



MISSOURI ROUND ROBIN

A Publication of
Al-Anon Family Groups of Missouri



NOVEMBER 2011

Delegate's Report



Greetings to all of you!

Some of us have a hard time staying on task and I'm one of them. Fortunately, Richard has helped me get my focus back where it belonged!

How many of you go to the WSO member website (<http://al-anon.org/members/>) to download the various publications available there? If you were recently looking for the Group Inventory Guideline (G-8), you may have found it missing from the list. It is now back in the list—newly revised and with some helpful additions.

Have you heard/seen that Al-Anon Family Groups is now on Facebook and Twitter? For more information about that, I will simply quote the letter I received from WSO about these social networking sites:

- On Twitter, look for us as "AlAnon_WSO". Please note that there is no hyphen in Al-Anon (this omission is due to Twitter's requirements); also, there is an underscore (space) before WSO. Our Twitter page clearly states that anyone, member and non-member alike, is welcome to the information provided there, and that following Al-Anon on Twitter should not be interpreted as a statement of Al-Anon membership. Although most Twitter accounts also publish comments by "followers," ours does not—because we would not want to see Al-Anon members make statements there that could break their anonymity. It is a public Web site, not a meeting place where Al-Anon members can share with each other in anonymity.
- On Facebook, look for us as "Al-Anon WSO." We are not accepting any "friends" on Facebook—even though we understand that building up a large bank of friends is a big part of how Facebook usually works. Again, we're sharing information that we hope you will pass on to others, but ask that you not identify yourself as an Al-Anon member on a public Web site, such as your Facebook page. Also, we would not want someone to look at the WSO's list of friends, assume that the

WSO's friends are Al-Anon members, and then market products or services to this list of Al-Anon's "friends."

- Instead of becoming a "friend" to follow us, we encourage you to subscribe to updates to the Al-Anon Facebook page via RSS feed. Here's how you do that: After you log in to Facebook, search for "Al-Anon WSO." After you have landed on our Facebook page, please note that the left-hand navigation bar includes an option, "Subscribe via RSS." Once you have done that, look to the RSS feed on your Internet browser; that's where you will be able to find a listing of all the new posts to the Al-Anon WSO Facebook page.
- While we understand that Al-Anon members "like" Al-Anon, indicating on your Facebook page that you "like" Al-Anon could also be understood as a public statement that you are a member. If you have clicked on the "like:" options, you can retract that gesture. Please note that the left hand navigation bar, near to the RSS subscription option, includes an option to retract your "liking" Al-Anon.

WSO has been conducting Conference Calls with many of our Area Coordinators. Many of them took place the Saturday of our Convention. (Wasn't the Convention fun!?) Marilyn Medley invited me to listen in with her on the Area Alateen Process Person Conference Call. I really didn't want to do it. I wanted to go play, but I took her up on the offer and was glad I did! Some things I had heard, but hadn't really noted their importance came into focus for me because of that phone call. The big deal for me was the important role the District Representative (DR) plays in making sure our Area Alateen Safety Requirements are met. It makes the role of the DR even more important to our Area—and the fact that we have so many districts without DRs is an even greater concern.

As a direct result of listening in on the AAPP Conference Call, I plan to attend the Alateen Sponsor Recovery/Training Conference at the Rickman Center in Jefferson City (January 28 & 29, 2012). As of this writing, that flyer is not yet on the Area Website, but

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Chairperson's Report



As this newsletter is written, the November Assembly is right around the corner.

A discussion on Tradition Two.

In Al-Anon we do have leaders. "Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern."

Several cautions are listed regarding this Tradition:

- If few volunteer for Service, the rest of the Group may sit back and let them do all the work.
- Rotation of leadership is hindered when no one volunteers.
- "Often members of a group are only too willing to let their officers serve indefinitely. As long as someone else is willing to do the work, then do not volunteer to take over. These officers may gradually come to feel indispensable and important, and without realizing it, take managing attitudes."¹
- "The work of the group should be shared. If the terms of service for each position are set in advance, it provides other members with the opportunity to serve, as well as to gain the experience such service gives."¹
- If a minority dominates the meetings or discussions, it is the responsibility of the membership to assert their voice.

We are a fellowship of equals. Though some may hold office, have specific experience, or be a newcomer, none is more "equal" than any other.

Here are other highlights of the November Assembly.

- Area Inventory. Holly D. and Geneva D. continue to prepare a Missouri Area Inventory.
 - Action Committees: At the November Assembly, instead of holding Action Committee meetings, we will have a discussion of the strengths, challenges, and future of the Action Committees. A motion whether to continue the Action Committees will be decided by vote on Sunday.
 - TEAM events. Delegate Geneva D. has continued to gather information about the possibility of the Missouri Area hosting a TEAM Event.
 - Al-Anon International Convention 2018 Host Committee. Submissions, if any, will be discussed. By vote, one city may be submitted to the WSO.
 - Alateen ad-hoc Committee. This group is continuing to meet to develop proposals for revisions to the Missouri Area Procedures regarding Alateen.
- Ratification of Website Coordinator. After the resignation of Karen P. for personal reasons, Sharon S. has volunteered to complete Panel 51 as Web Coordinator. Working with Missouri Area Group

Records Coordinator Penny H., Sharon and Karen have begun the transition of the website.

In preparing for the November Assembly, I have been reviewing my notes and the evaluations from the Spring Assembly.

Some of these are also potential topics for a discussion group or the Area Inventory. These topics all appeared multiple times on the evaluations. Some were "liked" and "disliked" by attendees. They all potentially offer food for thought.

- Minutes and Reports. Some want more, and some want less. Some wanted District reports on Saturday, others want them on Sunday. Our Procedures clearly proscribe the length of many reports given. Should any of these be reviewed or revised?
- Length of Assembly. Several comments wanted reports and elections early as many do not stay until the end. Some commented that the time commitment is from Saturday morning until about Noon on Sunday. Although not asked as a question, the answers show that an exploration of one-day vs. two-day assemblies may be in order.
- Hotel. Opinions were divided, but several commented on the size and quality of our meeting rooms and lodging. What are the qualities that would best serve the Missouri Area, whether Assembly stays in present location or not?
- Area Chair. The reviews on this topic were mixed. Several commented that we did stay on topic enough. "Felt very ADHD." I agree, and in fact, had recently been diagnosed with ADD before the May Assembly. Some wanted a more serious approach to the topics. Some enjoyed some levity, and did not want to leave as to not miss anything. For the most part, I think that the evaluations of my performance as Chair at the Spring Assembly reflected a balanced view. My first Assembly was a challenge.
- Area Chair Two: Wardrobe. Some commented that it was inappropriate for me to wear shorts. I made no note of what others wore. I will strive to have respectful but comfortable clothing, which may include shorts.
- Area Chair Three: There were observations that I made reference to A.A. too often. Other than in the discussions of a possible Al-Anon International, I do not remember the times that I discussed A.A. Sometimes reference to A.A. is helpful in understanding how the Steps and Traditions were written. I am a member of the Al-Anon Family Groups and no other fellowship. However, should we edit out any reference to A.A. or others that may have experience we can use? The slogan "Listen and Learn." does not contain a finite list of topics.

Saturday evening session at Assembly will be inspired

*(Continued on page 8, **Chairperson's Report**)*

Treasurer's Report



Hi everyone. What a wonderful weekend we had for Convention. Thanks so much to Lori H. and her fabulous committee for such a great time. Well done. My life has been so busy lately it was so nice to have a little down time with my husband and reconnect with folks I haven't see in awhile. Now it's time to gear up for Assembly in, believe it or not, less than a month.

Contributions for September were pretty good. Thanks so much for your support of the Missouri Area. Please remember, any questions, comments or suggestions are welcomed any time.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve you.

Mary L

District	Group Name /Description	Contribution
15	Webster Groves Adult Children	\$65.00
23	Friday Night AFG	\$20.00
23	Southwest City Al-Anon	\$30.00
15	Focus on Solutions Al-Anon Adult Child	\$23.95
15	Focus on Solutions Al-Anon Adult Child	\$53.89
15	Group 210(?) Nancy S.	\$60.00
2	Group 102(?) Daniel B.	\$25.00
8	There is Hope AFG	\$119.43
19	Lois' Back Door AFG	\$168.12
14	Women In Recovery	\$45.00
0	Timothy D.	\$50.00
13	Path to Serenity AFG	\$147.60
4	Choosing to Change AFG	\$20.00
17	Solutions of Harvester	\$15.00
19	Parkhill Al-Anon	\$8.64
15	Focus on Solutions Al-Anon Adult Child	\$33.34
15	Focus on Solutions Al-Anon Adult Child	\$75.02
31	Serenity Express Al-Anon	\$50.00
14	Southside AFG	\$25.00
13	F.R.O.G. AFG	\$10.00
19	Smithville AFG	\$60.00
13	Path to Serenity AFG	\$147.60
5	Better View AFG	\$25.00
2	Learn N Love AFG	\$60.00
17	Go With God AFG	\$100.00
26	Saint James AFG	\$5.00
21	Recovery Plus AFG	\$30.00
14	The Banner Group AFG	\$127.80
4	New Beginnings AFG	\$30.00
17	St. Charles Parents' Group AFG	\$10.00
4	Twelve Step Al-Anon	\$10.00
15	Everyday Grace AFG	\$50.00
15	Our Gang AFG	\$42.65
13	Solution Finders AFG	\$100.00
Total		\$1,843.04

September 2011 Balance Sheet

Beginning Balance	\$18,976.51
Income	\$4,889.79
Expenses	-\$5,404.03
Returned Check	-\$25.00
Ending Balance	\$18,437.27

Reserve Fund

Reserve Fund Balance	\$8,385.58
Interest Earned	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$8,385.58
Total Reserve Fund Balance	\$8,385.58



Thank You

For Your Contributions

Statement Of Purpose

The **Missouri Round Robin** is the monthly service publication of Al-Anon Family Groups of Missouri. Please protect the anonymity of all whose names appear in it by keeping this newsletter within the Al-Anon/Alateen fellowship. Our deadline for material is the 10th of the month BEFORE the month in which your article is to appear.

We publish no poetry. The **Missouri Round Robin** is not copyrighted nor Conference Approved Literature.

For subscriptions (group or personal) make checks or money orders payable to: **MISSOURI AREA AFG** and send to: Leeli D.

Send articles to: Richard B.

Literature Coordinators' Conference Call October 1, 2011

Happy days to all! I don't know about you, but I'm lovin' this weather! Hope you are, too.

The following are notes I took during a conference call which included Tom C., WSO Associate Director of Communications-Literature, myself, and ten other Literature Coordinators (LC or LCs from here on).

Some notes from Tom and WSO:

Sales of the new book *Many Voices, One Journey* are not going well. It's not as bad as *First Steps* from 1986, but WSO is hoping sales will pick up so they may continue printing.

There will be a new sharing sheet for the proposed *Intimacy in Recovery* book in the December 2011 Forum. This new sheet is not yet on the WSO website. The content will be the same as the one that's going around now; just a different look.

The upcoming Legacy workbook is well underway. WSO is about to hire the writer. Please continue to post your blogs on the members' website.

Question 1: What kind of budget do I have as LC? How do I spend it? Are my literature expenses a line item or do they change every year or panel?

Responses: Budgets generally range from \$150.00 to \$300.00 per year. Some are line items and some aren't. Funds are used for literature raffle items, *Forum* subscription raffles, supplies, travel, and door prizes (a copy of the newest book to the newest and "most seasoned" member at Assemblies, etc.).

Question 2: How does my Area get the word out about translated literature to those groups that need it?

Responses: Forward information to all DRs and GRs through Area Secretary; one Area had a bi-lingual workshop using translating headphones. *Karen's thought: what about putting a brief list of translated literature in the Missouri Round Robin a couple of times each year? In fact, is there a member who would be willing to translate one or two "special editions" of the Missouri Round Robin each year? There is a significant Spanish speaking population in the St. Louis area, and also a large Bosnian community. What about other large urban areas? Do we have members willing to help?*

Question 3: What is my Area's process for orientation of new Literature Coordinators? What is it like?

Responses: Some Areas have no real "policy" and possibly just use e-mail, phone, etc., between the outgoing and incoming Coordinators. Others have meetings between the new and the old at the time of

transition. Still others are like Missouri and have complete duties and procedures available. After this conversation, several Areas with no policy shared that they planned to go back to their Area with the suggestion to implement an outline or listing of duties for future LCs.

Question 4: What workshops/skits have my Area used at Area Assemblies? Have I sent them to the WSO for posting on e-Communities?

Responses: One LC said they have planned an October workshop called "Destination Recovery: Voices from the Journey." She will submit it to WSO. Another LC said she's trying to get permission to share a skit called "Little Red Hens" about people who don't want to help but Well, you get the picture. I shared that a workshop on the Intimacy sharing sheet had been presented during our recent Convention and the WSO should be flooded with those shortly. *(If you didn't get to participate in that workshop, the sharing sheet is on the Missouri Area website. Please check it out and share if you can.)* I also shared that Barb G., Missouri Literature Depot Coordinator, and I will be presenting a skit at the November Area Assembly. *(If you want to know more about what Barb and I do with Literature, plan to attend Assembly. This should be a hoot!)* Tom shared that there is total communication between the *Forum* folks and the Literature folks at WSO. If you send a sharing, for example, on the intimacy sharing sheet that is considered better suited for general sharing, it may just go into the *Forum* instead of into the new literature. Also, *Forum* sharings that are deemed more appropriate for a proposed new book may be forwarded to the literature committee for consideration.

Question 5: Is there anything in particular that I find helpful in getting Districts to invite me to conduct workshops, present displays, or speak about literature—especially if I don't also sell literature?

Responses: Tom suggested we offer to tell our "CAL story"—about how literature helped in our recovery. Some LCs expressed concern that there wasn't time to have a workshop during a District meeting or an Assembly. Others responded that their workshops were "stand-alone" events. One LC said that at Assemblies, etc., she asks to be invited: "Please invite me! I want to come!" I shared that, while I hadn't really given much thought to it, I could ask you to ask me through the *Round Robin*, at Assemblies, and at AWSC meetings. Email me to arrange a visit.

With love in service,

Karen L.

(Continued from page 1, Delegate's Report)

please check for it, hopefully it will be there by the time you are reading this. There will be flyers and more information available at the Assembly. I would like to encourage ALL DRs to attend this event! Because of your role in supporting the Area Alateen Safety Guidelines, this will be important information for you. I also believe that all Area Officers should attend this workshop, simply because we need to be aware of the Alateen needs if we are going to serve the whole Area. I think I will even submit a motion to have our expenses covered to attend this.

Another motion that will be brought up concerns the amount the Missouri Area will pay to send me to the World Service Conference (WSC) next April. We have received a letter giving us the costs involved. I quote:

- “The Finance Committee and Board of Trustees reviewed the costs of the 2012 World Service Conference (WSC). After careful consideration, the Equalized Expense amount for the 2012 WSC has been set at \$1,350

(U.S.). The full amount for a Delegate to attend the WSC has been set at \$2,210 (U.S.). Last year six Areas gave amounts greater than the Equalized Expense, 36 Areas contributed the full amount to send their Delegate to the Conference, and three Areas sent in more than the full amount.”

- Delegates' Equalized Expenses are explained on pages 137-138 of the *2010-2013 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*.

I will need to submit any items for consideration as *Chosen Agenda Items* for the World Service Conference by December 18. If you have anything you believe should be discussed by the Delegates from across the United States and Canada at the WSC, please send those suggestions to me so I can prepare the required documents.

Love in the grand adventure,

Geneva D.

Convention Coordinator's Report

Hi everybody!

Thanks for coming to the convention! We had a total of 200 registered for convention; with 107 attending the banquet Saturday night. Raffles brought in \$1,400 and 50/50 brought in \$110. Literature Coordinator sold over \$1,600 in literature for the Area's benefit.

I'd like to personally thank the committee for the convention: Donna EH-Speaker Coordinator and Mini-Meetings Coordinator, Debbie J-Alateen Coordinator, Marilynn M.-Area Alateen Process Person, Kathy B.-Decorations, Vicki M.-Alternate Coordinator, Barb G.-Literature Depot Coordinator, Carol S.-Raffle Chair, Karen C.-Registrar, Cathy C. and Nancy C.-Entertainment, Jocelyn S.-and Chris K-Committee Members, and Caroline J.-Programs.

The convention went well and we missed you if you weren't able to attend. Our main speakers were Carol C. of St. Clair, Missouri; Doug F. (A.A. speaker of Jenks, Oklahoma); Alateen speakers Lizzie, Whitney, and Chandler; Pati S. of Fort Worth, Texas; and Sandy F. of Jenks, Oklahoma.

There were a lot of mini meetings like Adjusting Our View; Decision Making; Keeping It Simple; Grief and Loss; Who Am I; Sexual Intimacy; Building Relationships Through Service; Sailing the Winds of Change; Forgiveness; and Emotional Availability. Thanks to all those that chaired the mini meetings. The

Serenity Room was a surprise and will return next year with crafts like making God boxes. The hospitality room was a great place to hang out and join in the campfire meetings at night.

Thanks to those that completed the evaluations which will help us improve our service to you for next year's success. Next year's convention will be on September 28th-30th, 2012. The convention will be at the Country Club Hotel and Spa in Lake Ozark, Missouri. The committee is considering all input. The committee looks forward to next year's convention for more fun!

I'm in the process of gathering contract information from the hotels and will be publishing the choices for the contract years 2013, 2014, and 2015. Your district and group input on proposed sites and vote at the May 2012 Assembly is important. At the November Assembly this year, there will be a convention report with financials. All of the information was not available yet for this report.

At the November Assembly, please bring your ideas for the Convention theme of 2012. I'll have a suggestion box and before Assembly is over, I will announce the winner of the theme. The winner gets a free registration to the Convention.

In service,

Lori H.

ARCHIVES ARTICLE ~~~ A Little Bit of History

Loretta and I met on Sunday as usual and worked on a small presentation from our past for the Sixtieth Birthday celebration at the November Area Assembly.

We picked out several letters from the very earliest correspondence between the New York Clearing House (later called WSO) and individuals who wanted information to help start the very first groups in Missouri. If it works out, we hope to ask members from the different parts of the state to read some of these early letters from their perspective localities. Perhaps these readings can be interspersed throughout the weekend.

Many of these earliest letters are from the mid 50s and particularly after the 1955 A.A. International Convention which was held in St. Louis. This event definitely got Al-Anon going in our state.

One interesting letter that points to the importance of the 1955 A.A. International Convention was written by Slim (Leona W.) from Fayette, Missouri. The letter was actually written by Slim in 1980 shortly after the International in New Orleans. Slim had been invited to the A.A./Al-Anon International to be recorded as part of an Archives taping by the WSO archivist, Margaret O'B..

These are some excerpts from Slim's account of early Al-Anon:

“AA came into our lives in 1943 in St. Paul, Minnesota

where my husband found AA. Since there was no Al-Anon I became engrossed in AA and tagged along with my husband. I went to every meeting I could....

“So with no Al-Anon in those days, we wives tried to help one another and tell the newcomer what to do and not to do. ...Finally after many trials and errors, Al-Anon came into existence. I am not sure just how early (maybe as early as 1946) but my first encounter was in 1955 at the International AA Convention.

“I bought the new book published that year, *Al-Anon Family Groups*. During this same year we moved to Fayette, Missouri. Since no group was established in this area, I was a loner for some years. I did have correspondence with Lois, Henrietta and Clara, when I ordered more literature. It was sometime later that we started an Al-Anon group in our homes in Fayette. The group eventually moved to the Christian Church of Fayette. The group is small but we continue to hold out our hand to help to share experience, strength, and hope for those ask for it. ”

Slim was near 90 years old at this writing, and did pass away before the little Dixie Group closed some years later.

Fondly,

Sarah M.

Public Outreach Coordinator's Report

First of all I want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and e-mails you took time to send me during my recent heart surgery. It meant so much to me, more than you will ever know. Please keep me in your prayers as I am facing another surgery on my legs to open up the blood flow in them. More down time I'm afraid. Hate that I had to miss convention this year. Thank you Geneva for thinking of me; I heard that District 5 made me proud with their workshop. Seems I missed out on this one but hopefully next year things will be better. Love you Missouri AFG!

Are we listening to our local radio stations? Here in District 5 we are hearing our public service announcement (P.S.A.) being played on several of our stations. Thank you to everyone who served to get the message out. Lets not forget to thank the stations for playing them. I truly believe this project has been very successful! Still need feed back from DRs as to what station (along with the stations call letters) the P.S.A. was taken to in their area. WSO wants the information for their records.

Hoping every group and district took advantage of our yearly special edition of *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2012*. It is such an excellent way to carry our message. Also such a great way for us to do our Twelfth Step work.

There are so many different ways to carry the message; some take a lot of planning, some not so much. For instance, the billboard project is a huge undertaking, whereas dropping a copy of the *Forum* somewhere is easy for anyone to do. It would be very interesting to hear creative new ways to carry the message—for instance, releasing balloons with our outreach bookmark attached to them (thanks Faye W.—great idea and very creative). Another way—placing a public outreach ad in your local newspaper, etc! So come on Missouri Al-Anon and show us what you got! Let's get creative! Share your ideas! Inquiring minds want to know!

Let It Begin With Me!

Shirley M.

St. Louis Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) Office Report

Two new Service Board Members have been elected to serve two year terms. Welcome to Laura K. and Jim L. We bid a fond farewell to Service Board President Evie M. and Service Board Member Louise L. whose terms have ended. Evie will continue her service as Public Outreach Chairperson. New officers will be elected at the Board's Annual meeting in October.

Annie R. is the new Liaison from the St. Louis AIS Office. She will be attending AWSC meetings and Assemblies.

The **ThanksGIVING Gratitude Campaign**, which the IRs have been working on for the past two months, is an opportunity for members to show their gratitude for the gifts of the program and also help the AIS office continue to pay current expenses from current income. In coordination with this campaign, the Al-Anon Office is hosting an Open House, White Elephant, and Silent Auction on Saturday, November 19, 2011 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Office. Any monies collected at this event will go to the St. Louis AIS Office.

District 15 had a basket raffle at their recent potluck and donated the proceeds of \$472.00 to the Office.



Literature Sales Procedure: It is the policy of the office that literature is paid for at the time of purchase. Outlying groups may call or email the office to place orders. Once the order is taken, the office staff can give you a total of the sale and you may send the office a money order or personal check. Once

payment is received, the order will be mailed to you via US Postal Service using the book rate. Upon receipt of the order, we would appreciate a check or money order for postage expense. The office is well stocked and happy to serve you. Call Chris or Donna at (314) 645-1572 or email us at afgstl@att.net.

St. Louis Intergroup Expands: After receiving a request from the Alternate Delegate for the Illinois South Area, IRs voted to include Illinois South Districts 14 and 18 as part of the St. Louis Intergroup. Meeting information from meetings in these districts will be added to the Where and When and IRs will be invited to attend IR meetings.

Service Board members continue to visit groups without IRs.

CHANGE IN OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and for the first Thursday of the month, from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Late office hours on Wednesdays have been discontinued as they were not supported.

Please visit your AIS Office at #14 Sunnen Drive, Suite 144, in Maplewood. If your group does not have an IR, please consider sending someone to represent your group at the IR meetings which are held at the office on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Sincerely,

Jo T.

Secretary of the Service Board

Forum Coordinator's Report

DID YOU KNOW???

That you can submit a sharing for the *Forum* (Al-Anon's International Monthly Magazine) online by following these instructions:

1. Go to the WSO Members Web Page:
<http://al-anon.org/members/>
2. Type in the first box, the name of your group followed by the letters "afg" (Example: My home group is called F.R.O.G. which stands for Fully Rely on God) I would type: frogafg — Then click on the enter button
3. On the left of the screen, click on Publications
4. Click on *Forum* (This will take you to the *Forum* page on the Members Site, in the bottom right hand corner in a green box, you will see where it says

Submit a Forum Sharing Online) Click in this and you are ready to type your sharing!

On this *Forum* page, you can print out the *Forum* Subscription Order Form to take to your home group to make available to members who are not currently receiving the *Forum* but would like to order this magazine. It is only \$11 for 12 magazines, less than \$1 per issue. (Not bad for a recovery tool that you can read each month and hear recovery stories from other Al-Anon members in the United States and Canada!)

It also gives an article each month for the Step, Tradition, and Concept for that particular month. It is great to tool to use when you are chairing an Al-Anon meeting because of the many topics and recovery articles loaded into each monthly magazine. It is a great gift for a sponsee, sponsor, or another Al-Anon friend!

(Continued on page 9, **Forum Coordinator**)

Alateen Coordinator's Report

Still "sailing" from the convention!!! What a wonderful and enlightening weekend of recovery and fellowship. We had three Alateens from our Area (Lizzie, Whitney and Chandler) speak on the Alateen panel.. They were fantastic!!! I thank them again for their courage and willingness to share their experience, strength, and hope.

Also, thanks to all who are participating in the Alateen "Area Wide Step Eleven" fund raiser. Details are on the website at <http://missouri-al-anon.org/events.html>.

The Alateens held their Fall Super Sunday on August 28 in Jefferson City the day after the AWSC meeting. The Spring Super Sunday is scheduled for March 11, 2012 in Jefferson City, following the AWSC meeting. We try to connect Super Sundays to another Area event for convenience and expense.

Super Sunday minutes 8/28/11

25 in attendance: 7 Sponsors, 19 teens

GR Reports:

Jefferson City Alateens, Rachael S. reported: six core members. Having an open mike anniversary potluck for Al-Anon's 60th birthday.

Blue Springs, Kristen W. reported: Group just started in July. Ten core members. Doing a skit for the Al-Anon workshop in October.

Dreams Become Reality, Lizzie reported: 5-8 core members. Made \$70 on a 50/50 fund raiser at the District 15 potluck. Lizzie is on the panel of speakers at the Al-Anon convention.

Building Bridges, Eli reported: 4-5 core members. Eli spoke in June at the District 17 picnic.

Steps to Serenity, Lena H reported: 5-10 core members. four sponsors. Doing an outreach setting up meetings in teen foster homes.

Steps to Serenity 2, Lindsay B reported: 7-10 core members. Outreach—setting up meetings in teen foster homes. Lindsay went with a sponsor to high schools to speak.

Dreams to Reality, Ashley reported: 20 core members. Just had a fund raiser selling soda at the District 9 Trivia night.

Alateen Coordinator's Report, Debbie J. reported:

Participated in the "Area Alateen Coordinator's Conference Call" on 8/20/11 The topic was Alateen Public Outreach. Outreach tools include the new DVD (Al-Anon and Alateen's Role in Family Recovery AV-13), Alateen Talk, Alateen Chat Meetings, and the WSO/Al-Anon Facebook page.

The next Super Sunday will be March 11th. The coordinator will find a place and get feedback from teens if March 11th is not available.

There was discussion regarding Al-Anon's new way of managing Alateen funds. Fund Raiser Ideas: car washes, trivia nights, karaoke nights, movie nights, and bake sales.

Statewide: Moment of Serenity—It was voted to have the Statewide: Moment of Serenity. Ashley H, Roilee B, and Linda K agreed to facilitate this fund raiser.

CBAT Report, Lizzie reported: Right now the entire month of April is available at Bear River Ranch per Tabitha. All groups need to help raise funds for the state CBAT fund. We will need \$1,000 above registration funds. CBAT committee will do a meeting separate from Super Sunday to plan CBAT. However, we will have everyone vote on the menu.

The Sponsors and Teens held separate meetings.

Sponsor meeting notes, Marilyn M reported: Area certification process was discussed with new sponsor. Linda K. will ask Steve to invite new sponsors to join MAST (Missouri Alateen Sponsor Team). Discussion with new sponsors revealed that in Oklahoma they do not have "LAPS." However, they have "Sponsors" and "Volunteers". "Volunteers" are the same in Oklahoma as "LAPS" are in Missouri. Dates and locations are being researched for a Sponsor Retreat Weekend. The weekend will include the six WSO training modules along with some other workshops and activities to mix up the weekend.

Alateen meeting notes: There was sharing about CBAT for teens who have not attended CBAT and discussion about curfew time and cell phone use at CBAT.

We had a meeting on Step Six. Looking forward to seeing everyone at assembly.

in-joy and in-service,

Debbie J.

(Continued from page 2, **Chairperson's Report**)

by the new book *Many Voices, One Journey* with the topic being the MO Area through the years. Speakers, surprises, and Birthday Cake!

Happy 60th Birthday, Al-Anon!

Joe O.

¹ — *Al-Anon's Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions Revised*, page 92

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION WITH DISTRICT 28

You are invited to our potluck Christmas party!
There will be lots of activity! We will have:

- a 50/50,
- a basket raffle, and
- an ornament exchange.

We also have two great speakers:

- Mardi M. from Great Falls, Montana, and
- Catherine V. from Washington, Missouri

What time? 6:00 PM

Where? St. John United Church of Christ
920 East Gravois Ave.
St. Clair, MO 63077

When? Saturday, December 10, 2011

For the pot luck we ask you to bring according to your last name:

- A-H (dessert);
- I-Q (main dish, soup, or casseroles);
- R-Z (salads/coleslaw)

We also for this special event we will offer pre-wrapped cook books for \$8.00.

For more information:

email: unitybbc@yahoo.com



Dear friends in recovery,

I'd like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" for all the love, support, and encouragement I received before, during, and after my recent surgery. Since then I've seen many of you at the Convention and at meetings. Your cards, phone calls, prayers, and continued friendship are such blessings to me.

A special "Thanks!" goes out to my Higher Power and to Al-Anon for putting you in my life. I give God and all of you credit for my speedy recovery. I give Al-Anon credit for allowing me to become the kind of person who merits your prayers, love, and support.

God bless you all.

Love,

Karen L.

Registrar's Report

Hello everyone and welcome to fall! I'm having a great time so far this season...we have had some beautiful weather, some exciting baseball, the Area convention was fabulous (more on that next month!), and I'm writing this as I wait for it to be time to leave for a *Forum* writing workshop going on today in my district. I've seen so many flyers popping up everywhere for great Al-Anon and Alateen events but the most important one to me right now is that flyer for the Missouri Area Assembly taking place the weekend of November 5-6

There is still time to pre-register and make your arrival at the Assembly a little less hectic. As an added plus, pre-registering saves you \$2 off the registration fee: \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door. The flyer is on our Missouri Area website. Fill it out and pop it in the mail to: MO Area AFG, 3401 Elm Street, Saint Charles, MO 63301.

Karen C.

(Continued from page 7, Forum Coordinator)

You can also read excerpts from the current *Forum* Magazine on this *Forum* page. You can place an order for the *Forum* subscription online from this page, which would prevent the need to mail in the order form.

If you are currently receiving the *Forum* magazine, once you have read it, please pass it on to a newcomer or someone else in your home group. It is better to share this recovery tool, than have it collect dust in a closet or drawer, don't you agree? Other ideas, take past issues to local police stations for when they go out on domestic abuse calls where Alcohol is involved, leave a copy in waiting rooms of your doctor, dentist, etc. (Ask permission first before leaving your magazine in the lobby) You could also take shelters, drug rehab centers, etc.

As your *Forum* Coordinator, please feel free to contact me if you would like me to come to your home group or district to conduct a *Forum* Writing Workshop or just inform members on the many ways they can use the *Forum* magazine in their own individual recovery programs, during Al-Anon group meetings, or District meetings.

Lori A.

Area Alateen Process Person's Report

This month I would like to share information that I gained from asking questions after the August AWSC meeting. The Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual and the WSO Group Records Department provided the knowledge listed herein. This is an explanation of the differences in the use of the terms "Alateen" and "Al-Anon" from the perspective of WSO. On page 84 of the 2010-2013 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual in the policy section under "Starting an Alateen Group," you will find the statement that "In order to use the **Alateen name**, groups must register with the World Service Office through their Area's Alateen Process." I asked WSO for a little help in interpretation with the terms regarding "institutions." The answer I received was that any introductory meeting using the Alateen name held regularly (some are held monthly, others may be held weekly) in a facility would have to be registered with WSO and have certified AMIAS(s) presiding over the meetings.

If members of Al-Anon go into a facility on an *occasional* basis to do an Al-Anon/Alateen presentation or some type of public outreach, this could be considered a public outreach project and not a meeting.

Alateen meetings in schools and juvenile centers are usually 'limited access' (only students in the facility attend) and would be coded that way. The policy information on Alateen is on pages 83-87 of the current service manual if you need further explanation. These meetings are also closed except if the facility requires an employee to attend, which is handled on an individual basis to assure the Area's Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements are met. See page 86.

The WSO does not have the same requirements for use of the Al-Anon name that they do for Alateen. Registration is required to use the Alateen name. WSO does not require registration to use the Al-Anon name.

I hope this helps clarify information for those Alateen meetings that meet on a regular basis in an institution with limited access. If you are calling the meeting "Alateen" and meet on a regular basis, and want to continue using the name of Alateen, please register the meeting. WSO has provisions not to share information on such meetings when callers ask for meetings in an Area. If you have further questions, please email me at area31aapp@gmail.com or call me (AAPP Coordinator on the list that comes out bi-monthly).

As part of our District 18 Public Outreach, our DR, Carol R., and I participated in the Mid-Missouri Recovery Event held at McClung Park on September 11. Attendance was about 120 but Al-Anon received three responses from the event and two of the three have attended meetings since the event. Missouri Recovery Network sponsored events throughout the state. You

may want to check their website every August in preparation for the September events. Their website is morecovery.org. They welcome participation from 12 step recovery groups at no charge which makes for a great public outreach project.

I want to thank the Convention committee and the Missouri Area for providing a wonderful convention and allowing some of the Area Alateens and Sponsors to participate. The teens from Jefferson City who attended were grateful for the opportunity to hear the speakers, visit with the teens in attendance, and get to know some of the other program attendees as well.

Attention certified Alateen Sponsors and LAPS and others interested in Alateen: we will have an Alateen Sponsor Training session the last weekend in January in Jefferson City. You may have already received the flier or you may view it on the Missouri Area Web site. Deadline for registration is December 31. Please consider attending if at all possible. The Area will help provide funding but will vote on this at the November Assembly so if you want to learn more, come to Assembly or email me or Debbie J., Alateen Coordinator, with your questions or email moafgat@aol.com directly to get registration information.

Hope to see you in November at Assembly.

In Service,

Marilynn M.

Getting Through the Holidays Using the Al-Anon Program

A DISTRICT 15

WORKSHOP PRODUCTION

Saturday

November 12, 2011

10:00 AM—NOON

Getting Through the Holidays

Using the Al-Anon Program Workshop

Kirkwood United Church of Christ

1603 Dougherty Ferry Road

Kirkwood, MO. 63122

(Entrance off parking lot behind church)

Speakers, Skits, Music, Attendance Prizes

Special Feature: Ugly Sweater Contest

Lunch and drinks provided

(Coffee, Tea, and Water)

(Immediately following the program)

Entrance Fee:

A Smile and a Desire to have a Good Time

SCROOGES NOT ADMITTED!

(No children please, babysitting not provided.)

Please let us know you are coming

Email John M.

at jmadk7@gmail.com

by October 26, 2011. Thank you.

Area Calendar of Events

District 9 Winter Workshop Traditions in Relationships

Speaker: Rick J. from Ontario, Canada Friday, January 6, 2012

Doors open, Fellowship: 6:00 pm Meeting begins: 7:00 pm

Saturday, January 7, 2012.....9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Arlington United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall 3770 McKelvey Road Bridgeton, MO 63044

(1 block North of St. Charles Rock Road)

See flyer on www.missouri-al-anon.org/events.html

Assembly—November 5-6, 2011 Inn at Grand Glaize, Osage Beach, Missouri "Many Voices, One Journey"—See flyer on page 11

2012 Dates

AWSC Meetings—March 10, 2012 and August 25, 2012

Alateen Super Sunday—March 11, 2012

Day in Service—June, 2012

Assemblies—May 5-6, 2012 and November 3-4, 2012

Convention—September 28-30, 2012

2013 Dates

2012 Al-Anon International Convention

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada REGISTRATION AND HOUSING INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE FALL OF 2012.

For more event and other detailed information go to: www.missouri-al-anon.org/events.html

Left and Found—Umbrella—Sweater

I have an umbrella that was left at the Day in Service. It's maroon in color with colorful paisley design and has been living in the trunk of my car for months.

I also have a red sweater that was left at the Country Club Hotel and Spa on Sunday morning, Sept. 25th. It is red and temporarily living in a zip lock bag on top of my washer. Please drop me an email (donnaeh@att.net) to reclaim.

Donna E.H.

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