

Sharing & Caring

Idaho Area 13 Al-Anon / Alateen Newsletter

Volume 34, No. 1, Spring 2006



“Sharing and Caring” Gets New Look and New Editor

Welcome to the Spring, 2006 edition of “Sharing and Caring!”

It is my great privilege to be the editor of the Al-Anon and Alateen Area newsletter. I’m really excited to hold this office. The many expressions of gratitude and encouragement I’ve received from around the state have been very motivating.

First and foremost, remember that this is *your* newsletter. I always welcome articles, information, reports, suggestions and service sharings. Just be sure they are related to Al-Anon or Alateen, in keeping with Tradition 6. To those of you who sent articles for submission, a double thanks to you. *You* determine how good this newsletter will be. I may be the editor, but every-

one in the Area is a reporter.

The best way to submit something for the newsletter is by Email to newseditor@cablone.net. (See submission information on page 3). In order to get past my SPAM filters, be sure your submission has “AFG” (abbreviation for Al-Anon Family Groups) somewhere in the subject line. If you don’t have access to Email, I’ve included my mailing address in the submission information.

There is an article on page 3 as to why I would like to change the name of the newsletter. This will be coming up for a vote at the assembly. Be sure to read the all the assembly voting issues on page 2.

So sit back, relax, and enjoy reading the first issue of the year!



2005 Idaho Area Highlights

In case you think nothing gets done -

1. Voted to approve the final draft of the Dec. 2004 Idaho Alateen Guidelines. (May 05).
2. Voted to add Background Checks to Idaho Alateen Guidelines. (Oct 05).
3. Voted to let hosting district decide whether to have an Alateen program as part of their assembly, and to have Alateens participate in the planning. (May 05).

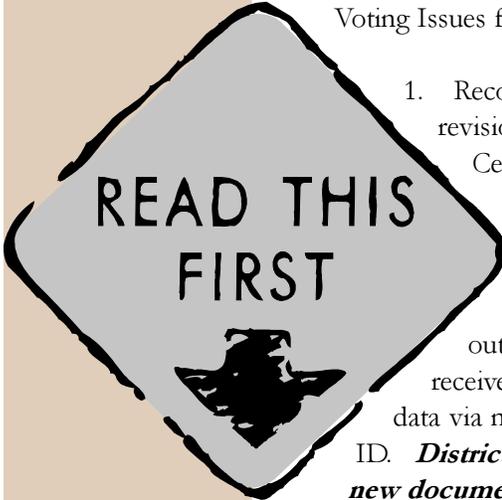
(see 2005 on page 8)



Greetings from the Area Chair!

by Ruth B

Our Area Committee meeting was very productive. We have several recommendations to present to Group Reps at the Spring Assembly, on May 5-7, 2006 in Idaho Falls.



Voting Issues for Group Reps:

1. Recommendation: To approve the revision of the "Process to be Certified as an Alateen Sponsor or Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS)" document. And to add another form to allow out-of-town candidates to receive failed background check data via mail, with notarized proof of ID. **District Reps have the new document. Group Reps, please take this back to your group for input prior to the May assembly.**
2. Recommendation: To approve the 2006 Budget.
3. Should we continue the new Area Expense policy, now in one-year trial?
4. Should we approve the "Alateen Guidelines To Attend An Idaho Assembly" as written by an Alateen Ad Hoc committee? **District Reps have a draft of this document. Final document will be emailed.**
5. Recommendation: To rescind a previous Motion to delete District Rep Reports from the Assembly Agendas. (4/02). I believe this was done in the past because of lack of time at our Area Assembly Business Meetings. Now that we have an All-Day Business Meeting format on Saturday we have more time.
6. Recommendation: To consider renaming our Idaho Area Newsletter, currently called "Sharing and Caring."
7. Recommendation: To affirm the Area Committee's decision to approve the new Idaho Area Policy Manual. **District Reps**

have a copy of this document and it's available on our website at: www.idaho-al-anon.org. Please review it prior to the May assembly.

8. Recommendation: To consider whether to support our new Idaho Area Spanish Outreach efforts by asking for group donations. Our new Area Spanish Contact, Elsa M. from Nampa, is asking for a Spanish Hotline for the state. Least expensive way to do it is a cell phone that can be passed from member to member.

Also needed: Spanish TV & Radio spots, and other outreach materials for professionals & the public. **District Reps have flyer.**

Voting Issues for Group Reps

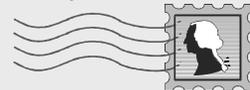
Discussion Issues for the Assembly Business meeting:

1. Should we add a new AWSC position for an Area Assembly Coordinator? This person would be a resource to Al-Anon Assembly Host Committees in each district, but would not act as Assembly Chairperson. This person could head up a Speaker selection committee for Al-Anon luncheon speakers at our assemblies. This is an advisory role only. Might need a budget for travel to a committee meeting?



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Send a check or money order payable to:
Idaho Al-Anon Newsletter
P.O. Box 1132
Meridian, ID 83680.

Don't forget your full name & address!

Ch-Ch-Ch Changes??

Help Wanted

Area Alateen Process Person

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Processes all paperwork for anyone wishing to be Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS).
- Collects Idaho Area Candidate Profile forms
- Keeps an organized binder listing all current Alateen groups, sponsors, Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service,
- Is the liaison between the World Service Office and the Idaho Area.

For further information, contact web administrator.

Area Public Outreach - Media Coordinator

- Is familiar with Al-Anon guidelines for Public Outreach.
- Encourages districts to get information directly to the public and to the media about Al-Anon/Alateen as a resource.
- Makes presentations or hold workshops at area assemblies, if asked.
- Distributes service projects and information from the WSO to Area assemblies, and districts.
- Requests reports of public outreach activities from the districts. Helps districts exchange information on public outreach successes/concerns.

For further information, contact Web Administrator.

As the new editor of the *Sharing & Caring* newsletter, I respectfully request that we vote to change its name.

Why, you ask?

To broaden its appeal and reflect the more current make-up of Al-Anon and Alateen membership.

This newsletter has a lot of news, reports, information, articles, event calendars, even classified ads. This growth reflects the growth that Al-Anon has experienced over the years. What once started out as primarily an organization of wives has grown into a huge network of men, women, and teens united by the common bond of suffering from the family disease of alcoholism. Let's have its moniker reflect that.

However, I don't want to abandon the name altogether. I'd like to have a "Sharing & Caring" page that contains *your* stories of how Al-Anon has changed your life. I don't need to mention how hearing each other's stories is an inspiration to all of us.

What do I recommend as new name?

I gave that a lot of thought and came up with a couple different ideas after reading through some CAL. Al-Anon has given so many others (and me) a new outlook on life. Consequently, I thought the name of either *Area Outlook* or *New Outlook* would be appropriate. Someone suggested simply to call it *Area News*, which gets right to the point.

We will have a vote whether or not to change the name at the assembly, which I have no doubt will generate some lively discussion. See you there!



EDITOR'S DESK

The Sharing & Caring is published quarterly by the AWSC Newsletter Editor for members of Al-Anon Family Groups and Alateen.

Materials for publication consideration should be sent in the following formats: Word, WordPerfect, Text, or Works. Prepared flyers or inserts that do not require formatting and layout may be sent as a PDF file.

Email submissions to newseditor@cableone.net. Be sure to include "AFG" in the Subject line to avoid the spam filters. For those with no internet access, hard copies may be mailed to: Idaho Al-Anon Newsletter P. O. Box 1132 Meridian, ID 83680.

The Al-Anon traditions will be honored in our newsletter.

**2006 Newsletter
Deadline & Publishing Dates**

May 19	Deadline
June 2	Publication
Aug 25	Deadline
Sept 8	Publication
Oct 27	Deadline
Nov 10	Publication



DISTRICT REPORTS

District 1 had a Fall Fundraiser in September. We did not draw in as many people as compared to our past Spring and Fall Fundraisers. For our next Spring Fundraiser we decided to change our format. We voted on doing the dinner ourselves instead of a potluck and adding entertainment to the line up. The District is paying for the main course meal. We asked group members to set up food teams to purchase the other food items. We are working on keeping this simple. We are asking for 4 to no more than 5 volunteers from groups to be apart of a food team to purchase the vegetables, rice, salad, etc. In return, the member will receive a dinner ticket. We figured that if they spend more than \$7 that would pay for their dinner.

The District also decided to purchase the drinks and donate them to the Alateen Groups for them to sell at the Fundraiser. One of our members has a friend who does Elvis Impersonations. We are so excited to have him come and entertain us during dinner. The cost for the evening is \$7. This includes dinner, entertainment, Alateen, Al-Anon and an AA speaker. We really have no idea what we are doing but our District is confident that this is going to work out and we are going to have a blast. We have already sold more than half our tickets. We are also very excited to be having this at our new Alano Club in Coeur d'Alene. We expect up to 140 people. We are doing our usual raffle and we still are collecting recipes for our other District Fundraiser, the Al-Anon Recipe Book. Our Spring Fundraiser will take place on March 18th.

Our Alateen group in Coeur d'Alene is starting to grow a little. We are now averaging around 5 teens a week. We have also been getting more calls from schools and individuals. The Sandpoint Alateen is about the same with 3 teens.

We are still continuing on our Outreach

Program and passing on our 20 questions note pads. As a District, I believe it's going along and people really like the idea.

Our new Thursday Freedom group in Post Falls disbanded due to renovations that are going on at the hospital. They will be looking to start the group again at the new Alano Club once they finish closing off a room.

Coeur d'Alene groups seem to be doing great. Our meetings that are in the more rural areas are doing well. They tend to have small numbers but they are still alive. Sandpoint is struggling with numbers. There seems to be a lack of cooperation between AA and Al-Anon. Sandpoint Al-Anon is trying to find ways to build a bridge between the two groups.

That is all for now –

Hugs to all!

District. 1 Rep



We elected new officers at our October 2005 District meeting. In December we held our annual Al-Anon with AA participation progressive dinner fundraiser.

We have two new Book Study meetings: one in Moscow on Monday nights at 7 P.M. and one in Lewiston on Monday nights at 5:30. Unfortunately the Orofino Tuesday night meeting has closed. Last month we participated in the AA's Winter Retreat in Kamiah where we were also invited to participate in the "recovery" count down.

We are currently placing posters on public bulletin boards in places like grocery stores, laundry mats, hospitals, etc. We are also participating with AA in the Fling in the Spring on April 22, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

District 2



Greetings from District 3! We are busy this year! Here's a summary of what's happening:

DISTRICT REPORTS

(continued from Page 4)

GROUPS

We currently have twenty active Al-Anon groups in Boise, Eagle, Emmett, Garden Valley, McCall, Meridian and Mountain Home. We also have two active Alateen groups in Boise.

A new men's group just started in February. It meets on Thursdays at 6:00 P.M. at the Five Mile Church of the Nazarene, 2701 S. Five Mile Road, Boise.

The Wednesday night Alateen meeting is planning to change night and location in the near future, and the Wednesday night Al-Anon meeting at Whitney United Methodist Church is considering a change of location, so call 344-1661 for updated information if you plan to attend either of these meetings.

The Thursday night speakers meeting has changed to a Step study and it now meets at the new Literature Center office.

LITERATURE CENTER

The Literature Center has seen some exciting changes over the past few months! Last year at this time it was facing a serious financial crisis and was in grave danger of closing. Since then, many Al-Anon groups and members have come forward with financial support. District 3 has supported the Literature Center Board's decision to add a 20% service fee to all sales in an attempt to stabilize the financial situation and so far the results have been positive.

A welcome change at the Literature Center was its move to a new location at the end of December. At least 20-30 people volunteered on a cold wet Saturday morning to load up and move everything to the new office. The new office is bright and cheery and smoke-free with easy first-floor access. Some counselors also have offices in the building and they seem happy to have us as a neighbor – a great outreach opportunity!

If you come to Boise, please stop by and say hello to Beverly, our office manager. The new location is 1111 S. Orchard St., Room 172. Use building entrance 5 or 6. From I-84, take the Orchard Street exit (exit 52) and head north on Orchard. The Lit Center is just past Overland Road at the NW corner of Kootenai and Orchard Streets.

ALATEEN

District 3 has been blessed with a committed and passionate Alateen coordinator, Phil F., who works very hard to make sure Alateens have safe and consistent meetings. He currently has a need for some more women to be Alateen sponsors or to be available to be of service to Alateen. If you are interested in working with Alateen, contact Phil.

OUTREACH

For a large district with lots of enthusiastic people involved in service, we have had a challenge attracting people to serve as outreach coordinators at the district level. As DR I welcome any ideas, comments, suggestions from other districts about how you attract and keep people in these important service positions.

That said, we have had some great help from a past coordinator, Noreen G. She and her small committee have been preparing information and outreach projects for us. Here are a few things we've been doing:

- ◆ two members spoke to the Boise Soroptomists last December. They shared Al-Anon history/information and their own stories in a "Joe & Charlie" style presentation and it was well-received.
- ◆ some larger groups are continuing with the Area challenge from a couple of years ago to adopt a hospital and place literature there on a regular basis.
- ◆ three members shared their stories and took some literature to families of adolescents involved in the Ada County Drug Court. We hope to make this a monthly event.
- ◆ we will be providing a table of literature and volunteers at a convention for counseling professionals.
- ◆ two members have been invited (by another member who is a student) to share their stories at a class for Boise State University students.
- ◆ as a District we're taking part in the effort to "forget" a piece of Al-Anon literature in memory of Lois W's birthday.

EVENTS

District 3 has had the great fortune of hosting several major events this year. We hope you can join us for all of them!

- ◆ **APRIL 22** – District 3 Spiritual Breakfast from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M... We should have flyers out within a week or two, so check the website www.al-anon-idaho.org.
- ◆ **JUNE 10** – Al-Anon Day!! We decided to keep it simple by planning a one-day event with a luncheon similar

DISTRICT REPORTS

(continued from P. 5)

to the Hailey format from a few years ago. It will be held on the campus of Boise State University. DRs have flyers in your packets. The flyers have details about the program and maps on the back. The committee negotiated some free parking passes for us so parking should be easy! If you are coming over for the weekend, our Friday night Fireside meeting will have a speaker. We also have an excellent spiritual meeting Sunday mornings at 8:00 A.M. that is only a couple of miles from BSU. The committee is recommending the University Inn as a convenient place to stay that's close to the event. **Each District please bring a raffle basket. Registration deadline is June 1 so we can place the lunch order.**

◆ **AUGUST 11,12,13** – Roundup! There are lots of people working very hard to make this a special weekend. Al-Anon will be a part of the event. Our Al-Anon Roundup committee chair is from Boise. She is looking for help with registration, decorations, and hospitality. You don't have to be from District 3 to help. Website: www.gemstateroundup.org

◆ **OCTOBER 6,7,8** – Fall Assembly! Area Secretary is Al-Anon chair for the Assembly. Flyers will be available at the Spring Assembly in Idaho Falls or check the website, www.idahoarea18aa.org. Our Al-Anon luncheon speaker will be the Northwest Regional Delegate to World Service.

DISTRICT REP

I am so grateful to have this opportunity to serve Al-Anon as District 3 representative. I am embarrassed to say that I was filled with fear, dread and self-pity last fall as I looked ahead to all of these events that District 3 is hosting this year. Thank God we have a Higher Power guiding us. If this organization had to rely on my power, it would have folded years ago! I have been brought to my knees with humility and gratitude at watching my Al-Anon friends and mentors serving with such joy and courage. Because of them we are having an awesome year of recovery! I am so proud and happy to be a part of Al-Anon.

Love in Service,
District 3 Representative



A l-Anon District 4 Meeting

November 12, 2005

11:00 A.M.

Presbyterian Church, Twin Falls ID

1. Moment of Silence
2. Al-Anon Declaration
3. Secretary's Report – review of minutes of last meeting
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Group Reports
6. **Public Outreach** – forums for the professionals, difficulty with Hotline information
7. Ongoing discussion re: moving District Mtgs
8. New meetings
9. Alateen attendance, suspension of meeting?
10. Free Al-Anon Literature
11. AA Christmas Party

Close with the Serenity Prayer



District 5 is getting ready for our Spring agenda. We have our spring yard sale coming up in April.

We were getting ready to do a mini conference, as we had a lot of people interested in having one. We got word that AA was also planning one and was asked to participate. District decided to join them and do our own agenda. With a potluck luncheon of course, those AA's like our cooking. In cooperation with but not affiliated with.

We are getting ready for the Health Fairs coming. Our CPC person has been going out and meeting with a lot of the professionals in the community. Institutions is doing really great also. We have been able to get enough money into our fund to put daily readers & How Al-Anon works into the prison, as the women were fighting over the ones that they had. There is training every other month for those who want to bring Al-Anon into the prison.

We have been busy planning our Holiday Gala in November also. Decided not to wait till it was almost Christmas to start planning and having it in November seems that we can relax and keep our serenity.

Love in Service
District 5 Rep



Greetings from District 6. It has been a busy winter in our area getting ready for the Spring Assembly. It promises to be an enriching one in Idaho Falls.

Since the Fall Assembly, we have had our annual Holiday Social in December, which is our big fund raiser for the year.

Al-Anon also was invited to participate in the yearly Christmas party with AA in our District Al-Anon has also been participating in Workshops with AA and they have been very successful.

District 6 Al-Anon has scheduled a Workshop to be held April 1st in Idaho Falls. It will encompass the Service Manual with three panels of three to four individuals presenting a section of the Service Manual. There will be a potluck before the Workshop begins. We expect a great turnout.

Information has been disbursed to our area schools on Alateen, which has generated some interest. We have been striving to get our district Alateen back up and running. Salmon now has Alateen in their school and has four active sponsors. There are currently two weekly meetings in Blackfoot, one in Salmon, one in Driggs and five weekly meetings in Idaho Falls. Once monthly we have our district meeting followed by a speaker brunch meeting.

Love in service,
District 6 Rep



I'm already getting excited about the Spring Assembly. Looking forward to old friends, new friends and those I haven't met yet.

I'm trying to get my mind and heart around an Al-Anon habit. In the last few months I've been looking at the Forum in a whole new way as I prepare for the upcoming Assembly. I've been looking for the voice of Idaho Al-Anon in the pages of our "meeting in your pocket." I have to tell you I've read the voice of Oregon, Washington and Minnesota in just about every Forum. I've read the stories of Al-Anon's scattered the world around, but few if any from our Idaho home. As your Forum Coordinator I only can encourage and give you a couple of examples to follow. So look for the Voices of Idaho Al-Anon poster at the upcoming Assembly and start thinking about letting your voice shine through the pages of our very own publication.

I had a good Al-Anon friend loan me her copy of "The Lois Wilson Story; When Love is Not Enough" by William G. Borchert. It's amazing to read about the birth of our Al-Anon Fellowship as told through the story of Lois' life. Lois started a Family Group Newsletter as a means to communicate regularly with the rapidly expanding movement. This newsletter at first was written entirely by Lois, answering questions posed by groups and members, sharing stories from members edited by Lois and news about Family Group happenings.

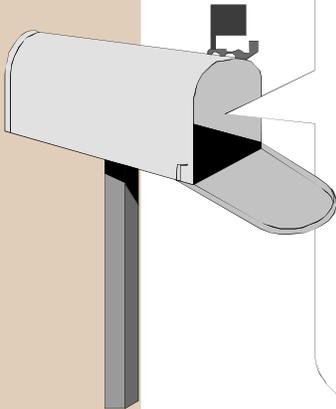
See you at the Assembly.
Forum Coordinator



The next Northwest Regional Service Seminar will be September 14 – 16, 2007. Here is the history and update on the NWRSS. There is only 1 Area (state), in the Northwest region, that has not hosted a NWRSS and that Area is North Dakota. South Dakota was the first Area to host the NWRSS and would be the next in line to host the NWRSS, if they submitted a bid. Idaho was the second Area to host the NWRSS. The last NWRSS was held in Boise, Idaho October of 1984. Idaho has submitted two bids to host the NWRSS from Coeur d'Alene and Idaho Falls. The final decision on

which state will host the next NWRSS will be made at the World Service Conference (WSC), and the WSO will chose the city the NWRSS will be held in by the summer of 2006.

This is an exciting time for me; I am getting ready to attend my second World Service Conference in Virginia Beach, Virginia. This will be the first time I will see the World Service Office, and I plan on volunteering some time at WSO. I will be leaving for the WSC on Saturday, April 22 and returning Sunday, April 30. Please feel free to mail any "love gifts" from your group, or district to my home address, or to, Idaho Area Delegate, Please Hold for WSC 4/24 – 4/28, Ramada Plaza Resort Oceanfront, 5700 Atlantic Ave., Virginia Beach, VA



**We hope
you sent
your
delegate
a card!**

23451-2236.

One of the great accomplishments of the last WSC was the Service Manual was approved by the Conference. Each registered group should have received a new service manual by now. The Service Manual is available on our Al-Anon website www.al-anon.alateen.org/members Use your home group name followed by afg for access. Service Manuals could be ordered from our local literature center or through the World Service Office.

There is so much more I could share, but as my second sponsor would say; "Most people can only digest a steak; you have the tendency to give them the whole cow." So I will end on that note.

"Service is the rent I pay for the new life I have been given."

Yours in love and service,
Idaho Delegate



**2005
IDAHO
AREA
HIGH-
LIGHTS**

(Continued from page 1)

2005 (Continued from page 1)

4. Voted to have Alateens create their own Behavior Guidelines for Assemblies. (May 05).
5. Voted to create an Idaho Al-Anon Policy Manual. (Feb 05-AWSC). This will clarify the roles of AWSC coordinators & officers, give detailed written job descriptions, and address accountability.
6. Voted to restructure our AWSC Expense Reimbursement Policy, paying actual expenses to each AWSC member attending Area Committee meetings and Assemblies. (May 05). This is a One-Year Trial.
7. Brainstormed ideas for Prescription Al-Anon and the WSO like our idea so well, they printed Prescription Al-Anon notepads (our idea) for national use. Plus, they sent us FREE literature worth \$500 for having one of the best ideas. (May 05 brainstorming)
8. The first Idaho Spanish language meeting started in Nampa in May 05. (Dist 7).
9. Voted to change the Business Meeting at Assemblies to an all-day format to allow time for more in-depth discussion. (Oct 05).



The Website is up and running again. It is now hosted by Ipowerweb. It's paid for two years. The new url is: www.al-anon-idaho.org.

The mailing address for donations is located on the front page of the website.

Ideas for the website:

DISTRICT IDEA EXCHANGE: (hook up district outreach coordinators) Public outreach-Media/ideas, what's working in your district Public Outreach-Professionals/ Ideas, what's working in your district Fundraisers-new ideas/ what's working in your district

AWSC & Assembly agendas, programs, etc.

Local meeting schedules to download? District 3 was talking about getting the schedule on the website for professionals or newcomers to download.

Don't know if this is redundant for what we already have.

ALATEEN SECTION:

List guidelines & forms for Sponsor certification/ List all Alateen meetings in the area/ possibly a contact name for each district (no teen names or emails on the website)

Policy Manual

Reports from AWSC officers, coordinators, and District Reps (maybe as part of Newsletter?)

Where to send group donations

Budget (I like this as part of the Newsletter)

If we do an Ask it Basket, post the Q & A. (maybe part of Newsletter again?)

We have placed our budget, Balance Sheet, Income and Expense reports on the web for many years. It isn't in an obvious place, however. It is published as part of our triannual newsletter, the 12 STEPPER.



Area Highlights Newsletter - winter 2005 - announced the 50th Birthday to Living With An Alcoholic book. It's now published as The Al-Anon Family Groups - Classic Ed.

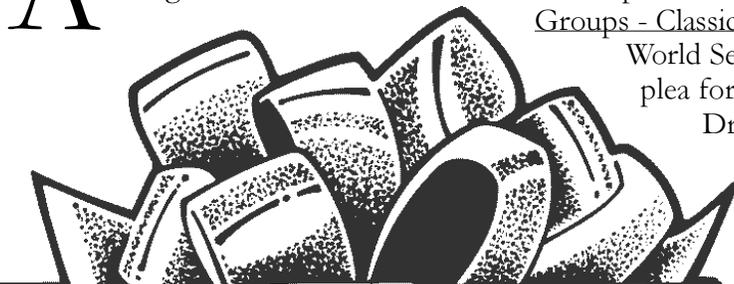
World Service Office Archives has a plea for specific copies of "My Wife Drinks Too Much" pamphlet P-12, discontinued. If you

have any copies corresponding to the printings asked for on the left, please send directly to their address printed below.

The Al-Anon/ Alateen Information Service Center in Boise has been in continuous operation since August 1975 - that is 30 years.

A notebook has been compiled of the early beginnings and various bylaws that has kept it operating with the many operation changes.

Archive Coord.



Archives Wish List

Do you have any copies of the following printings of "My Wife Drinks Too Much" (P-12, discontinued)?

<u>Year</u>	<u>Copies Needed</u>	<u>Printing</u>
After 1980	2	not specified
1980	2	not specified
1977	1	17-15M-77-15
1977	1	16-15M-77-15
1976	1	15-15M-76-15
1976	1	14-15M-76-15
1976	1	13-15M-76-15
1975	1	11-15M-75-15
1974	1	09-15M-74-15
1973	1	04-10M-73
1970	1	2-20M-70
????	2	1-??M-??

If you are willing to donate them to the World Service Office Archives, please write to 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617, call 757-563-1600, or Email wso@al-anon.org

**ALTERNATE
DELEGATE
REPORT**

I'm so grateful to be where I am in my journey this year instead of where I was this time last year. Thank heavens I had the tools of the program and my loving recovery family to keep me on track. Found we can do anything one day at a time and my choice of attitude is up to me. Some times was pretty bad but I had the choice to start over any time I chose.

I felt I have not carried the ball on my part this past year but really looking forward to a good year. So glad I can make the area meeting and looking forward to Spring Assembly. Sharing Orientation with the GR's again.

Have done some service work at home recently with our District CPC person. Felt good to be able to go and give back some of what has been given to me. Thanks to everyone on the area who kept me in the loop and to all of you in Al-anon who kept me in your prayers. This would have been a tough journey alone. Everyone remember to get your new Service Manual.

Love in Al-anon
Alternate Delegate



**ALATEEN
PROCESS
PERSON
REPORT**

Do you know who our Area Alateen Process Person is? Currently, it is I, your Area Delegate. We are looking for a person willing to serve as Alateen Process Person. I must say, it is a great service position and I've learned a lot.

Did you know all new and existing Alateen group changes must go through the Alateen Process Person? If you send it directly to the World Service Office it will come back to the Alateen Process Person. I do have all the current Alateen forms, which I would be happy to mail or email to you. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer for this position please feel free to contact the Web Administrator.



**LIT
CENTER
LIASON
REPORT**

The Literature Center Board purchased two new desks thanks to a generous anonymous donation of a \$500 gift certificate to Staples. Our order finally came in, has been assembled and installed and the old desk a broken down computer stand are out of there. A huge thank you to our donor.

Come by and take a look, buy a book and say hi to Bev. Remember we are now at 1111 So. Orchard (corner of Orchard and Kootenai) Suite 172 on the ground floor. Hours (MWF 10AM to 2PM) and phone number (344-1661) are the same. Literature Center Liason



**AREA
GROUP
RECORDS
COORD
REPORT**

I updated the Area database with the semiannual printout from WSO based on corrections from several District Rep's from the March Area meeting.

Two documents are being prepared for the Spring Assembly:

1) List of GR's for the Secretary; 2) List of meetings to DR's for distribution to GR's. GR's can use this list to verify information regarding their meetings.

Please continue to provide me with group modifications including contact and GR changes. You can give me a copy of the "Al-Anon Registration/Group Records Change Form" that you send to WSO or Email what you have changed. If you start a new group or inactivate one, send this form to me as well as WSO.

Current statistics for our area are:

- 73 Active Al-Anon meetings
- 7 Active Alateen meetings
- 31 Nonactive Al-Anon meetings (inactive, suspended, not registered)
- 5 Nonactive Alateen meetings (inactive or disbanded)
- 116 Total meetings in database

Respectfully submitted,
Area Group Records Coordinator



LOOK RIGHT AROUND YOUR FEET – PART II

I look right around my feet for **PUBLIC OUTREACH** opportunities. Healthy Families Nampa Coalition has been a great opportunity with so many contacts right at my fingertips. In fact, this coalition has changed its name to Healthy Families Network and is now offering its successful projects and services statewide. **AL-ANON** has become one of the coalition’s important resources.

On February 7 because **AL-ANON** is part of the coalition’s core group, I was invited to a luncheon given for six Federal officials from Washington, D.C. who work for Child Support Services. That morning at our coalition meeting I was invited to give a 2-minute presentation. An official sitting next to me included **AL-ANON** and its description in his list of significant resources. The buzz word in Washington, D.C. is “**recovery.**” Legislators found out that just knowing about drugs and alcohol isn’t solving the problem.

At a recent HFN coalition meeting I decided to try something new. I passed around a basket of **AL-ANON** literature containing our new **AL-ANON REFERRAL PADS** and our “**CRYING HOUSE**” **BOOKMARKS**. They were snatched up quickly — in fact, I didn’t take enough. So I will continue to pass around a basket of different pieces of literature at the end of each coalition

The chairperson of HFN, Nampa, was so impressed with basket of literature that he asked back of his church. That was the source table.” Every month I ture to give people a chance to offer. And I make sure that a piece.

“I looked right around my feet and hit the jackpot!”

meeting.
who also pastors a church in the coalition’s response to my me to put it on a table at the start of his “community re-change the **AL-ANON** litera-see different pamphlets that we local phone number is on each

My next step is to write a personal letters inviting members of the coalition to our **AL-ANON** meeting. In anticipation of these visitors, I straightened our messy literature box. The pamphlets were getting crumpled and ruined. I created pamphlet holders out of envelopes and tape to solve this problem. Now we’re ready for visitors and on February 13 we had an extraordinarily large meeting. We are think this increase is coming from our outreach efforts.

Last year, through a contact from HFN, we started our first Spanish-speaking **AL-ANON** meeting. We have a new Idaho Spanish contact person. She brings a wealth of experience from Colombia, South America where she has been involved in service for 15 years. And she runs a great Friday night meeting in Nampa!

The Family Justice Center in Nampa is a pilot program dealing with domestic violence, rape, sexual abuse and child abuse. The center is a recent member of the coalition and our **AL-ANON** literature was welcomed with open arms. The director gave an **AL-ANON REFERRAL PAD** to all of the counselors at the center.

So **look right around your feet.** What community outreach programs is your city involved in? Can you present **AL-ANON** as a resource that will help create a healthier community? Do you attend one or more churches as I do? Could you send a **PERSONAL LETTER** to your pastor explaining **AL-ANON** and inviting him or her to your **AL-ANON** meeting? Do you see doctors and dentists regularly? Then you might talk briefly about **AL-ANON** and ask if he would like some **AL-ANON REFERRAL PADS**. (Doctors love these pads.)

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Public Outreach Coordinator
To the Professional Community

