



# District 6 Newsletter “The E-News”

Winter 2022

Volume 35, No. 1

## District Meeting



**Saturday, January 22, 2022**

[We will be meeting on-line](#)

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

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### The District 6 New(Year)sletter

#### Happy New Year!!!

A new year, a new me. It is my goal (resolution?), as your newsletter editor, to STOP procrastinating! So far... Well, let me just say that this is only the 3<sup>rd</sup> day in and I'm batting .230.

I do find comfort in CAL, such as our slogans and reading material, regarding my defects. "Progress not Perfection" comes immediately to mind! Also, "Keep it Simple", "One Day at a Time", and "Let Go and Let God". Since I'm not perfect, I can let myself off the hook of perfectionism. It is unrealistic and harmful. "Keep it Simple" helps me to quit stressing when the deadline is looming. When it seems like I'll never get there, "One Day at a Time" calms my nerves. The times when panic hits and I'm lost... "Let Go and Let God". Of course, I know my Higher Power is not going to put the newsletter together for me, but he does calm my spirit so that I am able to do my work!

My favorite CAL reading comes from page 25 in our Manual, Help and Hope. Our group reads it during the opening of our meetings. I hope it brings to everyone who reads it, the Help and Hope it offers!



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

District Representative, Anna A., called the meeting to order at 9:01 am, welcomed new GRs, and thanked everyone for attending, especially the host group; Wimberley AFG. The district group said the Serenity Prayer, and The Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts of Service, and General Warranties of the Conference were read. Secretary, Mimi welcomed each individual to the meeting.

Roll call showed 31 members in attendance and 27 voting members.

Ask it Basket was provided through text, chat, or email to Anna A. with all information provided to contact her.

The newsletter will go out via email and can be found on the Austin Information Center (AIC) website at <https://austinalanon.org/district-6>.

After the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition was read, the mailing address for the Treasurer, Debbie P. was given.

**District Representative's Announcements-**

The East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Area Fall Assembly will be held at the Holiday Inn and Convention Center in San Marcos on November 12-13, and the deadline to register is November 1<sup>st</sup>. Registration information can be found in the Fall 2021 Newsletter.

Jessica P. of Anderson Mill AFG is the new AIC Liaison.

AIC's new website can be found at <https://austinalanon.org/>. The newsletters can be found under the resources tab and then District 6. When looking for a meeting you will be routed to the WSO web site.

Please send all group record updates to District 6 Group Records Coordinator, Cathy M. at [etx6grouprecords@gmail.com](mailto:etx6grouprecords@gmail.com) and send a copy to Area Group Records Coordinator, Peggy T. at [grouprecordsarea53@gmail.com](mailto:grouprecordsarea53@gmail.com).

The Area's Alateen program was reinstated on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Please send Anna A. a text or chat message, or text if you are AMIAS a certified Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) and want to be of service through volunteering to be the District Alateen Coordinator. If you are interested in becoming AMIAS certified please call, text, or email Anna A., so a training can be set up with Pat E., Interim District Alateen Coordinator and Carol F., Area Alateen Coordinator.

If you would like Anna A. or Lynn P., Alternate District Representative, to be at one of your group meetings, please send an email to Anna A. Anna A. has been to a couple of meetings per GR requests and has a couple of others upcoming.

There are some updates to the Service Arms Page and they will be mailed out to each group's CMA (Current Mailing Address) by Tom B., who is helping out our Newsletter Coordinator Donna M. Tom may be sending the mailout from Michigan, so group CMAs should keep an eye out for a possible Michigan return address.

There is not an agenda out for the Area Assembly yet, but Saturday will be the business meeting.

**Distributed Report Questions-**

Summer 2021 District Meeting Minutes were approved as presented with a consensus.

Debbie P., District 6 Treasurer, shared the Treasurer's Report with no questions or concerns. Please send any financial contributions to the physical address for Debbie found on the Service Arms and District 6 Service Committees Mailer to CMAs and not the P.O. Box, and please announce this at your groups.

There were no questions regarding Alateen, Archives, Forum/Literature, Group Records, the Newsletter, or Public Outreach.

AIC Liaison, Jessica P., let us know they haven't approved the minutes from February or May, because there haven't been enough people in attendance to form a quorum. Their board meetings will remain on Zoom until notified differently. The AIC is not open at this time, but your literature orders will be filled. The current location has mold and the lease ends in August of 2022; therefore, they will probably look for a new building.

10:10-10:20 Break

10:20-10:51 Wimberley AFG put on a lovely skit of Charades.

24 Voting Members. 13 members make a majority and 16 make 2/3rds.

Anna A. asked if anyone was willing to stand for Alateen Coordinator. Nobody was willing to stand at this time.

At the Fall 2021 Area Assembly, the Group Representatives will consider voting on whether on-line only meetings will be able to be a part of Area 53's service structure. Before the pandemic, on-line groups were not considered part of the AFG structure. At the AWSC meeting in April our Delegate, Mattie T., voted that on-line meetings should have their own virtual area and have their own Delegate, Area Chair etc. The WSO has asked each Area to determine whether electronic meetings can be a part of the area at the Area 53Assemblies, and if not, they can by default attend the Virtual Area business meetings. To assist GRs in making an informed decision, a work group was formed to consider the pros and cons, and they were provided detailed guidance from the Area 53 Delegate, Mattie T. A list of pros and cons provided by the Work Group was provided via email prior to the district meeting and during the district meeting. The implementation will be considered after any vote at the Assembly. The floor was open for discussion regarding whether virtual groups should/should not be part of Area 53.

12:00-12:30 Lunch

There was a Thought Force created at the last District 6 meeting to look into whether the district needed to have its own web site, what that could look like, what would be the cost, ease of use and this Thought Force has dissolved, but they did provide us with some information.

What we know: Currently no District 6 web site, upcoming District meeting information, archived used of the newsletters, and workshop/skit information are published on the AIC site and on the East Texas Area Al-Anon Alateen (ETAA) website

Criteria for an on-line solution: Access to Group and District Representatives, secure to protect anonymity, easy to upload and update documents, and be cost effective. Does District 6 need a general, public-facing website? The AIC website has been revamped and is more user friendly, the ETAA, and WSO have a public facing web site. Is a document repository like Google docs enough?

Things to Consider: Should we move forward with one Task Force of public facing versus a document repository? Or should we have two Task Forces? Or a new Thought Force to present a final report?

Discussion followed.

There was a consensus to have a new Thought Force to present a final report. The new Thought Force will be made up of Jessica P., Natanya A., Danielle A., Sharon C., and Barbara M. as Chair. This Thought Force will sit down with Anna A. and Barbara M. to receive a clear charge.

Mary R. and Gail H. reported on A Day in Al-Anon. They see creating a one-hour event, An Introduction to Al-Anon. For this event we would invite First Responders, schools, psychologist, rehabs, etc... and have 3-4 people from Al-Anon with 2-3 guests and conduct a scripted meeting with the opening, sharing of experience, strength, and hope, and the closing. Gail and Mary would be happy to help groups set this up, seems ready for a Task Force. Does this go against anonymity? Does anything like this exist? Discussion followed.

There was a consensus to move forward with a Task Force. The volunteers are Nancy B., Kristi H., Angela E., with Mary R. and Gail H. as Co-Chairs.

The January meeting date is in conflict with MLK Day and already voted on to be virtual. There was a consensus to move the date of our District meetings. There was a consensus with two objections to move the date to January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Anna A. will ask Mattie T., Delegate to host the workshop/skit.

April's District Meeting falls on Easter weekend. The consensus was to move the meeting to April 23<sup>rd</sup>. There was a discussion as to whether to meet in-person or virtual. The consensus was for the April District Meeting to occur virtually.

The East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly Spring 2023 Host Committee needs to fill some Chairperson positions by December of 2021. Anna A. will send an email to all CMAs with details of what positions need to be filled and descriptions of what those positions require. Please consider being of service since it is very important to have these roles filled by the end of the year. Three locations will be contacted as potential venues: Wingate in Round Rock, Holiday Inn at Middle Fiskville Rd. in Austin, and Courtyard by Marriot in Pflugerville. To book one of these event spaces, the committee needs a Treasurer. Please be looking for the email from Anna A. to see what other positions need to be filled.

Group Representatives shared successes and challenges.

Anna A. gave thanks for technical helpers and readers at the beginning of the meeting. Anna A. let everyone know she would be available after the meeting for any questions.

The Al-Anon Declaration was stated in Spanish and English.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:16 pm.

**Future District Meetings**

- January 22, 2022 (tentative) – Hosted by \_\_\_\_\_ (4<sup>th</sup> Sat)
- April 23, 2022 – Hosted by \_\_\_\_\_ (4<sup>th</sup> Sat)
- July 16, 2022 – Hosted by \_\_\_\_\_ (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat)
- October 15, 2022 – Hosted by \_\_\_\_\_ (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat)
  
- **Other Important Dates:**
- November 12-13, 2021 – East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen Fall Assembly (San Marcos, TX)
- November 15, 2021 – Austin Al-Anon/Alateen Information Center Board Meeting (Virtual)



# District Representative/Alternate District Representative Reports

## DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Wow! An entire year has gone by, and a brand new and shiny 2022 is here. As we move into the new year, I want you to be aware of some upcoming events, updates, and district initiatives:

### Events

- District Meeting on January 22 – It will be virtual, as voted on by the GRs at the July District Meeting. Please invite others from your groups who are interested in seeing what goes on at our district meetings. The agenda, electronic newsletter, reports, and other preparatory materials will be sent to those on my email distribution list no later than January 11.
- East Texas Al-Anon/Alateen Area Assembly (ETAAA) on May 13-15 – This will be a face-to-face event held in Corpus Christi at the Holiday Inn Corpus Christi Downtown Marina. More information will be available in the next edition (First Quarter 2022) of the Beacon, and I'll provide any additional information I have at the January District Meeting.

### Updates

- Al-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically (AFGWME) – In a follow-up to the discussion the GRs and others had at the fall Area Assembly in November regarding the possible participation of exclusively electronic groups in the Area 53 service structure, the Electronic Meetings Work Group (Peggy T., Kurt N., and me) has come up with a proposed policy. During the development process, the Work Group requested and received feedback from the GRs (through their district representatives) to provide us with more direction. We received 101 responses, with 89 in favor of the proposed policy and 12 opposed to it. We also received several questions and comments, which prompted some minor amendments to the original wording for clarification. The revised proposal will be presented to the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) for discussion at its next scheduled meeting on January 29.

### District Initiatives

- Visiting Groups – If your group would like me and/or our Alternate DR Lynn P. to visit your meeting, please let me know. We'll get back to you with schedules and plan a visit, either virtual or in person.
- ETAAA Spring 2023 Host Committee – District 6 will be the host district for the 2023 ETAA Spring Assembly. We still need to fill several more committee positions, including Secretary, Alateen Chairperson, Public Outreach Chairperson, Speaker Chairperson, Literature Chairperson, Entertainment Chairperson, Raffle Coordinator, and AA Liaison. The duties of each committee position can be found on Pages 6-11 of the updated *East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly Guidelines for Area Host District Committee and Support District Committee* at <https://texas-al-anon.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/ETAAA-Host-Committe-Guidelines-with-Edits-21-10.pdf> (password: anonymity). We are already coming up on some timeline deadlines, so filling these open positions is critical. Please consider volunteering and/or let your groups know about this 12<sup>th</sup> Step opportunity.

- Current Thought Forces and Task Forces – The Introduction to Al-Anon Task Force is working to put together an Introduction to Al-Anon to take to professional organizations/schools or invite these organizations to come to an Al-Anon meeting.

The District 6 Website Thought Force is working on a potential recommendation to the GRs as to whether to proceed with developing a website or creating and maintaining a document repository.

Reports from each are expected at the January District Meeting.

Thank you for your service to the Al-Anon program and please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

In grateful service,  
Anna A., DR

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## Service Opportunity

District 6,

Due to Peggy T.'s other service commitments, she has submitted her resignation effective **1/29/22** as Area Group Records Coordinator (AGRC). Peggy has done an amazing job as AGRC, and her time and commitment to the position is most appreciated. Peggy will continue to serve as DR for District 5 and the Electronic Meetings Work Group.

Please see the attached Area Group Records Coordinator job description and resume and share with your groups. It would be great if anyone interested in standing for the position could step forward before the January 29 Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meeting. That person could then be appointed temporarily until the May Assembly. If you or someone from your group is interested, please send our Area Chair Paula H. ([txe61chair@gmail.com](mailto:txe61chair@gmail.com)) the resume, so she can forward it for posting on the Texas website.

Let me know if you have any questions.

In service,  
Anna A., DR

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## Thank You Note

Dear District 6,

When I woke up this morning, my first thought was, "Good morning, God, thank you for waking me up today. Let me see what blessings you have in store for me today." That was not my attitude yesterday after a grueling visit to the radiologist; I was wondering and grumbling a bit wondering I would have the strength to grind through the next month of daily radiation treatments.

After my morning prayer and meditation, I opened my email to find your beautiful card. Once again I was reminded that God appears to me with proof that He is at work in my life through His messengers, my Al-Anon family.

Your kind words of hope, concern, and encouragement brought me much joy and comfort and were a reminder to me to take life one day at a time and to take nothing for granted. Throughout my ordeal I have been surrounded by much love, kindness, prayers of friends and strangers, which have given me much courage and strength. Thank you for always being there for me, as you have been when I walked through the doors of Al-Anon for the first time in 2004.

I am overwhelmed with love and gratitude for each and every one of your lovely words. I know that like in my journey of recovery through Al-Anon, I am not alone in my physical recovery from cancer.

(By the way, I am certainly one of the lucky ones. It was Stage 0! After I undergo radiation and 5 years of hormone therapy, the doctors say that there is almost zero chance of it recurring.)

Thank you all so much for your prayers, concern, and words of hope and encouragement! They will carry me throughout the next few weeks and will remind me that I am not alone! Happy Holidays to all; may they be filled with many blessings of love and happiness!

With love and gratitude,  
Paula Haschke

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**Treasurer’s Report**

2021 D6 Operating Statement 4th Quarter							
Income	2021 Budget	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Actual	Notes
District 6 Basket Collection	\$250.00	\$5.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5.00	
Total Group Contributions including Newsletter Subscriptions	\$5,000.00	\$833.81	\$1,330.80	\$720.00	\$1,385.01	\$4,269.62	
Bank Interest	\$10.00	\$2.37	\$2.54	\$2.61	\$2.64	\$10.16	
Collection for Delegate/Gift	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Miscellaneous/contribution from member	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$96.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$96.50	Newsletter Donation
Contribution from Unallocated Funds to cover proposed expenses	\$4,545.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$9,805.00</b>	<b>\$841.18</b>	<b>\$1,429.84</b>	<b>\$722.61</b>	<b>\$1,387.65</b>	<b>\$4,381.28</b>	
Expenses	2021 Budget	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Actual	
Alateen Coordinator	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Alateen Liason Coord.	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Archives	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Rent / District Meeting	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
DR Int'l Convention	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
DR Expenses	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$128.48	\$32.12	\$423.86	\$584.46	
Software for Virtual Mtgs	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$423.00	\$211.50	\$15.86	\$650.36	
District Group Records Coordinator	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Alt DR Expenses	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Secretary Expenses	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Treasurer Expenses	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Newsletter Editor	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Newsletter	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$96.50	\$0.00	\$91.66	\$188.16	
Forum/Literature	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
AMAIS/Background Checks	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Public Outreach No.	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Public Outreach So.	\$375.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Spanish Coordinator	\$675.00	\$179.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$179.31	

P.O.S.S.E. Scholarship	\$1,750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Delegate to Assembly	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Gift to Delegate	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	
Bank Charges	\$5.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Misc.	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	AAIC
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$9,805.00</b>	<b>\$329.31</b>	<b>\$647.98</b>	<b>\$243.62</b>	<b>\$631.38</b>	<b>\$1,852.29</b>	
<b>Reserves</b>							
International Reserve	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00		
T.E.A.M.	\$171.51	\$171.51	\$171.51	\$171.51	\$171.51		
Prudent Reserve	\$4,904.37	\$4,904.37	\$4,904.37	\$4,904.37	\$4,904.37		
Kristy Fund	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00		
Allocated Posters for Schools	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00		
Allocated to Cover 2021 Expenses	\$4,545.00	\$4,545.00	\$4,545.00	\$4,545.00	\$4,545.00		
Unallocated Funds	\$5,684.36	\$6,672.19	\$6,530.93	\$6,329.47	\$7,109.08		\$889.82 used to host the AWSC Mtg
Net Income	\$846.57	\$846.57	\$781.86	\$478.99	\$452.65		
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Capital (Bank Statement Balance)</b>	<b>\$20,051.81</b>	<b>\$21,039.64</b>	<b>\$20,833.67</b>	<b>\$20,329.34</b>			
<b>Bank Balance</b>	on 12/31/20	on 3/31/21	on 6/30/21	on 9/30/21	on 12/31/21		

1/3/22

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# Coordinator Reports

## Newsletter

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

[etx6.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:etx6.newsletter@gmail.com)

## Archivist

Archivist Report January 2022

Happy New Year!

The purpose of our archives is to preserve the past so we can move forward with a reason to hope. We have to know where we've been to guide where we want to go. Preserving copies of our literature shows how "Al-Anon's body of literature expands to meet the needs of a growing membership in a changing world" from How Al-Anon Works page 147.

Did you know that under the "Members" tab on the al-anon.org website you can scroll down to the World Service Conference and find the WSC Archive Summaries from 1961-2021?

There are also tabs for "Highlights of the WSC" and "Chosen Agenda Items Index".

As District 6 continues to grow and change, the format of storing documents, pictures, and literature may change, but the purpose remains the same, to document our history.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara M.

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## District 6 Website Thought Force Report January 2022

The Thought Force was organized to consider whether or not to create a dedicated District 6 website. We evaluated this question within a Knowledge-Based Decision Making (KBDM) framework.

Charge:

- Identify whether District 6 needs a website or a repository for documents and other information;
- Determine some of the options for either creating a website or document repository; and
- Address general maintenance/oversight of a website or repository.

Background:

Sharing old MS Files (Work, Excel, & PowerPoint), emails, newsletters, and member's experience are the primary ways history has been kept between District 6 members. This information is not easy to access and it takes members time to search for historical documentation not stored in a central location.

Newsletters are the only central storage that exists on the Austin Information Center (AIC) website; dating back to 2007. Some service positions have started creating generic gmail accounts for service position rotation after their term to access old emails but still the searching effort can become cumbersome.

If an independent website is deemed necessary by the district's members, many things need to be considered. WSO's AI-Anon Website Guideline ( <https://al-anon.org/pdf/G40.pdf> ) offers district decisions that need discussion, such as audience identification, content, domain name, cost (setup & maintenance), and ongoing processes (i.e. updating content, linking to other sites, website support, etc.).

Two other websites have District 6 related information:

a) East Texas Website <https://texas-al-anon.org/area-53-group-member-and-officer-information/> refers to the Area's 12 District's information including District 6 <https://texas-al-anon.org/area-53-district-information/> (password: anonymity);

b) AIC <https://www.austinalanon.org> contains a District 6 tab that refers to the next district 6 meeting and past newsletters to 2007 <https://www.austinalanon.org/district-6>.

When updates for the two websites are needed, requests are sent to the Texas Website Coordinator or the Austin Information Chair (to instruct the AIC website coordinator). Both positions are AI-Anon members. East Texas & West Texas Website Coordinators work together on the Texas Website, but only East Texas Coordinator makes edits to the Area 53 portion. At the AIC, there is only one website coordinator; no backup. Today there are no set response times for posting updates.

Questions for consideration re. a dedicated online document repository for District 6:

- Does District 6 need a general, public-facing site? The AAIC website has been recently revamped and provides a robust public facing site. The East Texas site provides general information for newcomers to AI-Anon, links to the World Service Office meeting finder, and is a document repository for the Area.
- Does District 6 need a dedicated website or would another type of document repository serve the need?

Background re. 3 possible solutions:

- Website management using content management platforms, such as Bluehost and GoDaddy, are easy to set up and manage. These solutions are available starting around \$100/year.
- Dropbox is a document storage and management service that provides a centralized place to securely store documents, manage data access, and work together on projects. Documents are backed up to the cloud. Security includes data encryption. This is a robust solution used by businesses and the price reflects it. The Standard package for up to 5 users costs \$750/year. In addition to full access for these 5 users, group reps with a link can access specific documents. They offer a 30% discount if the District is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. The District is not a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.
- Google Docs is also a document storage and management system.
  - Documents are protected by “industry-leading security”
  - Will store from 2 TB to 5 TB of documents
  - Offers video meetings with recordings for up to 150 – 250 participants
  - Also includes Google calendar, chat, plus survey and forms generation
  - Cost is from \$12 a month to \$18 a month. \$18 a month is under \$96 per year

**KBDM Question 1: What do we know about our members’ or prospective members’ needs that are relevant to this discussion?** Retaining and storing the information and documents needed to conduct District business has become increasingly difficult and unwieldy. Posting timely information about upcoming meetings, etc. is challenging. Currently, there is no dedicated website for District 6 information. Upcoming District meeting dates and back issues of the newsletter (after they are scrubbed of personal information) are published on the Austin Al-Anon Information Center (AAIC) website ([austinalanon.org](http://austinalanon.org)). Some other relevant information is only in hardcopy form or on the Texas East Area website ([texas-al-anon.org](http://texas-al-anon.org)).

**KBDM Question 2: What do we know about the resources and our vision for the organization that is relevant to this discussion?** On Aug 4, 2021, District Rep Anna A stated, “I believe the District Website Thought Force remains relevant and should continue with its work. The updates to the Information Center website do not resolve our issues of a repository for storing our important documents and administrative information. For any posting of information and notifications, we are still dependent on the AAIC Chair and webmaster. While the AAIC supports the District and has historically worked in conjunction with us, the District has no control over their day-to-day functions and decisions. We can request services we need from the AAIC, but the AAIC Board is who decides what ultimately happens.”

**KBDM Question 3: What do we know about the current realities and evolving dynamics of the world and our fellowship that is relevant to this discussion? What are the Pros and Cons?** In the era of Covid, meetings have moved to being held virtually, making it more important than ever that documents relevant to District meetings be posted online in a timely manner. According to Anna, “The posting process has remained the same in that I have to make a request to the AAIC Chair as to what I want posted. Once the Chair approves the request, she then contacts the webmaster and requests that the posting occur. At that point, we wait for the webmaster to complete the posting. The delay issues we've had continue to be a possibility if either the Chair or the webmaster have availability/scheduling issues.” Pros: This issue has improved, but would be totally resolved by the development of a website and repository because then GRs would have immediate access to the most current District documents/meeting information. Cons: There is a cost associated with developing

and maintaining a website, and volunteers may be required to learn new skills to update and/or post new content on the website. Information links for newcomers are already on both the East Texas and AIC websites.

**KBDM Question 4: What are the ethical implications of our choices? In other words, will our decision be consistent with our spiritual principles?** Concept Two refers to “trusted servants” whom we entrust to make decisions consistent with AI-Anon principles. Concept Three refers to “the right of decision,” which empowers groups and districts to make decisions to solve their challenges. In addition, creating a dedicated District 6 repository that will provide easy access to information in an open and transparent manner facilitates mutual trust and participation. Concept 6 avoiding double headed management.

**Recommendation:** The Thought Force recommends District 6 form a Task Force to implement a dedicated repository for items such as, but not limited to District 6 agendas and meeting minutes, history of motions, District 6 guidelines and policies, workshop ideas and history, District 6 newsletters, and future digitized archivist materials.

Meeting information for people looking for a meeting is currently on the AIC website with a link to the WSO website “Find a Meeting”. Duplicating information that already exists on other Websites can create confusion.

Creation of a new service position to maintain the repository is suggested as is documentation of the “hows” and “whys” of the initial setup to assure continuity of service with normal rotation of this service position.

It is suggested that the Task Force review changes the East Texas Area’s Website is considering implementing.

Respectively submitted by the Thought Force members,

Barbara M.	Natanya C.
Danielle A.	Jessica P.





## Looking for Help

Dear East Texas Area 53 DRs,

Please pass the following Email message onto all Al-Anon members in your districts. After returning home from our area's fall assembly (San Marcos, November 13- 14, 2021), I discovered that a book I had displayed on the Archives table was missing. I did check the table after loading up materials after the assembly ended.

I am asking that any member that attended the fall assembly please check to see if for some reason, Lois Wilson's book *Diary of Two Motorcycle Hobos* may be amongst your possessions. The memoir is extremely interesting, and someone may have picked it up to read and forgot return it.

The book is large with a soft (black) cover with a handwritten title and contains a copy of the typed manuscript Lois wrote.

If found please mail it, certified mail with return receipt, back to me. I will reimburse you for the cost of mailing. *{Please contact DR Anna A. at [etx.district6@gmail.com](mailto:etx.district6@gmail.com) for the mailing address.}*

This book is a very precious part of East Texas Archives, and I would be overjoyed to see it again!

With love and in Service,

Lynn B.  
East Texas Area 53  
Archives Coordinator

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# ASK IT BASKET

## Al-Anon/Alateen Acronyms

- AAPP.....Area Alateen Process Person
- AIS ..... Al-Anon Information Service
- AMIAS Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service
- AWSC..... Area World Service Committee
- 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
- TEAAC... Texas East Area Alateen Conference
- TEAM..... Together Empowering Al-Anon Members
- WSC.....World Service Conference
- WSO .....World Service Office
- A.A.....Alcoholics Anonymous

**Question 1:** What are the do's and don'ts for posting on our meeting Zoom screen any copywritten conference approved literature? We submitted this question to the World Service Office (WSO) some time ago, but no answer has come through so far.

**Answer:** The following information was verified by Sue P. in the summer of 2020., WSO Group Services Associate Director, regarding "temporary zoom meetings" use of Conference Approved Literature and Legacies:

**1) The Legacies & Screen Share in temporary zoom –**

It would be preferable, if the Zoom host could place a link in the screen share that would take the meeting directly to the Legacies in "Groups at Work" on Page 14 of the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual at <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/>. The host can open the link and then share the screen from the actual WSO website. Please-DO NOT retype the legacies in text format to include them in your temporary zoom meetings.

**2) The meeting format & Screen Share in temporary zoom meetings –**

The service manual can be accessed through the WSO website at <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/>. The host CAN access the information needed then copy and paste it into a "Word Document." Please-DO NOT format or modify it in any way (i.e., Opening, Preamble, Steps, Traditions, Concepts, Closing, etc.). The Word Document can then be screen shared if you choose (again-in its original form-not modified in any way). The meeting format can be shared via email, and/or the host can screen share in Zoom. When this method is used, it is preferred that credit be attributed as such: "From [al-anon.org](https://al-anon.org) Members menu: 2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (pp\_\_\_)"

**3) Use of Conference Approved Literature (CAL) material to chair a meeting –**

The same guidelines apply here as they do when chairing a face-to-face meeting. We CAN photocopy or retype a paragraph or two of a topic from our CAL and some of the questions. However, we advise those present that these are ONLY for use during this meeting and NOT to be duplicated or passed on ever. IMPORTANT: When photocopying or retyping any CAL for use to chair a meeting-the replication MUST ALWAYS include a reference that it is copyrighted

material belonging to Al-Anon.org and is "FOR ONE TIME USE". DO NOT DISTRIBUTE. PLEASE PROTECT THE COPYRIGHT.

**Question 2:** What format or program are groups using for an online group meeting calendar that can be viewed on the zoom screen during a meeting. We need a method for a member to sign up for chairing or hosting meetings and dates for other Al-Anon events, etc.

**Answer:** There are many online shared calendar programs/apps to help with group scheduling. Each one has different price ranges depending on its features. Apps and similar services can be found by conducting a general online search (e.g., shared online calendar). Any decision to use a shared calendar should be determined through a group conscience. If a group is using a shared calendar and would like to share their experience with it, please have a representative contact DR Anna A. at [etx.district6@gmail.com](mailto:etx.district6@gmail.com). She will put you in contact with the group asking this question.

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# Group Reports

## Serenity Seekers

Serenity Seekers Austin meets on Fridays at 6 pm. We hope to begin meeting in person soon at the Unity Church at 5501 West Hwy 290. In the meantime, we're meeting on Zoom. Details are on the [alanon.org](http://alanon.org) meeting finder. Join us on the last Friday of the month for a birthday meeting, featuring a member's story of experience, strength, and hope. We're pleased that Naomi B has stepped up to serve the next term as our group rep. Thank you for your service, Naomi!

## Path to Serenity Tuesday 8:00 PM

902 Old Austin Hutto Road, Ste 400,  
Pflugerville, TX, 78660, USA

We welcome newcomers and visitors! Masks are optional at this time and subject to change as needed. We meet in suite 400. Parking is available at the side of the building, in the parking lot to the left of the building and across the street. If you have questions, please call Melanie at 214-500-5111.

## Central Texas Serenity Seekers/Harker Heights

We are currently meeting as a Hybrid meeting, twice a week, on T/Th @ 7. (Trinity Baptist Church in Harker Heights) We also meet on Zoom on Wednesday (Noon) and Saturday (10am).

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# Upcoming Events

District 6 meeting on January 22 will be Virtual. Information for connecting will be sent via email. The East Texas Area Al-Anon/Alateen Assembly will be held May 13-15, in Corpus Christi, TX. Registration/hotel information will be announced in The Beacon.



# Information Center



No report available.

Austin Al-Anon/Alateen  
Information Center  
6301 Manchaca Road, Ste. F,  
Austin TX 78745  
512-441-8591 inside Texas:  
888-287-2115

If you have questions about Al-Anon / Alateen or local meetings, please call the office or send us a message at [inquiry@austinalanon.org](mailto:inquiry@austinalanon.org)

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# SERVICE ARMS AND DISTRICT 6 SERVICE COMMITTEES

## Tradition 7 Contributions

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

**WORLD SERVICE OFFICE AFG, INC.**

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

**DISTRICT 6**

Debbie P

**EAST TEXAS AREA (ETAA)**

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

**AL-ANON INFORMATION CENTER**

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

## District 6 Service Committee

### OFFICERS

**District Representative**

Anna A.  
[etx.district6@gmail.com](mailto:etx.district6@gmail.com)

**Alternate DR**

Lynn P.

**Secretary**

Mimi C.

**Treasurer**

Debbie P.

### COORDINATORS

**Alateen**

Pat E. (Interim)

**Archivist**

Barbara M.

**Forum/Literature**

Peggy D.

**Newsletter**

Donna M.  
[etx6.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:etx6.newsletter@gmail.com)

**Public Outreach  
(North)**

Gail H.

**Public Outreach  
(South)**

Mary R.

**Coordinator  
Hispanohablante**

Kelly T.

**District Group  
Records**

Cathy M.  
[etx6grouprecords@gmail.com](mailto:etx6grouprecords@gmail.com)

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

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