



I have continued my research into online newsletters. In the United States, 33% of the Areas post their newsletters online, 9% post online in a password protected area of their website, 18% send via email, and 33% send by snail mail. The remaining 7% either do not send a newsletter or it was unclear. Some Areas cannot afford to send one. In Canada, two Areas send a newsletter via snail mail and two Areas have it in a password protected area. In early September, I registered very easily for the International Convention in Vancouver. I am very excited and am looking forward to it. If interested. A group of AI-Anons have made arrangements to travel there by train. See the Cleveland Information Services website.

DELEGATE'S REPORT- Rex M.

"Looking Good and Having Fun"

What an honor to serve as Ohio's Delegate! It has been a lot of work going through all the e-mails received from so many. Too often there are messages with sad news. There are many things we need to address as we go on. I can only tell you we continue to grow in Alateen and AI-Anon with new meetings in Ohio.

On Monday, October 15, 2012. I had my talk with my Trustee Paula. We had a good talk about many issues. These talks come after Board meetings, Before the RDM and WSC. I was assigned a Mentor and Trustee. They were a great help to me.

COUPLE ITEMS:

Go to Members Website and do Survey.

Going to international? Go to [www.al-anoninternationalconvention.org](http://www.al-anoninternationalconvention.org) Check out housing and other information.

To check requirements to enter Canada go to [www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca)

1. Problem Meetings: We have had several calls concerning out of control meetings and Intergroups. Suggestions were to do Group Inventories. These were given to them by Delegate and WSO. There are Guidelines on WSO member's website to give support in doing inventory. The Service Manual can also be great help when dealing with problems.

2. Institution Meeting Request for Lima, Ohio. I have had request from WSO to contact gentleman at Allen Oakwood Correctional Facility. I have been in contact with Mr. Morton and he is very hopeful we can assist in getting AI-Anon started at the facility. Possibly have several AI-Anon members attend a startup meeting. Anyone interested??

3. Redistricting. DO we have too many Districts? In looking at AWSC list there are many Districts without DR's.

4. 2 Day Fall Assembly Meetings: DO we need to have 2 Day Fall Assembly meetings? Are they too costly with today's economy? Attendance has been low at our AWSC meeting. Assembly meetings seem to be low too. Is this due to age of members??

5. E-Literature: It is in the works. Keep an eye on WSO website. People are using e-literature on a variety of equipment.

6. Reports: How long reports do we want?

7. List of e-mails, names and addresses are marked as Confidential on many list. We should be careful not to let them out.

8. Dual Members. I don't know how many you have in your meeting. I know meetings I attend have several in each. The meetings are healthy and many offer to chair meetings and volunteer to set up meetings. We have both male and female. Lot of sharing from all.

9. Summaries: I brought Summaries for those that did not get them at AWSC meeting in Columbus. I sure hope they are taken. Extras will be sold on 1st come basis.

10. Getting Volunteers: Sometimes all we need to do is ask. Over my time in Al-Anon I have had many service positions. I have asked many to speak at conferences. Serve as Intergroup Officers. Serve on Area positions. Stand for office. Makes me grateful.

Wrap up: Enjoy the rest of 2 Day Fall Assembly. Take something home with you to remember. Leave something here you no longer want or need.

Submitted by: Rex M Delegate, Panel 52, Ohio

## COORDINATOR AND STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND CONVENTIONS ALATEEN-

Rose R

I would like to start out with a huge Thank You to all the groups that donated money and/or items to KOMIAC for out Hospitality and Ways and Means committees. We had an overabundance of items and it was really great, once again, to see how Ohio comes together when needed.

KOMIAC was a learning experience for me as a 1st time Coordinator. Attendance was 289 including Sponsors. Ohio had the best turn out with 27 Sponsors and 83 Alateens, next was Michigan with 19 Sponsors and 47 Alateens, then Kentucky with 16 Sponsors and 48 Alateens, then Indiana with 16 Sponsors and 33 Teens. Next year the event will be held in Terre Haute, IN and we will require buses to travel. I'll look forward to just sitting back and enjoying KOMIAC!!

We have dates set up for the Sponsor Workshop and the Spring Rally. We're changing the location this year to the same church we hold the Spring Assembly and AWSC meetings, North Congregational United Church, 2040 Henderson Rd., Columbus Ohio. The Work Shop will be held on March 2, 2013 from 10 AM – 3 PM and the Spring Rally will be on April 27, 2013 from 10 AM -3:30 PM.

Registration for new Alateen groups must be completed on the Alateen Registration/Group Records Change Form and should be mailed to the Al-Anon/Alateen Process Person (AAPP) not to World Service Office (WSO). WSO will not process any changes until our AAPP approves it. Change forms can be found on the Ohio Web site.

All Al-Anon Member in Alateen Service (AMIAS) forms need to be renewed for 2013. Please have them filled out and mailed to our AAPP by December 31, 2012. Those forms can be found on the Ohio Web Site and I have copies also.

I would like to go over any questions regarding how to fill out the paperwork and/or get processed for Alateen Sponsorship this weekend. Also, a small meeting is planned for to go over the Knowledge Base Decision Making (KBDM) form regarding reimbursement for finger printing and background check fees. Anyone interested please see me at break.

### ARCHIVES- Caroline S

Our International Archives Coordinator Joe T. has sent out a request via the new e-Communities on line this September for members who hold Archive Coord. positions to volunteer for a Thought Force to update the Area Archives Guideline (G-30) as it is scheduled for review this Sept 2012. A resume was requested that would collect no more than 5 Al-Anon/Alateen members who meet these Requirements: Al-Anon or Alateen member for at least five years. Must not also be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous  
Preferred qualifications: Served as an Archives Coordinator or in a related field such as Library Science.

I did not join in that Thought force endeavor as I felt this was not my time to be called to this extra service but I'm excited to hear what comes out of this Thought Force.

Their Charge: The Thought Force is not being asked to write or create a guideline; only to brainstorm and suggest information that would be of use to the Areas in creating and maintaining the Area archives. Time Line: September 21- December 31, 2012

I'm looking forward to the results of this Thought Force and what I will learn in this new position of Archivist for Ohio Area. I expect to listen and take seriously the wise ideas from those with more experience in this field than I have as I am so new to this position.

I have become recently aware since last fall that minutes of our meetings are expected to be collected in paper form and maintained in our records and I am still missing some of these most recent assembly minutes but am getting the support to recreate them. I'm curious when we will no longer be printing and collecting these on paper. Digital format seems to be the primary method that minutes are sent around the state to the Group Reps and officers in order to save time and money and printing waste. Some of these issues may be brought to the Thought Force I'd imagine.

I know we are running out of physical room in the bins we currently own that keep the Binders and Papers from Assemblies and Conventions. I'd like to have some time to sort and perhaps add another Bin to our collection to organize some of the new digital and alt. media (CD's and DVDs) that we are collecting now in our archives.

I am reminded to Breathe and take it One Day at a Time when this job seems as disorganized as my own files at home, and, also, remembering to Keep it Simple and safe when handling our precious Ohio Area Records. They still remain protected and dry in my basement in a myriad of bins and locked containers as well as the traveling items I have brought to share with the Assembly.

#### **FORUM-** Sharon B.

As I reported previously, we are trying out something with the Forum on a National level.

Today I want to show you where to find this online. It is at: [www.AI-Anon.org](http://www.AI-Anon.org), select AI-Anon Literature, scroll down and there is a link to the right with three articles from the current issue of the Forum.

If you click on the title of the article you will find the full article. Please share the this information with your groups. A review of accessing the articles (aka traffic) will surely have an impact on any decision to make the Forum available online in its entirety.

I do not have an update on the subscription rates since the Spring 2012 Assembly. I want to continue something I shared at the last Assembly. But first just a reminder, The Forum is what the members make it. Your sharings, pictures and comments are needed to keep The Forum alive.

So to the new tradition I started at the last Assembly. I need to know who has the newest journey in AI- Anon. Who has been in AI-Anon less than one month? You are the recipient of a free copy of this month's October 2012 Forum.

As a reminder, there is a subscription order form in the back of every issue. It's only \$1 1/year less than \$1 per month! If you spend \$1 at each meeting you go to then why not spend \$1 per month on a subscription to the Forum?  
Thank You.

#### **GROUP RECORDS-** Phil H.

It's great to see everyone here! I'd like to again ask our new Group Representatives and new Alternate to stand and be recognized. (Applause). Somewhere I heard it said that the "newcomers" were the MOST important people at the meeting!

I'd like to clarify something regarding the Group Update Forms. There are TWO forms that the WSO uses. (Show forms) The first one is the GR-I, AI-Anon Registration/Group Records Change Form. The second one is the GR-2, Alateen Registration/Group Records Change Form. At the risk of overstating the obvious -the AI-Anon form is for AL-ANON groups, and the Alateen form is for ALATEEN groups. Now, I do not process changes for Alateen groups -that is the responsibility of our Alateen Area Process Person, Janice R. However, I do ask that Alateen groups send me a copy, so that I can update the Current Mailing Address and meeting information that I keep. But please, PLEASE, PLEASE – use the correct form for the correct type of group.

Speaking of the GR-I Form (show form), it has an entirely NEW look. This form is now available on the Members Website, by clicking the "Group Services" selection on the left and then selecting "Registration/Change Form". You'll find instructions on how to fill out the form, how to save and electronically submit the form itself. These forms are also available on the Group Records table. The back of the form has the instructions for saving and emailing the form. You can still print the form and fill it out by hand, then snail mail it -OR, you can fill it out on your computer, save it and then email it!

GR's - when you either snail mail or email the Change form, do you know who all needs to get this information? First of all, your District Representative (if you have one); then your AI-Anon Information Service that lists your meeting on its website; the Area Group Records Coordinator; and finally, the WSO. Now, with the advent of this new form -submitting it is a lot simpler. Because our Area is now online with WSO, the Area Group Records Coordinator can submit the changes direct to WSO electronically.

When I do that, I also send an electronic "carbon copy" to both the AIS and DR. It needs to work the other way as well, so all of us have the same information.

Here's why this is so critical – at the Spring Assembly, we voted to change how our mailings are done. By now being able to access the WSO database, we can have the most up-to-date information available about a group, especially the Group's Current Mailing Address (CMA). This is the address the WSO uses to send all correspondence to groups, and this is the address that is continuously updated by the WSO when they receive address changes back. We've done this to lower the cost of returned AI-A-Notes, plea letters and Assembly minutes. Will we completely eliminate returned mail? No, there will always be a few but now this won't be such a significant expense.

But I need YOUR help as well. Is the information for your group up to date? If you're not sure, please see me after the meeting. I have the current group information from the WSO here with me, and we'll look it up. I can even print your group record off for you. But PLEASE -ask me after the meeting this afternoon.

Also, back on the Group Records table, you will find a list of (1) Groups sorted by Meeting City in the red notebook; (2) Groups sorted by District in the white notebook; and (3) Groups sorted by WSO group number in the blue notebook. In addition, you will find an Area World Service Committee Roster. This is a list of your Area officers, coordinators, District Representatives and AI-Anon Information Services. Please take one with you.

By now, your group should have received the 2012 Annual Update Sheet (show forms). It is VITALLY important that your group review this to be sure all of the information is correct. This is the information that the WSO has, and the Ohio Area has. If it's wrong at WSO, it's wrong here as well. Even if all of the information is correct, then just check the box and return the form. And please get them in as soon as possible.

Now I need to talk about an issue that's come up since our last Assembly meeting.

The WSO lists AI-Anon "meetings" in the spreadsheet that I download for mailing labels and reports. That, in and of itself, is not a problem. However, we do have three AI-Anon groups that are holding "multiple" meetings and by that I mean more than one meeting per week using the same Group number.

I sent an inquiry to the WSO about this, and here is the response I received –

It has been the WSO experience that limiting group registration to single meetings was not reflective of the group needs, as some groups cannot financially support separate groups or in other instances the groups are not able to have members coming forward to fill the Group Representative position for an additional meeting. The AI-Anon Registration/Group Records Change Form (GR-1) and the AI-Anon Annual Update Sheet have been revised in 2012 to display and include more complete data to reflect the groups' information accurately.

It's the WSO Group Records Department policy to contact a group when a new AI-Anon group registration is submitted to WSO with multiple meetings, and inform the group that those meetings can be registered separately. Group Records explains the benefits, for instance, the additional copy of The Forum and the additional voice at

Assembly, and refer the group to the section titled Multiple Meetings on page 34 of the 2010-2013 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual for further information, but it is ultimately a group's decision. In most cases the groups are just not aware of the benefits and once informed they are more than willing to register those groups separately. Groups that meet in different locations are required to register their meetings separately as the WSO's database does not permit group records to have more than one location.

The Areas have the autonomy to establish a policy requiring a single meeting / one group number but they also should take under consideration that not all registrations are sent through the Area process and that WSO does register the groups with multiple meetings, so it may confuse members and produce inaccurate group records. At the present time, we have one group that holds six meetings during the week; and two groups that each hold three meetings a week. There are pros and cons to this issue –but all I am doing is presenting the information I received back from the WSO on this.

Here's a "Late Breaking News Development" – WSO has now set up the Alateen Group Records database in a "read only" format for AAPP's, Area Alateen Coordinators, Area Delegates and Area Group Record Coordinators and District Representatives. Specifically what can be seen by these officers varies, but for the GRC, I can now view the Alateen Group Information, i.e. meeting information, CMA, etc. DR's will only be able to view information for their district only. Within the next year, hopefully, the AAPP will be able to make corrections online, just as I do now for Al-Anon groups. It's going to be a big help to me in maintaining the CMA databases for mailings.

Now, for the data: As of last night, Friday October 19, 2012, we have: Active Meetings -494 meetings being held by 450 groups which is an increase of 11 groups since May, 2012. The majority of these are groups that have beginners meetings. However one group has 6 meetings, and 3 groups have 3 meetings each.

"No Mail" status – 10 groups, down from 21 in May, 2012. These are groups that have had mail sent to their Current Mailing Address (CMA) that has been returned "undeliverable" by the Postal Service. I'm asking DR's, and even GR's to check over the list to see if it's a group you attend. Please let them know so we can get a good mailing address for the group.

"Inactive" status – 134 groups, up from 121 in May, 2012. Once a group has been on "no mail" status for two years, it's placed on inactive status. Additionally, when WSO is notified that a group is no longer meeting, it's placed on inactive status. Again, DR's and GR's -please review the list for accuracy. If you know a group is meeting that is listed as "inactive", we need to get on this right away to keep them from being deleted from the WSO database.

Once a group number is deleted from the WSO database, it can never be retrieved again. We've already found more than one group that had been deleted that is now reactivated. But, consider this – while that group was "deleted", they received no mail from the WSO and no mail from Ohio Area. They were, literally, marooned in the middle of the ocean. So please, check to ensure your group is getting group mail. If it isn't, ask why, and if necessary have a group conscience to get a good CMA for the group.

As of October 19, 2012, we also have: Active Alateen groups – 37, down 2 from May, 2012  
1 Alateen group in "no mail" status. Those are the numbers that WSO currently shows for the Alateen groups.

Finally, of the 450 active groups, there are 289 groups with GR's listed -that's 65%, the same as May, 2012.

This comes with a caveat, though. WSO maintains the GR information as a courtesy to the areas. I have seen at least one GR who has been serving since 1999! This information can only be updated through either the Annual Update or the Group Change Form. Once again, I have to rely on our GR's and DR's to keep this information current. Please help us keep our information current.

#### LITERATURE-Shirley M.

Each quarter a Sample Chapter of Conference Approved Literature is posted on both the Public Outreach Site [www.al-anon.org](http://www.al-anon.org), and the member's web site [www.al-anon.org/members](http://www.al-anon.org/members). The sample chapter for last quarter of 2012 will be from "Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses" (B-29).

Each month the "Cal Comer" feature in The Forum includes sharings on how a particular piece of our literature has

helped in their recovery. The October article will be on "How Al-Anon Works" (B-22, B-32). I participated in the Literature Coordinators Conference call on Wednesday, October 17, 2012. There was a lot of discussion on the book "Many Voices, One Journey". Sales are down 81% from 2011. Some people are doing workshops and meetings on this book to encourage sales. Some groups are using the book to solve group problems.

The "Three Legacies" workbook has been approved in 3 languages and will be available in 2013.

An update on "Intimacy in Relationships" (Working title): There is a need for many more sharings; at least 500-600 are needed. Some groups are doing writing workshops to help promote sharings.

Literature sales are down, but about the same as 2010. The top five books are:

1. "Courage to Change"
2. "Paths to Recovery"
3. Soft cover "How Al-Anon Works"
4. "One Day at a Time"
5. "Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses"

A trial period for electronic literature in 2012 will be The Forum and "Having Had a Spiritual Awakening".

**PUBLIC OUTREACH-** Amy C.

Report for the Ohio Rally for Recovery, Columbus, Ohio Statehouse lawn 11 a.m. – 1:30p.m. September 12, 2012 as submitted by Barbara W

We had a beautiful day for this event so there were no tents. Like most, I shared a table for our Ohio AFG display of pamphlets. A considerable amount of pamphlets and AFAs (Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism) were distributed, as a steady stream of counselors, attorneys, other professionals and recovering members strolled by the display. There was live music and speeches, a "whereas" note from our Ohio Governor Kasich (who was unavailable to attend) and a recovery countdown on the statehouse steps. This is an annual event and well worth our time as participants came from all over Ohio.

Suggestions for the future: have copies of Central Ohio meeting schedule and bring a folding chair. 1-2 members manning this table is sufficient. Be prepared to leave smiling from the inside out. Expense for volunteers is very minor - \$7.00 to park in the statehouse garage and fuel to and from the event. No lodging necessary since it's only a few hours over the lunch hour. I would love to help with this event next year.

Report on the Addiction Studies Institute August 22-24, 2012 as given by Sandra F., Event Chairman

The 2012 Addiction Studies Institute was an amazing event. Over 800 professionals gathered for the three day event at the Convention Center in Downtown Columbus, Ohio. The purpose of the event is for professional who deal with addiction to gain more knowledge. Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio had an information booth during the event. This was the third year of participation.

Wednesday morning, August 22<sup>00</sup> was the designated time for setting up. The set up procedure is less of a hassle now that vendors are allowed to use the loading/unloading area at the north entrance to the Convention Center. Friday afternoon was the time to tear down the booth and load everything up. The Convention Center staff was helpful during these two times.

The location of this year booth was in the northwest corner of the north reception area.

While I will admit this location was not ideal, I placed our new retractable banner out in front of the booth in order to be more visible.

Professionals came to the booth looking for contact information for Al-Anon Family Groups in their location. I had contact information for all the AIS location and larger Districts in Ohio, as well as contact information for AIS locations in Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and West Virginia. Besides Ohio, Michigan and West Virginia were the two most requested. Locations in remote location around Ohio were referred the professional to the Area's website and also gave them the pamphlet Fact Sheets for Electronic Meetings.

Literature distributed to all those who stopped at the booth is as follows: Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2012, Fact Sheets for Professionals (S-37ES), and the Public Outreach Bookmarks (M-76).

Also available on the table: Troubled By Someone Else's Drinking Questionnaire (S-17), Did You Grow Up With a Problem Drinker (S-25), Information for Educators (S64), Al-Anon Family Groups Welcomes Gays and Lesbians (S-70), Al-Anon Is For People of Color (s-68),

AI-Anon Welcomes Adult Children of Alcoholics (s-69), Paths to Recovery ... for Native Americans (S- 67), and Fact Sheets for Electronic Meetings (S-60).

As professionals stopped to talk, I would ask where they were from and ask if they refer clients to AI-anon Family Groups. When the professional said yes, I gave them additional copies of AI-Anon Faces Alcoholism and a referral pad (M-77). I also asked if they had a bulletin board in their waiting room. If they said yes, I asked if they would like to have a poster with AI-Anon Family Groups contact information listed on it to place on the bulletin board. 25 professional asked for additional information be sent to their office and those referrals have been sent to AIS offices or District Representatives for follow up. A professional from Lima, Ohio contacted me for contact information in Lima, I am still working on that referral.

In the three days, we talked to over 300 professionals. Several said they were looking for us because they had gotten contact information from us in the past and were hoping we were here again. I will admit that made me feel good and thought just maybe we were getting one city or town closer to having AI- Anon Family Groups in every town. At lunch time each day, people would walk around the booth area. Some did not have nametags for the event. On the second day a few walkers stopped and asked if they could have information and schedules even though they were not a part of the event could they have information because they saw our banner and thought maybe AI-Anon could help them. Of course I shared what I had and listened. Our AI- Anon Declaration says: Let it begin with me. When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help let the band of AI-Anon and Alateen always be there. And let it begin with me.

It was a long three days, but I will definitely do it again. As always, it is ODAT, Sandra F.

**BUDGET- Robin R**

Comparison of donations and expenses for 2012 and 2011

2012

Group 6406.01  
 Plea 2298.40  
 Total 8706.80  
 Personal 139.00  
 Dist/Infos 50.00

TOTAL 8895.80 Difference 783.61 less in 2012

Budget Expense 7615.46  
 Reserve 2005.58  
 9621.04

Difference 2140.23 more in 2012

2011

Group 6406.35  
 Plea 2873.75  
 Total 9280.01  
 Personal 50.00  
 Dist/Infos 349.40  
 TOTAL 9679.41

Budget Expense 5963.49  
 Reserve 1517.32  
 7480.81

Total 2012 income is 11191.04, total 2012 expenses 11944.95 for a difference of -753.91. This compares to total 2011 income of 12823.87 and expenses of 10411.16 for a difference of +2412.71. Some of the difference in 2011 income compared to 2012 at this point can be explained by the return of the convention float and convention surplus by this time last year.

**Reserves & Budget**

Reserves OK. Considering upcoming equipment expenses including the need for additional storage for archives as Caroline mentioned.

The various budget categories are in line at this point although I know that there are still outstanding expenses to be turned in. It appears that the increases or decreases we made in some of the budget categories were not too much

off from reality so far.

The \$5000 balance of the old \$10,000 CD matured on October 9th. The gross return was \$5,184.54. The past practice has been to deposit the net interest into the checking account and put the balance, \$5,000 into another certificate. I'd like a recommendation from you, the Assembly, as to what to do with this at this time.

BY-LAWS & HANDBOOK-Barbara W.

I am on Nana duty and unable to attend assembly this weekend. My second grandchild was born on October 8th - Logan James. Big brother Camden is terrifically two and my constant companion while his mommy recovers from a C-section.

New group representatives received a copy of the Handbook, By-Laws and the al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen service (AMAI) packet at the new GR Orientation.

For all member of assembly, copies of pg. 18 of the Handbook are provided. You can remove page 18/28 from your handbook and replace it with this page and your Handbook will be current. There was one change to the Handbook at the Spring Assembly and that is listed at the bottom of the revised page 18, regarding The Addiction Studies Institute. One time motions are not included in the Handbook. Only motions that are Handbook/By-Laws changes/ additions/deletions are included in the Handbook/By-Laws. (See page 16/28 from May2003).

Page 18 of Hand book

2012 # 1 – For a three year trial, starting in 2013, include funding for the Addiction Studies Institute as a budget line item. This will allow participation without prior Assembly approval each year as is required with funding is taken from the Action Committee/Coordinator's fund as has been done in 2010, 2011, and 2012. One time

motions not included in Handbook:

2012 # 2 – Authorize expending the proposed amount of \$704 from the Action Committee/ Coordinator's Fund for the 2012 Addiction Studies institute and an additional \$325 from the Equipment Fund for a retractable banner stand for use at the Addiction Studies Institute and other events.

2012 #3- Align AFG of Ohio's mailing addresses with that of the World Service Office. That is mail will go to the CMA instead of the GR. AWSC and DR's will still receive mailings as before. (Note: In the above motion, CMA means Current mailing address, GR means Group Representative, AWSC means Area World Service Committee, and DR means District Representative.)

REVIEW AND AUDIT- Louise W

The committee has reviewed the treasurer's records through July 12, 2012 and found them to be in order, accurate and complete.

OHIO WEBSITE- Mike K

- Our Web site traffic is running steady with an average of 2447 unique visitors each month.
- Mondays and Tuesdays are the highest traffic volume days. Saturday is the lowest
- The hardest hit Web page is the index of meeting lists throughout Ohio.
- The top three cities with the highest referrals from the OAA meeting directory are:
  1. Cleveland
  2. Remote
  3. Youngstown
- The World Service Office Web site is by far the largest contributor of visitor referrals to the OAA site.
- Thanks to Phil for helping out with updating the remote list

Problem Report:

1. Our site has been the target of hackers and spammers. I think this is because of the high network traffic we are enjoying. A number of actions were taken to protect our site. Earlier, I recommended we move to another hosting company, but later discovered the mail filter offered by that vendor was not adequate. I then looked more into how hackers were getting in, and found vulnerability in the type of Web page editor I was using. I shut down the extensions on the server, and we are now using an alternative method of editing. NOTE: This different editor can be easily passed on to the next Web site volunteer without too much training needed. An additional level of security was added by shutting down the online committee discussion forums we put into place at the end of 2010. Few people were using them, and as far as I can tell, the last person to sign in was in 2011. It's been several weeks since those actions were taken, and no sign of intruders. We'll continue to monitor.

2. Lately, I'm getting reports that my own email address (which is [webmaster@ohioal-anon.org](mailto:webmaster@ohioal-anon.org)) is not delivering mail to me. I found out our filter was a bit too aggressive. It's possible that may be the case with our trusted servants' addresses. I have tapered back the filter to be less aggressive. Please check your spam filter periodically to make sure the same thing isn't happening to you. In the unlikely event any of you write to [webmaster@ohioal-anon.org](mailto:webmaster@ohioal-anon.org) I apologize for any inconvenience this has caused. Peace, and warmest regards,

Mike K ([webmaster@ohioal-anon.org](mailto:webmaster@ohioal-anon.org))

STATS: <http://69.90.236.54:8585/awstats/awstats.pl?config=ohioal-anon.orgWebTrafficReportwww.ohioal-anon.org>

COMPLAINCE LIASON AND AAPP- Janice R

As of October 15th we have in the State of Ohio:

36 Certified Sponsors and/or CMA 's

31 Active Alateen Groups

5 Alateen groups that have disbanded

We have

79 Certified AMIAS's

10 more that are in the process of being certified 89

Total certified AMIAS's

It is that time of the year again. Time to fill out the AMIAS (Al-Anon Member Involved In Alateen Service) form – Form One and Form Two of the Application Packet. This must be done yearly. You DO NOT have to be fingerprinted again. That is only done once every 5 years or if you are a new Sponsor/CMA or AMIAS. These two forms can be found on the Ohio website at [www.ohioal-anon.org](http://www.ohioal-anon.org). They are listed separately and also as part of the Application Packet.

There still seems to be some misunderstanding about where to send group, Sponsor/CMA and AMIAS changes. You can fill out the AMIAS form with the changes -- mail it to me and I will fill out the GR-3 Alateen Group Registration/Change form and forward it to WSO.

If you fill out the GR-3 form DO NOT SEND IT TO WSO. It MUST be sent to me first. WSO will only accept forms that have been sent to them from the AAPP. If you sent any of the forms to WSO, they will return it to me uncertified. So you are not saving any time. The AAPP is the ONLY person that WSO will receive information from.

District Representatives can now view the Alateen groups and AMIAS is their district only. Go to [www.al-anon.info/OnlineGroupRecords](http://www.al-anon.info/OnlineGroupRecords). It is suggested that you save the address in your favorites. Instructions to navigate the site and "help" links are available within the site. You will use the same login and password you use for e-communities to access this password-protected Web site. Keep in mind that your login name and password are confidential and for your use only.

Food for thought: Al-Anon members do not have to be an Alateen Group Sponsors to become certified as an Al-Anon Member Involved In Alateen Service (AMIAS) Just becoming certified and being willing to serve Alateen is a service – it says that you support our younger members and are willing to consider being of service to Alateen if a need arises. The AAPP will work with the Area Coordinator to encourage eligible members in your respective areas

to consider becoming certified.

For example, if an Alateen Group Sponsor has an emergency, and is not able to attend the meeting at the last minute, having a small pool of certified members available to serve as a temporary Alateen Group Sponsor will insure that the Alateens will have a meeting to

### 2-DAY FALL ASSEMBLY AND CONVENTIONS -Donna K

I have no report but I would like to apologize for not following thru on my position. I would especially like to say I am sorry to Louise the Chairman for Review and Audit, Sandy, Phil and I do hope to do much better this next year.

### ACTION COMMITTEE REPORTS GROUP SERVICES- Mickie G

The World Service asked areas to implement a set of guidelines in reference to "DO NOT REFER". This means Area's will not refer a group to newcomers-but the group will still be on WSO mailing list. Our Action Committee makes a recommendation to form a thought force on this topic. Susan W of District 26 offered to be Chairman of this committee.

We discussed how we could sit in on "problem" meetings and gently suggest that (we) use the handbook to inform groups of our CAL policy -and that- for one hour- outside resources are not CAL approved – use before, or after meeting -but Al-anon must **be** kept pure. Suggested also that we get groups to put the handbook on table during meetings, it may remind all to "keep it simple, keep it pure".

### PUBLIC OUTREACH -Jean F.

Veterans' organizations, VA hospital were given Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism & schedule of meetings. The VETS were very grateful.

Business cards for police officers were discussed that has "Help & Hope" plus local Al-anon contact info. - Cleveland plans to print 3,000 for \$65.00. Give 100 to each member. Give 1,000 to other groups to give to police departments with a letter of explanation. The card has been approved by WSO. When contacting police, call the non-emergency number. Ask if it's not busy. Volunteer to talk to them if they want more information.

Places to target:

Park rangers also encounter a lot of alcoholism and could use these business cards. Health fairs at large corporations such as Whirlpool. For a small health fair bring pamphlets & schedules. Can order a poster from Al-Anon. Community colleges -meeting schedules in literature rack. Courts – in areas where families wait. Many court cases are alcohol related. Sandy said "Al-Anon & The Judicial System" was the most popular pamphlet at the Addictions Institute booth. Battered Women's Shelters, High Schools -give to guidance counselors to distribute. Large apartment complexes, grocery stores, Department of Motor Vehicles – Ask permission! Newspaper -advertise your meeting. Your church! Sandy was asked if we wanted to be listed in the Gayellow Pages – for lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgendered (LGBT) people. It would be free. We could list 10 words in our description of how we are a resource. Sandy asked for our opinion. We said we need clarification. If this is an Ohio publication, we are fine with listing Ohio contact info. If it is a nationwide publication, we feel Al-Anon WSO should make the decision. Sandy said she would get more information.

### MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH -Melinda M

Purpose: Reach Remote areas. Read old minutes, WSO bullet points.

Take experienced members to have a workshop in small towns How to promote anonymity in small towns.

Meetings vs WSO Non-restricted groups. Traveling workshop (theme) taken to remote locations. Downloadable workshops. Location at the library- Pluses – free parking, restrooms, maintains anonymity. Historically, Southern Ohio opted to connect with West Virginia as they felt their needs were not met.

Southeast Ohio with GR's & DR's. redistricting causing split in the State (North/South). One hour meeting vs Day long workshops.

Group Service project: State Rep level – Communications with those S.E. Ohio groups that need inclusive and exposure to Al-Anon.

Motion: Establish a Task Force to bring Al-Anon to remote locations in Ohio.

We talked about what to do when someone does not adhere to Al-Anon at a meeting/. Check if CAL. Set specific week for step work, utilize timers. Fly swatter with "Al-Anon Spoken Here". Refer to guidelines. Invite DR to speak. Third party group inventory. Promote purity of the program.

#### ASSEMBLY AND CONVENTION REPORTS:

Reports were given for the 2011 Two Day Fall Assembly, Two Day Fall 2012 Assembly, and the Ohio Area Convention 2012

2-DAY FALL ASSEMBLY- October 19-20, 2013 will be hosted by the Districts of Youngstown

#### 2013 OHIO STATE AA SERVICE CONVENTION WITH AL-ANON PARTICIPATION

The committee for next year's AA service convention with Al-anon Participation has begun. Area 53, which is Central and Southeast Ohio, is the Host for the event.

The location for the event is the Double Tree Inn by Hilton located in Worthington, Ohio. The date for the event is August 2-4, 2013.

Members who live in central Ohio are asked to be on the Al-Anon committee. Contact Sandy F. if you would like to be of service on this committee. This is a short term service opportunity.

More information will be available as details are finalized. Fliers and registration forms will be available at the 2013 Spring Assembly.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Task Force to explore possible changes to Ohio Area Convention has a new Chairman. It is Buff.

#### NEW BUSINESS

A Knowledge Based Decision Making item was submitted to amend the Ohio By-Laws. After review of the proposal by the Delegate, Rex M, the By-Laws Committee Chairman, Barbara W, and the Area Chairman, Sandra F and resulting in a subsequent consultation with the Associate Director for Membership Outreach- Alateen at the World Service Office, Mary Lou M., the proposal will not be presented.

Areas do not have the autonomy to change the original six points of the Minimum Safety and Behavioral Requirements for Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service. The Minimum Safety and Behavioral Requirements must be met by all area using the Alateen name in order to be in compliance. Area's may exceed the requirements by adding additional requirements, as deemed suitable by each Area, (i.e. Ohio added #7 in May 2005 and #8 in 2011.) but the original six points determined by the Board of Trustees in 2003 and affirmed by the World Service Conference in 2004 may not be altered.

This means that anyone who has ever been convicted of a felony of any kind is not eligible to become certified for Alateen Service. The only way a member with a felony conviction could become eligible for certification would be if they were able to have the conviction expunged for their record by the courts.

District change request came from a meeting in District G. (See motion below)

Question asked about ordering Big books to use in meetings. Response by Shirley was "We cannot order the Big Book from our list of CAL because it is not Conference Approved Literature. It is my understanding that we are to use only Conference Approved Literature at our meetings. The Big Book is to be used by AA members at their

meetings. On a personal level, I have used the Big Book at different times in my recovery, but not at an Al-Anon meeting topic."

A Thought Force was formed. Thought Force to discuss criteria for groups to be placed on a "Do Not Refer" list. Susan W will be the Chairman for this group. Members were asked to volunteer to be on the Thought Force.

A Task Force was formed. The Task Force is to develop suggestion for a workshop to take to remote locations in Ohio. The Task Force does not have a chairman at this time.

#### Motions presented for voting

2012 #4 – To move Mt. Vernon Tues Night AFG group to District 26 from District G Passed

2012 #5 – By the Budget Committee to put the \$5000.00 principle of the recent matured CD into a new 6 month CD. Motion passed by 47 members, 3 opposed, 1 abstained.

#### DATESTOREMEMBER

Alateen Sponsor's Workshop March 2, 2013 2040 W. Henderson Road, Columbus, OH 43220 AWSC -March 23, 2013- 2040 W. Henderson Road, Columbus, OH 43220

Alateen Spring Rally - April 27, 2013, 2040 W. Henderson Road, Columbus, OH 43220 Spring

Assembly - May 18, 2013-2040 W Henderson road, Columbus 43220

AWSC -August 10, 2013-2040 W Henderson Road, Columbus, 43220

AA Convention with Al-Anon Participation - Aug 2-4, 2013 - Worthington, OH

Two Day Fall Assembly - October 19-20, 2013 Hosted by the Districts of Youngstown

Sandy F asked for a motion to adjourn our meeting. Jean F made a motion to adjourn and Susan W seconded it

We closed with the Al-Anon Declaration:

Let it begin with me, when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, let the hand of Al-Anon/Alateen always be there and let it begin with me.

Respectfully submitted

By, Karen McK