



District 6 Newsletter

Winter 2017

Vol.30, No. 1

District Meeting

January 28, 2017

Host Groups

Central Texas Serenity Seekers AFG

District Meeting Location

Trinity Baptist Church

403 FM 2410

Harker Heights, TX 76548

Contact

Barbra H. (254) 290-1771

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
- Treasurer's Report.....Page 6
- Ask It Basket.....Page 8
- AIS Report.....Page 8
- Coordinator Reports.....Page 8
- Group Reports.....Page 10
- Service Representatives.....Page 13
- Meeting Schedules.....Page 14

**SPRING NEWSLETTER INPUTS DUE
FEBRUARY 15, 2017**

My Story

I attended my first meeting on November 5, 2011. I was terrified about going to the first meeting. I drove around the parking lot about three times before I parked the car. It was not marked very clearly where to go; I felt like I was attending a secret meeting. I remember people talking and laughing as I approached the doorway. I was welcomed in and invited to sit down. I remember hearing laughter, and during the opening, members shared how long they had been coming to meetings. This was very startling to me because I did not have that kind of time to wait in order to help my family.

My youngest daughter was the reason I attended my first meeting. She was a patient at an in-patient recovery center for 30 days, and it was recommended that family members attend Al-Anon. So, I did as I was told in order to help my daughter and maybe get additional information to help my family. What I didn't know was that I was as sick as my daughter because I grew up in an alcoholic home, and I had also married an alcoholic.

Growing up in an alcoholic home was not much different than most stories. My parents had trouble paying bills. Both worked long hours, and I was left in charge of my younger brother most of the time. We moved around often. I lived with different family members for short times, dealt with my dad not coming home at night, saw arguing between my parents, experienced physical and verbal abuse towards myself and my brother, and finally saw my parents separated.

I had very low self-esteem and had no idea what my future would look like, so when the offer of marriage was made, I said "YES" and found my way out.

We started our marriage, our family, and a military career. Our marriage did not look like my parents' marriage. We paid our bills; my husband's military career looked hopeful; and I was encouraged to stay home and raise our children. So, I did not see my husband's drinking as a problem.

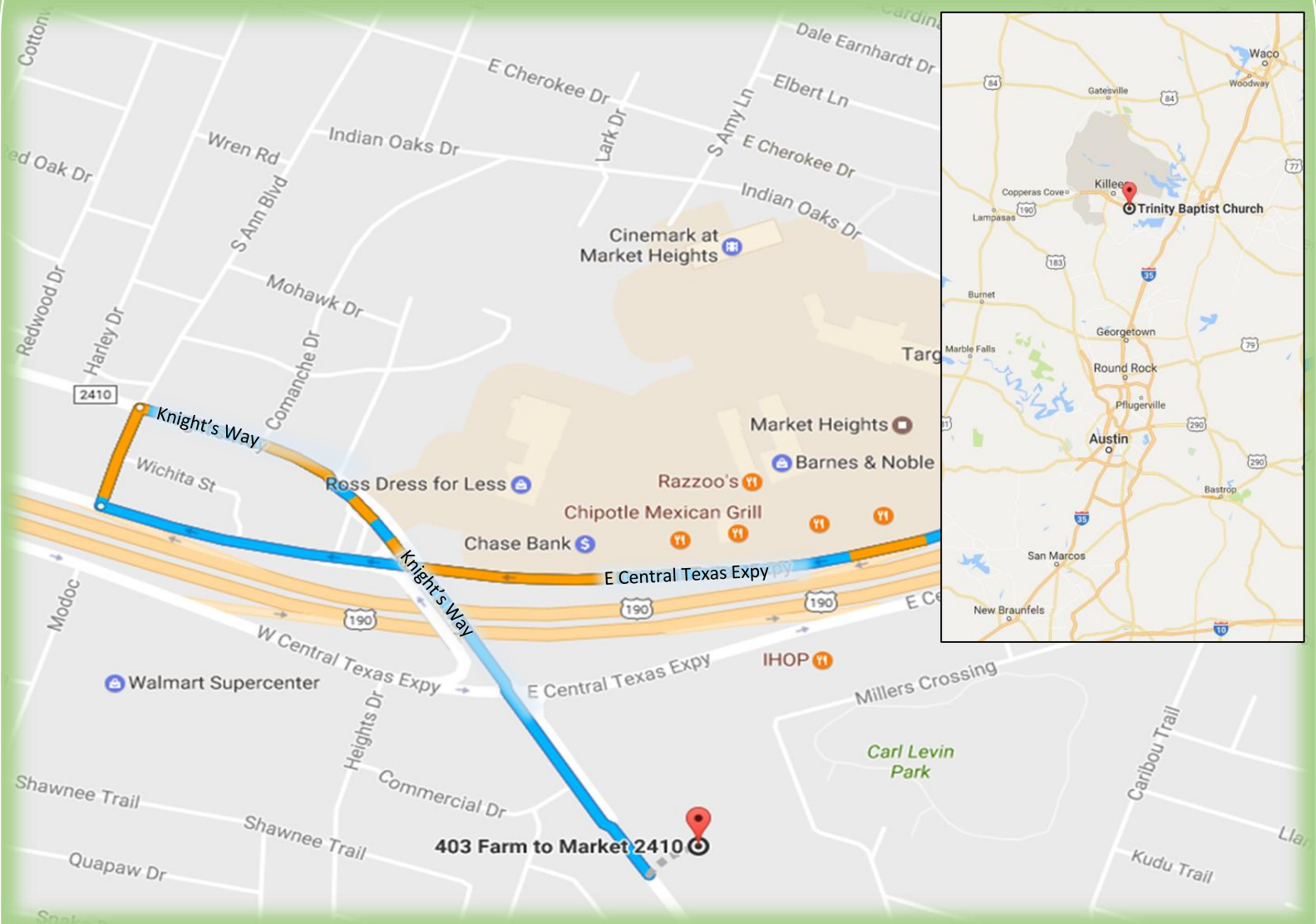
His drinking did cause problems in our marriage. There were affairs. Debts started to appear. There was gambling, going out drinking with friends, accusing me of doing things in our marriage, and threatening to take away the girls. There were many red flags that I was unable to see. I just knew I needed to make this marriage work.

On May 10, 2012, we celebrated 26 years of marriage. Our oldest daughter graduated college on the same day. We appeared to be a very happy family.

(Cont'd on Page 3)



Directions: District Meeting – January 28, 2017
Trinity Baptist Church, 403 FM 2410, Harker Heights, TX 76548
Contact: Barbra H. (254) 290-1771



Traveling North:

- Take I-35N to US-190W
- Follow US-190W to East Central Expressway in Harker Heights
- Exit toward FM2410/Knight's Way from US-190W
- The church is at 403 FM2410

Traveling South:

- Take I-35S to US-190W
- Follow US-190W to East Central Expressway in Harker Heights
- Exit toward FM2410/Knight's Way from US-190W
- The church is at 403 FM2410



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

Jan. 28	District 6 Mtg., Trinity Baptist Church (Harker Heights, TX)
Feb. 17-19	38 th Annual All Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Conference (San Antonio, TX)
Feb. 21	Austin Information Ctr. Board Mtg. (Northland AFG)
Mar. 24-27	P.O.S.S.E. (Gonzales, TX)
May 19-21	East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly (Sugarland, TX)

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:
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Telephone:
Home Group:

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

My Story (cont'd)

We looked like pillars in the community to anyone looking in from the outside. What they, and I, did not see was that my youngest daughter was back to using drugs; my husband's alcoholism was out of control, and he had started to use Meth early that year.

I learned of my husband's drug use July 12, 2012, the day that he was arrested. This was the first time he had ever been pulled over and his first arrest. At this point in time, I had been attending Al-Anon meetings for about nine months. I had stopped picking him up from the bars at night when he would call for the ride home after drinking all day. I also did not bail him out of jail. This is a significant day for me because this is the day the God of my understanding did for me what I could not do for myself. He stopped the insane behavior in both of us, and he sent me a team of angels through the rooms of Al-Anon. The days ahead were very difficult, but the worst was still to come.

On July 30, I asked our youngest daughter to leave our home because she refused to take a home drug test per our agreement, and my husband was scheduled to leave jail.

On August 1, my husband committed suicide. I found my husband and did all I could to help him. The word pain does not even come close to describe how I felt, but my team of angels were there standing with me to hold me up. I did not have a sponsor at the time, so the group was my sponsor. They picked me up for meetings, and they gave me small jobs to do at the meetings. They also thought it would

be a good idea to finish out the GR position that became available.

I found my first sponsor in the Adult Children of Alcoholic's meeting two months after my husband's death. God was working overtime to send the people I would need most to handle such a burden. My first sponsor was a double winner, just exactly what I needed. I also personally found the Big Book of AA to be very helpful. You see.....I would not be given the opportunity to see recovery in my husband, and I did not fully understand the disease of alcoholism. So, my recovery began with six simple principles: 1. Pray on my knees twice per day. 2. Go to meetings and make commitments. 3. Read the literature. 4. Call my sponsor. 5. Sponsor others. 6. Work the Steps. By taking these steps, I now have new tools available to me to create a new life.

Life today is different. It is not perfect; it is not without pain, but it is better. Al-Anon has given me the ability to live life one day at a time for me. It has helped me to unload burdens that were not mine to carry and to allow others to help me when the burden was too great to carry alone. So, today it is my honor and privilege to give back to others what was so freely given to me.

With much gratitude,
Barbra H.



Officer Reports

District Representative

Hi all! I hope that you all had a great Thanksgiving with your families and friends.

I attended the Area Fall Assembly in Corpus Christi and here are the highlights.

From the AWSC meeting Friday night, a Thought Force was formed on having an Assembly Liaison to mentor districts hosting assemblies and assist with questions, meeting timelines, etc. Kay, Lynn, Delores, and Joyce are the members of this Thought Force. They will do it by e-mail.

Our Delegate, Joyce Y., gave her report and here is what she shared: "Panel 55 is Spiritually Alive!" Al-Anon is 65 years old - Wow! The World Service Conference (WSC) is scheduled for April 24-28 and will be held at the Wyndham Virginia Beach Resort Hotel. She loves the cards and the Love Gifts! This part will more than likely be late getting to you, but if your GR attended the Assembly, they would have passed it on to you; here it is again - by December 15, GRs and DRs can send Joyce an issue that can't be answered in the service manual to take to submit to the WSC to be a chosen agenda item. The equalized amount to send Joyce to the WSC is \$1,260.00, and the full amount is \$1,909.00. Great news.....the WSO is in the black and no longer in a deficit!

When the business meeting resumed after lunch, roll call was conducted, and there was a total of 97 voting GRs. District 6 had 19 with an Alateen GR included! I was so excited! For the treasurer's report (under contributions coming into Area 53), they budgeted for \$22,000, and they are at \$9,639.22.

Here's what was voted on by the GRs, and the motions passed:

- Funding the Area Public Outreach project of \$3,000
- Proposed budget for 2017 – accepted as proposed

- 2023 International Al-Anon Convention with AA Participation – motion passed to submit bid to WSO for Houston as a candidate host city for the convention
- Moving Kimball County from Texas West to Texas East
- Moving Anderson County, Cherokee County, and Freestone County from District 11 to District 9 (District 11 does not have a DR, and this is the reason to vote to move certain counties from District 11 to neighboring districts so that they might be better served)
- Moving Angelina County from District 11 to District 8
- Moving Limestone County, Leon County, and Houston County from District 11 to District 7
- Moving Caldwell County from District 13 to District 6

For our April district meeting, I discovered that the third Saturday in April is Easter weekend. I would ask that we look at April 1, 8, 22, or 29. I will keep you posted on what date can be secured. That should do it for now, and I hope that I covered everything. Please be safe in your travels, and I will see you on January 28 at the district meeting.

In service,
Lori L.

Secretary's Report- Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2016

Hosted by Just for Today AFG

Lori L., district representative, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. and thanked the host group.

Jane G. with Just for Today AFG welcomed everyone.

A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Serenity Prayer and the reading of the Three Legacies. The Ask It Basket and donation basket were passed, and \$140.00 was collected.

(Cont'd on Page 5)

Officer Reports (cont'd)

October 15, 2016 Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

After introductions, everyone enjoyed a skit, *Freedom*, presented by Just for Today members Jane G., Kate H., Kim M., Carolyn K., Ann M., and Nila M. The group then joined in an Al-Anon Sing Along led by Jane G.

Lori L. opened the business meeting at 9:30 A.M. She announced that Central Texas Serenity Seekers AFG in Harker Heights confirmed that they will host the January 28 district meeting. She requested the GRs ask their groups to consider hosting the April 15, July 15, or October 21, 2017 meetings. She announced that all committee chairperson positions have been filled for the Fall 2017 Assembly. She advised that the District 6 Spanish Coordinator and Alateen Coordinator positions are still open. The officers' reports followed (Page 3).

Alice M. asked if there were any corrections or additions to the July 16, 2016 minutes as printed in the "Fall 2016" *District 6 Newsletter*. There were no corrections or additions. The minutes were approved as printed.

Doon R. presented the 2016 District 6 Third Quarter Operating Statement (Page 6). She thanked everyone for their donations.

The coordinators' reports followed (Page 8). Anna A. announced that the newsletter submittal deadline is November 28.

Judy W. asked for volunteers to help chair the meetings for the Women's Lock-Up program in Lockhart. She also requested a coordinator for the Alateen poster project. Rosemary C. volunteered.

Old Business: Doon R. reported that there was over \$8,000 in unallocated funds available for special projects or donations. She requested recommendations on how this money be distributed. Four suggestions are donating \$2,000 to the District 6 Fall 2017 Assembly to help defray participants' cost of the banquet, repeating the Capital Metro campaign, donating to the World Service Office (WSO), and donating to the Austin Information Service office.

The meeting broke for lunch at 11:05 A.M.

The business meeting resumed at 12:10 P.M. Alice M. called the roll. There were 40 attendees with 19 voting GRs.

The Ask It Basket question was answered (Page 8).

The discussion of the use of unallocated funds resumed.

Pat E. motioned: I make a motion to donate \$2,000 to Assembly to defray the banquet cost at 11-2017 ETAAA. Nancy B. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Pat E. motioned: I make a motion to donate \$2,000 to the WSO as a District 6 contribution. Nancy B. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy B. motioned: I make a motion to give \$135 for Alateen poster re-order. Pat E. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken on making a donation to the Austin Information Center. The Capital Metro campaign was tabled until January 2017.

Important Dates:

- February 17-19, 2017 – ATAAC, San Antonio, TX
- March 24-26, 2017 – P.O.S.S.E., Gonzales, TX
- May 5-7, 2017 – TEA AC, Gonzales, TX
- May 19-21, 2017 – ETAA Assembly, Sugarland, TX

Future District Meetings:

- January 28, 2017 – Hosted by Central Texas Serenity Seekers AFG, Harker Heights, TX
- April 15, 2017 – Host to be announced
- July 15, 2017 – Host to be announced
- October 21, 2017 – Host to be announced

The meeting closed at 1:25 P.M. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

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

Update:

The April 15 district meeting will be moved to another Saturday in April. We are waiting to confirm the date and a hosting group.

Officer Reports (cont'd)

2016 District 6 Operating Statement (3rd Quarter)

Income	Budget	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Actual	Notes
D6 Basket Collection	\$500.00	\$143.00	\$82.00	\$111.00		\$336.00	
Total Group Donations including newsletter subscriptions	\$6,000.00	\$2,264.77	\$1,122.29	\$1,998.03		\$5,385.09	
Bank Interest	\$10.00	\$2.72	\$2.48	\$2.58		\$7.78	
Collection for Delegate	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Misc.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Contribution from Unallocated Funds to cover proposed expenses	\$2,765.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	
Total Income	\$9,275.00	\$2,410.49	\$1,206.77	\$2,111.61	\$0.00	\$5,728.87	
Expenses	Budget	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Actual	
Alateen Coord.	\$1,000.00	\$175.22	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$175.22	
Alateen Liaison Coord.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Archives	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Rent/District Meeting	\$1,000.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$93.50		\$193.50	
DR Int'l Convention	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
DR Expenses	\$1,200.00	\$176.00	\$340.17	\$114.24		\$630.41	
Alt. DR Expenses	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$73.92	\$0.00		\$73.92	
Secretary Expenses	\$200.00	\$17.49	\$43.82	\$26.14		\$87.45	
Treasurer Expenses	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Newsletter Editor	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Forum/Literature	\$150.00	\$11.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$11.00	
AMIAS	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Newsletter	\$2,400.00	\$560.03	\$580.99	\$551.93		\$1,692.95	
Public Outreach North	\$500.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$75.00	
Public Outreach South	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Spanish Coord.	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
P.O.S.S.E. Scholarship	\$200.00	\$62.50	\$62.50	\$0.00		\$125.00	
Donation to TEA AC	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Delegate to Assembly	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Gift to Delegate	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Bank Charges	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$10.00	
Misc.	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$22.48	\$29.13		\$91.61	July district meeting expenses
Total Expenses	\$9,275.00	\$1,227.24	\$1,123.88	\$814.94	\$0.00	\$3,166.06	

(Cont'd on Page 7)

Officer Reports (cont'd)

2016 District 6 Operating Statement (3rd Quarter) - cont'd

Income	Budget	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Actual	Notes
Reserves							
Int'l Reserve	\$1,801.43	\$1,801.43	\$1,801.43	\$1,801.43			For DR's attendance
T.E.A.M.	\$171.51	\$171.51	\$171.51	\$171.51			One-day seminar on service
Assembly Funds	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00			For deposits, etc.
Prudent Reserve	\$4,637.50	\$4,637.50	\$4,637.50	\$4,637.50			Approx. 1/2 annual budget
Kristy Fund	\$1,133.38	\$1,043.38	\$1,043.38	\$1,043.38			1/2 scholarships for TE AAC
Total Reserves	\$9,743.82	\$9,153.82	\$9,153.82	\$9,153.82			
Reserves	\$9,743.82	\$9,153.82	\$9,153.82	\$9,153.82			
Allocated Funds	\$923.45	\$547.00	\$547.00	\$547.00			Posters for schools
Allocated Funds	\$2,765.00	\$2,765.00	\$2,765.00	\$2,765.00			Anticipated to cover 2016 expenses
Allocated Funds	\$2,645.25	\$65.50	\$65.50	\$65.50			Cap. Metro project
Unallocated Funds	\$5,956.50	\$7,139.75	\$7,222.64	\$8,519.31			
Bank Balance (1/1/16)	\$22,034.02	\$19,671.07	\$19,753.96	\$21,050.63			
Bank Balance	on 12/31/15	on 3/31/16	on 6/30/16	on 9/30/16			

Ask It Basket October 15, 2016

Can a dual member also be an AMIAS?

Answer: Yes! But you must have two years of active Al-Anon membership.

Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) Center

Austin AIS

The Austin Information Center (AIC) held its meeting on November 14 at 6:30 P.M. Elections were held, and the position of Chair* remains vacant at the present time. Secretary for 2017 will be Carolyn K., and Treasurer will be Peggie F.

Many motions were made and passed. They are as follows:

1. A semi-annual literature inventory will be e-mailed to the Board.
2. A Task Force was formed to develop a survey for the groups regarding what services at the AIC are working and what groups would like to see so that the AIC can serve its members better. The Task Force is composed of Cathy, Carolyn K. (Chair), Peggie F., and Joyce L. The Task Force will report on the progress of the survey questions at the next Board Meeting.
3. A tentative motion was made on how to increase literature sales. The motion passed, but discussion was tabled until the results of the survey are shown.
4. Approval was given by the AIC to use its non-profit 501(c)(3) status to assist the district with community outreach, should the district decide on another public

outreach campaign with Capital Metro buses. District 6 would give a check to the AIC, and the AIC would write the check to Capital Metro. This process has been cleared through WSO.

5. A change was made to AIC By-Law 7.4.6. The new 7.4.6 By-Law reads, "An Officer may be re-elected to a second or third term for either the same office or to a different office."
6. An appeal letter will be sent to the groups in December asking for donations to the AIC.
7. An AIC Open House will be on December 3, 2016, from 2:00-4:00 P.M. at the Austin Information Center located at 6301 Manchaca Rd. in honor of its 30th anniversary. Speakers will be Pat E., Bill H., Jan W., and Mary D. Refreshments will be provided.
8. Minutes from the last AIC meeting were approved, and a yearly Christmas bonus for our office employee was approved.

The next AIC Board Meeting will be February 21, 2017, 6:30 P.M. at Northland AFG.

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

* Eligibility for the position of Chair and duties of the Chair can be found at www.austinalanon.org/infoctrdocs/By-LawsRevised-16_Nov_2015.pdf.

Coordinator Reports

Alateen-COORDINATOR NEEDED

If you are interested, please see the WSO Area Alateen Coordinator description, which District 6 has determined to be effective for the District Alateen Coordinator (DAC). The description (G-24) can be found at www.al-anon.org/members/pdf/guidelines/G24.pdf.

Literature/Forum (by Judy P.)

In case you have not guessed by now, I love our literature. I know that any situation I experience, most likely, someone else has experienced it, too. Our literature is made up of sharing's from our members' experiences, strengths, and

(Cont'd on Page 9)

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)

Literature/Forum (cont'd)

hopes, as witnessed in the book I have chosen to hi-lite this quarter.

Opening Our Hearts, Transforming our Losses is a comprehensive tool and one that I have turned to often. I found it to be of great comfort when I lost my husband several years ago.

Denial is a character trait that I continuously work on to acknowledge and address in my recovery. There are losses in my life that I often find buried by my denial. *Opening our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses* addresses many of my adult child issues and has shown me a way to obtain spiritual growth from grieving.

I have attended several meetings in which members have chosen to discuss one section of this book that was meaningful to them. They share their personal experiences and use the questions at the end of that section for meeting discussion. These questions spur thoughtful and encouraging discussions from our members.

I will have this book for sale at our January 28 district meeting. I hope you will ask your group representative to pick up copies to offer for sale in your meeting, so you can purchase a copy for your personal library.



Opening Our Hearts Transforming our Losses

From the preface.....Alcoholism is a disease of many losses. For those of us who are relatives and friends of alcoholics, these losses affect many aspects of our lives and remain with us over time, whether or not we are still living with an active alcoholic. In *Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses*, we share the hope we have found with the help of Al-Anon Family Groups as we came to acknowledge, understand, and accept the losses we experienced.

Newsletter (by Anna A.)

For the "Fall 2016" issue of the newsletter, we mailed 118 copies and had two returned as undeliverable. Total cost for this issue was \$590.70. If you have

(Cont'd on Page 10)

Coordinator Reports (cont'd)

Newsletter (cont'd)

suggestions for additional information to be included in the newsletter or would like to contribute a story, please let me know. The input due date for the "Spring 2017" edition is February 15, 2017.

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.

Public Outreach (South)

(by Jim C.)

We continue to support and host the Al-Anon Speaker meeting at Promises Austin in Spicewood on the third Wednesday of every month. The meetings have become much more interactive by giving the participants time to ask questions and share their experiences with the group.

Recently, we started serving at ADAAP (Austin Drug & Alcohol Abuse Program), one of the oldest treatment centers in Austin. Once per month, we host family

night at their facility and introduce the family and friends of the participants to the Al-Anon program. The first few meetings have been working toward finding the best format to make the meeting as interactive as possible.

Austin outreach is also working with the Llano Al-Anon group to host a health fair on October 20. We are supporting them with literature and items for their booth.

We continue to support several Al-Anon speaking requests each month and are actively seeking new outreach opportunities.

If you or your group would like to get more involved in public outreach, please contact Judy W. at (512) 567-6994 for ideas.

Spanish – COORDINATOR NEEDED

If you're interested, please see previous newsletters from 2015 at <http://austinalanon.org/>, under the "District 6" tab, for the District 6 Spanish Coordinator description.

Group Reports

Faith AFG

(by Michael Z.)

Greetings from northwest Austin! Our group meets at 7:30 P.M. on Thursdays at The Unity Church of the Hills (9905 Anderson Mill Rd. Room 131). Our attendance continues to be very healthy throughout the fall months. We are a newcomers' meeting and, on average, welcome at least one newcomer at each meeting. We recently filled the open Treasurer and Information Center Representative service positions for our group.

My term for GR for the group has just begun, and I'm excited to give back to a group that has already given me so much. 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.

Georgetown AFG

(by Rebekah)

We meet at 2409 Dawn Drive in Georgetown at 8:00 P.M. every Monday. We recently moved to this location from our previous

address and have been very successful here. Our meetings typically have 20 members in attendance, and we are a discussion group.

Georgetown West AFG

(by Colleen T.)

Our group meets on Saturday mornings at 11:00 at Church of Christ located at 1525 W. University Ave. in Georgetown. We have meetings dedicated to both the Steps and the Traditions every month. This helps keep the focus on our program. We have lots of experience, strength, and

(Cont'd on Page 11)

Group Reports (cont'd)

hope that is shared in our meetings.

We have had quite a few newcomers attend our meetings. With their attendance, it brings the others present back to when they first walked through the doors of Al-Anon and had "The Courage to Change."

We welcome you to stop by if you are in the area and check us out. On the fifth Saturday of the month, we have a speaker meeting. This year, we were honored to have Judy P. come and talk about public outreach at one of our meetings. We were also grateful that Lori L., our district representative, came and shared her story and talked about service.

Peace to all of you.

Hope for Today AFG

(by Cathy C.)

We meet 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. Recently, our members voted to continue to use the conference room at the clinic as our permanent home because it has lots of chairs and tables for 35 or so of us in a square configuration. Since January 2016, we are following along in the purple *Groups at Work* book during the Opening, Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Closing sections of our meetings. Thus, the new members are getting better acquainted with the teachings of Al-Anon and how our group functions.

On the Mondays that fall on national holidays, when the clinic will be closed, we are meeting at the New White House – 2409 Dawn Drive in Georgetown. Please come and join us there at 3:30 P.M. on Memorial Day on May 29, Labor Day on September 4, and Christmas December 25, 2017. We need our Monday meetings!

Despite the chaos of the holidays, 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.

Northland Alateen

(by Pat E., Sponsor)

We have had teens from Child Protective Services (CPS) attend all meetings once per month. We have four to five girls each time. They share in the meetings, and we can really see their pain. They can only attend once per month, but at least, they get to learn about the Alateen program and that it is always available to them, even after they leave CPS.

Personal Freedom AFG

(by Tina C.)

Our group meets every Thursday at Faith Methodist Church on S. Lamar in Austin from 6:00-7:00 P.M. This is a literature meeting using Conference Approved Literature with a focus on solution. We use our namesake workbook, *Reaching for Personal Freedom*, every first Thursday of the month. We continue to grow and have a steady attendance of regulars, along with newcomers. We hold quarterly group conscience meetings and recently did a group inventory. The group currently has several service positions filled, including Group Representative, Secretary, Treasurer, and Literature Representative. We are currently seeking an Alternate Group Representative. Come join us in sharing our experience, strength, and hope!

San Marcos AFG

(by Karl B.)

We continue to meet at First Lutheran Church on Tuesdays at 7:30 P.M. and Saturdays at 11:00 A.M. with attendance varying from 6 to 24.

We are pleased with the success of our 2016 Semi-Annual Speakers Night – the one in the spring with Jim V. and in the fall with Becky S. The Wimberley AFG usually joins us in our potluck dinners and programs on these occasions. We celebrate birthdays quarterly and are blessed with a

(Cont'd on Page 12)

Group Reports (cont'd)

good mix of old-timers, novices, and everyone in between.

Our service positions are completely filled: Karl B., GR; Kate P., AGR; Amy C., Treasurer; Shelley W., Secretary; and Cindy P., Literature Chair. Thanks to Chuck C., the responsibilities for these positions were clearly described. We encourage our officers and other group members to participate beyond the local level by supporting the district, area, information center, and WSO by attendance and/or financial distributions. We have found our group e-mail to be an effective means of communicating Al-Anon business and information to the 28 members who have accepted the invitation to join.

Among the goals for 2017: host a district meeting, assist District 6 with ETAAA, develop a group history document, reach out to our public schools and Texas State University, continue our Semi-Annual Speakers' Night, and share the life giving resources of Al-Anon with each other, newcomers, and visitors that come our way.

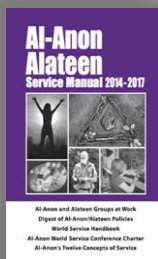
We've also been involved with some public outreach activities; the photos on this page show the display our group placed in the San Marcos Public Library during the month of September as part of our outreach to the community. This was the second year we provided this information.



Al-Anon CAL Display



Alateen Display



GRs: Don't forget to make the service manual part of your library.

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.

AL-ANON INFORMATION CENTER 6301 Manchaca Road, Ste. F Austin TX 78745 512-441-8591	AIS WACO AREA PO Box 8374 Waco, TX 76714 254-808-4757	DISTRICT 6 Doon R. PO Box 342194 Lakeway, TX 78734 512-582-0463
EAST TEXAS AREA (ETAA) Treasurer-ETAA P.O. Box 34102 San Antonio, TX 78265	WORLD SERVICE OFFICE AFG, INC. 1600 Corporate Landing Pkwy Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617 800-344-2666 www.al-anon.alateen.org	

District 6 Service Committee Officers

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE Lori L.	ALTERNATE D.R. Judy W.	SECRETARY Alice M.	TREASURER Doon R.
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Coordinators

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

Websites

WSO	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

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/>