



DISTRICT 6 NEWSLETTER

Summer, 2019

Volume 31, No. 3

DISTRICT MEETING

Saturday, July 20, 2019
8:00am - 3:00pm

Host Group

Courage to Change, AFG

LOCATION

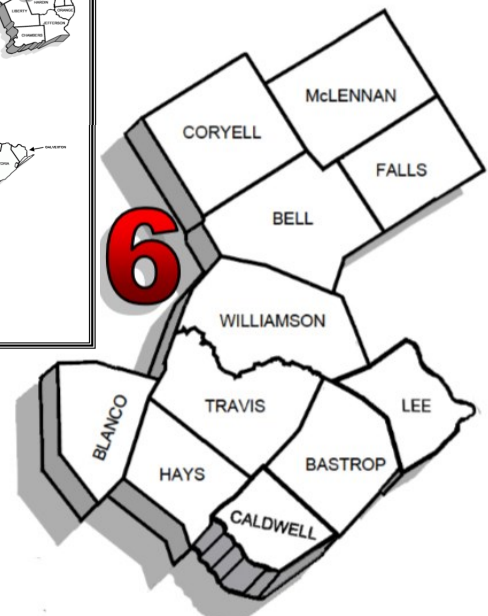
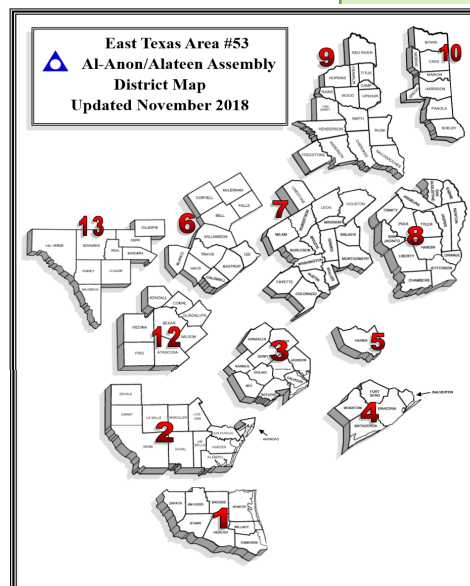
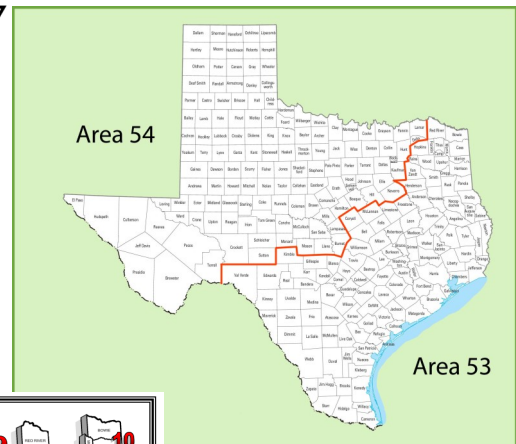
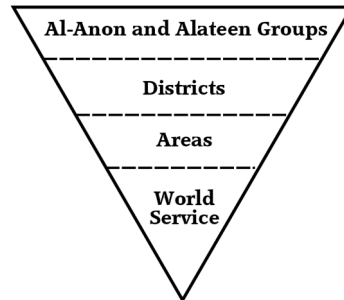
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
2128 Barton Hills Dr.
Austin, TX 78704

CONTACT

Peggy D.

See Directions on page 2.

Where does District 6 Fit in the Al-Anon Structure?



NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

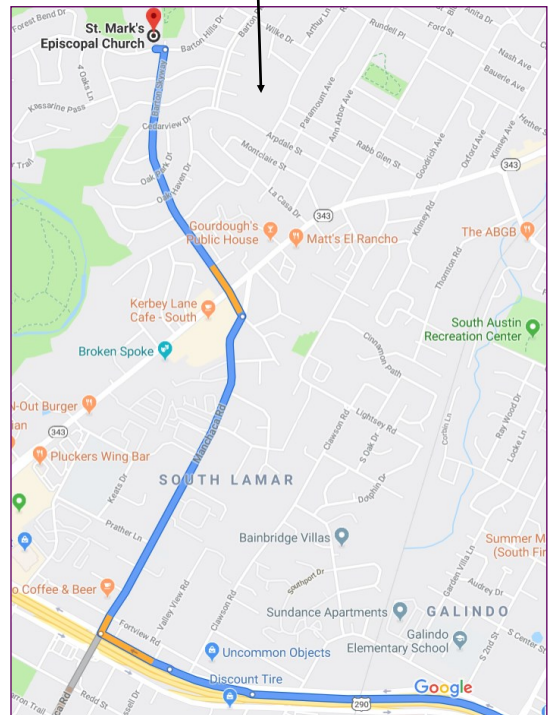
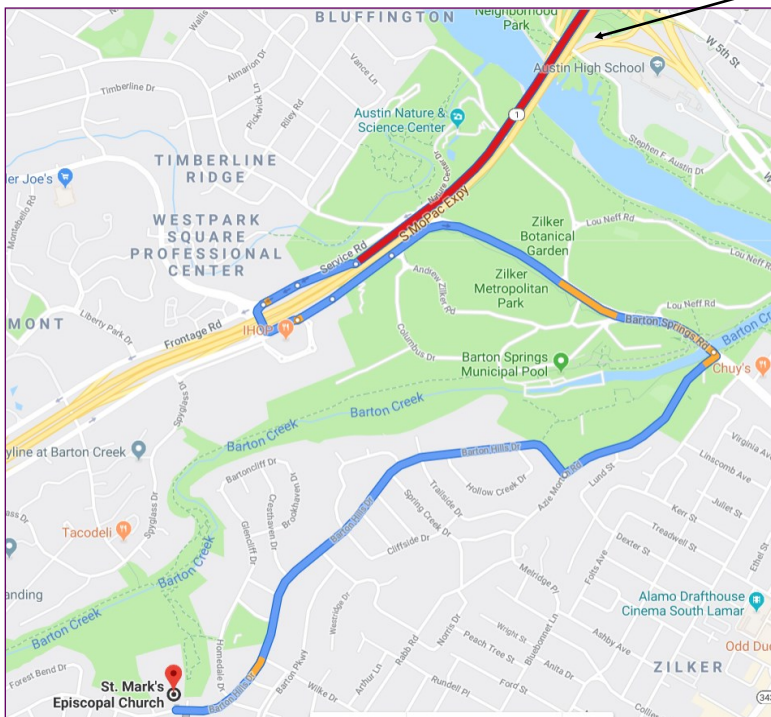
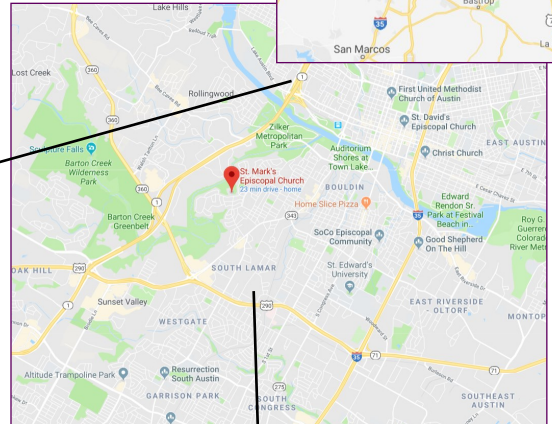
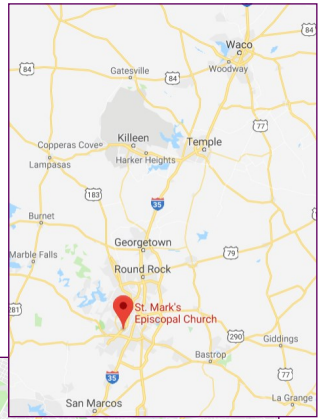
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**Fall Newsletter Inputs Due
July 27, 2019**

DIRECTIONS TO JULY 20, 2019 DISTRICT MEETING

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
2128 Barton Hills Dr., Austin, TX 78704

From the north: Navigate to TX-1 Loop S/S MoPac Expy. Take the TX-2244 exit toward Rollingwood/W Lake Hills. Take two lefts onto frontage road. Do NOT re-enter TX-1 Loop. Continue onto Barton Springs Rd. Turn right onto Azie Morton Rd. Turn right onto Barton Hills Dr. The church is on the right.



From the south: From I-35 merge onto TX-71 W/US-290W toward Johnson City. Take the exit toward Manchaca Road/Pack Saddle Pass/Victory Dr. Turn right onto Manchaca Road. Turn left onto Barton Skyway. Turn left onto Barton Hills Dr. The church is on the right.



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.



OFFICER REPORTS

District Representative

District 6:

I am continuously grateful that our program is a "we" program and I work with an amazing group of trusted servants. Ireland was a blast! I returned with a full heart of gratitude from my experiences. I especially wanted to give a special shout out ("thank you") to Anna A. for running the April District Meeting and all the folks behind the scenes to make it a successful day.

In May, 16 of us traveled to McAllen to represent District 6. Key events from that weekend include:

- ◆ In the AWSC meeting, an "Area Unallocated Funds Thought Force (TF)" was formed to help spend surplus funds. The Area Public Outreach Coordinator will chair the TF and District Reps (DRs) from District 5 (Harris County), District 6 (Austin / Central Texas), District 1 (the valley), and the Area Treasurer will be team members. We are waiting for the Area Chair to approve the charge before work begins to work with all districts to brainstorm ideas.
- ◆ The DRs met separately to discuss best practices and lessons learned given all districts have unique challenges and success stories.
- ◆ The DRs are very interested in piloting the use of Zoom technology (for Wi-Fi access at district meetings). Given District 1 or 2 has a very small set of groups, but large in geographic size, they may pilot this technology first.

The Area Group Records Coordinator, District 5, and District 6 will work on how to simplify the GR1 process and keep things simple. Both districts have the complexity of working with an Information Center.

Anna A. and I met separately with the DR from District 5 to share best practices and challenges for having a District Group Records Coordinator. That information will be used for our district to develop the same position. (In the April District Meeting, the GRs agreed that splitting the district was not a good thing for the present time.)

Upcoming Events:

1. We are still looking for other groups to host future District Meetings in October 2019, January and April 2020. (A checklist is being developed to help hosting groups know what tasks to perform before, during and following a meeting.)
2. In June, a subgroup will meet with a web designer to discuss high-level ideas for developing our District 6 tab, which is currently on the Information Center website. *This designer is a program member and has agreed to provide a short consultation visit as part of her service work.*
3. In early July, we'll distribute the most current Officers, Coordinators, Workgroups reports (before the district meeting) so everyone has plenty of time to prepare.

In Service,
Judy

Secretary

Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2019
Hosted by: Central TX Serenity Seekers
403 FM-2410
Harker Heights, TX 76548

Anna A., Alternate District Rep, facilitated the meeting on behalf of Judy W., District Representative, who was away. Anna called the meeting to order at 9:00am, thanked the host

(Continued on page 4)



August 2

AAgieland Convention (AA & AI-Anon)

Bryan, TX

August 24

East TX Area 53 AWSC Meeting

Schertx, TX

November 1-3

2019 Fall Assembly

Victoria, TX



(Continued from page 3)

group and welcomed four new GRs. Myra C. welcomed everyone and gave logistics.

AMIAS recertification training was not being conducted but would be if interested group members arrived.

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 \$153.00.

Begin Business Meeting

The business meeting began at 9:29am with the officers' reports.

Anna A. presented announcements and requested groups consider hosting October 19, 2019, January 18, 2020 and April 18, 2020 District Meetings. There were no literature sales at the meeting. GRs with literature questions can contact Michele P. directly. Anna A. reminded the GRs to keep their GR-1s current and to send them to Al M., Area Group Records Coordinator, whose contact info is on the bottom of the GR-1; and to Judy W. and Janie H. (at AAIC) whose contact info is in the *District 6 Newsletter*. She then announced that WSO, the Area and District 6 are all in agreement that groups must start writing their WSO Group number on all checks. The meeting list shows each group's WSO Group number. Also, the ETAAA address is incorrect in the *District 6 Newsletter*. The address will be changed at next printing to ETAAA Treasurer, PO Box 1324, Silsbee, TX 77656.

Secretary, Doon R., announced one correction to the January 19, 2019 Minutes as printed in the *Spring 2019 District 6 Newsletter* and provided to

Group Reps electronically prior to the Business Meeting. On page 7, there is a question about dual membership. The question and answer read: "Can any member be Newsletter Coordinator? Answer: A dual member of Al-Anon and AA cannot. (The District did vote in the past that Outreach Coordinators can be dual members.)" The correction should state: "After reviewing previous motions, it has been determined that a dual member of Al-Anon and AA can serve as District Coordinator in a non-voting position." The GRs elected to allow this at the January 31st, 2015 District Meeting. They voted "To open non-voting coordinator positions to dual members in District 6." There were no other corrections or additions. The Minutes were approved as corrected.

A suggestion was made to include the language "a dual member attending Al-Anon regularly." As that was not part of the original motion, it may be addressed at another time after Anna A. consults with Judy W.

Treasurer, Robert G., presented the *2019 District 6 2nd Quarter Operating Statement*. He requested GRs put their group numbers on any checks to the District. He clarified his use of a more current report for the District Meeting. He also thanked everyone who got their expenses in to him. He reported that he had not written any checks for Allocated Funds.

There were no questions for Dave L. on the Public Outreach (South) report, which had been distributed electronically.

Regarding the Newsletter report, Anna A. indicated there were 15 Newsletters returned. She read CMAs and their group names, asking GRs to help provide updated info. A request was made to receive the electronic version of the Newsletter, including contact names, in order to avoid the mail fees. That is not possible

because of anonymity. Currently, we do not have a Spanish version of the Newsletter. We're working with Pat I., Coordinator hispanohablante, to at least complete portions of it in Spanish. He's also working on the Spanish speaking website tab.

Alateen Coordinator, Bill W., had also provided a written report prior to the meeting. He was present for anyone with Alateen questions. His contact information is in the Newsletter.

Anna A. also gave the Information Center (AAIC) report, which was not sent out electronically. We have a new Information Center Liaison, Kathy J., who could not attend. The next Board Meeting is on May 20th, 2019 at the Information Center location. If members had any questions they were requested to contact Kathy J. and if they needed contact info to see Anna A.

Anna A. then summarized the Leadership Meeting report in reference to the Area WSO Committee (AWSC), which met in Gonzales, TX. The report was sent by e-mail prior to the meeting. Specifically, Item 5 of the summary has to do with the size and geographical boundaries of District 6 within the East TX Al-Anon and Alateen Area.

Some questions to consider: Do sizes/geographical boundaries meet the needs of the groups? Is it possible for a DR to visit approximately 80-84 groups in our district during his three-year term? No, it's not possible to get to even a majority of those groups. District 6 is the second largest District in TX Area East. Our geographical area ranges from Waco to San Marcos. Anna A. asked on Judy W.'s behalf, what the GRs thought about splitting District 6 into two or more districts and creating a District Group Records Coordinator position. Currently,



keeping those records current is one of Judy W.'s tasks. Anna A. also asked the attending members for any thoughts, questions, ideas or concerns on the subject. The discussion was for informational purposes only, not for making a decision at that time. Judy W. will take our feedback back to the Area.

The discussion included comments on the potential effects on counties with no meetings and small outer cities, as well as the possibility that splitting District 6 may prohibit the organization and participation of our Spanish-speaking groups.

A suggestion was made to relieve a District Group Records Coordinator of some of the burden by, rather than splitting the District, availing ourselves of more electronic records use, while being sure to protect anonymity.

Anna A. suggested that if District 6 remains intact we should consider either creating a District Group Records Coordinator position or adding that duty to one of the other existing Officers, perhaps the Alternate DR.

Doon R. thanked Pat I. for filling in as Secretary and doing a wonderful job at the last District Meeting. She thanked the host group and then called the roll. There were 43 attendees with 24 voting GRs, a simple majority being 13 votes, a two-thirds vote being 16. It was agreed by consensus that we would use a simple majority for usual business matters and a two-thirds majority for election purposes.

Anna A. introduced Mary M., who stood as Newsletter Coordinator through 2020. No one else stood for the position. A vote was taken. She was elected unanimously.

After a 10-minute break, the business meeting continued at 10:42am.

Everyone enjoyed a workshop on "Conflict resolution as applied to The Twelve Traditions in service and personal life, using page 70 of *Resolving Conflicts within Al-Anon*." The workshop was facilitated by Myra C., Angie B., and Doug N. of the hosting group. Short summaries were shared regarding Traditions One, Two, Three, Five, Seven, Ten and Twelve.

Thought and Task Force Status Updates were then given.

The Alateen School Poster project was updated by Lorelei L. She and fellow committee members Joan G., Kathrine M., Tammy S. and Christa D. are creating a formal process to distribute posters to middle schools and high schools.

Pat I., reported regarding progress on outreach to Spanish language and bilingual groups. Input from several sources is being used to draft the content of the first version of the Spanish-speaking Website Tab.

The District Workshop Format Committee status update was provided by Josie R. The committee is working on the process of making resources and history on workshops more available.

The Unallocated Funds report was presented by Dave L. Regarding the need to get the Al-Anon word out there, some options include: using social media (overcoming obstacles such as anonymity); creating a fund for Alateen groups for no charge literature; and, donating some of the funds to WSO for public outreach. The group's preference was to meet this need within the District.

Barbra H. followed with a discussion about the possibility of District 6 putting on and financially supporting *A Day in Al-Anon for Professionals*, for example, police forces and firefighters.

Anna A. asked whether the committee had completed their work or whether they wanted to meet again before the next District Meeting with proposed motions. The Thought Force will continue.

The members broke for lunch at 12:30pm and returned at 1:30pm.

Continue Business Meeting

Doon R. took a count of members still in attendance. There were 18 voting GRs, a simple majority being 10 votes, a two-thirds majority being 12.

Announcements followed. The Wednesday 7:30pm "Freedom to Recover" meeting at the Round Rock Presbyterian Church is a small group and needs member support. Paula H., the Austin Representative for ATAAC in Houston until February 2020, brought flyers.

The Newsletter Distribution Costs, Content and Processes Thought Force update was given by Anna A. and Mary M. To recap: The consensus was that there are no issues with content, but the subject may be revisited. The timing issue has been resolved. Mary M. announced the hard deadline for reports and submissions is May 30th, 2019. District costs are being addressed by tracking down current CMAs. And since very few groups do group reports, more are encouraged to do so.

Regarding a printed Newsletter vs. an e-mail list and pdf downloadable newsletter, Dave L. introduced the idea of providing headlines/brief introductions each including a link for more information. For example, a short personal cover story then a brief report with a link, followed by another brief report with a link, etc. Discussion followed.

When presented with two options: to proceed with the current Thought Force with original members and



Mary M. as chairperson; or to create another, the general consensus was to dissolve the Thought Force.

A question was raised about our policy regarding publishing non-TX East flyers. It was agreed to allow Mary M. to make the determination to include or exclude flyers through the end of the year. We will revisit if we choose to.

A raffle was conducted and the winner of a *Forum* subscription was Peggy D. Winners of an Al-Anon speaker CD were Shelly S., Michael Z., Sandra D. and Myra C.

Ask It Basket questions were answered.

GRs gave their reports, sharing their successes and challenges.

Anna A. reminded members of the need for hosting groups and personal stories for the Newsletter.

The meeting closed at 2:42pm 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 Mi! Cuando alguien, dondequiera que sea, pida ayuda, que nunca falte alli' la mano de Al-Anon y Alateen, y Que Empiece Por Mi!

Respectfully submitted with gratitude in service,
Doon R.

Future District Meetings:

- July 20, 2019 – Hosted by Courage to Change (3rd Sat, South Austin)
- October 19, 2019 – Hosted by TBD (3rd Sat.)
- January 18, 2020 – Hosted by TBD (3rd Sat.)
- April 18, 2020 – Hosted by TBD (3rd Sat.)

Other Important Dates:

- May 3-5, 2019 – ETAAA Spring Assembly, McAllen, TX
- May 20, 2019 - AAIC Board Meeting at Information Center, 6301 Manchaca, Suite F, 78745
- August 24, 2019 – AWSC Meeting, Schertz, TX

November 1-3, 2019 – ETAAA Fall Assembly, Victoria, TX

Treasurer

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

District 6 AFG Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Equity - Cash Basis March 31, 2019	
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash Checking -GTFCU	\$ 1,494.48
Cash-GTFCU Savings	<u>22,825.34</u>
Total Current Assets	24,319.82
Property and Equipment	<u> </u>
Total Property and Equipment	0.00
Other Assets	<u> </u>
Total Other Assets	<u>0.00</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 24,319.82</u></u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Current Liabilities	<u> </u>
Total Current Liabilities	0.00
Long-Term Liabilities	<u> </u>
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	791.40
Allocated To Cover 2019 Expens	2,600.00
Net Income	<u>660.95</u>
Total Equity	<u>24,319.82</u>
Total Liabilities & Equity	<u><u>\$ 24,319.82</u></u>



District 6 AFG
Statement Of Revenues and Expenses - Cash Basis
Compared with Budget
For the Three Months Ending March 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	\$ 179.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 54.00	\$ 179.00	\$ 125.00	\$ (54.00)
Group Donations	2,419.56	2,000.01	419.55	2,419.56	2,000.01	(419.55)
Newsletter Subscriptions	44.00	0.00	44.00	44.00	0.00	(44.00)
Interest Income	3.04	3.75	(0.71)	3.04	3.75	0.71
Contribution From Unallocated	0.00	650.01	(650.01)	0.00	650.01	650.01
Total Revenues	2,645.60	2,778.77	(133.17)	2,645.60	2,778.77	133.17
Cost of Sales						
Total Cost of Sales	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gross Profit	2,645.60	2,778.77	(133.17)	2,645.60	2,778.77	133.17
Expenses						
Alateen Coordinator	125.00	249.99	124.99	125.00	249.99	124.99
Alateen AMIS Training	69.35	125.01	55.66	69.35	125.01	55.66
Archives	0.00	62.49	62.49	0.00	62.49	62.49
Rent / District Meeting	200.00	187.50	(12.50)	200.00	187.50	(12.50)
DR Expenses	87.11	263.76	176.65	87.11	263.76	176.65
Alternate DR Expenses	0.00	125.01	125.01	0.00	125.01	125.01
Secretary Expenses	0.00	62.49	62.49	0.00	62.49	62.49
Treasurer Expenses	50.00	75.00	25.00	50.00	75.00	25.00
Newsletter Editor	0.00	25.02	25.02	0.00	25.02	25.02
Forum / Literature	52.80	87.48	34.68	52.80	87.48	34.68
AMIAS / Background Checks	0.00	12.48	12.48	0.00	12.48	12.48
Newsletter Printing	943.91	625.00	(318.91)	943.91	625.00	(318.91)
Public Outreach North	306.48	250.02	(56.46)	306.48	250.02	(56.46)
Public Outreach South	0.00	187.50	187.50	0.00	187.50	187.50
Spanish Coordinator	0.00	250.02	250.02	0.00	250.02	250.02
P.O.S.E. Scholarship	0.00	62.52	62.52	0.00	62.52	62.52
Gift to Delegate	150.00	37.50	(112.50)	150.00	37.50	(112.50)
Bank Charges	0.00	2.50	2.50	0.00	2.50	2.50
Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	87.48	87.48	0.00	87.48	87.48
Total Expenses	1,984.65	2,778.77	794.12	1,984.65	2,778.77	794.12
Net Income	\$ 660.95	\$ 0.00	(660.95)	\$ 660.95	\$ 0.00	(660.95)



**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

COORDINATOR REPORTS

Alateen, *Bill W.*

Alateen in the Austin Independent School District:

We currently have an Alateen meeting at Crockett High School and are working on establishing a new one at the Austin Alternative Learning Center (ALC). Katee Myers, a Teaching Assistant at the school, is committed to having a group on their campus. She contacted the Information Center asking how to get started and someone there referred her to me. Thank you!

I sent her guidelines on meetings in schools and starting new meetings. G-5 and G-19.

Jayne G., our AAC, and I then had a meeting with her to get down to details. Katee is passionate about making this work and has the backing of the principal, counselors, and teachers. The goal is to start the meeting in the fall. It will be on campus during school hours. This is good. It does present us with a real challenge.

The students at this school have all been sent there due to some sort of issue at their home campus.

Our Guideline recommends that there be two Alateen Group Sponsors (AGS) for each meeting. It is my opinion, take what you like and leave the rest, that we should regard this as a strong recommendation if not a requirement for this particular meeting; that we also strive to have a female and male AGS as this will be a co-ed group. As I said, this does present us with a challenge.

The meeting will be scheduled for Tuesdays at 1:30pm. The school is located at 4900 Gonzales St. Austin, TX 78702.

Please consider helping with this opportunity to expand Alateen presence in the AISD. This does not mean sponsoring the meeting every week. The more group sponsors willing to rotate the easier it will be to have good coverage. Encourage your group members to get certified too.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions.

Forum/Literature, *Michelle P.*

It has been such a privilege talking to everyone who visits me at the literature table during district meetings. Just as a reminder, if you call the Austin AIS a week prior to the district meeting with what your group needs and let them know that you would like to pick it up at the district meeting you can save on postage. I will have it ready for you at the literature table.

Everyone who attends the district meetings will have an opportunity to win a free one-year subscription of *The Forum*. Make sure you fill out the entry form, and a winner will be drawn during the meeting.

(Continued on page 9)

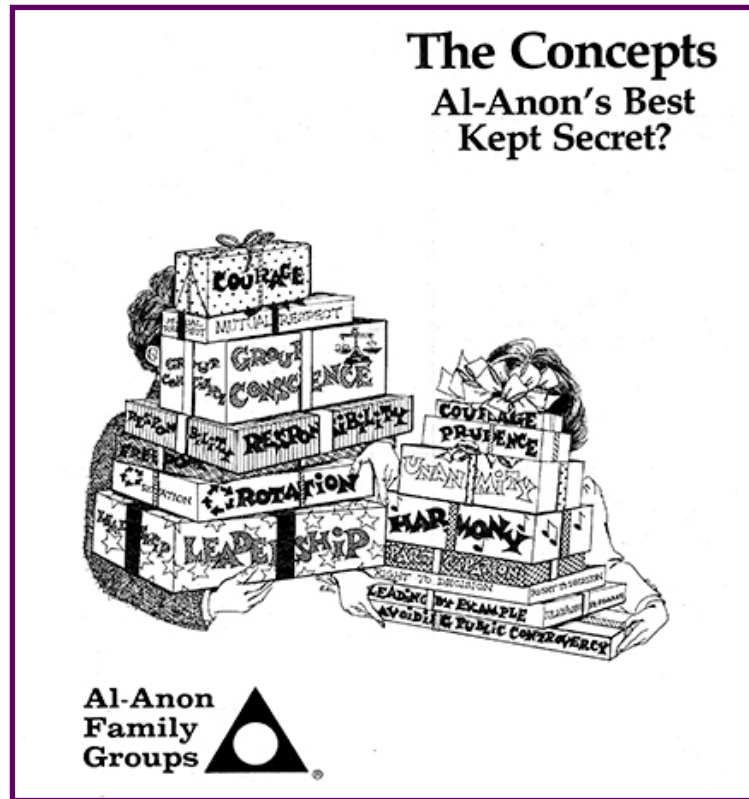


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Public Outreach, North, Susan T.

Public Outreach North continues to stop by the places in the Bell County area where Al-Anon posters and information have been distributed and check whether any additional Al-Anon supplies are needed. Public Outreach North has included Georgetown in its outreach area since Outreach South is so large. Al-Anon posters and Al-Anon information have recently been left at the police station and library in Georgetown as well as the White House in Georgetown. Posters and information were also left at the Scott & White Clinic in Georgetown, where Al-Anon meets on Mondays and Fridays, with the clerk to get permission from the supervisor in order to put up and display.

When I leave any information with a clerk, I am never sure whether the information will get put up. However, in participating in Outreach this past year, I have been reminded that this is a program of attraction rather than promotion. In my experience this last year of doing Outreach, some Outreach information has not gone any further than the person I dropped the information off with, I'm sure. However, there have been other times when I am doing outreach and dropping off information that, in our conversation, "a spark happens." The person I am speaking with has a family member affected by the disease and a connection happens. Hence, I have succeeded in Carrying the Message!



**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



The Forum

Members are encouraged to subscribe to their own copy of *The Forum*, either in print or online through your computer or mobile device. They also make great gifts for friends, family, groups and fellow members.

A print subscription to *The Forum* can be ordered from the Al-Anon member's website at www.al-anon.org/members. For the password, enter your home group name, followed by "afg" (without the quotes).

An electronic version of *The Forum* can be ordered at [www.https://ecommerce.al-anon.org/ItemDetail?ProductCode=EFORUM&CATEGORY=ELITERATUR](https://ecommerce.al-anon.org/ItemDetail?ProductCode=EFORUM&CATEGORY=ELITERATUR).



INFORMATION CENTER REPORT

The Austin Al-Anon/Alateen Information Center (AAIC) Board met on May 20, 2019 at 6:30pm at the Info Center office, 6301 Manchaca Rd, Ste F, Austin, TX. There were 11 voting members there, enough to represent a quorum with a total of 16 people in attendance.

- Reminder noted that Janie H., AAIC employee, needs to have any new GR-1 forms to make changes to meeting list on the website.
- Taxes are filed and our accountant said the problem areas of last year's report were double-checked.
- Officer elections for the AAIC Board will be held in November. All three office positions, chair, treasurer and secretary, will be open. Mary E., secretary, and Carolyn K., chair, MUST roll off, both having served three terms.
- Treasurer's report: with 33% of year gone, we are at 35% of anticipated income, 31% of anticipated expenses. Net income for the year is \$3,866 to date. Checking account has \$23,388; savings account has \$34,029.
- Information Center report: total of 112 calls; Tuesday is highest volume for calls, Wednesday for walk-ins; still need volunteers at the info center, any day/hours that center is open, although there is a specific need for first Thursdays from 10am-2pm.
- WSO is still looking for a translator for Spanish literature. If interested, please go to WSO website, al-anon.org
- Crowd sourcing monies received: The AAIC received \$352 in donations from people whom we cannot confirm are Al-Anon members. Per Tradition 3, we are not to accept outside contributions. After trying to contact the primary donor and failing, we voted to make one last attempt to contact her and if that fails then we will deposit the check and send the total amount to WSO. The other option would be to return the funds to Guidestar – the web sourcing company. We will not return the funds to them.
- Carolyn K. will work on turning off the crowd-sourced donation option for Al-Anon on Guidestar and we will also add a statement on the website making clear that we can only accept donations from Al-Anon members.
- After a presentation of background information and a request from Lorelei L. to help with Alateen participation, Carolyn K., AAIC Chair, will ask the AAIC web master to add a link to WSO Virtual Meetings to the Information Center Meetings list page.
- We voted to get a credit card with a \$500 limit to use for recurring and petty cash expenses that Janie H., the AAIC manager, will have access to.
- Next AAIC Board meeting will be at Northland on August 20, 2019.

Yours in service,
Kathy J.



GROUP REPORTS

One Day at a Time AFG

(Temple, TX) Susan T., GR

Greetings from Temple ODAT AFG. Our group meets every Tuesday night from 8:00-9:00pm at Saint Luke's Catholic Church (Education Building) located at 2807 Oakdale in Temple. We are a diverse group of many cultures and ages. A reminder that the disease is not a respecter of persons. We have members in our group from a few months to 30 years. We celebrate Al-Anon birthdays the last Tuesday of the month and have a speaker meeting whenever we have a 5th Tuesday in the month! We also hold a Group Conscience after our regular meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. We have a wonderful member in a service position who sends out weekly emails to keep us informed of Al-Anon group information. We continue to have a healthy number in attendance each week but are considering moving our time to 7:00-8:00pm in the Fall when it starts to get dark earlier to see if the time change may attract others to our meeting. If you are in the Temple area on a Tuesday night, please stop in as we share our experience, strength, and hope!

Faith AFG

(Thursdays 7:30pm, Austin, TX) Michael Z., GR

Hello everyone from Northwest Austin! Our group is a newcomers group usually welcoming at least one newcomer a meeting. The summer is coming and attendance varies, but we usually get a healthy six to 12 people per meeting. The group usually focuses on the "easier" topics like Step 1, slogans, detachment, and the disease of alcoholism. Now that I am thinking about it, these are not easy topics at all! The group is great and there is always a lot of laughter. So if you are in the area, we would love to see you.

Hope for Today AFG,

(Austin, TX) Josie R., GR

We meet at noon, on Tuesdays, at the Zion Rest Baptist Church, 3326 Paisano Trail, near the corner of Brodie Lane and William Cannon Drive in Austin. All are welcome!

We recently conducted a meeting using the pamphlet, *Let's Talk about Safety in Al-Anon Meetings!* Ideas were shared by group members. It was empowering to discuss our concerns and come up with proactive solutions. As a result, we decided to begin locking the door shortly after we begin our meeting. We also revised our opening to include options for dealing with disruptive members.

Salado Solutions AFG

(Salado, TX) Doug N., GR

What is there about a family holiday that makes folks need an Al-Anon meeting? We found ourselves in a "tie" for our largest attendance ever—15 members on the Sunday evening Memorial Day meeting.

Whether it's the getting together with family—with all its pleasures and pain—or it's needing to hold on tightly to our Al-Anon family, there does seem to be

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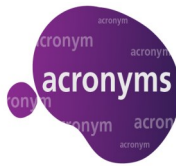
ALATEEN TALK is a quarterly publication from Al-Anon Family Groups' teen and younger members worldwide. Don't forget to subscribe to this great publication for \$2.50 per year for yourself, a teen, or to gift an Alateen group with a multiple of 10 copies subscription for only \$7.50 per year. Teen Talk can be ordered from the Al-Anon member's website at www.al-anon.org/members.

Sharing from ALATEEN TALK Fall 2018:

The time I've spent here at the TEAAC has been life altering. I've met some amazing teens and very wonderful Alateen Group Sponsors. Getting the opportunity to just get away with my fellow Alateen and Al-Anon members has contributed to my serenity. I've had trouble finding acceptance anywhere else, but here, this weekend, I've felt accepted and loved. With Alateen, I've finally found a place where I can relate and be understood by teens my age. I have fallen in LOVE with the program thanks to this wondrous fellowship.

Jessica P. (District 6)



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)

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something that provokes a need to “go to a meeting.”

We meet at the United Methodist Church, and the building layout allows us to have a joint potluck dinner where AA and Al-Anon members eat together and then break into our individual meetings. We do that the last Sunday of the month.

San Marcos AFG

(San Marcos, TX) Shannon S., GR

Greetings from San Marcos! Our group meets at 7:30pm on Tuesday nights and on Saturdays at 11:00am at First Lutheran Church (130 W. Holland St.). We have newcomers each week. We welcome them with open arms because we remember how unmanageable our lives once were, and we would like to share our stories of experience, strength and hope.

Recently, our group purchased 50 copies of "Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism" and dispersed them throughout the community. Outreach efforts are ongoing as we continue to share with others what Al-Anon has given us—the gift of recovery.

Serenity Seekers AFG

(Austin, TX) Joyce H., GR

We meet Friday at 6pm at the Unity Church, 5501 W Highway 290 in Austin. Serenity Seekers has convened two group conscience meetings to discuss the safety guidelines. We agreed that, especially as a newcomer's meeting, safety within the group is important. We revised our meeting chairperson's duties to include asking two trusted members to serve as a host and hostess. This takes place before the meeting begins. The host and hostess then connect with newcomers of the same gender after the meeting to answer their questions, hear their stories, etc. At one of our group conscious, we shared our thoughts on how this is working for the group and for newcomers and agreed to continue this practice.

Wimberley AFG

(Wimberley, TX) Brian M., GR

Wimberley has four meetings: Monday 12noon, Thursday 7:30pm, Friday 12noon, and Sunday 3pm (this was recently changed from 4:30pm). We recently started a men's step study with six men attending. We will complete this program June 8, 2019.

A member is interested in starting a “New Comers” meeting Sundays at 4:30pm. This will be discussed and voted on at our next group conscious in June. We have added six to 10 new members who attend multiple meetings. All our meetings continue to be well attended with loving experience, strength, and hope being shared.



THOUGHT FORCE AND WORKSHOP COMMITTEE REPORTS

Spanish Website Tab Thought Force, *Pat I.*

The Spanish Website Tab Thought Force met twice by phone, discussing Spanish website content and outreach to Spanish-speaking and bilingual AFGs. The second meeting was with Leandra, of Nueva Visión AFG. She has been attending monthly intergroup meetings with representatives of six other Spanish speaking and bilingual Austin and Temple AFGs for the last nine months. I and other committee members will be attending the next intergroup meeting on May 11. The requests and suggestions of those AFGs will help us draft the content of the first version of the Spanish language website tab, which I hope we will discuss in mid- to late-May and have posted before the end of June.

District 6 Workshop Committee, *Josie R.*

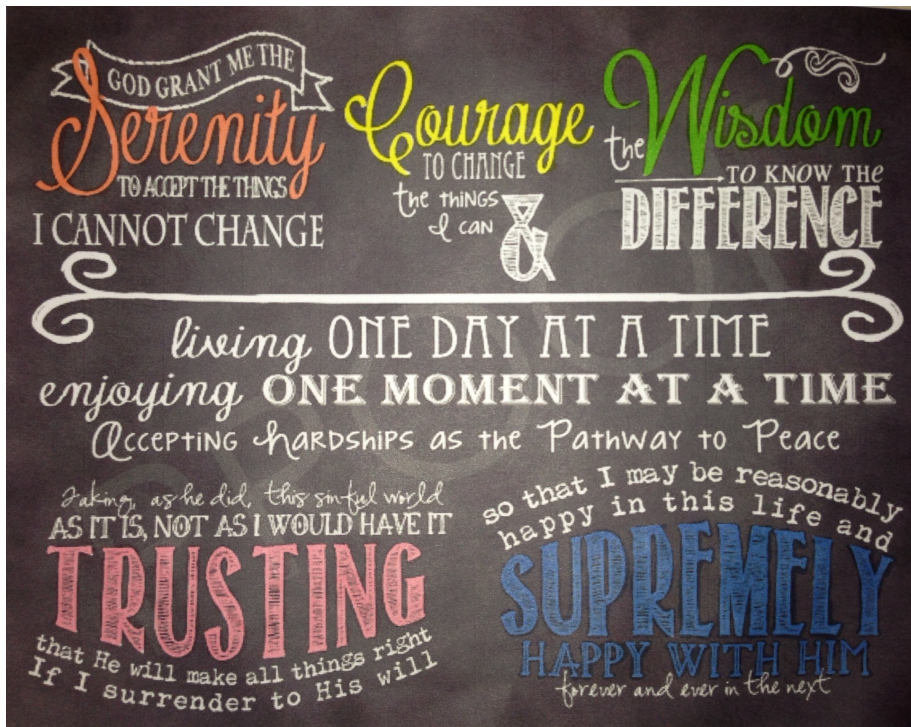
Committee members: Josie. R., Peggy D., Kathy L., Barbara M., Betty B., Mimi C., Brooke D., and Teresa S.

I continue to be so grateful to serve on this committee. Available members met on Saturday, April 13th, to discuss the progress made towards honoring and preserving the workshop activities of district members. Texas Al-Anon webmaster, John S., has been contacted and is willing to post District 6 workshop/skit presentations. Both Area 53 (Texas East) and Area 54 (Texas West) share the Events page of the Texas Al-anon website. I'm currently working to confirm that our workshop presentations would be posted under this shared Events page. This would be ideal as our goal is to document these valuable presentations and make them accessible to the largest possible audience. Available committee members also attended the Saturday, April 27th District 6 Meeting where I shared our progress. At which time, I was told that Dorie J. is the webmaster for the East Texas Assembly and the person to contact. She has been contacted and we are one step closer to reaching our goal!

Recommended Book of the Quarter

Alateen – Hope for Children of Alcoholics (B-3)

A basic introductory book for
teens affected by someone
else's drinking. Easy-to-
understand explanation of alco-
holism and the Alateen pro-
gram. Also available in eBook.





1. One of our Austin groups has voted to pass an extra basket at meetings in case an individual wishes to make an additional donation to the church where we meet. Do you think this is within AI-Anon Traditions?

This is only within the Traditions if it is for rent. The church is an outside entity and we don't make contributions to the church.

2. Would like to discuss with another GR's experience: How they run child-care or if they pay for someone to take care of members' children during group meetings. We just started child-care with our group every Thursday.

If the group meets in a church the church may provide a pre-approved childcare giver. Some groups pass an extra envelope in addition to the regular group envelope to help offset the cost. Other churches require a set amount for babysitting.

3. On the second Meeting List page of the *District 6 Newsletter*, the list of acronyms includes E=Española. What does this mean? Is this an error that needs to be deleted?

It should actually be spelled Español with no "a" at the end. It means the meeting is a Spanish-speaking meeting.

4. Should a group vote to tell members to silence their phone and put it away? Some people look at their devices during meetings.

Following the Suggested Meeting Readings on page 11 of the Service Manual has been helpful. My home group held a group conscience to include the statement, "Please now take a moment to silence your electronic devices." This statement is shared as part of our meeting opening.

5. In the past District Newsletters we have announced only AI-Anon events – District Meetings, Area Assemblies, AWSC Meetings, ATAAC, and AI-Anon International. In the current Newsletters there are several AA conferences listed and some are not in this Area. Are we now announcing AA events?

There was a motion passed in 2016 to only include AA conferences or events if there was Al-Anon/Alateen participation. Any events listed in the *District 6 Newsletter* need to be located in District 6 or East Texas Area or be directly related to WSO. To answer the question directly, the *District 6 Newsletter* can post AA events as long as there is Al-Anon/Alateen participation.

6. Is it in alignment with AI-Anon Traditions/Concepts for Alateen meetings to be held in public schools and students to be let out of class to attend?

Yes. The students' anonymity must be protected by rotating which classes they miss. They must not be pe-

nalized for attendance. Working with the administration is critical.

7. What suggestions do you have for a small group (about 4 people) on steps to increase group size? How to attract and retain?

Attend open AA meetings and provide information about Al-Anon meetings for spouses and family members who may be in attendance, and also local treatment centers, as well as provide Al-Anon literature on local community boards.

Retain by making them feel welcome, explaining the program, having members share their growth and success-stories, getting them involved in a service, and encouraging them to learn all they can about the disease of alcoholism.

8. Would like to hear suggestions about how to handle money for a small group—a bank account without charges?

If a group wants to have a checking account they will need to have an employer ID number, which can be obtained for banking purposes but you need a person willing to be a responsible party when applying. You can go to [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov) and look at the instructions for Form SS-4 Application for Employer ID Number. A credit union will offer no cost checking accounts.

If you decide against a bank account there should be regular reports from the group treasurer outlining cash receipts, cash payments and what the running balance is. Some groups without bank accounts use a locking money box to store the cash in.



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</p>	<p>AIS WACO AREA Dissolved as of the end of April 2017</p>	<p>DISTRICT 6 Robert G PO Box 342194 Lakeway, TX 78734 (860) 922-0743</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</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.





Al-Anon / Alateen Family Groups

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

www.austinalanon.org/meetings.htm

**Information and Flyers for upcoming events
can be found at:**

www.texas-al-anon.org/events/

