



GEORGIA ON TRACK

July 2011

AREA OFFICER REPORTS

Delegate's Report

Hello Everyone,

Alateen: Last month, I had the privilege of attending the Alateen Conference at Rock Eagle for the second year in a row. The teens were most willing to share their creative energy as well as their ESH and it was a recovery weekend like no other that I have attended in Al-Anon. It is a remarkable opportunity for our teens throughout Georgia to get to know one another. Please encourage your Alateens to prayerfully consider attending next year and do what you can to help make it possible.

A.A Prepaid: Please visit the Events page on the Area website, download the invitation to the A.A. prepaid in October, and then plan on attending! The Al-Anon liaison needs willing hearts and hands over the weekend in a variety of positions; please consider signing up to volunteer for a shift while you're there.

Public Outreach: I am so grateful to Terry J. for volunteering to serve as our Public Information Coordinator. Having served on previous panels as Literature and Archives Coordinators, she has experience with reaching out to members throughout Georgia and I hope your groups and districts will contact her - as well as our CPC and Institutions Coordinators - for help and guidance in outreach efforts in your part of Georgia.

What is Sponsorship? A second sponsorship podcast has been posted on the WSO members' website (www.al-anon.alateen.org/members). Members from the U.S. and Canada have contributed to this and other podcasts that are available at the click of a button (or two). The site includes a 'comment' feature for sharing your own ESH.

Job opportunity: There is an Administrative Coordinator position available at our World Service Office in Virginia Beach. If you didn't get a copy of the e-mail last month and are interested in applying, please let either me or your DR know and one of us will be sure you get the information you need.

Question: Just what is it that our World Service Office does that requires so much money??? Answer: can be found on pages 127-8 of the Service Manual.

An Attitude of Abundance: Many of you are already aware that the WSO has recently published a paperback version of *How Al-Anon Works* for \$5. The intent is to make it more feasible for our groups to practice

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Area Officer reports..... Page 1-5
- Coordinator reports.....Page 6- 9
- Convention Report..... Page 9
- District Rep. reports...Page 10 - 16
- AA Delegate's report.....Page 17
- May Assembly Agenda.....Page 18

an attitude of abundance by giving copies away to newcomers. Please ask your group to consider buying at least one copy of the book as an outreach tool and then watch what happens. In my own home group, I got to experience for myself the quiet gratitude that permeated the room when our members recognized that we had all just contributed to carrying the message by way of putting the essence of our program into the hands of the newcomer in our midst.

Idea: Bring a group discussion on intimacy in general, including sexual intimacy, and then ask members to write about their sharing for consideration in the next new piece of literature that was approved for publication at our World Service Conference.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunities this year to speak at group and district meetings and to attend some of your district events. I continue to be very, very grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside you.

Vicki L.
Panel 50

Alternate Delegate's Report

I am thrilled to report to our Area that WSO has been able to arrange for us to have as our WSO guest in January, 2012, Mary Gregory: Long-time Trustee; voted in April as a Member at Large on the Executive Committee. More details about her arrival as time draws near.

The following is an unpublished sharing that I wrote for The Forum. Here it is:

On March 24, 2011, we had a tragedy in my city. One of our historic, 122 year-old, empty Cotton Mill buildings burned completely to the ground. The building recently had been turned over to a group of people who committed to bringing it "back to life" by renovating it. They were going to make loft apartments in that structure.

The fire was started by a single spark from one of the welders who was beginning to salvage the old material in the building. That particular day, the wind was blowing strongly with gusts up to 25 MPH, and with the 122 year-old timbers acting like fat lighter in the building, it didn't take long before the entire building was engulfed in flames. To say the least, the conditions were prime for a strong fire, and it only took that spark for the fire to begin and it raged and raged for hours. Matter of fact, the fire continued to smolder for a few days afterwards.

My life used to be like that tragedy, and it can still be like it if I don't protect the conditions of my heart and spirit.

If I don't go to my meetings on a regular basis, if I don't talk to my sponsor and other AI-Anon members regularly, if I don't read my literature, if I don't reach out to others in service, if I don't have that spiritual connection with God, it will only take a spark to get the fire going in my life.

If I don't connect spiritually, my life is like fat lighter primed to blaze like a wild fire in my soul. My anger can get hold of me, my imagination can go wild with worry, my anxiety level can grow, and I can lose my serenity with a simply action, look, or word from someone. My spirit can rage out of control and then smolder for days if the conditions are in place for that.

Thanks to Al-Anon, I have learned to take care of the conditions of my heart on most days. On those windy days, on the days when I'm feeling dry and brittle inside, I still have the protection of God and what I've learned in the program to not let a fire destroy me completely. All is not lost and destroyed anymore.

Cathy O, Alternate Delegate

Chairperson's Report

I want to express my gratitude, appreciation, and respect for the outcome of our Area Assembly inventory in May! The spiritual tone of the inventory and the perceptiveness of the results for consideration are a reflection of those who participated. Thank you for such a wonderful inventory! I also want to express sincere thanks to Cathy O., our Alternate Delegate, and Joyce R., the past Delegate from Tennessee, who organized, coordinated, and facilitated our Area Assembly inventory! More will follow as we review and process the results from the inventory.

I hope each of us will start praying for our elections in September, 2012. Yes, after this Assembly we will have only 2 more Assemblies before elections. No, it is not too early to begin prayerful and careful consideration of where our Higher Power may be leading us in Service. If there is any encouragement I may offer or questions I might answer, please call or e-mail.

As you plan to attend September Area Assembly (September 17-18, 2011) at the [Central Georgia Convention Center](#) (CGCC), please make your room reservations at the Ramada Inn ONLY. Room reservations may be made by calling (478) 994-5691. Please let them know you are with the Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia for our preferred group room rates. Rates are \$65 for a double and \$70 for a king (rates do not include taxes).

With a tremendous amount of love and gratitude to you and for you in Service...

Jeff G.
Area Chairperson

Treasurer's Report

Hi Everyone,

Wow what a year! I am so very proud to be a member of such a powerful fellowship. As the Area Treasurer I am ever reminded of the importance of our Seventh Tradition and the important role it plays in my personal recovery as well as that of Al-Anon as a whole. I would like to share the following excerpt from our literature "Paths to Recovery".

"When the Group Treasurer passes the basket, it is explained that contributions are voluntary. We are encouraged to take some time for ourselves before trying to take on part of the groups function. Eventually we need to participate, to work the Steps and to add our voice and resources to the group in order to continue our recovery. As individuals we come to believe that, to keep Al-Anon functioning and available, our group has to take care of its own needs.

There are no dues or fees, but there are financial responsibilities. We choose to accept the responsibility to pay our own way with our voluntary contributions; thus Al-Anon's independence and continued availability depends on us".

Groups and Districts make contributions to the Area. Individuals may also make contributions to the Area. Individual contributions made to AFG of Georgia, Inc. may be used as a tax deduction by the individual. There are guidelines for making this type of contribution. We are registered as a corporation as AFG of Georgia, Inc. In order to take a tax deduction the contribution must be made out to AFG of Georgia, Inc. Checks written out to Central Services or the convention are not deductible since they are not written out to the registered name. All income from contributions is allocated to the General Fund. Per Al-Anon Policies contributions cannot be earmarked for special purposes. In keeping with our 7th tradition Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia, Inc. is fully self supporting and declines outside contributions. This requires confirmation that the contribution being made is from an Al-Anon member. The DR's have been sent the contribution form to be completed and sent in with any individual contribution.

Renelle M.
Area Treasurer

Area Secretary's Report

Hope you all had a safe 4th of July weekend celebrating the amazing freedom we are all fortunate to live! I count my many blessings in the freedom to live, work, worship, eat, drive and shop as I choose. I am grateful to have found the rooms of Al-Anon and to have the freedom to attend meetings anywhere, anytime. And I am particularly grateful for the opportunity to participate in service to a fellowship that continues to save my sanity and therefore my life!

"Practicing the Twelfth Step has given me the golden opportunity look beyond my isolation and to begin following the guidance of a Higher Power in my daily life. When I look for what is needed in a meeting, I open the door to a deeper experience of using my will to do the will of a Higher Power. More time spent in the solution, no matter how brief a spell, inevitably allows for less time spent in the problem. Rather than reproducing the failure, resentment, and paralysis of dealing with the disease of alcoholism, Al-Anon service gives me a chance to step lightly into the fresh air of recovery." *When I Got Busy, I Got Better*, PG. 12, Replacing Isolation with Community. This continues to be true for me as much today as the night I walked in to my first meeting. I continue to find my recovery in service where I have a healthy avenue in which to channel.

Just a reminder that the Area Assembly Meeting Minutes are no longer printed in the newsletter. They are instead sent electronically to all DRs to distribute to GRs to share with their groups. If you are a GR and have not received the May Assembly Meeting Minutes, please check with your DR or contact me directly. My information is listed in the Area Directory.

Love and gratitude in service,

Linda G.,
Area Secretary

Area Office Chair Report

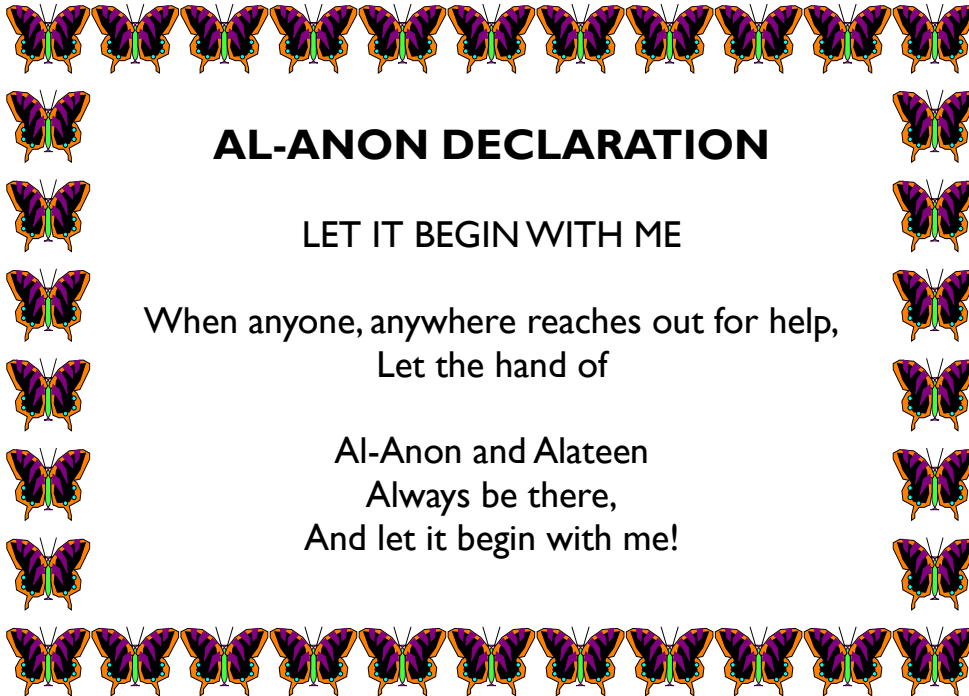
Greetings Everyone,

Our Executive Committee is now complete thanks to Cheryl K., District 4, graciously stepping up to fill the position of secretary for the remainder of the term. I know she will be an asset to our committee.

Please remember that we still need volunteers for phone retrieval and have a little chat with your sponsor and HP to see if this might be a way you would be willing to do service. If you volunteer for 1 day a week for a month that's only 4 times. You can also volunteer for just one day a month. If you are interested and would like more information contact our volunteer coordinator, Angela, at angela-mcgregor@msn.com.

I would also like some feedback from everyone regarding being able to order online. If this is a service you feel you would use and would like to see available please drop me an email – dfleming234@gmail.com and let me know. The office is always interested in improving our services to the fellowship and your input is important.

With love and gratitude in service,
Debbie F. Area Office Chair



Area Coordinator Reports

Alateen Report

Hello Georgia A.F.G.,

It is a great day when I get to report to you that more new Alateen meetings have been opening in the past few months. Please visit the website at this link <http://ga-al-anon.org/alateen.php> for a list of all Alateen meetings. Sadly, the Oak Road Alateen meeting in District 19 is closing due to lack of attendance. We know that the disease of Alcoholism affects everyone, so the need is there. So, let's all do our part to make sure we announce Alateen meetings available in our areas at our Al-Anon meetings.

The 2011 GA Alateen Conference, "Can You Find Your Piece of Mind?", was a weekend full of experience, strength and hope for all in attendance. There were Trust Building & Meditation workshops, 3 speaker meetings, a Gratitude Bonfire meeting and several hours of tremendous amounts of fun at the BEST pool (complete with regulation diving board and 3 story waterslide) EVER!

There were only 13 teens in attendance, though, so to all of my AMIAS, it is not too early to start thinking about next year's conference! Please start talking to your teens about what your group needs to do to get as many teens to conference next year! Get in touch with other AMIAS that have brought teens in the past, and ask for one of their teens to come to your meeting and talk to your teens about the conference. Let's set a goal as an Area to have 50 teens at the conference!

A good friend of mine just recently finished reading our newest book, *Many Voices, One Journey*. This book shares the past 60 years of history for Al-Anon, but she told me that it goes into the entire history of Alateen as well. I plan on reading the new book at the end of this month. For all of you interested in learning more about Alateen roots, please pick up a copy and share about what you learn with others.

The 4th Annual Spaghetti Dinner is right around the corner. It will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2011. It is being held at the same time and location as last year – right around the corner from the Area Assembly location during the dinner break. Be on the lookout for a flyer containing all of the details. We hope all of you can join us!

I'm also happy to announce that the 2nd Annual Area Calendar will be available for purchase at the Spaghetti Dinner. We heard your comments and have made some improvements and we hope you will enjoy having a piece of this past year's Alateen conference to carry with you all year long! Thank you, again, for all of your support in helping GA Alateen to continue to grow!

Thank you, as always, for allowing me to serve!

Elyse G.

Archivist's Report

As the group history notebook continues to be compiled, I would like to encourage all districts and groups to send in individual histories. There are still numerous groups that have not responded. Only one district has responded with a cover sheet to introduce their district in the notebook. Thank You District 16 - Beautiful Job!!! I would like to encourage all groups and district to contribute to our archives history notebook.

Donna M.
Archives Coordinator

Group Records Report

Hi Everyone,

News from your Group Records Coordinator is that I can now enter NEW meetings directly into the WSO web site. This saves a lot of time and allows us to receive the WSO number in a matter of days rather than a matter of weeks. The meeting name still must go through the approval process at the WSO. If you are starting a new meeting or know someone who is, the best way to get this done is to send the new meeting information (form GR-I available online) to your District Representative. If you do not know your District Representative or if your district does not have a DR the form can be sent directly to me at areagrouprecords@ga-al-anon.org.

In Love and Service,

Tom M
Group Records Coordinator

Institutions Report

Greetings from your Institutions Coordinator! I am tasked with promoting and facilitating Al-Anon outreach to institutions within the state of Georgia. For Al-Anon purposes, an institution is considered a residential facility with limited access to the public. Examples would include a treatment facility, jail, or shelter. It is a challenge to come up with ways to do this in such a large and diverse area. I have discovered that every district, in fact, every county has different needs and levels of involvement. Area 11 has put together a Thought Force regarding Public Outreach for Al-Anon in Georgia and we are considering ways we can better facilitate and organize our efforts. We had our first meeting via conference call on Skype in June. It was a new experience for most of us!

However, it also demonstrates that emerging technology may help us improve and expand our efforts at communicating across the area. This could definitely impact our outreach efforts.

Several districts have contacted me regarding their efforts with outreach. I encourage districts to have a contact person within your district for outreach. Creating a job description for what your district wants in the way of outreach my help in finding the person who has a heart for sharing the Al-anon message beyond the meeting rooms.

District 17, my home district, has started a jail meeting in Cherokee County. I am part of the team that is carrying the meeting into the jail. It has been an exciting learning experience. One recommendation that I have from this experience is to get copies of our new soft cover *How Al-anon Works* into the jails, treatment facilities, and shelters within your districts. This book is only \$5.00. Most jails or prisons require you to ship books in, so a few phone calls and donations for book purchases can help spread the Al-Anon message.

Anne M.
Institutions Coordinator

Newsletter Coordinator's Report

I hope you are enjoying this newsletter, which is our 5th edition of GA ON TRACK! Please continue to submit any articles through your DR. And DRs, please send them in word format ending in doc. Serving our Area in this capacity has brought me so many gifts...and laid them at my feet. I am so grateful for this worldwide fellowship and for those who serve us all.

Gratefully yours.

Beth B.
Newsletter Coordinator

PI Coordinator's Report

Hey Everybody. I have been given the opportunity to serve as your PI Coordinator for the remainder of this term. This position is responsible for outreach to the Public/Media.

One of the ways we do this is by listing our group meeting information in the newspaper. Is your meeting listed in you local paper? If not, you may want to do that. It's a great way to let people know that you are there.

Did you know that the WSO has sent the new PSA to radio and TV stations? Listen and watch for it. Let me know when or where you heard or saw it. We would like to know if it's getting out there and to thank them for their support.

This all for now as I am still learning what this new growth opportunity is all about. I look forward to working with all of you. Feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions. My info is in the directory.

Love in Service,

Terry J.

Area Web Master's Report

We have been operating under a new provider and a new platform for several months. The technical difficulties associated with the transition have been solved.

You are encouraged to email flyers for your group and district events to webmaster@ga-al-anon.org. Please send these flyers in Microsoft Word or PowerPoint format so that they can be modified as needed prior to posting them to the website.

Thanks for your support during the transition period.

Yours in service,

David B
Website Coordinator.

Area Convention Report

Greetings fellow members of Al-Anon,

As I hope you know by now, we are rapidly approaching the date of our Area Al-Anon convention. We are within two months of the date - August 12-14, 2011. The convention will be held in Albany, Ga at Hilton Garden Inn. It will be a weekend of fun, food, and fellowship that you don't want to miss. It will also be a weekend of service, speakers and serenity too powerful to miss!!

Opportunities for service include:

- 1) Providing items for the boutique – we have a boutique to raise funds for the conventions. Members create recovery related items and donate them for fundraising purposes. It is fun to see the creativity of our members!! If you sew, are computer savvy, can put together some type of art/craft project - please consider making an item/items to donate. Past items have included book marks, covered notebooks, book covers, printed sayings in a picture frame, soap, bath salts, paintings, jewelry, knitted and crocheted items, butterfly crafts.
- 2) Providing food/beverage items for the hospitality room – we are able to have a hospitality room for nonperishable goods (no hot food). This helps defray the cost of the convention for some and just provides good food for others. Ideas include but are not limited to (LOL) homemade cake, cookies, candy, chips, etc.
- 3) Participating in the talent show – on Saturday night we plan to have a talent show. Please plan to participate so this can be a success. Bring the props you need and come have fun!!!

Love in service,

Alecia C.

DISTRICT REPORTS—AREA 11

District One

District 1 has been very busy so far this year. In April we had a great workshop, " WALLS VERSUS BOUNDARIES ". It was well attended and everyone involved did a wonderful job. On May 29th we had our 2nd Annual District 1 Picnic. We had an AA and Al-anon speaker, skits, songs, games for the kiddies and some very delicious hamburgers, hotdogs and other goodies. We had a large turnout, someone said around seventy. Everyone there truly did enjoy the day. If you missed it this year, plan on coming next year. District 1 still participates in several panels, carrying our message of hope, to treatment centers in our district. We also distributed 400 " Al-anon faces Alcoholism, 2011 ", across the district this year. We decided at our last district meeting, to have a district Tradition study, sharing our thoughts via e-mail. If it sounds like I am bragging on our district, " you are probably right ".

Diane P. DR District 1

District Two

District 2 is still alive and well. We all have been working hard in trying to spread the Al-Anon message. We are still sharing our message of Strength, Hope & Serenity by our Public Outreach Coordinator Barbara T. by having monthly introductory meetings in Athens and Covington.

With the Covington meetings, Mary B. and her "crew" from District 10 helps to spread the message with us. When we all get together on the meeting night we enjoy the fun & fellowship, but all I can say is "look out Arby's, here we come" after the meetings. I also want to share some good news with our fellowship...Our past D.R., Dana R. and her family will not be moving to Texas as she had planned, so I'm hoping that you all will see her more in the coming future. Our District is also beginning to pull together on a Workshop, hopefully this February, so if any one out there in space has any helpful hints to pass along to us, please do. I do wish for everyone, "peace, happiness & serenity" in the coming year. To God Be The Glory!

I remain yours in service,

Anne C. DR District 2

District Four

TEAM GEORGIA - Recovery on My Mind

Great news for Area 11. The TEAM Event planning is moving way ahead of schedule thanks to our members' enthusiasm and service. WSO has approved submitted name of "TEAM GEORGIA- Recovery on My Mind." The Host Committee has been working to develop a clear vision for the event including what we hope to accomplish in this partnership with WSO. The name TEAM GEORGIA- Recovery on My Mind blends right in with our goals for the event. The winners of the 'name the event' contest will be announced at the September Assembly. We had a total of thirty-four submissions. Thank you all for the energy going into making the first TEAM Event a huge success.

The Host Committee Co-chairs traveled to Columbia, S.C. the first weekend in June for the South Carolina TEAM Event. It was truly a wonderful experience and we learned so much from being present. We gained some terrific ideas and thought of ways we want to personalize our event to Area 11 needs, wants and preferences. Our excitement level is off the charts with having this opportunity to serve Georgia Al-Anon.

If you are still wondering, "What is a TEAM Event?" here's your answer. A TEAM event is a partnership between an Area and the World Service Office (WSO), with the aim of providing for Al-Anon and Alateen members to learn more about recovery, service and the Al-Anon program. The Area and WSO Task Force work together to plan an agenda of workshops and presentations that address the Area's specific needs and expand members' understanding of our worldwide fellowship. Staff members and a trustee will come to Georgia to share their experience, strength and hope on topics that are important to our members according to our member survey.

The event will be on Saturday, March 10, 2012 in Macon. Details of exact times and workshop titles will be announced after the Host Committee and the WSO Task Force have completed their work together. Please stay tuned for more information. Make your plans NOW to be in Macon on March 10, 2012!

TEAM Host Committee—District 4

District Thirteen

If participation is the key to harmony, then District 13 is well on its way to making beautiful music! We have been working hard over the past few months to boost participation within the district. One of our most recent efforts involves reaching out to unrepresented groups within our district. Under the leadership of our District Representative, Peggy T., we have begun to develop a "buddy" system for pairing active GRs with groups that have no GR. We want each unrepresented group to know that the district cares about their opinions, desires their participation in district activities, and offers them support. We are hoping that our attempt to connect with these groups will help restore vital links of service at the district and Area levels.

We also realized that District 13 was not actively participating in Area attempts to promote and support Alateen. Because our district currently has no active Alateen group, we decided to focus our attention on starting one. We have begun the process and are in communication with an Al-Anon group that is willing to work with us in obtaining space.

In early June we encouraged *social* participation by hosting our annual "Fun and Fellowship Potluck" event. The evening began with the guitar renderings of the talented singer/songwriter and Al-Anon member Bucky M. We ate and listened to the soothing sounds of Bucky's classical guitar melodies. Then Bucky sang three of his own songs, encouraging the audience to sing along at key moments (participation is truly the key to harmony!). After Bucky's performance, Alateen member Lindsey courageously spoke about her life in and out of the program. The evening culminated in Al-Anon member Elise M. telling her moving story of experience, strength, and hope through recovery in both Alateen and Al-Anon. The beautiful music of recovery was heard in the words, songs, and participation of many Al-Anon and Alateen members that evening. Stay tuned to the happenings within District 13!

Kendra Y., GR of Embury Hills Pathfinders AFG

District Thirteen

Deciding how to Decide: Knowledge Based Decision Making

Article by Bucky M.

I love my Al-Anon group. I think it's the best group on the planet.

Our group is especially diverse, and I feel we are very welcoming to all. I hope you'll come visit our group when you are in the area.

I am a longtime member of the Noon Group AFG, which meets at Noon Monday through Friday at the Galano Club in Midtown, Atlanta. I am a former GR and am currently holding the service position of group Secretary. I am fortunate to have had the same sponsor for over 20 years, a sponsor who has also acted as my service sponsor. She has guided me through the Steps, Traditions, Concepts and Service Manual.

Our very first GR, Hubert A., got the Noon Group started down the right path over 20 years ago. He showed us that most questions about how a group should function could be answered using the Service Manual as a guide.

The first thing our group did at our very first Group Conscience meeting was to "decide how to decide." We looked to our Area Assembly and the WSC as models, and followed their lead in many ways.

Recently the Noon Group discussed, made a motion, and passed adopting Knowledge Based Decision Making in our Group Conscience meeting. I'd like to share here some talking points that came out of that discussion. As the Secretary, I took these notes and then read them back to those present in the Group Conscience meeting to make sure the notes reflected what the members had said and that I had not editorialized them. Of course, these points, as well as this article, does not reflect the opinions of the Noon Group or Al-Anon as a whole.

Knowledge Based Decision Making (KBDM) encourages us to assume goodwill on the part of our fellow members. We assume you love this meeting, too!

KBDM encourages us to listen to other peoples' perspectives. This gives us a more complete knowledge base.

KBDM, for our group, does not replace Roberts Rules of Order. They are used loosely, and when the group feels it's time to make a decision, motions are generally made.

Consensus may not always be possible. However, hearing everyone's perspective helps us get much closer to consensus.

Informed decisions are made based on information presented on the topic.

With KBDM, each individual is encouraged to give their opinion on the topic being discussed.

Many of us also felt that KBDM went hand in hand with the Steps, Traditions and Concepts.

My personal experience is that our group has used a form of KBDM all along, we just never gave it a name. I am very proud of the Noon Group because we have very high member participation in our Group Conscience meetings. We discuss every motion thoroughly.

Early in recovery, at times I wanted to “get the meeting over with” so we could get on with more important things like deciding where to go to lunch! That, too, took more time than I felt was necessary.

Looking back on my childhood, my mother was a great role model for me, though at the time I disliked the way she made decisions. I wanted to buy that thing I wanted and I wanted to buy it now. Especially with clothes, my mom would say, “Let’s wait until it goes on sale.” I spent a lot of money as an adult not waiting for things to go on sale. In fact, I incurred quite a lot of debt in doing so. Now, I remember with fondness the way my mom would go back and “visit” the thing she wanted. It almost always worked out for her. She usually got the clothes she liked on sale. While I was always afraid the item would be gone by the time it went on sale, she just had an instinct for that sort of thing. I truly feel my mom had a strong connection to a higher power that she used in her everyday life in many more important ways than shopping.

When I did listen to my mom and make really informed decisions, things always turned out to my benefit, though not necessarily the way I wanted. When I was in College, my mom showed me, much to my disappointment, that I didn’t have to money to move into my own place. She had me do what I would now call a searching and fearless money inventory, and the results were not to my liking.

When I was able to follow my mom’s lead, the most important thing I remember about her helping me with decision making was the impact of being able to reason things out thoroughly with her. I never felt rushed, and I always felt she was truly listening.

I feel that our Group Conscience creates an atmosphere where members truly listen to each other. I am more committed than ever to using the Service Manual, the Steps, traditions and Concepts, to help guide me and inform me as I bring my own opinion to the group.

Our group conscience has “Decided how to decide.” Has yours?

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

District Fourteen

District 14 is very active! On May 7 we held our annual workshop “The Paths to Service”. We had Jonesboro, Forest Park, Stockbridge groups represented. All three groups spoke on what service meant to them. And for the special treat the Forest Park group presented a dvd on “The Paths to Service” follow the Serenity Road (Wizard of Al-anon).

Our district has lost one of our groups but that won't stop us from trying to grow more. We host an Introduction Meeting every other week at the Clayton County Behavior Center for the past two years and we now have a prospect of another opportunity for us to reach out and support another project through the center.

The Forest Park AFG will have their 32nd annual anniversary and celebrate members birthdays on June 28 at 7:15 – 9:00. We will have the 2nd annual picnic this summer at the pavilion at Jones Memorial United Methodist Church in Lake City, GA.

The Stockbridge AFG (Henry County Hospital) has just celebrated their 9th anniversary. They have a very large group of about 25 people. They are still growing. Stockbridge has been active in the Introduction Meetings.

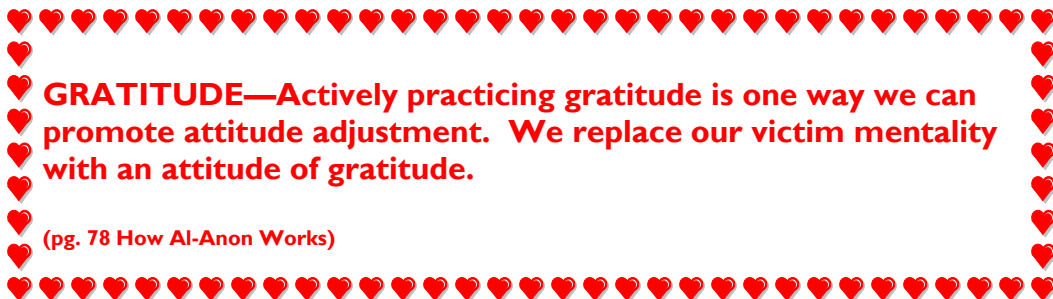
During a period a slow growth...Here Griffin AFG grows again! At the young age of 36 years they average 10 people a week. What a go Griffin!!!!

Jonesboro AFG (Clayton House)

In February we suffered a big loss when Grace S, lost her beloved husband Ivey S. They were part of the founders of the Clayton House of Jonesboro, Ivey was not only co founder but was always serving the AA group and even became a father figure to many recovering alcoholics. Grace has been the same for our Al-Anon group. She has been there thru 80's to present. Please keep Grace in your prayers. We also will be celebrating the anniversary of the Clayton house Sat. July 2nd with a cook out that day. Come and share the celebration with us. We also hold birthday parties for those that have been in Al-Anon, from the first year coming to Al-Anon.

In Service,

Joyce T. DR District 14



District Seventeen

District 17 has been busy despite the lazy summer days. Monday Night Believers in Cartersville is planning their twenty second birthday party for July 25. They will have an "Eating Meeting." The potluck eating starts at 7:00 and the special meeting (with a focus on 22s) follows at 8:00. They meet at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension at 205 West Cherokee Avenue in Cartersville. Everyone is welcome to join in their celebration! Also, Serenity at Seven in Woodstock is planning a 15 year birthday party which will take place Thursday, September 29. They will also have potluck eating which will start at 6:30 and the meeting, which will involve a skit will follow at 7:00. Friends from District 15 are helping to write the skit! Again, everyone is welcome to join the celebration. The group meets at Hillside Methodist, 4474 Towne Lake Parkway, Woodstock, Georgia.

Other news is that our district has new Alateen AMIAS. We are excited to have Carmen L and Brent F as new sponsors for Alateens. Brent is planning to start a new Alateen group in the Cartersville area and she will take over as our district's Alateen coordinator.

Public Outreach continues to thrive in our district. The current news is that our jail meeting is now started. Renee B. and Anne M. are taking the Al-anon message into the Cherokee County jail each Wednesday. MAIS has donated literature. There has been a great deal of cooperation with both AA and NA which are also taking meetings into the jail.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne M.
Alternate DR, District 17

District Eighteen

District 18 held our annual workshop, Mountain Miracles, on May 7 in beautiful Sautee-Nacoochee and is celebrating record attendance. Mountain Miracles directly supports our groups and outreach across the District. Thank you to Cathy O, our Area Alternate Delegate to the WSC, for telling her story, and to all who attended and make our workshop successful!

In Service,

Kari M.
DR - District 18

District Twenty-One

We are pleased to announce that our SECOND Alateen Meeting is now up and running on Mondays at 8:00 pm at Ridgeview on South Cobb Drive in Smyrna. Please invite any teenagers to come and join this new opportunity of recovery sponsored by New View AFG. Chuck A. is our District 21 Alateen Coordinator and he will be working with this new group and our Together We Can Make It Alateen group on Mondays at 8:00 at Covenant Presbyterian in Marietta. District 21 is very grateful to our Higher Power and all members in service who have made this wonderful addition a reality. Now we have an option for our young people on the south and west side of Cobb County who been affected by someone else's drinking.

The Blueprint For Progress Meeting is offering childcare to families. Childcare is available for One year olds up to five-year olds for \$2 per child and a maximum of \$5 per family. Please see the flyer on the website and here in the Newsletter. We now have one daytime meeting and one evening meeting with childcare in District 21. The evening meeting is at Holy Family Catholic Church on Friday nights.

Sherry A. stood to fill for our vacant Public Outreach position and is researching the possible Step 12 options in our area. The Group Conscience requested that she focus on libraries, courts and health care professionals. As a part of our District Inventory we will continue to work together to strengthen our attraction not promotion and encourage all groups to become more involved in service to carry the message.

Our District Newcomer's Coordinator, Michelle G. reported that the Newcomers group is fully self-supporting now. Much thanks goes to Market Square AFG for their years of service to supplement this outreach opportunity.

Terri S. our District Anniversary chair is spending the summer preparing all the exciting details of our District Anniversary Celebration that will be Saturday, October 29th at Tillman United Methodist Church in Smyrna from 10:00am until 3:00pm. Save the date for lots of experience, strength and hope.

Looking forward to AWSC in August!

In service,

Barbara D.
District 21 DR



A Note from A.A.'s Delegate;

Greetings from Alcoholics Anonymous! I hope that you all are having a great summer. It is a busy time of year with family time and many great A.A. events. I know that you are excited about your AI-Anon/Alateen Convention in Albany this August. Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend as we have our Southeastern Conference on the same weekend in Raleigh, NC. Our Area Chairperson, David M., will be attending for us and I know you will enjoy meeting him if you have not already.

Our State Convention will be in Gainesville this year. It will be held October 20 – 23, 2011 at the Georgia Mountain Center. It is a beautiful time of year to be in North Georgia. The AI-Anon/Alateen Family Groups program is a very important part of our Convention. We have Ellen C. from Addison, Texas speaking on Saturday afternoon at 2:00pm and an AI-Anon discussion meeting scheduled at 4:00pm. There is a flyer on your website for more information and registration. Your participation is welcome and appreciated. I hope to see many of you there.

I had the privilege to attend my second General Service Conference in May of this year. It was a busy week with many Advisory Actions resulting from our work. A couple that maybe important to those of you that have contact with alcoholics include making our Big Book, Grapevine and other literature available on smart phones and other e-readers by the end of this year and a new pamphlet sharing experiences from alcoholics with special needs. We are working on updating our pamphlet, AA and the Armed Forces, and developing a pamphlet sharing experiences on spirituality. My email address is delegate@aageorgia.org if you have any questions.

Thank you for allowing me to contribute to your newsletter.

Patty L.
AA Delegate, Area 16 Georgia

In AI-Anon, we share our experience, strength and HOPE!

**Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia
Area Assembly**

September 17-18, 2011

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

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

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

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

Saturday – September 17, 2011

11:00AM	Registration Opens – Host: District(s) 16 & 17 Literature Opens	Pallet I Juliette Room
12:00PM – 1:00PM	Business Meeting – Part I	Monet Room
1:00PM – 1:30PM	Break / Literature Room Open	Juliette Room
1:30PM – 2:15PM	GR Workshop GR Workshop – Assembly 101 (Repeat of G.R. Basics) DR Workshop Alateen Workshop	Monet Room Pecan Room Renoir Room Degas Room
2:15PM – 2:45PM	Break / Literature Room Open	Juliette Room
2:45PM – 4:00PM	Service Workshop Alateen Sponsor-to-Sponsor Workshop	Monet Room Degas Room
4:00PM – 4:30PM	Break / Literature Room Open	Juliette Room
4:30PM – 5:15PM	Al-Anon Discussion Meeting Alateen Discussion Meeting Alateen Sponsor-to-Sponsor Workshop (continued)	Monet Room Pecan Room Degas Room
8:00PM	Al-Anon Speaker Meeting Kari Mc.	Monet Room

Sunday – September 18, 2011

8:00AM	Registration – Host: District(s) 16 & 17 Literature	Pallet I Juliette Room
9:00AM – 1:00PM	Business Meeting – Part II	Monet Room

Reminders

1. Sign-in Sheets: DRs, deliver sign-in sheets to Alternate Delegate (Cathy O') by 9:00AM.
 2. Contributions: Provide contributions to Treasurer (Renelle M.) by 9:00AM or during breaks.
 3. Check-out time: All hotel check-out times are **11:00AM**.
 4. Meeting Times: Meeting end time is approximate. Please plan to stay until the meeting is adjourned.
- There will be periodic breaks throughout the meeting.

Announcing Assembly Details



Meeting and Hotel Facilities Information Central Georgia Convention Center

175, Exit 186
480 Holiday Circle
Forsyth, GA 31029

<http://centralgeorgiaconventioncenter.com/>

Hotel Reservations: 478-994-5691

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!



Next AWSC
August 20, 2011
12:00PM
200 Moseley Rd
Byron, GA 31008