



# GEORGIA ON TRACK

March 2012

## AREA OFFICER REPORTS

### Delegate's Report

Hello everyone,

I had the pleasure of attending the SE Regional Delegate's Get-Together in early February. Thirty-six current and past Delegates from 11 Areas gathered in Raleigh to share their ESH with one another. New delegates had an opportunity to meet current delegates so that it won't seem so much like a sea of strangers when they attend their first World Service Conference, and all current delegates learned a great deal from a report given by our SE Regional Trustee, Paula B., so that we are better prepared for discussions at the WSC. One of the things she reminded us of is that the soft cover version of How Al-Anon Works was intended as an outreach tool – for our groups and members to give to newcomers as a way of paying our gratitude forward. However, it has affected sales of the hard cover version as those sales have decreased substantially.

Through our links of service I have extended an appeal for your feedback about topics for discussion at the upcoming World Service Conference in April: 1) what is your level of interest in electronic literature; and 2) Chosen Agenda Items. If you haven't received information about these appeals, please ask your GR or the member serving as your group's Current Mailing Address. The deadline to submit your responses through your DR is **4/1/12**.

Information surrounding the question of electronic literature as well as reports from the Board, Policy, and Finance Committees are included in the most recent letter from the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, which has been posted on the WSO members' website, [www.al-anon.org](http://www.al-anon.org). Click on *Inside the WSO*, then *Board of Trustees* to access it.

All World Service Conference Summaries from the past 50 years have now been electronically archived on the WSO members' website and they provide a window into the growth of our fellowship that is unique among our literature. I have particularly enjoyed reading about our earliest Conferences that Lois W. attended. We used to have Ask-It Basket questions, which I always find interesting; for example: 25. *Why Him and He for God and not It or something more neutral? Can that be changed? How long would it take? (gather info):* "Yes, it is possible to change any language in the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service. If the World Service Conference voted to poll all of the Al-Anon/Alateen groups in the world, it would take a favorable written vote by three-fourths of all groups to make such a change." Also: "Group autonomy does not extend to changing our Conference Approved Literature. Our program asks our groups for 'obedience to the unenforceable.'

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Group autonomy is the highest level of responsibility in that it charges the group to balance its wishes against the benefits to Al-Anon and AA as a whole.” (p. 63, 2003 WSC Summary) (See also p. 164 of our *Service Manual*.)

“Volunteer Selected Committees consist of Al-Anon/Alateen members with a broad understanding of our program who concentrate on one of the elements of our fellowship....” (p. 125, SM) At-large members come from throughout the U.S. and Canada. If you would like to consider submitting a resume to serve a one-year term on the Literature, Public Outreach, or Forum Editorial Advisory Committees, please review their descriptions in the Service Manual. I can provide you with additional information if you’re interested and a resume form, which must be completed by **4/16/12**.

I know. Vancouver, British Columbia is on the other side of the continent, but our International conventions only take place once every 5 years. If you’ve ever been to one, you know how remarkable they are. Share those experiences with the members around you and plan to attend yourself on July 5-7, 2013. Share expenses with friends, get creative! I heard one person say they take every \$5 bill they get in change and put it into their convention savings account. (P.S.: make sure you have a current passport!)

Ruth F., our second Area Delegate (1968-70), died on New Year’s Eve. As a gesture of appreciation for her service to our Area as our Delegate, I would like to suggest that the money you, your group or District may be planning to spend on love gifts this year be donated to the World Service Office in the form of a memorial contribution. They can be sent to:

**Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters  
1600 Corporate Landing Pkwy  
Virginia Beach, VA 23454.**

Contributions can only be accepted from Al-Anon members, so include a note with identifying information such as your group number and Area I I. If you elect to send mail or love gifts to be shared with Conference members, please address them to:

**Vicki Ledet  
(Hold for WSC 4/15- 4/19/2012)  
Stamford Marriott Hotel & Spa,  
243 Tresser Blvd.  
Stamford, CT 06901.**

Please put my address in the return address section in the event that mail delivery is delayed; my address is in the Area Directory. Plan to have mail arrive after **4/11/12**.

The theme of this year’s World Service Conference is “Our Spiritual Journey – We Get as We Give.” I’ve been thinking about examples of this theme that abound in our Area and I have to confess something: when I look around the rooms of Al-Anon - my home group, District meetings, conventions, AWSC, Assemblies, anniversaries, spaghetti dinner fundraisers – I sure feel like I’ve received so much more than I’ve given. For example, by the time you read this, members throughout Georgia will have had the opportunity to receive the ‘empowering’ benefits of attending our Area’s first TEAM event as a result of so many members who have been willing to give of their time to make it happen. Those of us who have had the pleasure of helping to put it together will have had the added benefit of sharing a one-of-a-kind day of recovery together. And we all will have served to expand the circle of hope.

In gratitude for our fellowship,  
Vicki L.—Delegate, Panel 50

## **Alternate Delegate's Report**

Greetings, GA Al-Anon Members!

I want to encourage each of you to reach out to our Delegate, Vicki L, who will be leaving for NY to represent GA as our Delegate at the World Area Conference. Instead of sending a lot of "love gifts" this time, Vicki asked us to send memorial contributions to WSO in memory of a dear past Delegate, Ruth Fristoe, who remained active in our Area until her health declined about 3 years ago. Send the contributions to: Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, 1600 Corporate Landing Pkwy, Virginia Beach, VA 23454

Make sure that you put Ruth's name on your contribution.

I am asking that all who read this, send Vicki a card of encouragement or of thanks to her while she is at conference. Send that to: Vicki Ledet (Hold for WSC 4/15-4/19, 2012) Stamford Marriott Hotel & Spa, 243 Tresser Blvd, Stamford, CT 06901.

I am also asking you to pray for Vicki as she represents us at her last conference and as she visits Bill & Lois W's house, *Stepping Stones*, for the first time. This conference promises to be a spiritual experience for Vicki. Please pray for her.

By the time you all read this, our TEAM event, "Recovery: GA on My Mind" will be in our memories and in the GA archives. Since I'm writing this article 10 days in advance of that weekend and can't know from experience quite yet, but I am positive that I was blessed by the entire event. Thank you, Debbie F and Cheryl K and the TEAM host committee, for the hours upon hours that you gave to every detail so that Georgia could have a positive experience. I love our fellowship and the people in it. GA, you are always on my mind....

Please try to encourage members and groups to buy subscriptions to *The Forum*. See you at Assembly in May.

Cathy O, Alternate Delegate

## **Chairperson's Report**

"Al-Anon began with volunteers and as long as one Al-Anon member helps another, through word or deed, that member is a volunteer, doing a special job no one without his experience is fitted to do."  
Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (7<sup>th</sup> Printing, 1977)

There will be elections at both the May and September Assemblies for various volunteer Area service positions. These are positions that no one without your experience is fitted to do. The theme of the 2012 World Service Conference is *Our Spiritual Journey - we get as we give*. In my experience, I have found service to be one of those rare experiences where I truly get more, so much more, than what I give. If this is an experience you desire in your recovery, please prayerfully and carefully your willingness to stand for consideration in these elections. If there is any encouragement I may offer or questions I might answer, please call or e-mail.

In May, we will hold elections for the 2013 Co-Chair/2014 Chair of the Georgia Al-Anon / Alateen Convention and the 2013 Co-Chair/2014 Chair of the Alateen Conference. There will be only two elections since the Co-Chair and Chair for each event is one position which serves over two years. Here are the qualifications:

Al-Anon / Alateen Convention: The 2014 Convention will be held in Zone 4. Any Al-Anon or Alateen member may stand for consideration *provided they attend meetings located in Zone 4 which is comprised of Districts 2,9 (southeast),10,11 (northwest), 13 (east), 18, and 19.* For more information on Zones and their composition, please refer to the Area Information and Archives Booklet.

Alateen Conference: Any Al-Anon or Alateen member, from anywhere within the Area, may stand for consideration *provided they are, or are willing to immediately become, a certified AMIAS.* In September, we will elect the Area officers for our next panel (Panel 53) which will serve 2013-2015. This will be one of our most important Area Group Consciences and I trust it will be a spiritual experience for all. The qualifications for these positions are: 1) that you have served as a District Representative, and 2) remained active at the Area level. The elected positions are:

- Delegate
- Alternate Delegate
- Chairperson
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Area Office Chairperson

As you plan to attend May Area Assembly (May 19-20, 2012) at the Central Georgia Convention Center (CGCC), please make your room reservations at the Ramada Inn ONLY. Room reservations may be made by calling (478) 994-5691. Please let them know you are with the Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia for our preferred group room rates. Rates are \$65 for a double and \$70 for a king (rates do not include taxes).

With love and gratitude to and for each of you in Service...

Jeff G.  
Area Chairperson

### **Treasurer's Report**

Greetings My Al-Anon Family,

Entering my final year as Area Treasurer I have many thoughts and feelings about this year. It is a time of continued service, and yet at the same time looking ahead to the rotation of service. This has been a most rewarding job and I have learned a lot. I not only learned about finances at a whole new level, I found confidence to stand before you and provide reports and courage to reach out and ask for help. Most of all I found infinite love and support of the fellowship.

I hope many of you are prayerfully considering how you can serve in the coming year and what you can do to carry the message of recovery. If you are entertaining the idea of standing for Area Treasurer please contact me. I would love to share my experience, strength and hope with you.

I look forward to seeing each of you at AWSC and Assembly. Until then remember your contributions to the Area are what keep us financially healthy and self-supporting.

All good wishes to you in Al-Anon and in service,

Renelle M.  
Area Treasurer

### **Area Secretary's Report**

"The thought of participating in any activity may call up our worst fears of experiencing all over again the criticism, embarrassment, frustration, and even despair we have known in the past. Our attempts to help others grapple with the disease of alcoholism might bring us face to face again with the loss of the illusion of control that can result from lending a hand." From *When I Got Busy I Got Better*, page 2

Fear of the unknown has stood in my way many times in my life. Fear of success, fear of failure, fear of making a mistake, fear of what someone else would think yadayada. Those same fears can still lift their ugly little heads from time to time but my recovery has taught me to step out in faith and to know I am never alone. Someone has always gone before me in whatever step I am taking and is more often than not willing to share with me their experience, strength and hope.

As Area elections are approaching in September, I encourage you to consider where your Higher Power may be leading you in your service journey. If you have served your group, you may now be thinking about serving at the Area level. Whether you are led to submit your name as a Coordinator or stand for an Area officer position, those of us who have gone before are available to guide. Serving as your Area Secretary has been a privilege that I have grown from. I am available to talk to anyone who may be leaning toward this area of service. Let your heart and your Higher Power be your guide in whatever direction you choose.

Please remember that AWSC and Area Assembly minutes are sent electronically to your DR. If you have not received your copy please contact them or me at [gr82serve@gmail.com](mailto:gr82serve@gmail.com)

With love and gratitude in service, Linda G. Area Secretary

### **Area Office Chair**

Greetings from Al-Anon Central Services

Lease negotiations for the office space in Macon are still in progress but nearing the end and in the process of just tying up a few loose ends. Hopefully following the TEAM event the Area Office will have a new home to move into in Macon. Easy interstate access, plenty of parking space, nice neighbors and restrooms with stalls that have doors. HOW EXCITING!!!!!! We are moving ahead. Once everything is "official" we'll probably have some downtime in the Office but will keep everyone posted.

We'll be getting volunteers in place in the next few weeks. Any group or district can volunteer to spend a day of service at the Office once a month or once a quarter or however often you would like. What better way to spend a day than carpooling and having a meeting on the way, doing service and having a meeting on the way home. Some of my best meetings have been on the road! Any group or District that would like to volunteer can email me at home or at the Office.

Just a little history on the name of our Office. We're in the Service Manual on page 97 under Naming a Service 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph which says, "The term, "Al-Anon Central Services" is reserved for AIS/LDC's serving entire states, provinces, or Areas." Barbara A., the 1<sup>st</sup> Area Office Chairperson found this in the service manual in 1997 – yes it's been there for a long time- and the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee felt this would be a fitting name for an Area Office.

As always we want to thank all the individuals, groups and Districts for your contributions. Your support is greatly appreciated.

With Love and Gratitude in Service, Debbie F. Area Office Chair

## **Area Coordinator Reports**

### **AAPP Report**

The news of the Alateen front is positive. There is a new meeting in Thomasville, GA meeting on Monday nights at 8:00 P.M. This group should appear on our website with the exact location.

I want to correct an error from the last newsletter. I reported that the Oak Grove Alateen group in Snellville has moved to Loganville. In fact, it was the Let's Grow in Alateen which previously met at St. Oliver's in Snellville. This correction should also be showing on our website.

I want to alert all AMIAS to look out for their recertification paperwork to come out earlier this year. WSO has moved up the date for completion. I will be sending out this information in April rather than May. I have been asking AMIAS who may have moved in the past year to please update their address with me so you will receive the packet on a timely basis and your recertification won't lapse.

Thanks to all of you for your service to Alateen.

In service,  
Moni S. AAPP

### **Alateen Report**

Hello Georgia AFG,

Things have been a bit quiet with Alateen for the past few months, but are starting to move again.

Some new volunteers have stepped up to become moderators so we can begin the online meeting. We are hoping that the meetings will start in the next month. The meeting will be posted on the website once it is registered.

The task forces that will be writing up recommendations for changes to the AMIAS and permission form requirements will begin working in the next few weeks. Hopefully the recommendations will be ready for April AWSC.

It's not too early to start talking about the Alateen conference. Alateen groups should start thinking about fundraisers to raise the money to attend the conference. We have some teens from South and North Carolina that are thinking about coming to GA, so we would like to have lots of GA teens there with them!

In Service,

Elyse G.  
Alateen Coordinator

### **Archivist's Report**

Please continue to send in group and district histories. It would be wonderful if we could have 100% participation by August. If I can be of service please do not hesitate to contact me. My contact information is in the directory.

In Service

Donna M.

### **Group Records Report**

Hello Area Members,

It's hard to believe, but the current panel of trusted servants and coordinators are finishing our third and final year of Service. I think we're all still having fun at our jobs and continue to learn and grow as we go along.

Since the last newsletter I have sent out a direct mailing to every Group in the Area. In that letter I asked for any group records changes and to please supply an e-mail address for your group. If your GR or CMA does not have access to e-mail please find an e-mail buddy in the group who can accept messages from the WSO and the Area. The WSO would like to have an e-mail address for every AFG in the fellowship.

Directory updates continue to be sent every month. These updates are sent to all members of the AWSC and are intended to be passed to GRs by the District Reps.

Finally, there are many questions from Groups about "Open" and "Closed" meetings. Please refer to the Service Manual about the difference between the two. Unless otherwise specified the WSO assumes all meetings are Closed.

Yours in Service,

Tom Murphy

Group Records Coordinator

### **Institutions Report**

Hello everyone!

I am pleased to report that the Thought Force regarding the organization of Public Outreach in the Georgia Area has completed its work. Many thanks to Renelle, who chaired the Thought Force. You all should be hearing our report at the May Assembly.

I have now begun to work on finishing a project begun by Bettina, the previous Institutions Coordinator. The project is to begin to create a database of Institutions in Georgia that might benefit from our outreach efforts.

On a personal note, the local jail outreach I help with continues to be well received. We are very grateful for the local groups who support us. We are especially grateful to groups in neighboring districts who have offered support as well. It is wonderful to see how all of Georgia Al-Anon works together.

Thank you,

Anne M., Institutions Coordinator

### **Newsletter Coordinator's Report**

It's thrilling to know that this is 7th published newsletter for me as coordinator! It also means that it will soon be time to 'pass the torch' to the next Area II Newsletter Coordinator. I can tell you that it has been a real pleasure and growth experience all at the same time! I will coordinate one more edition and would be happy to share my ESH with anyone who think they might have an interest in this position. Email me at [btbrown@bellsouth.net](mailto:btbrown@bellsouth.net) with any questions.

In service, Beth B.

### **P I Coordinator's Report**

Hi Everybody,

The 2012 TV PSA has been distributed in Georgia. It has been sent to 10 stations in the Atlanta/Marietta area, to stations in the Athens, Brunswick, Augusta, Albany, and Hazelhurst areas, 4 stations in the Savannah area, 5 stations in the Macon area, and 3 in the Columbus area. So far there have been 118 airings. 117 at WGSA in Savannah and 1 at EPGA in Macon, to an audience of 117,000. WOW!

If you live in these areas, please take the time to send a note of thanks to these stations.

Keep watching and let me know if you see the PSA, what station and when.

I'm also available for Health Fairs on the weekends. Let me know if there's one in your area and I'll see what I can do.

Any questions or comments email me at [tjordan55@gmail.com](mailto:tjordan55@gmail.com).

Yours in Service,

Terry J. Public Information



## **Area Web Master's Report**

There have been some new links added to the website. You can find world-wide Al-Anon meetings by following the link on the Meeting Info page. On the Members page you will find links for:

guidelines for Taking a Group Inventory  
2011 World Service Conference Summary  
Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2012  
AFG Media Center

In addition, statistics that pertain to website accesses are once again available. Google Analytics has been imbedded in website pages and provide the website coordinator with daily reports.

When your group or District is having an event, please send a flyer to [webmaster@ga-al-anon.org](mailto:webmaster@ga-al-anon.org). Flyers should be sent in the following formats: .doc, .ppt, or .pdf. Your event will be posted to the website as soon as received. They can be seen on the Area Events page.

Thank you for your support.

Yours in service,  
David B  
Website Coordinator

<p>~~~~~</p> <p>~~~~~</p> <p><b>Just for today</b> I will adjust myself to what is, and not try to adjust everything to my own desires. I will take my "luck" as it comes, and fit myself to it.</p> <p><b>Just for today</b> I will be happy. This assumes to be true what Abraham Lincoln said, that "Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be."</p> <p><b>Just for today</b> I will have a quiet half hour all by myself and relax. During this half hour, sometime, I will try to get a better perspective of my life.</p> <p>~~~~~</p> <p>~~~~~</p>
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## **DISTRICT REPORTS—AREA 11**

### **District One**

District I has been busy. We are planning our 2012 spring picnic right now. (look for our flyer inside this newsletter). Char F. our Ga. Trustee has agreed to tell her Al-anon story. We always have AA participation and our AA speaker is Steve S. from Jasper, GA. Our annual picnic has been very successful with a lot of participation for the past two years. One of District I's own, Lois B. was elected 2013 convention chair, so a lot of the people in District I is involved with that. The Dalton group is still holding Al-Anon Panels in several treatment centers in Dalton. We have also distributed 250 "Al-Anon faces Alcoholism" magazines over the district. This past year we held a Tradition study via e-mail and that has been an interesting sharing.

Diane P. District 1 DR

### **District Two**

We had been working hard to put on a Workshop, the first for our District in 12 years. The theme for the workshop was "Opening our Al-Anon & Alateen Tool Box" and finally came to fruition on Saturday, February 11, 2012 with a very nice turn out. Everyone that attended was given a Decorated Bag of Tools that we all can use in our recovery. Our District also had an unregistered Al-Anon group, that had been meeting for over 25 years in Madison, GA. After visiting with this group last fall, I am very proud to announce that they are now registered and the GR for the group, Carroll S. who has been in the program for 20 years, attended her first Al-Anon Assembly in January and was overwhelmed by the week-ends events. She stated "she didn't know that there was so much more involving Al-Anon". She also attended the District workshop and she has plans to attend the TEAM Event coming up in March. I want to send out "Thank Yous" to everyone at Assembly and the Workshop for making her feel welcomed to our A.F.G. with Hellos and Hugs. She now knows that there is much more to Al-Anon, than just I meeting a week. She is so eager to learn more.

Love in Al-Anon Service,

Anne C. District 2 DR

### **District Four**

#### **JOY OF SERVICE**

I recently looked on the WSO website for topics on service and came across the brochure entitled "Joy of Service." There is one section that lists one member's twelve reasons for becoming a "Trusted Servant." Her number one reason is, "It's someone else's turn." When I read that it really hit home with me.

This year is election year at all levels in our fellowship. Back in 2007 the person that was serving as our District Representative had to stepped down and I felt a strong kick from my Higher Power to stand to help finish out her term. Then in 2009, I stood again to complete a three year term. So, yes, your math is right. In September, when we hold District elections for new service positions I will have been DR for five years! It has been the best five years ever of my service in AI-Anon but now I am living proof of the wisdom behind the principle of rotation of service. It is time for me to step down and encourage others to step up.

Joy of Service is not just a saying for me anymore. Being DR has given me numerous opportunities to give back to this program at the group level, District and Area. Another of the twelve reasons to serve is, "Learn what principles above personalities really means." That one also hits home. Service above the group level has truly taught me what this means- not so much in dealing with other personalities but in recognizing how my own personality at times wants to over power our principles. Each one of you has been loving and kind in my journey of progress. You have encouraged me, allowed me to make mistakes, helped me right those mistakes and just love me anyway. You all have taught me immeasurable lessons that I carry with me daily and am grateful to have learned in such a safe place. I know now that my recovery will always be healthier and stronger when I am in service at any level. What a gift you have given me!

In July or August each of your groups will have a group conscience or business meeting to elect new officers and a new group representative and then in September the District and the Area will be electing new Trusted Servants. I pray that every member in every group will begin praying, talking to others and your sponsors to consider standing for a service position or encouraging others to do so. I only moved into service when I truly became willing to turn my life and my will over to a power greater than me. It has been one of the most important things I have done for myself in recovery. I pray that you will becoming willing to grow in ways you never imagined.

My heart is full of gratitude for the gifts District 4 and Area 11 have given me. Please share those gifts.

With Love and Gratitude,

Cheryl K. District 4 DR

### **District Six**

Steps No Elevator AFG (St. Simons Island) celebrated its 30th anniversary on December 29, 2011. Guests received a strip of paper with a slogan and were invited to share as part of the meeting. Approximately 35 attended and enjoyed refreshments afterwards.

Triangle AFG (Waycross) celebrated its 42nd anniversary on February 12, 2012 with a speaker meeting and refreshments afterwards.

Diane H. District 6 DR

## District Eight

Our little district has waxed and waned over the last few years. It seems that the new groups which start hold on for a while but get discouraged and give up too quickly. Our three long-time groups in Coffee County, McRae, and Vidalia are holding their own and we appreciate those people who remain so faithful in their quest to help families and friends of alcoholics.

In Vidalia on each 5th Sunday night, the AAs allow Al-Anon to be in charge of their open speaker's meeting. We invite a guest speaker and have refreshments (the AAs really enjoy the food!). We appreciate the willingness of many Area servants who have traveled long distances to tell their stories at a small, southeast Georgia meeting.

McRae's AA group has also allowed their Al-Anon group to do the same. Their speaker comes the Sunday night following the 5th Sunday which allows the two Al-Anon groups to visit and enjoy each speaker. They, too, prepare refreshments for the group. Thanks go to Cindy Doody for starting that tradition.

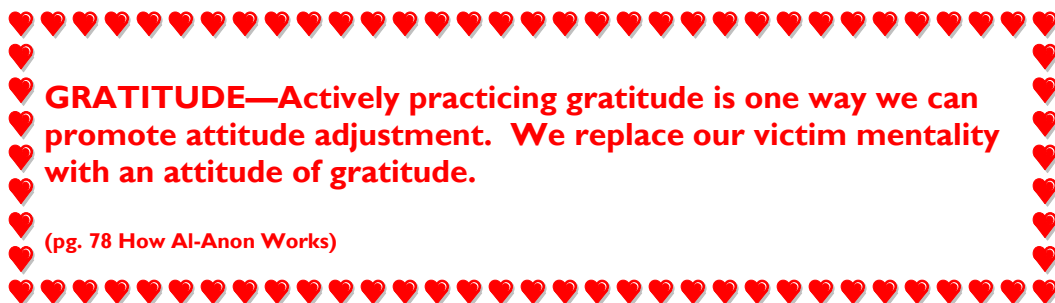
District 8 might be few in number, but our intense desire to help the hurting in our area more than makes up for lack of large numbers. Many of our members have over 20 years of dedicated service to the Al-Anon program and are committed to continue to be there for the newcomers and for themselves. We can't imagine life without Al-Anon!!

Jackie C.  
District 8 DR

## District Eleven

District 11 has been supplying literature at a new community center in Augusta, Ga. called the Kroc Center. We have also supplied a local "Y" with Newcomers packets as well as other CAL. We have included schedules of our meetings along with some member's phone numbers in case anyone has further questions or concerns about an Al-Anon meeting.

Ceile D., lead the effort along with other GR's to organize our Districts participation in a local community project. A Health and Wellness Expo was sponsored by one of the local TV stations here in Augusta. This was an awesome experience and we handed out a lot of literature about Al-Anon.



We did feel we planted a seed of Al-Anon as there were many that visited our booth and were given the information. We shared literature, brochures, bookmarks and meeting lists. We had internet access available for anyone wanting to know more if they were not comfortable coming to a meeting initially. We shared about the Web site (WSO) and about the web meetings, blogs, and podcasts that are available. We assured those that came by that help was available 24/7 and we encouraged people to "keep coming back."

We have had a meeting that has been low in attendance on Tuesdays at 12 noon. We had a flyer made up with information about Al-Anon and this particular meetings place and time. We handed this out at local physician's offices that were close to the meeting as well as leaving it anonymously at in the public. This meeting has also been listed in the local paper for Augusta's military base at Fort Gordon, GA for the past two years.

We had a District workshop on Dec. 14th lead by Linda B. of the Forest Hills Group (former DR of District 11 and CPC Chair Area 11). Linda offered her experience, strength and hope based on our Three Legacies to help the GR's with an increased knowledge base as it related to Al-Anon's principles and traditions. All agreed that our CAL/Legacies and our Al-Anon foundation is the premise of how to iron out differences at the group level and to place principles before personalities. She volunteered to take this same workshop (in shorter version) to any group in our District. To date, this has been taken to one group, with others on schedule at future dates. Linda did an excellent job of reminding us of the Al-Anon principles and guidelines! We are trying as a District to have more discussions of our three legacies by offering these guidelines at the group level. Two of our groups have scheduled Step Studies and at least one of our groups is incorporating a Tradition Study once a month, alternating with the Step.

As a District, we are in discussion about the need for an Introductory meeting. With feedback from our Area trusted servants, and the use the KBDM model, a group conscious decision is in the works. Our next District meeting is on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, and this of course will be a topic.

Linda B. will be conducting a workshop at the 37<sup>th</sup> Al-Anon/Alateen Convention of SC, February 16-19, 2012. The workshop, titled "How do I Handle a Slip"? is scheduled from 1:30 to 2:30, Saturday February 18. As a District we are most grateful for all of our willing servants who help share the Al-Anon message.

We have several other projects in the works, and we will share with you in the next issue of Ga. on Track.

In Service, Pam P. District 11 DR

## **District Fifteen**

### **Acworth Breakfast Group AFG**

Carol W, GR,

The Acworth Breakfast Group meets on Saturday mornings at 8AM at Acworth United Methodist Church, 4340 Collins Circle. The setting is serenity itself; if approaching the Acworth UMC from the west side via Highway 92, you drive across a small dam between Lake Acworth and Lake Alatoona. Most mornings there is a diaphanous mist rising from the lake, and you might see a fisherman or two in a canoe. There is also an outdoor meeting space available when it is warmer.

There is a lot of recovery going on at our meeting, which has fueled the growth of our group from 6 members to 12 - 13 at this time. We have members ranging from fairly new to several years' experience, and service experience ranging from an Assistant DR to DR to Institutions Coordinator. Many of the members work the steps with a Sponsor.

Members attend the 1 hour meeting and then drive to a restaurant to have the "meeting after the meeting." The group currently meets in the main church building but there is some talk of moving to a larger room if the group size continues to increase. If you are interested in more information, please call Carol at 770-975-1627 or Peggy at 770-975-3809.

### **Alatoona Hilltoppers:**

Hal W, GR

The Allatoona Hilltoppers, has grown in its 6 year history into a very healthy meeting. We meet on Monday nights at 7:00. The meetings take place at the Acworth United Methodist Church, 4340 Collins Circle. We regularly have 15-20 in attendance and a healthy flow of newcomers. We have about a 50-50 ratio of men and women. A significant portion of our group is working the steps with a sponsor. The sharing of experience, strength and hope makes this a vibrant meeting each week. We began in January doing a Tradition meeting the first Monday of each month and this has led to some great discussion.

### **Blue Springs AFG:**

Eddie L, GR

The Blue Springs AFG group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM, is a very good group and still growing. We normally have 20-25 every week and the growth and recovery is obvious when you listen to them sharing their Strength, Hope, and Serenity. It is truly amazing to listen as they share their experiences and many are working the steps with a sponsor. They listened when they first came in when we told them "to keep coming back". The group is almost 4 yrs old and at least a dozen have been here since the beginning, with many more with at least 3 yrs in the group. We normally meet in the kitchen area of North Star Church unless there is an affair going on and then we meet in one of the classrooms. We place signs both outside and inside the building with arrows showing the way. Every once in a while Tabby makes cupcakes for both our group and the AA group down the hall, and they are delicious. We have ordered 100 copies of Alcoholism 2012 and will be distributing them to Doctor offices and hospitals etc.

I am in my final months as the GR for this group and look forward for new members to step up to service work and continue their growth as they accept additional responsibilities, for this is how good groups stay strong and grow.

### **Villa Rica AFG**

Deborah K, GR

Villa Rica AFG recently relocated to Fullerville Baptist Church at 432 Old Town Road in Villa Rica and our meeting are on Mondays at 8 pm. Our group has a faithful following of approximately five, who are from varying walks of life. We have had 10-12 participants or visitors at a given time. Our group began nearly 8 years ago. Most of us have been Alanon members for a couple or so years, however one member, who participated in formation of our group has been involved in Alanon for over 20 years, and served as a DR in the Dunwoody area several years ago.

### **Carrollton AFG**

Marge K, GR

Our group is a great example of how Al-Anon can grow and survive! Our little group has been in existence since November 2011. We currently have anywhere from 1 to 6 people (besides myself) at our meeting. Word is spreading, though attendance is not as good as it could be. There is some great public outreach coming out of this group! A policeman from Carroll County suggested placing a meeting list at their precinct. The group is also discussing ordering flyers from WSO in quantity to distribute to health care people, lawyers, schools, etc. There will be a stamp on the back with the Carrollton meeting, along with a contact number and the Al-Anon website.

### **New Douglasville AFG**

Karen M, GR

The New Douglasville AFG which meets at the NOW Club at 7430 W. Strickland St. in Douglasville has been going strong for over 25 years. Our regular meetings are Monday and Friday at 8:00 PM and Wednesday at 11:00 AM. Our attendance averages 28 people a week. We have a good mix of old timers and new comers. We have recently restarted the Traditions study meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays at 8:00 PM. We are having a covered dish supper prior to these meetings at 7:30 PM. Come and enjoy good food and a great study meeting. The New Douglasville Alateen group meets every Monday at 8:00 PM. We give out lots of literature and have received permission to post invitations at the public schools. Attendance is fairly steady, and word of mouth is what usually brings the children to meetings. We average 5 or 7 attendees, but sometimes 12 or 15 might show up at a meeting. We think one of the keys to a successful Alateen group has been having 2 willing Alateen sponsors that have at least 2 years in the program, and continue to attend Al-Anon. When Susan and Ruth began this meeting, they waited a year before anyone began showing up. Now, they see, the children that have been coming for a long time, welcoming the newcomers.

### **Burnt Hickory AFG**

J. Diane W, GR

The Burnt Hickory Al-Anon Family group meets on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 pm in Room 208 which is near the back entrance to the building. We are across the hallway from the AA Group. We have been meeting for about 18 months and have grown to 10 - 12 members with a few old-timers and several newcomers. We have a drawing occasionally and give a subscription to The Forum as the prize. We are growing our literature collection and have a small lending library. We are in the process of doing our first group inventory. The group members all participate, sharing the opportunities to chair the meetings.

### **Serenity on the Square AFG**

Jaime C, GR

Serenity On The Square formed in March of 2009 and has grown from a small group of 4 or 5 to a strong a powerful group of more than 30! In the past 3 years we have seen tremendous growth in so many of members and we are working very hard to reach those just beginning the journey of recovery. As a group we have decided to dedicate the last meeting of each month to "How Al-Anon Works", reading and discussing the book at our own pace. We also have created a special Newcomer's Welcome package that includes the Newcomer's Packet, How Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2012, a meeting schedule as well as a set of other conference approved literature selected by our group. We look forward to continued spiritual growth as a group and as individuals!

## **District Seventeen**

Hello from District 17

District 17 has had a quiet winter, but now that spring is around the corner we are growing busy. Efforts are being made to try to start a new Al-anon meeting in Canton on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. The meeting is at Studio 121 at 121 Brown Street. We are also hoping to start a day-time group in Canton.

Serenity at Seven will have a Speaker Meeting with pot luck on Thursday, March 29, at 6:30. The meeting is at Hillside Methodist in Woodstock. Greg will be our speaker. He has been in Al-Anon 18 years.

Inventories seem to be the hot topic for our district. Several groups have recently completed a group inventory and others have plans to complete one. The district itself has made plans to complete a district inventory in late summer/early fall.

Thank you,

Anne M., District 17 Alternate DR

## **District Eighteen**

District 18 is excited to announce that Cumming, Alpharetta, John's Creek and Roswell Patch news sites are now featuring an article/event on Al-Anon that takes the reader to our Area website. The page can be found at <http://cumming.patch.com/d/events/is-someones-drinking-bothering-you>. The site is getting a lot of traffic -- one of the top 5 events on the site!

Come join us in beautiful Sautee-Nacoochee for our annual District workshop on Saturday, May 5! We will have two workshops and a lunchtime speaker. And if the recovery doesn't peak your interest, we will have some great baskets donated by the D-18 groups for raffle! Your covered dish gets you in! See you there!

In Service,

Kari Mc District 18 DR

## **District Nineteen**

District 19 will be hosting an Al-Anon day on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Please see flyer at the back of the newsletter for details and come out and join us!

Anne S.  
District 19 DR



## District Twenty-One

District 21 is very excited about the TEAM Event in Macon. In our February District Meeting, our group conscious voted to donate \$200 from our Public Outreach fund to help support the event. Our District had been asked to help with a short fall in funds by the TEAM Committee and we met the challenge. As DR, I am so grateful for the Group Representatives in District 21 who after consulting our Higher Power stepped out in faith by contributing to Area 11's first WSO attended TEAM Event.

Our District Secretary, Terri S. came up with a very creative way to use the budget item we had set aside for the Regional Service Seminar (that has been replaced by the TEAM event). Since the DR does not need to travel to attend TEAM, Terri asked if District 21 should use those funds to send GR's instead. And our wonderful group conscious again voted unanimously to pay the registration fee for the first EIGHT GR's who signed up.

So one DR and at least eight GR's from District 21 will attend "Recovery on My Mind" on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. We learned about the Concepts in a study lead by our former DR, Jeanie M. during District Meetings in 2011. All of us can't wait to hear what Rick from WSO has in store for us regarding the Concepts of Service next weekend.

Our Spanish speaking group, Solo Poy Hoy will be sending their Group Representative and another group member to the Diversity Workshop to be held as a part of the Team Event. We are so grateful that Arminda, a bilingual member, has stepped up to service for this group. They are in need of Spanish Conference approved Literature. If any group or district would like to donate Spanish books, please bring them to Macon.

That makes our total estimated attendance at TEAM, 13 members!

Our District AlaTeen Coordinator, Patrick B. has been working with the Area Task Force for AlaTeen on the changes needed to attract more young people. Both our TWO AlaTeen meetings need more teenagers! Please tell all your family and friends that teens in Cobb County now have two choices of meetings. Both are on Monday nights at 8:00pm. Together We Can Make It AlaTeen in East Cobb at Covenant Presbyterian And New View AlaTeen in South Cobb at Ridgeview Institute.

Jaxie F. led a fantastic Public Outreach project for District 21 to the Cobb County Library System. Thanks to Jaxie's service, our district donated 12 different pieces of Conference Approved Literature to the Cobb County Public Libraries. This is attraction at its best. Many newcomers cannot afford to purchase books and now they can check them out for free. Also, someone affected by another's drinking can learn about our wonderful program by reading CAL first. Then, hopefully, with HP's guidance, they will feel less afraid to attend a meeting at one of our 17 AFG groups.

In service,

Barbara D. District 21 DR

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## AREA CONVENTION CHAIR

The Georgia Al-Anon/Alateen (with AA participation) Convention 2012 will be held on August 10 – 12, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza Atlanta Airport Hotel, 1325 Virginia Ave., Atlanta, GA 30344. The theme is “Al-Anon’s Gifts That Transform our Lives”. There will be a Spanish speaking workshop on that Saturday. The speakers will be:

Michelle B. – Dingman Ferry, Pennsylvania – Al-Anon  
Rosie M. – Humble, Texas – Al-Anon  
Craig M. – Lincoln, Nebraska – Al-Anon  
Kayleigh L. – Dunwoody, Georgia – Alateen  
Bobbie C. – Tallahassee, Florida – AA

For further information, inquiries may be made to: [Dorothy.an@hotmail.com](mailto:Dorothy.an@hotmail.com) or H 770-969-2234, or C 678-634-2515. The registration forms, both in English and Spanish, may be found on [ga-al-anon.org](http://ga-al-anon.org), “area events”.

Thank you,  
Lois B  
Co-Chair for the 2012 GA Al-Anon/Alateen Convention

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## AL-ANON DECLARATION

### 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!***

# Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia

## Area Assembly

### May 19-20, 2012

**Purpose of Assembly:** 1) Elect a Delegate, Alternate, and other Assembly officers. 2) Receive and distribute reports on Area and world service affairs. 3) Review and approve interim reports of Area World Service Committee (AWSC).

**Goal:** The spiritual tone of Assembly will prevail by the demonstration of mutual respect and acceptable conduct as its members presume goodwill.

**Goal:** Assembly members will understand the purpose of the Assembly and the relationships within the structure.

**Goal:** Knowing that our Higher Power is present in the expression of our group conscience, Assembly members will be able to support and communicate Assembly decisions.

#### **Saturday – May 19, 2012**

11:00AM	Registration Opens – Host: District(s) 19 Literature Opens	Pallet 1 Peach Room
12:00PM – 1:00PM	Business Meeting – Part I	Monet Room
1:00PM – 1:30PM	Break / Literature Room Open	Peach Room
1:30PM – 2:30PM	GR Workshop GR Workshop – Assembly 101 (a.k.a. G.R. Basics) DR Workshop Alateen Workshop	Monet Room Pecan Room Renoir Room Degas Room
2:30PM – 3:00PM	Break / Literature Room Open	Peach Room
3:00PM – 4:30PM	Service Workshop Alateen Sponsor-to-Sponsor Workshop	Monet Room Degas Room
4:30PM – 5:00PM	Break / Literature Room Open	Peach Room
5:00PM – 6:00PM	Al-Anon Discussion Meeting Alateen Discussion Meeting Alateen Sponsor-to-Sponsor Workshop (continued)	Monet Room Pecan Room Degas Room
8:00PM	Al-Anon Speaker Meeting Anne C.	Monet Room

#### **Sunday – May 20, 2012**

8:00AM	Registration – Host: District(s) 19 Literature	Pallet 1 Peach Room
9:00AM – 1:00PM	Business Meeting – Part II	Monet Room

#### **Reminders**

Sign-in Sheets: DRs, deliver sign-in sheets to Alternate Delegate (Cathy O.) by 9:00AM.

Contributions: Provide contributions to Treasurer (Renelle M.) by 9:00AM or during breaks.

Check-out time: Hotel check-out time is **11:00AM**.

Meeting Times: Meeting end time is approximate. Please plan to stay until the meeting is adjourned. There will be periodic breaks throughout the meeting.

### **Would you like to be a Trustee? Why not?**

By the time you read this Area Newsletter you will have had a chance at the TEAM Event to be in a room with four of the nineteen members of the Board (Ric B., Anne C., Char G-F and myself). I hope you were there and got a chance to see that Board members are just members of the Fellowship that have been given the opportunity to serve at a different level. I would encourage you to consider trying for the same opportunity.

There are a few things to consider:

- You must not be a Dual Member,
- You must have 10 years of Al-Anon membership
- You must be/have been active at the Area level
- You must be eligible to be certified as an AMIAS.
- Able to communicate via email

For all practical purposes, you must also have been a GR and a DR. If you don't meet all these requirements, why not start planning to meet them in the future?

Every year six (three Regional Trustees and three Trustees at Large) of the nineteen Board positions are up for election.

To be eligible for the Regional Trustee you must be from the Region and be selected by your Area to submit your resume` to the WSO. The Southeast Regional Trustee position will be up for election in 2013. To be considered for that position, you must submit your resume to the Area for consideration at the April, 2012, AWSC. in other words, RIGHT NOW. You can get the resume` form from our Delegate. The current Regional Trustee is eligible for another term. I don't know if she will or will not stand for a second term.

Resumes for the Trustee-at-Large positions do not require consideration by the Area. They can be complete and submitted directly to the WSO and must be submitted by August 15<sup>th</sup> for consideration for the next election cycle.

I would especially ask the **men** in this Area to consider submitting Resumes. There are currently only two elected male Trustees and we both complete our terms in April, 2013. I would hate to have Ric B have to be the only male on the Board (that would be like some of my first Al-Anon meetings). To be considered for these two positions, you must have your resume` into the WSO by August 15, 2012.

Being a member of the Board is work but like all Al-Anon service well worth it for the growth it brings to us and for the opportunity it presents to meet and work with some really dedicated and outstanding Al-Anon members.

I hope you will consider it. If you have any questions or would like to discuss it, please contact me by email at [jpm105@comcast.net](mailto:jpm105@comcast.net). We can then set up a phone call if you desire.

Thanks.

JP M - Trustee at Large

## Announcing Assembly Details



### Meeting and Hotel Facilities Information

#### **Central Georgia Convention Center**

175, Exit 186

480 Holiday Circle

Forsyth, GA 31029


<http://centralgeorgiaconventioncenter.com/>

Hotel Reservations: 478-994-5691

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!**



**Next AWSC  
April 21, 2011  
12:00PM  
200 Moseley Rd  
Byron, GA 31008**



# **Celebrating Worldwide Unity**

**Al-Anon Family Groups**

## **Save the Date!**

**2013 Al-Anon  
International Convention**

**July 5-7, 2013**

**Vancouver, British Columbia,  
Canada**

Registration and housing information will be available  
In the fall of 2012.

Please note: There is a possibility that the World Service  
Office will hold a Day of Service in Vancouver on July 4th  
before the Convention begins on the 5th.



## **District 1 Third Annual Picnic**



**Featuring Speakers**

**AA Speaker Steve S. from Jasper, GA**

**Al-Anon Speaker Char F. from Barnesville, GA**



**Games, Prizes, Raffle, Skits & More**

**Date: April 28, 2012**

**Time: 10:00 am until 3:00 pm**

**Place: ETC Pavillion**

**255 Legion Rd.**

**Ellijay, GA**

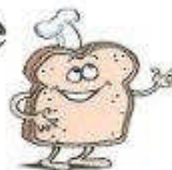


**Burgers, hotdogs and drinks will be provided**

**Please bring a covered dish and come**

**prepared**

**to have a GOOD TIME**



**for info call Diane at (706) 635- 4843**



# **Recovery Rocks**

**April 21, 2012**

**District 19 Al Anon Day**

**Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church  
3700 Pleasant Hill Rd,  
Duluth, GA 30096**

**Registration starts at 9:00 am**

**Workshops, Lunch, Speaker, Raffle,  
Spanish Speaking Workshop Available**

**Sheri B. of District 19 will speak at  
approximately 1:00 pm**

**RAFFLE DONATIONS NEEDED!**

**Raffle items should be provided to Group Reps for delivery at the District meeting. Group Reps should contact Clarissa D. at 678-887-5843 if they will not be able to deliver items to the district meeting. Suggestion for raffle items include: Literature, Baked Goods, Speaker CDs, Handmade Items**

**Lunch will be Pot-Luck—please bring a dish to share**