined that WACO AIS would be dissolved at the end of April.
- Deanna M. did an update on the Alateen poster distribution for Rosemary C. Judy W. gave a history on the start of the Alateen poster distribution, all of which resulted in a lively discussion of how to carry the message.

- GRs did updates on successes and challenges in their groups.
- Paula H. received a call from an Austin Spanish group who learned that the Fall Assembly will be held in Austin and wanted to know how they could help. She appealed to the district for some members to go with her in solidarity. I met Paula at their Sunday night meeting, and Paula did the talking. It was an awesome experience!
- Public Outreach South’s report was that they desperately need volunteers on Wednesday night to come to the Lockhart Prison for the women’s Al-Anon meeting there. If you are looking for service work, please contact the Public Outreach South Coordinator (see Page 15 for contact information).
- With the exception of a Spanish Coordinator, all other service positions in District 6 are filled. An anonymous birdie told me that we might have someone interested (Yes!). Waiting to hear more information.
- In reviewing my recent e-mails from our Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP), District 6 has five new AMIAS. Thus far, I have seen that there are five re-certifications. There is also a new Alateen meeting in Round Rock that just started! I am sure our AAPP is not done yet in processing. I will keep you posted.

In service,  
Lori L.

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**Secretary’s Report-  
Meeting Minutes  
April 8, 2017  
Hosted by San Marcos AFG**

Lori L., district representative, called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M. and thanked the host group. Karl B. from San Marcos AFG welcomed everyone. Cathy J., hospitality committee chair for the Fall Assembly, passed a sign-up sheet for e-mail addresses of members who wished to receive information on items and volunteers needed for the Fall Assembly.

(Cont’d on Page 5)

## Officer Reports (cont'd)

### April 8, 2017 Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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. The Ask It Basket and donation basket were passed, with \$92.00 collected.

After introductions, everyone enjoyed participating in a workshop led by David Y., Chuck C., and Diane P. on the principles and slogans of the program.

At 10:25 A.M. the group took a 15-minute break.

The business meeting began at 10:40 A.M. with the officers' reports (Page 4). Lori L passed a card for donations for a Love Gift to be given to Joyce Y., area delegate, for attending the WSO Conference. The district collected \$130.00.

Alice M. asked if there were any corrections or additions to the January 28, 2017 minutes as printed in the "Spring 2017" *District 6 Newsletter*. There were no corrections or additions. The minutes were approved as printed.

Doon R. presented the 2017 District 6 First Quarter Operating Statement (Page 6).

The coordinators' reports followed (Page 9). Anna A. announced that the newsletter submittal deadline is May 15.

Deanna M. reported on the progress in distributing the Alateen school posters and asked for volunteers to help with the distribution.

Alice M. called the roll. There were 42 attendees, with 23 voting GRs.

The group broke for lunch at 11:55 A.M.

The business meeting resumed at 1:15 P.M., with the Ask It Basket questions being answered (Page 5).

The GR reports followed (Page 10).

### Important Dates:

- August 22, 2017 — Austin Information Center Board Meeting, 6:30 P.M. at Northland AFG
- November 3-5, 2017 — ETAA Assembly, Austin, TX
- November 13, 2017—Austin Information Center Board Meeting, 6:30 P.M. at the Information Center

### Future District Meetings:

- July 15, 2017 – Host group to be announced
- October 21, 2017 – Taylor AFG hosting

The meeting closed at 1:55 P.M. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted in gratitude,  
Alice M., District 6 Secretary

### Update:

**No host group specified for July 15 district meeting, but volunteers will be helping to serve breakfast and set out lunch.**

## Ask It Basket April 8, 2017

1. What can be done when a group member keeps talking to non-members about who and what was said at our meetings? Also, the person's behavior away from the meeting time scares the new members.  
**Answer:** Read Traditions 11 and 12 and include in your meeting opening that anonymity is an important principle in an Al-Anon meeting. Pages 91-94 in the service manual are about anonymity in all aspects of Al-Anon. If this person continues to not follow the principle of anonymity, the group can have a group conscience on the topic and decide what to do next.
2. Is it acceptable to ask for a special donation for AIS separate from our overage in the group treasury?  
**Answer:** Yes. This is a topic for discussion at group conscience.
3. Is commenting on a positive thought to someone on what they said considered crosstalk in a discussion meeting?  
**Answer:** There is no mention of crosstalk in the service manual, or most of our other literature. "Crosstalk" is a term adopted from treatment

(Cont'd on Page 8)

**Officer Reports (cont'd)**  
**2017 District 6 Operating Statement (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter)**

<b>2017 D6 Operating Statement</b>		<b>1st Q 2017</b>						
<b>Income</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>1st Qtr.</b>	<b>2nd Qtr.</b>	<b>3rd Qtr.</b>	<b>4th Qtr.</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Notes</b>	
D6 Basket Collection	\$500.00	\$155.00				\$155.00		
Total Group Donations including newsletter subscriptions	\$6,000.00	\$1,804.68				\$1,804.68		
Bank Interest	\$10.00	\$2.21				\$2.21		
Collection for Delegate	\$0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
Misc.	\$0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
Contribution from Unallocated Funds to cover proposed expenses	\$3,075.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$9,585.00</b>	<b>\$1,961.89</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,961.89</b>		
<b>Expenses</b>								
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>1st Qtr.</b>	<b>2nd Qtr.</b>	<b>3rd Qtr.</b>	<b>4th Qtr.</b>	<b>Actual</b>		
Alateen Coord.	\$1,000.00	\$125.00				\$125.00		
Alateen Liaison Coord.	\$0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
Archives	\$75.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
Rent/District Meeting	\$1,000.00	\$50.00				\$50.00		
DR Int'l Convention	\$0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
DR Expenses	\$1,200.00	\$226.92				\$226.92		
Alt. DR Expenses	\$500.00	\$50.82				\$50.82		
Secretary Expenses	\$200.00	\$44.48				\$44.48		
Treasurer Expenses	\$300.00	\$100.00				\$100.00		
Newsletter Editor	\$100.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
Forum/Literature	\$150.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
AMIAS	\$50.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
Newsletter	\$2,400.00	\$617.81				\$617.81		
Public Outreach North	\$500.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
Public Outreach South	\$1,000.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
Spanish Coordinator	\$200.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
P.O.S.S.E. Scholarship	\$200.00	\$62.50				\$62.50		
Donation to TEA AC	\$500.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
Delegate to Assembly	\$0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
Gift to Delegate	\$0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
Bank Charges	\$10.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		
Misc.	\$200	\$0.00				\$0.00		
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$9,585.00</b>	<b>\$1,277.53</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,277.53</b>		

(Cont'd on Page 7)

Officer Reports (cont'd)

2017 District 6 Operating Statement (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter) - cont'd

Income	Budget	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Actual	Notes
<b>Reserves</b>							
Int'l Reserve	\$1,801.43	\$1,801.43					For DR's attendance
T.E.A.M.	\$171.51	\$171.51					One-day seminar on service
Assembly Funds	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00					For deposits, etc.
Prudent Reserve	\$4,792.50	\$4,792.50					Approx. 1/2 annual budget
Kristy Fund	\$1,043.38	\$1,043.38					1/2 scholarships for TEA AC
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>\$9,308.82</b>	<b>\$9,308.82</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>		
<b>Reserves</b>	<b>\$9,308.82</b>	<b>\$9,308.82</b>					
<b>Allocated Funds</b>	<b>\$682.00</b>	<b>\$682.00</b>					Posters for schools
<b>Allocated Funds</b>	<b>\$3,075.00</b>	<b>\$3,075.00</b>					Anticipated to cover 2017 expenses
<b>Allocated Funds</b>	<b>\$65.50</b>	<b>\$65.50</b>					CAP Metro project
<b>Allocated Funds</b>							no allocation at this time
<b>Allocated Funds</b>							no allocation at this time
<b>Allocated Funds</b>							no allocation at this time
<b>Unallocated Funds</b>	<b>\$5,433.60</b>	<b>\$4,954.04</b>					
<b>Bank Balance (1/1/17)</b>	<b>\$18,099.92</b>	<b>\$18,085.36</b>					
Bank Balance	on 12/31/16	on 3/31/17	on 6/30/17	on 9/30/17	on 12/31/17		

### Ask It Basket April 8, 2017 (cont'd)

centers, and it has recently come into use in Al-Anon. Because of this, each group must decide for itself what crosstalk is and how to define it. As a general rule, if it is harmful to the group, it might be worthwhile to examine it.

4. "Keep Coming Back" vs. Al-Anon Declaration — Is it up to the group conscience as to which we say? Chairperson? Is K.C.B. the closing for Al-Anon or for AA?

**Answer:** It is up to the group conscience what closing to use.

Page 22 of the service manual states: *"It is suggested that groups close in a manner that is agreeable to the group conscience. Many groups say the Al-Anon Declaration after their closing."*

## Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) Centers

### Austin AIS

The Austin Al-Anon Information Center Board met on May 15, 2017, at 6:30 P.M. at the Austin Al-Anon Information Center. Eleven voting members were present. The minutes from the last meeting were approved as amended.

The center's finances are adequate, but improvements could be made. Another appeal letter will be sent to groups asking for donations since the operating cash balance has continued to decline since 2012. A possible reason for the decline is that literature sales are down due to people buying Al-Anon literature on-line and at discount book stores. One solution may be to price the literature higher. There is a committee studying the possibility of increasing the price of the literature. It was mentioned that it would be helpful to track the number of copies of *How Al-Anon Works* and the number of newcomer packets that have been sold over a certain period of time. The Finance Committee is continuing to monitor the bank statements and financial reports as well.

Some new business was discussed. To foster better communication with the groups, it was discussed that the minutes of the board meetings will be sent as a draft to groups. The minutes will continue to be published on the Austin Al-Anon Web site ([www.austinalanon.org](http://www.austinalanon.org)) after approval by the Board. Also, a member with experience in Al-Anon is being sought to answer e-mails sent to the center's

inquiry Web address. In addition, in August, payment must be made for our Web site. It is quite costly for a three year renewal, so suggestions were made to investigate a cheaper service.

A survey on the effectiveness of the Information Center will be sent electronically and via regular mail to groups soon. Deadline for submission of the survey is in July, and the results of the survey will be announced at the next board meeting on August 22, 2017, at 6:30 P.M. at Northland.

In Al-Anon service,  
Paula H., AAIC Liaison

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### Waco AIS

We haven't moved yet but are on a house hunting trip right now. We made a second appeal to the groups in Waco to take over the positions involved with the AIS. No one volunteered; therefore, the Waco AIS dissolved at the end of April. This means that there will be no ad in the Yellow Pages or on-line, no pager, and no post office box.

Steve and I want to thank everyone for their support. We will miss you all and love you all.

Cindy J.

**Don't forget that elections for District 6 will happen at the October 21 district meeting. See Pages 14-15 for service position descriptions and duties.**



## Coordinator Reports

### **Alateen** (by Bill W.)

This is my first District Alateen Coordinator report, and the first thing I have to report is that we now have a District Alateen Coordinator (DAC). Me.

*Overwhelmed* is the word that best describes my state of mind since volunteering for this in February. I had only attended a couple of Alateen meetings since getting certified in June 2015. What was I thinking? In the course of working with a group to set up a new meeting at Cedar Ridge High School in Round Rock, I happened to state, within earshot of Bill H., that I could really see why we needed a DAC. He looked at me and smiled. I knew I had stepped in it. I will not say he twisted my arm at all; however, my shoulder is still sore, and I don't know if the DAC budget will cover my chiropractor bills or not.

The learning curve is pretty steep, but as in all things Al-Anon, I have had lots of help and support – thanks to everyone at P.O.S.S.E. and TEA AC. These events have made me feel a part of Alateen, in spite of my short time as an AMIAS and even shorter time as DAC.

The new group at Cedar Ridge High School in Round Rock began meeting in May. Ron Jones, the behavior specialist at the school, has been most helpful in getting this group up and running and in making the students aware of it. The meeting will be inactive through the summer. Darlene, the primary sponsor, and the rest of the sponsors involved will be meeting with Ron this week to discuss continuing the group in the fall.

Darlene has registered a new group to begin on June 1 at Grace Presbyterian Church in Round Rock near the school. It will meet at the same time as an Al-Anon and an AA meeting.

Of course, as more meetings are established, more sponsors will be needed. I hope that you will consider becoming an AMIAS yourself, and if your Higher Power moves you in that direction, know that there is abundant support available to help you walk that path.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would just like to talk about the Alateen program.

### **Forum/Literature** (by Judy P.)

I will be on a family vacation at the time of our next district meeting in July. I will miss being with you all and not being able to participate or bring your orders to the meeting. If you are in need of literature at your meeting, please order from Kitty at the AIS by calling (512) 441-8591. You can make arrangements to pick up your order or have it mailed. The AIS is open Monday thru Friday, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

### **RECOMMENDED BOOKS OF THE QUARTER:**



#### **Paths to Recovery,**

#### **The Al-Anon Steps, Traditions, and Concepts**

The workbook companion piece is intended not only as a convenience but also as an additional tool for growth. Several of the Steps encourage us to express ourselves in writing. Many members have found that by writing out our answers, we can further clarify our thoughts, helping us to be more fully honest with ourselves. If you purchase the hard back book and the workbook as a set, the cost is \$25.00.

### **THE FORUM**



Members are encouraged to subscribe to their own copy of *The Forum*, either in print or on-line through your computer and/or mobile device.

*The Forum* can be ordered from the Al-Anon Members' Web site at <http://www.al-anon.alateen.org/members/>. For the password, enter your home group name, followed by "afg" (without the quotes). On the front page, click on the "Order Literature" tab, which will take you to the next page where you will see "Forum" in the upper right corner. When you click on that, you will get the order form.

(Cont'd on Page 10)

## Al-Anon/Alateen Related Acronyms

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 Outreach

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

(AA - Alcoholics Anonymous)

## Coordinator Reports (cont'd)

### Newsletter

**(by Anna A.)**

For the "Spring 2017" issue of the newsletter, we mailed 120 copies and had two returned as undeliverable. Total cost for this issue was \$621.74. The input due date for the "Fall 2017" edition is August 21, 2017.

Please make sure your Current Mailing Address (CMA) 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.

If you would like to contribute a story or have any ideas for the next edition of the newsletter, please contact me.

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### Public Outreach (North)

**(by Robin C.)**

A packet packing party for our public outreach packets was planned for the end of April. Public Outreach North also hosted an AMIAS training in May.

A few school posters are also left for distribution, but Waco, Temple, Killeen, and Harker Heights have been covered. If groups in Georgetown or anyone else

needs posters, I will bring the posters to the group meeting(s).

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### Public Outreach (South)

**(by Jim C.)**

The quick update is that we continue to serve over at the Austin Drug and Alcohol Program one to two times per month at their Family Night Program.

Promises Austin is going through some restructuring, so we have not been there since late February. They have a new program manager that I need to reach out to.

We are also continuing to place Al-Anon speakers for speaker nights at group meetings.

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### Spanish – COORDINATOR NEEDED

We've been searching for a Spanish Coordinator since our 2014 elections. If you're interested, please see Page 14 of this newsletter for a brief description of the position. For a more detailed description, see previous newsletters from 2015 at <http://austinalanon.org/>, under the "District 6" tab.

## Group Reports

### Faith AFG

**(by Michael Z.)**

Greetings from Northwest Austin! Our group meets at 7:30 P.M. on Thursday nights at The Unity Church of the Hills (9905 Anderson Mill Rd., Room 131).

Our attendance continues to be very healthy throughout the spring months. We are a newcomers meeting, and on average, welcome at least one newcomer each Thursday. We have a tradition of

(Cont'd on Page 11)

**Group Reports (cont'd)**

gifting each newcomer with the *How Al-Anon Works* book to help introduce them to the program. I'm excited to announce that we just elected a new Treasurer, and we no longer have any open service positions!

Come on by if you're in the area on a Thursday night and hear from all those that wish to share their experience, strength, and hope.....and some laughter.

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**Hope for Today AFG, Georgetown (by Cathy)**

Our group meets every Monday at 3:30 P.M. in the large conference room at Baylor Scott & White Clinic on Williams Drive, just outside of Sun City in Georgetown. It is encouraging to see our family of members grow. We welcome newcomers almost every week with laughter through the tears.

On the Mondays that fall on national holidays, when the clinic will be closed, we are meeting at the New White House located at 2409 Dawn Drive, Georgetown, TX 78633. These include Labor Day on Monday, September 4, and Christmas Day, December 25. We need our Monday meetings!

Despite the chaos in our lives, there is peace and recovery through Al-Anon. Come join our family for a meeting. We will welcome you with open arms. We have many new members and welcome more. The first Monday of each month is dedicated to the Traditions and the third to the Steps. We are so grateful to have each other and Al-Anon to

guide us to recovery. Please come and let our love and strength flow through you.

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**Hope for Today AFG, South Austin (by Josie R.)**

Our group meets at noon, every Tuesday, south of Lady Bird Lake in Austin, TX (3326 Paisano Trail, Zion Rest Baptist Church). Our meetings focus on sharing our experience, strength, and hope through discussion and the Steps (once per month). A powerful component of our meetings includes volunteers sharing from the Conference Approved Literature daily readers, *Hope for Today*, *Courage to Change*, and *One Day at a Time*. Each month, members celebrating an Al-Anon birthday are invited to share their stories. Our most recent effort to nurture the health of our group includes reading and answering selected questions from "Al-Anon Guidelines: Taking a Group Inventory." Members are encouraged to use the on-line version to reflect on the questions beforehand, and we then use hard copies to discuss and answer questions (Guidelines G-8a and G-8b on the left-hand column). Our Al-Anon solution-based meetings continue to attract new members and retain old timers. All are welcome!

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**Personal Freedom AFG (by Barbara R.)**

The big news for our group is a little sad. Our GR, Tina C, had to step down. We're a small group, and some of us don't meet the qualifications to serve; therefore,

we are without a GR at this time. Hope springs eternal, though, and we have a newer member who is prayerfully considering the position as I write.

In the meantime, we continue to meet Thursdays, 6:00 P.M., at Faith United Methodist on S. Lamar in South Austin. We make a special effort to welcome new members and have newcomers' packets available. Our meeting is CAL-based, and the Chair rotates weekly, which gives all members the opportunity to be of service.

We also have quarterly business meetings to discuss the financial and spiritual health of our group. We celebrated our third birthday back in February, and we have finally built up our treasury enough to make our first contributions to the Austin AIS, District 6, and Area. Woo hoo! It's a great feeling to be self-supporting! We also pass the envelope for the quarterly appeal to WSO.

If you love the message of Al-Anon literature like we do, please come visit. We'd love to meet you!

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**Taylor AFG (by Nancy K.)**

We are small, but we are strong. We had a group conscience and changed our meeting from 6:00 to 6:30 P.M. on Thursdays at First Methodist Church on Lake Drive in Taylor. If you are around Taylor, we would love to see you.

We are also excited to be hosting the October district meeting.

# District 6 Elections

## October 21, 2017

### OFFICERS

District Representative  
Alternate District Representative  
Secretary  
Treasurer

### COORDINATORS

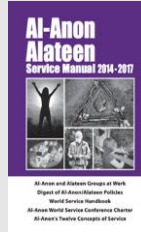
Alateen  
Archivist  
Forum/Literature  
Newsletter  
Public Outreach (North)  
Public Outreach (South)  
Spanish

## District Representative

A patient, dependable volunteer who will:

- Lead quarterly district meetings and prepare reports
- Attend quarterly AWSC meetings and area assemblies
- Be a liaison between the district and AWSC
- Visit group meetings in the district

Must be an incoming, outgoing, or active past GR, who is not a member of AA, with a basic knowledge of the Traditions and Concepts and how to apply them in the links of service.



## Alternate District Representative

Someone willing to:

- Complete the DR's term if/when the DR resigns
- Attend all service meetings the DR attends
- Assist in visiting the groups in the district
- Back-up and help the DR when necessary



## Secretary

A skilled recorder who will:

- Attend district meetings and record minutes of the meeting to include motions, who made and seconded the motion, and the motion result
- Present previous meeting minutes and request approval of minutes
- Prepare and submit a written report to the Newsletter Coordinator



## Treasurer

A trusted servant who is able to:

- Set up a bank account and obtain signatures
- Balance a checkbook
- Record and report district financial status
- Establish a budget
- Attend district meetings
- Write checks for various district expenses such as newsletter printing and mailing, rental space for district meetings, and purchase of district supplies
- Make timely bank deposits



## Alateen Coordinator

Someone with patience and compassion willing to:

- Coordinate Alateen sponsor certification in the district
- Support district AMIAS and sponsors
- Attend Alateen support training, like P.O.S.S.E. and TEA AC
- Work with the Area Alateen Coordinator and Area Alateen Process Person
- Encourage teens to attend Alateen meetings and functions



## Forum/Literature Coordinator

Someone interested in spreading the written word of Al-Anon who will:

- Promote the use of CAL and eCAL
- Recruit Al-Anon members to share their written stories of experience, strength, and hope for *The Forum* and other Al-Anon literature
- Coordinate with WSO, the area, and the district on literature matters
- Sell CAL at district meetings
- Promote subscriptions to *The Forum*



## Newsletter Coordinator

Someone with grammatical and some computer skills, willing to:

- Collect newsletter inputs from district officers, coordinators, and groups
- Compile inputs into newsletter master and perform editing
- Maintain a newsletter distribution list by working with the Area Records Coordinator
- Coordinate newsletter publication and distribution with the printer
- Create an on-line version of the newsletter and provide that to the AIS Web site coordinator
- Understand MS Word, PowerPoint, or equivalent publishing program
- Interpret handwritten inputs



## Public Outreach (North) Coordinator

Someone with good coordination and communication skills, with a passion to:

- Tell people who we are, what we do, and why/how we do it
- Seek opportunities to promote Al-Anon in the community by attraction and cooperation
- Recruit speakers and coordinate mailouts



## Public Outreach (South) Coordinator

A reliable person with good coordination and communication skills that can:

- Match Al-Anon speakers with treatment centers
- Find Al-Anon volunteers for health fairs
- Inform the public of who we are, what we do, and how we do it
- Make phone calls and follow through
- Attend district meetings



## Spanish Coordinator

Someone with bilingual writing and speaking skills to foster Spanish speaking groups' growth by:

- Visiting Spanish speaking groups and encouraging participation in district meetings, assemblies, and conferences
- Attending and sharing information from district and assembly meetings with Spanish speaking groups
- Reporting status/progress of groups to the district
- Seeking Spanish speaking public outreach opportunities
- Translating newsletter articles in coordination with the district Newsletter Coordinator

## Archivist

A volunteer willing to:

- Preserve and organize Al-Anon and Alateen district history
- Bring materials to district meetings for display
- Make materials available to the membership and researchers
- Transport and house storage containers



### 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><b>AL-ANON INFORMATION CENTER</b> 6301 Manchaca Road, Ste. F Austin TX 78745 512-441-8591</p>	<p><b>AIS WACO AREA</b> Dissolved as of the end of April 2017</p>	<p><b>DISTRICT 6</b> Doon R. PO Box 342194 Lakeway, TX 78734 512-582-0463</p>
<p><b>EAST TEXAS AREA (ETAA)</b> Treasurer-ETAA P.O. Box 34102 San Antonio, TX 78265</p>	<p><b>WORLD SERVICE OFFICE AFG, INC.</b> 1600 Corporate Landing Pkwy Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617 800-344-2666 <a href="http://www.al-anon.alateen.org">www.al-anon.alateen.org</a></p>	

### District 6 Service Committee Officers

<b>DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE</b> Lori L.	<b>ALTERNATE D.R.</b> Judy W.	<b>SECRETARY</b> Alice M.	<b>TREASURER</b> Doon R.
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### Coordinators

<b>ALATEEN</b> Bill W.	<b>ARCHIVIST</b> Barbra H.	<b>FORUM / LITERATURE</b> Judy P.	<b>NEWSLETTER</b> Anna A.
<b>PUBLIC OUTREACH (South)</b> Jim C.	<b>PUBLIC OUTREACH (North)</b> Robin C.	<b>SPANISH COORDINATOR</b> OPEN	

### Websites

WSO	<a href="http://www.al-anon.org/members">www.al-anon.org/members</a> (log in using your group name followed by "AFG")
Texas	<a href="http://www.texas-al-anon.org/">www.texas-al-anon.org/</a> (password: anonymity)
Austin	<a href="http://www.austinalanon.org">www.austinalanon.org</a>

Central Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Meeting Lists can be found at:

<http://www.austinalanon.org/meetings.htm>

Information and Flyers for upcoming events can be found at:

<http://texas-al-anon.org/events/>