

AREA OUTLOOK

IDAHO AREA 13 AL-ANON / ALATEEN NEWSLETTER

Fall 2011
Volume 38, Issue 4



Idaho Area Website: <http://www.al-anon-idaho.org/>
WSO Members Website: <http://www.al-anon.alateen.org/members/>

Our 2011 Fall Assembly - Abundant Outlook

By Cecilia S. Area Registration

The first time I had heard of the term “Abundant Outlook” was my last year as Area Delegate in 2007; our World Service Conference theme was; New Thinking, New Energy, Abundant Outlook. The Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, Judy P., wrote a very moving welcome about how the membership often tells her “we need more of everything;” more, members, more members to do service, more meetings, more literature, more money, more enthusiasm, more participation, always more of something. For her, she knows that this thinking comes from growing up in alcoholism - whatever she had was never enough. I was intrigued by this new insight and concept.

In June of this year, I had the opportunity to attend the first Northwest TEAM Event in Seabeck, WA. My favorite workshop of this event was on *Abundant Thinking*, chaired by Ric B. from WSO, and here again I heard that wonderful concept of Spiritual Abundance. For me, the most powerful thing that Ric B. shared during the workshop was... *All of us have been affected by alcoholism, and sometimes we bring our distorted thinking to our groups, our districts and our Area.* We need to be aware of this. When we make announcements, and ask for assistance with Al-Anon service; how are we telling the membership of our needs? Is it positive? Or do we say... “We HAVE to get someone to take this position now.” And then

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wonder why no one wants to take on new service roles. Do we tell members the privilege and growth we have received by being of service to Al-Anon? Armed with a skit called “The Concept of Spiritual Abundance” about an apathetic Al-Anon group, a PowerPoint presentation from WSO, and the September Forum article “Carry the message of hope - become one of Al-Anon’s unlimited abundant resources.” Karen D. and I presented an Abundance Outlook workshop at the fall assembly. It was wonderful to hear the examples of spiritual abundance in our area, where members saw a need and they filled it. This 2011 Fall Assembly was full of awesome examples of abundant resources we have as an Area. For example, our Al-Anon luncheon speaker, Elsa M., has 48 years of recovery; she shared her experience, strength and hope including pictures with Lois W. and her son’s drawing of her, “mommy looking grumpy.” Now that’s abundance. More stories to come.

2011 Spring Assembly – Profit/Loss Statement

Given by Paula N. Area Treasurer

Income

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Registrations | \$2,837.00 |
| No Raffle, Raffle | 881.00 |
| Coffee Donations | <u>32.00</u> |
| Total Income | \$3,750.79 |

Expenses

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Luncheon | \$1,368.11 |
| LCD Projector | 63.07 |
| Count Down Gift Books | 35.00 |
| Name Badges | 47.86 |
| GR Exchange | 20.03 |
| Speaker Costs (Ric B.) | <u>1,157.35</u> |
| Total Expenses | \$2,691.42 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total Spring Assembly Income | \$3,750.79 |
| Total Spring Assembly Expenses | <u>\$2,691.42</u> |
| Profit of... | \$ 559.37 |

Send Area Donations to:

Idaho Area AFG

PO Box 4681

Pocatello, ID 83205

Payee on check: Idaho Area AFG

Memo comments: Group number, District number

The Idaho Area Expense Form is on Area Website

Total Group Donations 1/1/11 – 7/27/11 \$1,373.09

Special thanks to Paula N. for her financial service to Al-Anon

See You in Ontario, OR on Saturday, May 19, 2012

By Cecilia S. Area Newsletter Editor

The Area World Service Committee is excited to tell you about the 2012 spring assembly in Ontario, Oregon in district 7.

Our Spiritual Journey: You Get As You Give
Spring Area Assembly will be at the
Clarion Inn Hotel

1249 Tapadera Avenue, Ontario, OR
For reservations call; 800-525-5333
Room Rates by April 20th \$79.00

Al-Anon Luncheon Speaker:
Tabatha F.
From Tarzana, CA

Group representatives are to attend
All members are welcome-bring someone new

Our Idaho Area Committee

Area Officers

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| Delegate | Kathy B. – Midvale, ID |
| Alt. Delegate | Wanda L. – Coeur d’Alene, ID |
| Area Chair | Berta R. – Clarkston, WA |
| Secretary | Laura F. – Boise, ID |
| Treasurer | Paula N. – Pocatello, ID |

Area Coordinators

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Group Records | Traci E. – Boise, ID |
| Forum/Literature | Robbin B. – Boise, ID |
| Literature Center | Mike P. – Boise, ID |
| Newsletter/Registration | Cecilia S. – Hayden Lake, ID |

The 2012 Area Assembly checks will be made out to;

Idaho Area AFG and mailed to:

2012 Spring AFG Assembly
Post Office Box 3392
Hayden, Idaho 83835-3392

Directions:

I-84 East (from Portland) Take I-84 East to Ontario. Exit 376B - turn right. Turn left at second stoplight (Goodfellow St.). Turn left onto Tapadera Avenue. Hotel is one block on the right.

I-84 West (from Boise) Take I-84 West to Ontario. Exit 376B - turn right. Turn left at second stoplight (Goodfellow St.). Turn left onto Tapadera Avenue. Hotel is one block on the right.

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Alateen | Barbara V. – Coeur d’Alene, ID |
| Archives | Ladora B. – Boise, ID |
| Public Outreach | Jeff M. – Colfax, WA |
| Web Site | Karen D. – Boise, ID |

District Representatives – DR

| | |
|------------|------------------------------|
| District 1 | Barbara K. – Post Falls, ID |
| District 2 | Kathy B. – Clarkston, WA |
| District 3 | Terry A. – Meridian, ID |
| District 4 | Open |
| District 5 | Jeanne H. – Pocatello, ID |
| District 6 | Maureen R. – Idaho Falls, ID |
| District 7 | Nancy Jo W. – Nampa, ID |

Thank you for being of Al-Anon service



“Meet my needs, fill my own bucket, and give from abundance. I receive; I give, I love me; I love you.”

September 2011 Forum, page 11

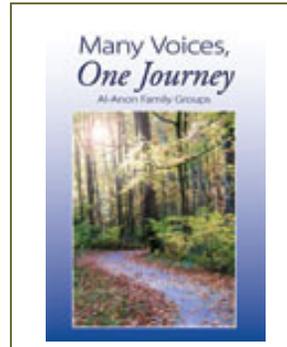
Recovery through the steps, Unity through the Traditions and Service through the Concepts

Many Voices, One Journey

Al-Anon's newest book is here

***Many Voices, One Journey—Al-Anon Family Groups (B-31)*, Al-Anon Family Groups' latest book, shows how the individual Al-Anon member's journey of personal recovery and spiritual growth is reflected in the growth of Al-Anon as a worldwide fellowship. It tells how members found the courage to change as they faced the challenges in their personal lives and in the development of the fellowship.**

The book is divided into short segments that can be read aloud at a meeting. Many of these segments are followed by questions for group discussion or personal reflection. ***Many Voices, One Journey* gives readers an opportunity to experience change, growth, and recovery first-hand—not only of Al-Anon's members, but of Al-Anon itself.**



*After reading **Many Voices, One Journey**, I have a better understanding of what happened in the past that makes the fellowship as it is today.*

Here's what one member had to say about **Many Voices, One Journey**...

"Once I finished reading the last chapter, the last page, and closed the book, I was overwhelmed with such great respect for our fellowship and how far we've come. Just as I have grown, fallen down, gotten back up, and grown some more, so has our fellowship."

how events in Al-Anon history have helped them grow. It will show how our focus and outlook as a fellowship has evolved from discussing how to help the alcoholic, work the 12 steps (pre-Al-Anon auxiliary kitchen groups), to our own recovery. There will be information about the book on the members' website. They will have workshops and presentations available for us to use as ways to actively use the book; and we are invited to create our own as well. I'm going to get with Karen, our Area website Coordinator, to see if we can get information about the book on our Area website, as well as a link to the members' site.

We also discussed how to encourage a more active use of our literature. Mostly people talked about having literature available for sale. I'm wondering about how much the meetings you go to use our literature? I know the meeting I go to we use [Paths to Recovery](#) twice a month for our Step and Tradition meetings. I would love to hear how you use it in your meetings.

If you have any questions get them to me and I'll try to find some answers. I'll forward the call summary to you when it comes out. Tom C. said that he would answer questions that were submitted that didn't make it to our agenda. One of the topics he'll be addressing is ebooks; I'm excited to find out more.

Love in Service, Robbin

What's New in CAL

By Robbin B. Area Literature/Forum

Hello All; I had my first conference call with Literature Coordinators from US and Canada. We had participants from PA, ND, SC, TX, and many other states, as well as Yukon Territory and Alberta Canada. Tom C. is the Associate Director of Communication—Literature and he led our call. The most important thing I wanted to pass on to you all is the information I got about our new book. *Many Voices, One Journey* (B-31) will be shipped to Literature Distribution Centers after the Delegates get to see it on April 16th at the World Service Conference; it will cost \$16. WSO is relying on the coordinators to promote the book—let the fellowship know that it's going to be available and what it has to offer. This is a recovery book (they ask that we don't call it a "history" book) that covers 60 years of how the fellowship and the members have grown and changed over the years. There are personal stories, discussion questions, excerpts from historical documents and individuals' sharings on

Our Spanish Contact for Idaho

A Special Thanks to Isabel H. of Boise

For Responding to our Spanish Contacts
Spanish Hotline
208-2845377

*Make sure to include our Spanish Hotline
number to your outreach materials.*

Our Al-Anon Assembly Mishap

Regarding our Al-Anon Assembly registration mishap, I loved what my sponsor once said about a situation that happened to me that I was upset about; she said “*you don’t have to worry about that, it will never happen again – too weird.*” I appreciated that, because this definitely applies to this registration mishap.

This was the weird situation...we had been successful receiving spring assembly registrations and Area Alateen mail for months – 3 days before the assembly someone in the post office noticed there was an initial next to the Alateen name, but not next to the *2011 Spring AFG Assembly* or the *Idaho Area AFG* names and decided to return the last 7 registrations back to our members. There would have been nothing we could have done to predict or prevent this from happening. It was a mistake on the post office part.

I was so impress with how understanding everyone was about this situation and within two days all of the members had re-sent in their registration and checks.

Thank you - I have talked to the post office and they said they have corrected the problem. ☺

How do you work the Steps, Traditions and Concepts?

Please help make the new workbook on Al-Anon’s three Legacies a reality. This workbook, given conceptual approval by the 2010 World Service Conference, relies on comments posted on the Steps, Traditions and Concepts blogs on our Members’ Website www.al-anon.org/members. Click on “Blogs” from the list on the left side of the opening page. Then click on the blog you want to write in and scroll down pass the initial sharing. Click on “Comments” and scroll to the bottom of the comments. Please follow the Guidelines under “Leave a Comment.”

A Moment in Al-Anon History

From time to time it comes up, “When did district 3 divide into two districts? And that is as far as it goes. When rummaging around through various binders I found this tag.

This was from the Area Assembly November 1980 in Pocatello, and it was an election assembly.

District 3 motion; to be divided into another district being designated as 7. Groups wanting to break off into district 7 are; Nyssa, Nampa, Caldwell, Payette and Ontario. They would be in the same district as the AA groups making it more convenient to have district meetings at the same time.

Those groups involved will take the matter to their individual group and will bring the group conscience back to the next assembly for assembly approval.

Groups that would remain in district 3 are; Boise, Kune, Eagle, Meridian and Mountain Home. District 1 and 2 in North Idaho have not been active in Idaho matters, but are still considered Idaho districts. At this time, there are only 4 active districts in Idaho.

Elected Area Officers

Delegate 81-83 - Kathy S. from Boise

Alternate Delegate – Colleen

Area Chairperson – Susan T. from Twin Falls

Area Secretary – Ladora H. from Boise

Area Treasurer – Jean S. from Boise

Submitted by, Ladora B. - Area Archives Coordinator

Area Donations

Send to:

Idaho Area AFG

PO Box 4681

Pocatello, ID 83205

Payee on check: Idaho Area AFG

Memo comments: Group number, District number

The Idaho Area Expense Form is on Area Website

WSO Donations

Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc.

1600 Corporate Landing Parkway

Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617

Payee on check: AFG, Inc.

Memo comments: Area 13, Group number,
District number, Group name if not on the check.

About the Forum

Statement of Purpose

The Forum is the International monthly publication of Al-Anon Family Groups, a fellowship that offers strength and hope for the friends and families of problem drinkers. In the pages of this magazine, Al-Anon and Alateen members share their challenges, insights and progress along their path of self-discovery and spiritual growth much in the way that they contribute when attending Al-Anon or Alateen meetings. Such sharing is important in helping readers find personal growth and peace of mind through the Al-Anon program. The magazine also includes topics for discussion at meetings as well as news and information from Al-Anon's World Service Conference and World Service Office.

A one year US subscription is only \$11 – less than a dollar a month.

Mail subscriptions to:

AFG, Inc.

1600 Corporate Landing Parkway
Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617

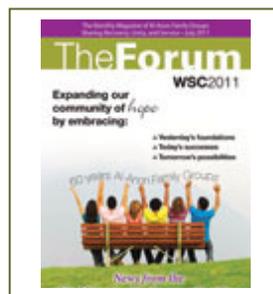
Or Fax Forum Subscriptions to:

757-563-1655

Online

www.al-anon.alateen.org/members

Makes a Great Gift too



A Meeting in My Pocket

New DVD – Al-Anon and Alateen's Role in Family Recovery

Taken from June 2011 Forum

After many requests from Alateens, Alateen Coordinators, and Alateen Group Sponsors, a new Al-Anon and Alateen video is now available, suitable for both membership and public outreach. Available on DVD for just \$5 (order AV-31, Al-Anon and Alateen's Role in Family Recovery), this exciting video includes interviews with both Alateens and professionals, discussing the family recovery that can happen when young people attend Alateen meetings. It is appropriate to show at schools, to groups of professionals, at service meetings, or Al-Anon events as part of an Alateen presentation. More suggestions are available from your Area Alateen Coordinator. The video gives a taste of the power of recovery. It is the hope of all involved with Alateen service

that these tools can help Alateen groups, Alateen Group Sponsors and district and Area Alateen and Public Outreach Coordinators to carry the Alateen message both inside and outside our fellowship. Alateen groups are encouraged to participate in district and Area activities to let the Al-Anon membership know that they are serious about their recovery. And remember; where there is no Alateen, younger members attend Al-Anon meetings. See 2010-2013 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual [P-24/27, available on the Member's Website, www.al-anon.alateen.org/members], pages 77, 82 and 83-87 for more on the relationship between Al-Anon and Alateen. As the Alateens say,

“Together We Can Make It!”

Step Six has helped me to become an adult. For years, I had waited for someone else to make everything better for me. In this step, I was asked if I really wanted to get better. If so, I had to stop blaming others, take responsibility for myself – for my happiness, my sadness, my actions and all of my choices.

Alice R. AB

June 2011 Forum, pg 3

Idaho Literature Distribution Centers

We all know of our wonderful Literature Distribution Center in Boise Located at:

Al-Anon/Alateen Information Service Center
1111 S Orchard Street, Room 172
Boise, ID 83705
Payee on check: AAISC
Memo comments: Group number
Phone: 208-344-1661

Donations are accepted & appreciated

North Idaho now has a Literature Distribution Center in Cd'A (out of a member's home)

North Idaho District 1 LDC
Post Office Box 275
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816
Payee on check: North Idaho District 1 LDC
Memo comments: Group name
Phone: Sue O. 208-676-1997

News from District 3

I have three meetings under my belt - we are on a roll. District 3 had great attendance at our planning meeting in January with many new, enthusiastic GRs and a few returning GRs who have lots of experience to share. In February, we had a Sponsorship Workshop which thanks to Ruth B., and her many helpers, was a great success - over 100 in attendance. We had a Spiritual Breakfast on April 9th and a number of other events scheduled throughout the year.

In Alateen - thanks to John E., and his many Alateen sponsors, has 17 weekly meetings mostly in the schools. There is new Alateen meeting in the works for Mountain Home.

Lisa C., our Public Outreach Coordinator, has a different group scheduled for each month of the year to bring information and to share a bit of their story to Intermountain Hospital.

District 3 has been invited to participate in the 2012 AA Spring Assembly which will be in Boise. We know there will be Al-Anon participation, but we are not sure exactly what that will look like. Nancy Jo, the District 7 Representative, will be the Al-Anon luncheon speaker. Lovingly in Service, Terry A.

Calendar of Events

- **Saturday, March 3rd** - AWSC planning meeting from 10-3 pm Kopper Kitchen, Boise ID. District Representatives to attend. All members are welcome.
- **Saturday, May 19, 2012** - Al-Anon Area Spring Assembly, Ontario, OR. Located at the Clarion Inn, 1249 Tapadera Avenue, Ontario, OR. For reservations call; 800-525-5333. Group representatives are to attend - ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME. The 2012 Spring Area Assembly checks will be made out to; **Idaho Area AFG** and mailed to: 2012 Spring AFG Assembly, Post Office Box 3392, Hayden, Idaho 83835-3392
- **Fall 2012 Assembly will be in District 6 – more details to come soon.**
- **Spring 2013 Assembly will be in District 2**
- **Fall 2013 Assembly will be in District 5**

For a full listing of events, please visit our Idaho Area website; <http://www.al-anon-idaho.org/Events/events.htm>

Number of registered members: **76**
Al-Anon member with most years: **Elsa M. - 48 years**
Newest Al-Anon Member in attendance: **9 months**
Total Al-Anon Years of Recovery: **757 years, 9 months**
Average Years of Recovery: **about 10 years, 21 days**
Our No Raffle, Raffle brought in: **\$806.00 - wow!**