
Idaho AWSC 2008 Spring

Al-Anon AWSC Meeting Minutes

The AWSC of Idaho meeting was held in Boise on March 22, 2008.

Attendance

Cecilia	Chair	Marje	Literature Center Liaison
Berta	Delegate	Lisa	Group Records
Laura	Alternate Delegate	Barbara	District 1 Representative
Toni	Treasurer/Web Coord	Heidi	District 4 Representative
Traci	Secretary/Dist 3 Rep	Kelley	District 4 Alt Representative
Ruth	Alateen/AAPP	Jody	District 6 Representative
Ladora	Archives	Rob	Al-Anon Member (Dist 7)
Danielle	Newsletter/Dist 2 Rep	Robbin	Al-Anon Member
Wanda	Public Outreach (Dist 5)	Loni	Al-Anon Member
		Beverly	Al-Anon Member

Absent

Kathy B	District 7 (Rob to fill in)	Veloy	District 5 Representative (Wanda to fill in)
---------	--------------------------------	-------	---

Reports

Secretary's Report

Minutes were read from the Fall AWSC 2007 meeting. The following changes were made: Page 2, Delegate's report: should be WSC, not WSO; Al-Anon Day: should be \$356.49, not \$317.00. Page 4: the Alternate Delegate (not the Alt. DR) will be the timer. A motion was made to approve the minutes and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Toni reported that the following forms are available on the website (Area – members – reports): Expense reimbursement form, Treasurer contact information, Group contribution form, and the Area Reimbursement policy. Handed out info on opening group checking accounts (this is not on the web). It is important to remember that groups are associations or organizations, not non-profit corporations. She has also created an information document to pass on to future Area Treasurers.

2007 Profit and Loss (P&L) (attached)

\$8776.32 income, \$9044.26 expenses, net loss \$267.94

Toni quickly explained each line item, with more detailed explanation of the equalized expense item.

2008 P&L (year to date)

\$834.83 income, \$465.81 expenses, net gain \$369.02

Copies of the most current bank statement were passed around for verification.

Budget – proposed 2008 to be approved by Assembly.

There was some discussion of reimbursement policy for people holding both a District and an Area position (refer to reimbursement guidelines on website).

Spanish Outreach – will check with Jennifer P. on how many minutes are left on the cell phone; Jennifer has indicated that she's comfortable using her home phone for some of the business. This line item will be left at \$200.00.

Public Outreach – set for any type of outreach (does not include the Coordinator's budget). This line item will be reduced to \$150.00.

Toni requested that an additional check signer be added to the account. A motion was made, seconded, and passed.

A motion was made to approve the treasurers report; motion carried.

Delegate's Report

Berta checked with the Coordinators about whether they're receiving information via the WSO exchange, because it is all coming to her. She also reported that in the February Forum there was an article by John L., from Moscow, ID, written at Al-Anon Day in Kamiah.

Alternate Delegate's Report

Laura will email the DRs for input for the GR Exchange (Friday 7:30pm). The focus will be to familiarize GRs with tools, service sponsorship, assembly process, etc. She will also request topics for the Fall Assembly Exchange.

Alateen Recertification Process

Ruth reported that she's working to streamline the process; shredding much of the old stuff. Sponsors need to recertify no later than June 15, as the paperwork needs to be to WSO by July 1, 2008. She also walked us through the certification process: Sponsor gets fingerprinted, prints and reports go to State Police. Police send results to the AAPP. Receipts for reimbursement need to go to Toni.

Recertification – name, address, phone updates. Change forms go from AAPP to WSO.

- Please remember that it's all about keeping our kids safe
- There will be Alateen Sponsor training at International
- Goal – putting together new sponsor training in our Area.

Assembly Guidelines Committee

Meetings continue – it's a drawn out process comparing and combining two existing documents.

Spring Assembly Report

Will be held at the Cultural Center – their policy does not allow homemade treats in the facility. Kathy B. has contacted the Literature Center for literature to sell. Districts, please bring a raffle basket.

Area Coordinator Reports

Alateen/AAPP	See Alateen Recertification report; Attached report on page 10
Archives	See attachment on page 19
Group Records	See attachment on page 12
Newsletter	See attachment on page 12
Public Outreach	See attachment on page 12
Web Site	See attachment on page 13
Forum/Literature	Open
Literature Center	See attachment on page 14

Districts – please send updated meeting schedules to the Literature Center:
al.anon.idaho@gmail.com

District Rep Reports

District 1 – Barbara reported; see Attachment on page 14
 District 2 – Danielle reported; see Attachment on page 5
 District 3 – Traci reported; see Attachment on page 15
 District 4 – Heidi reported; see Attachment on page 16
 District 5 – Wanda reported; see Attachment on page 177
 District 6 – Jody reported; see Attachment on page 17
 District 7 – Rob reported; see Attachment on page 18

New Business

2008 Fall Assembly

Dates are October 10-12, 2008 in Boise. A rough draft of the agenda was distributed. Two rooms have been arranged, with classroom seating for the business meeting, along with the usual set-up: head table, 2 mics, tv with dvd, water. The luncheon was changed from buffet to a plated meal to expedite it. As yet, a speaker has not been determined, but it's being worked on. The theme is "Building Bridges", and Districts are asked to bring a raffle item. Districts are also asked to see if anyone is available to chair one of two Saturday afternoon open Al-Anon meetings.

2008 Al-Anon Days

June 28, 2008 in Pocatello. There will be panels and workshops, and Districts are asked to host an hour-long panel. Districts are also asked to supply a raffle item. Flyers are available.

Discussion about bringing a WSO staff person or Trustee: WSO will only pay if the Assembly is not attached to AA. Otherwise, we're responsible for the expenses.

Action Committees/Breakout Sessions – Spring Assembly

Breakout sessions/action items

- Pick one topic, breakouts on that topic
- Split GRs into 3 year committess, each gives a workshop on their topic sometime in that 3 years.
- Possible topics: What makes up a healthy group? How to involve new people in service? Sponsorship? Outreach?

Hot Topics for Assembly:

- Outreach – Wanda & Lisa
- Service Participation – Danielle & Laura
- Group Health – Robbin & Rob

DR Exchange

After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and passed to make the DR Exchange a closed meeting, with past, present, and alternate DRs are welcome to attend.

AI-Anon Assemblies separate from AA

- o This will be on the Assembly agenda for discussion only
- o A handout of the Pros and Cons discussed at Fall 2007 will be passed out to GRs
- o Because we just talked about it, the focus should change – “How do we envision our Assembly if we split”
- o Explain difference between a convention and an assembly – assembly = business, and groups pay for GRs to attend.
- o Do we need to have 2 per year?

North West Regional Delegates Meeting

Berta, Laura, Cecilia

- It was a really great pre-WSC event
- Felt empowered to do our own assembly
- Past and current Delegates attended
- Always a great place for new ideas – a calendar for an Area fundraiser

It was noted for the minutes that the AWSC selected the following Coordinators:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alateen/AAPP – Ruth B. | Archives – Ladora B. |
| Forum/Literature – Heidi W. | Newsletter – Danielle E. |
| Group Records – Lisa C. | Website – Toni R. |
| Public Outreach – Wanda L. | |

Members shared on Concept 8

Dates

- Spring Assembly May 16-18, 2008, Ontario
- AI-Anon Day June 28, 2008, Pocatello
- AWSC Meeting August 23, 2008, Boise
- Fall Assembly October 10-12, 2008, Boise

Attachments

<u>Page</u>		<u>Page</u>	
6	Agenda	14	District 1
7	Treasurer Report	15	District 2
8	Group Bank Accounts	15	District 3
9	Delegate's Report	16	District 4
10	Alateen/AAPP Report	17	District 5
12	Newsletter Report	17	District 6
12	Public Outreach Report	18	District 7
12	Group Records Report	18	Pros & Cons – Al-Anon Assembly separate from AA
13	Website Report	20	Archives Report (separate pdf)
14	Literature Center Liaison		

Respectfully submitted,
Traci E., Area Secretary

Agenda

Area World Service Committee Meeting

Saturday, March 22, 2008

Kopper Kitchen Restaurant, Boise, Idaho

10:00 Serenity Prayer, Welcome: Cecilia S., Area Chairperson
12 Traditions
12 Concepts of Service
Forum Reading on Concept 3
Introductions around the room; first name, Area position & home group

10:15 Secretary Report – Traci E.

10:25 Treasurer's Report – Toni R.

10:45 Delegate's Report – Berta R.

Old Business:

11:00 Area Alateen Recertification Process – Ruth B.

11:15 Ad Hoc Committee report on Assembly Guidelines – Berta

11:30 **Break (15 minutes)**

11:45 Spring Assembly, Ontario, OR; May 16 – 18, 2008 – Final Agenda (Rob)

12:00 **Coordinators' Reports** (2 minutes each & submit electronic report to Area Secretary and Area Newsletter Editor)

Alateen/AAPP – Ruth

Area Forum/Literature Coordinator – Open

Archives – Ladora B.

Area Newsletter Editor – Danielle E.

Area Website – Toni R.

Area Group Records – Lisa C.

AIS/LDC – Marje K.

Area Public Outreach –PI, CPC, Institutions –
Wanda

12:20 **Districts' Reports** (2 minutes each & submit electronic report to Area Secretary and Area Newsletter Editor)

One: Barbara V. Three: Traci E. Five: Veloy F. Seven: Kathy B. (Rob)

Two: Danielle E. Four: Heidi W. Six: Jody C.

New Business:

12:45 Fall Assembly, Boise, ID Oct. 2008 – District 3

12:50 2008 Al-Anon Day(s) – District 5 - Wanda L.

1:00 **Break (15 minutes)**

1:15 Action Committees/Breakout Sessions for the Spring Assembly

1:30 Start Discussion – Al-Anon Assemblies separate from AA Assemblies

2:00 Any additional discussion?

2:15 Sharing from the Heart

3:00 **Closing – 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.

Voting Issues for GRs at the Spring Assembly:

1. Assembly Guidelines?

Treasurer Report

Area Meeting, March 22, 2008

Forms on Website

I worked closely with the Website Coordinator to post forms on the website to help members and groups.

Idaho Area Expense Form

This form is used to record expenses incurred by area officers, coordinators, and Alateen sponsors requesting reimbursement. The form is completed, receipts are attached, and then the form is mailed to the Treasurer. I created both a pdf and Excel version of this form so you could download the pdf to fill in manually or the Excel to complete on your computer.

Treasurer Group Handout

This handout documents how and where to send Area donations.

Group Donations Form

This is a new form that was inspired by information Ruth B received from other Areas. It is a way to identify a donation to ensure a group can be credited with the donation. The form should be used to send donations to WSO, Area, District, or the Literature Center. Sometimes a group will mail a check and it is very difficult for the receiving entity to identify the group. This form identifies the group with Area, District, and group numbers.

Groups are encouraged to fill in the top of the form with their group's information, then make copies each time a donation is made. This way the group's treasurer does not have to fill in the form each time.

If a group needs their group number, they are look at the meeting schedules on the website. Each schedule has the group's number.

Area Expense Reimbursement Policy

Area coordinators and officers are encouraged to review this policy to understand what is reimbursed by the Area.

Financials

Financial statements for yearend 2007 and 2008 year-do-date were distributed at the Area meeting. The budget was presented. Contact your District Representative for copies of the reports.

Group Bank Accounts

Have you tried opening a checking account for your group at a new bank and been frustrated with the process? I created a document to help you navigate the process and to clearly identify your group so the bank can properly set up the account.

Please note that your group should have an EIN (the document explains what this is and how to obtain one). You should never use the Literature Center's EIN for your group.

Documentation

I created a document called Treasurer Information. It includes a chart of accounts to explain each expense and income account, a list of treasurer activities, and details of the initial setup when a new Treasurer is elected.

Bean Countingly Yours,
Toni R.
Area Treasurer

Group Bank Accounts

March 2008

Treasurers can follow these procedures to set up a group bank account. These procedures will work for existing groups who move to a new bank. Banks have new procedures due to the Patriot Act so if you didn't have problems in the past, you may now encounter them if you change banks.

Obtain an EIN (Employer Identification Number)

An Employer Identification Number (EIN) is also known as a Federal Tax Identification Number, and is used to identify a business entity. Generally, businesses need an EIN. This is a free service offered by the Internal Revenue Service. Do NOT use the EIN for the Literature Center.

Apply By EIN Toll-Free Telephone Service

Taxpayers can obtain an EIN immediately by calling the Business & Specialty Tax Line at (800) 829-4933. The hours of operation are 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. local time, Monday through Friday. An assistor takes the information, assigns the EIN, and provides the number to an authorized individual over the telephone.

Apply Online

The Internet EIN application (<http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=102767,00.html>) is the preferred method for customers to apply for and obtain an EIN. Once the application is completed, the information is validated during the online session, and an EIN is issued immediately.

The online application process is available for all entities whose principal business, office or agency, or legal residence (in the case of an individual), is located in the United States

or U.S. Territories. The person applying for the EIN must have a valid Social Security Number in order to use the online application.

Apply By Mail

The processing timeframe for an EIN application received by mail is four weeks. Ensure that the Form SS-4 contains all of the required information to open a bank account.

Open an Account at the Bank

Do the following at the bank and have the correct documentation before you go in.

Type of Account

Your group is an association or organization (NOT a non-profit corporation). This causes the most confusion at the bank. There are different procedures for a non-profit versus an association or organization.

An association or organization is an informal social club, charitable organization, or other unincorporated organization (scout troop, soccer club, Al-Anon group)

Required Documentation

You will need the following to open the account:

- The EIN for the group that you applied for. Do NOT use the EIN for the Literature Center. This is important because groups are not part of the Literature Center's application as a non-profit organization; 501(c)(3).
- Copy of Minutes from a meeting containing the election naming you as Treasurer. Include mention that the Treasurer may designate another member to be on the account. Or you can create a document containing the names of individuals who have authority to open and sign on the bank account. The second option should have the signature of the GR.
- Name, address, date of birth, SSN for each signer.

Delegate's Report

3/21/08

Once again, thank you for electing me as your Idaho Area delegate. As the year began my first thoughts were "What have I gotten myself into?".... "Can I really do this?", and "What were you thinking?"..... However; as I remember to recite "THIS TOO SHALL PASS, KEEP IT SIMPLE, AND BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD GO I" and praying only for HIS will in my life and power to carry it out, I am rest assured I am exactly where my Higher Power wants me to be!

On February 7, 8, & 9th I attended the Northwest Regional Delegates meeting in Helena, MT. along with our Chairperson Cecilia, and Alternate Delegate Laura. The meeting was informative, well attended and had 716 years of experience, strength and hope. I heard 2 wonderful speakers, attended the breakout sessions and discussed "hot topics" that are the chosen agenda items for the World Service Conference. Next year the delegates meeting will be in Nebraska.

The Conference theme this year is "Build Bridges – Energizing Our Spiritual Quest." We are encouraged to use this theme at the Area, District, Group and personal level.....

Please take this theme to your meetings and ask the following questions.... Where do we need to build a bridge, do we have a gap somewhere?... Is it possibly welcoming a newcomer, is it having regular business meetings, is it public information in our home town, ...are there service positions that need filled, can I fill a gap somewhere, and where have we built strong sturdy bridges that we can learn from. A District, Group, or personal inventory is a great way to discover where we need to build a Bridge to Energize Our Spiritual Quest.

Have you heard about the "Concept Blog"?...If not, be sure to check it out on the www.al-anon.alateen.org/members website. This is a concepts workshop and the concept number will correspond with the current month. Since this is March it is on concept 3. It is an informative and a wonderful way to share our experience strength and hope with each other and learn how we apply them to our service structure, our meetings and our personal lives.

Remember 2008 International Convention is in Pittsburg, PA. on July 4-6. There is still time to register. The 2013 International Convention site has been selected. We will be going to Vancouver, British Columbia.

I will be leaving for the World Service Conference on April 11 and return on the 18th. I have been selected to be on the Admissions Handbook Committee. I will also have the honor of going to Stepping Stones on Tuesday, April 15th.

If you are sending Love Gifts please send them to
Berta Ruark

Idaho Area Delegate (Please hold for WSC 4/12-4/18)
Stamford Marriott Hotel & Spa
Two Stamford Forum
Stamford, Connecticut 06901.

Thank you again for allowing me to be YOUR Trusted Servant.

With Love in Service,

Berta

Idaho Area Delegate Panel 48

Alateen Coordinator/ AAPP Report **March 22, 2008**

I am very excited about my new role as Idaho's Area Alateen Coordinator & AAPP (Area Alateen Process Person). As a past Alateen Sponsor, I have a passion for Alateen. I see a little bit of myself in each kid. I've heard Alateens share with incredible honesty about how they've been affected by the disease of alcoholism. I've also heard them share how the Twelve Steps work in their homes, and make their lives better. It's an awe-inspiring experience to witness the program making a difference in a teenager's life. With your help, we will strengthen our Alateen program in Idaho by giving our Alateen Sponsors the support & training they need to feel confident in their roles, and by giving our Alateen kids safe meetings to attend and a strong Twelve Step program to apply to their lives.

Here are some current Alateen issues:

Background Checks:

All active Alateen sponsors must have finger-printed background checks completed to be re-certified. If you have not done this, go to our Idaho Al-Anon website at www.idaho-al-anon.org, and click on “Area/ Members,” then on “Alateen Sponsorship” to get full instructions on our Idaho Area background check instructions.

Recertification Process:

Every year WSO requires each area to re-certify all our Alateen Sponsors. This may sound bad but it’s really a good thing, since it forces us to update our AMIIAS (Al-Anon members involved in Alateen service) records—that means our kids are safer!

The re-certification process is very simple. WSO will send me a spreadsheet of all Alateen sponsors, including addresses, phone numbers, email addresses. They will also send a list of all Idaho Alateen meetings, including location, time, day, contact names & numbers. We need to send back updated records no later than July 1st.

To do this, I’ll send records to each district. I’m asking our District Alateen Coordinators (or District Reps) to return the lists with corrections, additions, deletions, no later than June 15th. This will give me time to consolidate the files and return them to the WSO.

Alateen Sponsor Training

The World Service Office is working on a new ALATEEN SPONSOR TRAINING Module. Hurray! It will be officially introduced on July 3rd in Pittsburgh at the Al-Anon International Conference. My goal is to start on-going ALATEEN SPONSOR TRAINING sessions at all our area assemblies. The first training session will happen at our Fall Assembly in Boise, if there’s interest.

Alateen Sponsors gain so much insight by sharing their experience, strength, and hope with one another. Our new Training Module will give us the benefit of world-wide Alateen sponsor experiences. Isn’t that exciting news? I’d love for each district to consider paying the expenses of one or two of your Alateen Sponsors to each assembly.

District Alateen Contacts

WSO is asking that each district have an Alateen contact person (this could be a District Alateen Coordinator). Requests & questions about Alateen meetings come in to our World Service Office from schools & professionals across the country. If a request comes from an Idaho educator or professional, the WSO will send it to me and I will refer it to the nearest district. If there is no contact name, the District Rep will be my contact. I will ask the district to follow-up on these requests in their local area.

Thank you for allowing me to serve in this role.

*Love in Service,
Ruth Blaha*

Newsletter Editor

I just want to say "Thank You" for giving me this opportunity to serve as the Area Newsletter person. I'm very excited. My plans are to put the newsletter out after each meeting. I've been working on the layout and collecting stories from everyone who is willing to share. Anyone wishing to have something added to the newsletter can e-mail me at: danielle.engelhardt@gmail.com, or mail it to me at Danielle, PO Box 181, Garfield, WA 99130

Public Outreach

I have received from WSO letters that have information to send out adds to your local newspaper. Regarding the February issue of the Forum and the 20 questions, to place in your local papers. Hopefully everyone received a copy at Area meeting with the guidelines. This will be helpful to those that are affected by someones drinking. I am encouraging all the districts to get a copy in there local newspaper. I will be going over some other ideas and have them ready for you at assembly in May. The breakout sessions will be great for this.

Love in Service
Wanda

Group Records

Lisa C.
Area 13 Records Coodinator Report
Area Meeting – March 22, 2008 – Boise, ID

Thank you for allowing me to be the Area 13 Records Coodinator. I'm learning quite a bit and will do the best job I can. Please do not hesitate to let me know if the groups have any concerns about information updates to Area and WSO.

There have been a number of GR and meeting changes over the past couple of months. I'm providing a printout of the current meeting information on file for each District. I'd like to invite each District Rep to take the information back and share it with their Group Representatives so updates can be made. Group Reps also should know what the process is for getting meeting change information to the Area and WSO.

Two ways to update information with Area & WSO:

- 1) You can e-mail me directly (lisacon2001@yahoo.com) with any changes and I can file an on-line Group Records Change Form to WSO on behalf of the group.

- 2) Groups can file a Group Records Change Form by mail or online at www.al-anon.org/test/MemberForm.htm

If groups choose to file their own information, WSO sends a confirmation to the Area Records Coordinator so the Area Records and Website Schedules can be updated.

Handouts:

- Meeting information currently on file with Area, by District
- Blank Group Records Change Form for group use
- Instructions on how to fill out the Group Records Change Form
- Copy of the current District schedule on the Website

Website Coordinator Report

Area Meeting, March 22, 2008

Events

Districts continue to provide flyers and other information for their events. Each are posted on the website and removed the day after the event is concluded.

Newsletter Distribution

There are 82 members signed up to receive the electronic newsletter.

Anyone can request to be added to the distribution list by emailing webinquiry@al-anon-idaho.org. You can also click on “Send your email address” at this webpage: www.al-anon-idaho.org/Newsletter/index.htm.

Alateen Sponsorship

The webpages and forms referring to Alateen sponsorship were updated to include the new Area Alateen Process Person. Encourage potential Alateen sponsors to visit this page to understand the procedures.

Meetings

District 3’s meeting schedule by town has been removed from the website. The meeting schedule by day of the week remains because it is current.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni R.

Website Coordinator

www.al-anon-idaho.org

Literature Center Liaison

The Literature Center has three new board members as of January 1. They are Marje K., Toni R. and Toni R.

The Literature Center also has new hours as of March 1. It is open from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

A Literature Order Form can now be accessed on the web at www.Al-Anon-Idaho.org. The Order Form can be printed and mailed or faxed in.

We also have a conference room available to us for meetings. Contact The Literature Center for more information.

Thank you all for your continued support of The Literature Center.

Marje K.

District 1

Hello From North Idaho!

We are in the midst of a snowstorm but what's new? We have had a great turn out for the first quarter of 2008! Our new officers, representatives, and volunteers have really been willing and able to support the district. We have been trying to meet once a month during the week in the evening. We have had about 12 attendees, most of them GRs (group representatives). We try to remind members that they all have a voice at the district meetings.

I am very excited to be the new DR (district representative) for District 1. We have some **very** enthusiastic members. Some have been involved beyond the group level for some time and some are new volunteers. We are thrilled to have Cecilia S, our first DR, the past Area Delegate and current Area Chairperson involved. Also, we have Lori M. our recent past DR and now a WSO Outreach Member-at-large, who always has a shoulder for me to lean on. The new treasurer Sue O. and secretary Barbara K. are **making** this district run.

We are so excited to sponsor Mary Pearl coming September 19-21 for a 12 Step Workshop in CdA (Coeur d' Alene). There is a separate planning committee working to facilitate that weekend. We hope to have a serenity walk on Sunday around Tubb's Hill and a breakfast right there in McQuen Park near the main entrance to the trail. Please plan on attending!
Call Lori M. for more details (208) 676-8802.

One member has challenged each one of us to leave some Al-Anon literature in a public place or with a community member for outreach in the month of April. She started this because April is Alcohol and Drug Awareness Month. I remember WSO asking us to do this for Lois W's birthday, which I think is April 4. Is that correct?

We have 18 groups in our district, including one Alateen group in CdA. We now have a meeting every day of the week thanks to Becca and the supporters of the new Saturday *Serenity Seekers* meeting which meets at 7pm at the Unity Church of North Idaho, 4465 N 15th St, CdA.

We are grateful to the Alano Fellowship Hall for being open to holding Al-Anon meetings and events. Please contact Terri S.(208)665-0259 for more information on club availability and upcoming events with Al-Anon participation.

Sandpoint Happy Solutions has combined their city's 3 meetings into 1. Although they still meet 3 times a week, they have 1 GR and all meet at The First Lutheran Church, 526 Olive.

Welcome to all the new GRs and officers and other volunteers. We need all of you and thank you for your time and effort and travel and support. You all mean so much to me!

yours in service, Barbara Vidinha
(208)651-4543, 1969 W Norman Ave, CdA, Id 83815, hrpwr@yahoo.com

District 2

The rest of the meetings from Washington District 3 joined the rest of the Idaho District 2 in the last few months. It has been wonderful. We had a successful Progressive dinner in December and some good elections.

This district is working on getting active in public outreach. One of our members has taken the PSA we received, when District 1 received the area award. It will play at KLEW TV starting in April, approximately five times a week. Hooray for our District.

We also had a new meeting start in Lapawii in January.

District 3

March 2008

Greetings from District 3!

I am really excited and proud to be the new DR for this great District! We've had at least 11 GRs attend our 3 district meetings this year. We have a nice mix of new and returning GRs, and everyone is enthusiastic. One of the projects we're going to undertake is to put together a District Policy Manual. I am inspired by the Area Policy Manual; I know there are issues that we often have questions about on a District level, so we've put together an ad hoc committee to work on it.

We've filled all of our coordinator positions, and great things are happening! I'm pleased to report that we're experiencing a resurgence of Alateen in the valley, with 3 established meetings happening in schools, with another one coming. They're doing so well that students attending at a junior high have requested that one starts at the corresponding high school, so that they can continue next year. There's also a new evening Alateen meeting that is doing well. I can't say enough about the sponsors who have worked so hard to get all of this started, and who keep it going.

Public Outreach is alive and well, with an Institutions meeting starting at Intermountain Hospital in late March, and continuing on the last Thursday of each month. As well, we've been asked to have a presence at the Idaho Conference on Alcohol and Drug Dependency (ICADD) in May. Volunteers will man a booth, getting the word out about Al-Anon to alcohol and drug professionals. This year, we've been invited to have an actual Al-Anon meeting on site one evening.

Plans for the Gem State Round-Up (August 1-3) and Fall Assembly (October 10-12) are in full swing, and flyers will be forthcoming.

Love in Service,
Traci Ehlers
District 3 Rep

District 4

Greetings from District Four,

What has happened last year: The annual Buhl Christmas party was a big success, this event just keeps growing and growing and it is a good to see every one. Al-Anon had a wonderful Speaker, Doug. Doug and his wife had just moved to the Magic Valley from back east and we were so pleased that Doug had agreed to be our Speaker.

Our Annual February Luncheon was a success. After hibernation for a few months it is always nice to see the other groups come together. I think it is a good thing to get out of our own little cliques and meet new members. I tend to get comfortable in my home group and it is good to know that no matter where I go in this world there will be an Al-Anon meeting with the same Traditions, Steps, and Concepts as my home group, the simple, yet very spiritual foundation that Al-Anon has to offer.

What is planned this year: We are planning a Summer Fun Event, which will include swimming, games, and family fun. A yard sale fundraiser for Alateen will be included in this year's event. I had learned a valuable lesson in last year's yard sale fundraiser: "Ask for Help!" I learned that there are some things that I simply cannot do on my own. I learned that arrogance and self-centeredness is detrimental to my recovery.

Last years Spaghetti and Speaker was a success and a lot of fun. We plan on having it as an annual event. We have an Al-Anon Speaker, and we include our brothers and sisters from A.A. We learned some lessons and will do some things a little different this year. Again, "Ask for Help." I am learning slowly.... My Higher Power has been very patience with me.

Elsa has retired from our outreach coordinator and Shar has picked up where she left off. Thank goodness for Elsa's wonderful job in outreach that Shar has been able to adjust to it very well. Although we are looking for a group effort in outreach instead of just one person tackling it on there own. I am reminded by Concept Four: Participation is the Key to Happiness.

I am pleased to Report that we have opened a new meeting in Jerome. This will include Alateen as soon as certification process has been completed. There will also be an Alateen meeting opening on Tuesday Night in Filer as soon as certification process is complete. J

Although I get discouraged that not all the groups from District Four participate in the events I am reminded that all groups are autonomous and that I cannot control another's behavior. It is a good lesson in "Let go and Let GOD."

I am very grateful for the opportunity that Al-Anon has given me and I will continue to have courage to change.

District 5

Greetings from District #5 Al Anon March 2008

As the new D.R. for District #5 I'm so excited with all the wonderful things our committee has been able to accomplish in a very short time. All our District positions are filled and everyone is doing a wonderful job. It is going to be a very productive three years.

We have the plans for Al-Anon day all but finalized. I feel it will be very enjoyable for all who can attend. Come and feast on the hospitality of South East Idaho. We are looking forward to seeing you all.

May we all be blessed with health and strength to accomplish what needs to be done for this program that helps so many?

Sincerely

VeLoy

District 6

March, 2008

Hopeful-for-spring greetings from District 6! Our news is as follows: Our Holiday Social in December was a huge success. Over sixty people participated in the potluck dinner and raffle. We had two speakers, one from Al-Anon and one from AA, share their experience, strength and hope. The Holiday Social has been our biggest annual fundraiser, at least until this year. This year we have added a "Spring Fling Chili Cookoff" as another much-needed fundraiser. It is scheduled for April 26, from 5:30-8:30 PM at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. (Check out the flyer on the website!) Eight individuals will provide his or her own special batch of chili, others are bringing corn bread, cheese, onions, side dishes and desserts. We will again have two speakers (Al-Anon and AA) and hold a raffle. Should be fun! Both the Holiday Social and the Spring Fling Chili Cookoff invite (and enjoy) AA participation.

We also have a speaker brunch on the third Sunday of every month (excluding June and December) at Aussie Eats (a new location) in the Guesthouse Inn on Lindsey Blvd. This brunch follows the district meeting. So far this year we have had a speaker tape meeting, a panel on the steps and a person telling her story, all ways by which we share our experience, strength and hope.

Overall as a district we are doing well and growing. Several meetings have reported newcomers that keep coming back.
Best wishes, Jody C.

District 7

March 2008

Working with District 7 to put on this Assembly has been wonderful. People have contributed according to their talents and jobs have gotten done. Our program flyer is completed, our committees are in place and people are starting to think about how they can help. **One important note** to all who will be attending the Assembly; **Oregon law prohibits bringing any homemade foods into the Cultural Center or to a hospitality room** in a hotel. Packaged foods prepared by Albertson's or Wal-Mart are acceptable and all pre-made items like chips and Oreo's are fine. People can bring homemade items to their own rooms although it is still not in keeping with the law but no one would police that.

As a District we purchased the special outreach magazine: Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2008 and when our assembly is over we will begin planning how to distribute them to the groups and how to use them to spread the message of hope we have been privileged to receive.

We have moved our Mini-Conference/ Potluck Luncheon fund raiser to the Fall as we were immersed in Assembly planning this Spring.

An age-old problem is how to get people to take jobs from GR to District to Area. We will continue to include people; take them to conferences and Al-Anon events and see if this magic happens to them as it did to us.

On a personal note, I'm not with you at this Area meeting as I'm in Australia hopefully having the time of my life! See you at the Spring Assembly!!!

Love in Service,
Kathy Bosler
District Representative District Seven

Al-Anon Assembly split from AA

Pros and Cons

- Financial – can we support our own Assembly. Is AA carrying us through the financial and planning parts of Assemblies
- Kathy B has heard AA state “If Al-Anon is going to cost AA too much to have them at Assemblies then maybe we shouldn't have them there.” We are getting big enough to do this on our own and we may even have to have these in the places that have facilities big enough to hold us.
- Are we reliant on the split money or can we do this on our own. We only get a percentage of the profits from Assembly. We get income from the raffle that a large percentage of AA purchase tickets for.
- We will have to look at if we are only doing Al-Anon then we should be able to go to Northern Idaho. Or are we going to select a central location.

- If we are on our own then we can select locations that are accommodating to our group.
- There were quite a few AA in attendance at our lunch today. There is a lot of frustration about not getting our money/split from AA after Assemblies.
- Someone from Eastern Idaho stated that they have never had problems with the AA members and they are a big supporting part because Alcoholism is a family disease and it should include the whole family.
- We need to grow up and have our own program/Assembly and be financially self-supporting.
- WSO will financially support and send their trusted servants to do workshops or speak.
- We can make our own choices and be fully self-supporting.
- One member spoke about it not being fully self-supporting because we rely on AA to purchase raffle tickets.
- Al-Anon Day began 19 years ago to practice doing it on our own but it has not grown in numbers and in fact if it travels it sometimes decreases in numbers maybe due to not having paid GRs going
- One member spoke of how they did it where he used to live. They tried to do it at the same time as AA next door but completely separate. We are supposed to be supportive of AA.
- One member spoke of how she benefited by listening to the AA speakers at Assembly

Archives

From the
Archives Coordinator
Ladana B.

In Remembrance:

Grace Louise R. 1924 - 2007

Trusted servant Grace Louise
or Louise as most of us knew
her was a good friend to me
and to her home group - Steps to
Serenity AFB in Boise.

Even though her health was
failing she looked forward to weekly
meetings up until she retired from
her home into an assisted living
center.

She was a Group Representative (G.R.)
in the 1970's. She rode together to
assemblies and shared hotel rooms.

When the Literature Center became
organized she was an Intergroup
Representative (I.R.).

The persons of early Al-Anon in
Idaho are truly to be remembered.