

AREA OUTLOOK

IDAHO AREA 13 AL-ANON / ALATEEN NEWSLETTER

Spring 2011
Volume 39, Issue 2



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

YESTERDAY'S FOUNDATION, TODAY'S SUCCESSES, TOMORROW'S POSSIBILITIES

By Berta R. Area Chair

Did you know that this is the theme for the 2011 World Service Conference? When I heard the conference theme in years past, I would think "what does that mean?" or I wondered where that one came from. Now, I am anxious to hear what the theme will be for the coming year.

S-U-C-C-E-S-S.... THAT'S THE WAY WE SPELL SUCCESS. Do you remember that little cheer from high school? It just meant a higher number on the scoreboard or stealing the basketball or the tackle of a player; it always had to do with some sporting event.

Today **Success** reflects a somewhat different meaning for me; so I ask you... What is **SUCCESS**? How do you know if you have it? Does it mean the same to you as it does to me? Do events in one's life have to get worse before they get better for them to know if they have achieved it?

Is it a feeling or a fact; can I see it or touch it or smell it? Can I save it or spend it? Are we talking of personal success or business success? Could they be one in the same? What about the title of our book "From Survival to Recovery" that sounds like a book about Success or maybe Hope for Today, Courage to Be Me, Discovering Choices, Courage to Change, or Opening our Hearts Transforming our Losses - Each title speaks of a solution that could lead a member to be

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successful in their own program.

What about a slogan.... Live and Let Live, Let Go and Let GOD, How Important is it? They sound like useful tools to help members be successful.

When we trust that the thoughts and actions of each one of us are directed by our love for our Al-Anon fellowship, we are encouraged to remember the foundation of which our fellowship was built on. By reflecting on our foundation and discussing the successes of each day, we can be confident that we will be lead to the possibilities of tomorrow. The Success of our Idaho Area World Service Committee was displayed at our March 19, 2011 A.W.S.C. meeting. Each member shared their experience strength and hope in planning our future assemblies.

It is truly a joy to be your Area Chair.

Remember, the only way to have a better past is to have a successful today.

Welcome from Your New Area Delegate

By Kathy B.

I've just started and already I'm overwhelmed but oh, so excited. There's so much to read; so much going on. Wow! Preparations now are focused on getting me ready to go to Virginia Beach and be a functioning Delegate. Information zooms across the web at an astonishing rate. Packets arrive in my mailbox and conference calls are happening.

Webster defines Delegate as "A person authorized or sent to speak and act for others;" in other words, an Al-Anon trusted servant; that's my job. I've got reservations in March for the North West Regional Delegates Meeting in Minot, North Dakota and in April for World Service Conference in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Districts wanting to send me mail and Love Gifts at conference please use the following address; packages will not be accepted before **April 8th**.

Kathy Bosler (Hold for WSC 4/11-4/15, 2011)
Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront
5700 Atlantic Ave
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451

But more importantly I am going to need your well wishes and prayers; this is a big undertaking and I want to measure up.

Love in Al-Anon Service,
Kathy B. Panel 51 Delegate

We Can Do Together What Cannot Do Alone

By Jan – District 7

I am not a good reader especially out loud. When I joined Al-Anon 3 years ago, I almost quit because I had to read at the meeting out loud. With the same opening read each week and the support of members, I became very comfortable with reading. Everyone was kind and there were no complaints about my reading. I became GR for our group almost immediately; and I attended the assemblies and the activities where the same opening was read. Our district was preparing for the Area Al Anon days and our DR was not going to be available on the day we choose and they needed someone to help. So I thought I can help. I could be the co-chairman; it would only take a little organizing. When they heard me say I could do this, they were very happy and I could be the M.C. This was my all time nightmare in getting up in front of people and speaking at a meeting. I had several months to prepare and prayed about this a great deal. It came to me that this was just like all the other meetings I have been going to, and I could do this. These members were all my friends whether I knew them or not, and that there would be no criticism about my reading. As the day drew near, we did not have very many members sign up; and we didn't know how much to order for lunch. We contacted the districts and had lots of support; we were

told that if there was not enough food, they would go get lunch for themselves. I let it go and when the day came; I was not really nervous. On the day, we all arrive early to the church to set up. Everything was going well when someone from the church asked why we were there. The church told us that we were not on their schedule and they wanted us to leave, because they had a big dinner that night. Well, some members explained what we were doing and we could work something out. This was about 30 minutes before the start of Al-Anon Day event. There were some angry people from the church, but they agree to let us have the church until 1:00. We had seven districts with presentations and an all day meeting to squeeze into 4 hours. We had the support from all the Al Anon members and we had all our districts give their presentations. We even had time to break for a quick lunch and there was 28 sandwiches and 28 people attending - exactly enough. It was truly a day of program and our Higher Power at work. I enjoyed every minute of the day. When we closed our meeting everyone said it was a wonderful day; and we then helped the church members set up for their dinner.

“Only a Higher Power could help us work together to make this a great day for all.”

Our New 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	Cecilia S. – Hayden Lake, ID

Alateen	Barbara V. – Coeur d'Alene, ID
Archives	Ladora B. – Boise, ID
Public Info	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

“The people sitting around the table knew how I felt. I wasn't crazy. I wasn't alone. They had something I wanted, even if I didn't know what it was yet.”
April 2011 Forum, pg 14



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

TEAM Event

“Together Empowering Al-Anon Members”

A new and improved service event that partners one or more Areas with the World Service Office (WSO) to create a unique service event geared to the interest of local members.

The WSO comes to you! A minimum of three representatives from the WSO—volunteers and staff members, will participate.

The hosting Area provides the facility and collaborates with the WSO on the program. The TEAM event can take place over one or two days, it is up to the Area to decide; it can be a stand-alone event or tied in with an existing Area event. The TEAM event is a nimble, innovative, flexible event customized for your Area. It will energize your spiritual quest and activate your creativity, all while you enjoy the fellowship of the Al-Anon program.



*It will energize your spiritual quest
and activate your creativity...*

Our First Northwest TEAM EVENT sponsored by Oregon & Washington will be on **June 17 – 19, 2011**

Seabeck Conference Center
Seabeck, WA 98390-9583

\$125 registration includes 2 night stay, 4 meals

WSO Presentations

English & Spanish Workshops
Exploring Spiritual Foundations
Leadership
Alateen

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2012

The *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* magazine is designed to introduce relatives and friends concerned about someone's drinking to Al-Anon Family Groups and to the concept of alcoholism or problem drinking as an illness affecting everyone in the family.

The magazine includes:

- Basic information about Al-Anon Family Groups.
- Articles by professionals explaining the importance of family recovery and their use of Al-Anon as resource.
- Members' personal experiences before and since coming to Al-Anon or Alateen.

Our magazine is sold at cost to professionals and can be used as educational material for patients, clients, or consumers.

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2012
Our annual public outreach magazine helps potential newcomers understand the benefits of Al-Anon.
download orderform [order on-line](#)

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2012

Available in Spanish and French

Due to production schedules, your payment and order form for Al-Anon's special outreach magazine

Must be received by

**5 p.m. ET, Wednesday,
July 6, 2011.**

No exceptions can be made.

Al-Anon Family Group
Headquarters, Inc.

(AFG, Inc.) will ship orders
before September 1, 2011.

*This offer is available only in the U.S.,
Canada, Bermuda and Puerto Rico.*

New 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.*

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2012 from page 3

Cost for publication...

25 copies (AFA6) for \$18 U.S.

50 copies (AFA7) for \$25 U.S.

100 copies (AFA8) for \$40 U.S.

200 copies (AFA9) for \$75 U.S.

400 copies (AFA10) for \$140 U.S.

Make checks payable to:

AFG, Inc.,

1600 Corporate Landing Parkway
Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617

Fax: (757) 563-1655

On-line: www.al-anon.org

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

A Moment in Al-Anon History

Let it Begin With Me

Today, I have set up a “show and tell” display of the Al-Anon slogan “Let it Begin With Me.” It was the first Al-Anon slogan not adapted from AA, and was started by a letter to the Forum editor in May 1973 which was followed up with responses in later editions.

It was refined and became the 1974 World Service Conference theme and again in 1993.

I remember our first Idaho delegate, Betty T. returning from the Conference with our first hand report from the Conference. The slogan had been introduced and a small card was given to each Conference member and a small silver bell she had as a memento. I would have liked that bell for our archives, but it was many years later we got it into our archives – even at the WSO level.

Goal – To receive group histories and also longtime member history. If your group is 5 years old, interview the person that started the group or have been with your group the longest.

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 has been updated on
the website to reflect this new address.*

WSO Donations

Send to:

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,

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 Area Alten Discussion Needed

By Barbara V.

Action needs to be decided as to how long background checks are valid. We need an Area process on how long background checks are good for. Some Areas recheck every 3 years. To have nationwide background checks, the cost would go up, but we would have a more thorough listing for the protection of our Alateens. Instead of \$10 per person, the cost would be about \$30, plus the \$5 fingerprinting charge. Right now, the Area covers these costs. However, each District could be responsible for the costs of the background checks. Alateen Sponsors Needed- We always need Alateen Sponsors to keep Alateen going. Even if you would be able to help as a substitute, we can help you process the forms necessary to do this. Recertify by June 1st – Recertification forms are available for District Representatives to give to each Alateen Sponsor to complete and return to me no later than June 1, 2011.

WSO Conference Calls for Alateen Coordinators/ AAPP- I participated in a conference call on March 16th hosted by WSO staff. Recertification was the main topic. Yearly, I will need each Alateen Sponsor or Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service, AMIAS, to complete a recertification form. They will need to return it to me and then I will forward the

information to WSO. It was suggested we link sponsors to the groups they attend. There needs to be 2 certified AMIAS connected to each Alateen group. AMIAS can remain in an active status for substitution if they are not the main sponsors of a group. I keep a list of current AMIAS and DRs will need a list as well.

What happens to the background check information? After I verify with the district representative or district Alateen Coordinator and ensure the member is not listed as a sex offender, I shred the background check information.

The Alateen Chat Room – is still available on Sundays at 9 p.m. Mountain Time. We need current AMIAS to sponsor these on-line meetings. Alateens need to register with WSO in advance before they can access the site. This can be a great resource for a lone Alateen member.

Group record suggestion from WSO- It was brought up in the conference call that each group will receive an update form in mid-April. They suggested that we return the forms to WSO even if there are not any changes.

Sincerely, Barbara V.
Idaho Area Alateen Coordinator/AAPP

*Concept 4:
Participation is the
key to Harmony.*

*“Participation
makes us a part of
the group rather
than apart from it.
Belonging is a deep
spiritual need.”*

*Paths to Recovery,
pg. 270*

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

Your Area Public Outreach

Hello Area 13, my name is Jeff Mc. And I am the new public outreach coordinator. While many of the new committee members seem to have hit the ground running, I feel I have just hit the ground. No worries though, I have three years to figure this job out - about the time I get a sense for what I'm doing it will be time to turn it over to the next person.

So far, I have just been trying to familiarize myself with the e-communities website. There is a lot of information there, so be looking for emails from me coming soon to a computer near you. My main goal for this year is to become more comfortable in this new role and expand my contacts to help get the word out. I think I have all of the current contact information for the DRs; so I have a favor to ask each of you. If there is an outreach person in your district, could you have them contact me, so I can add their name to the list as well? I am looking forward to this new challenge and help spread the word about this great program.

Thank you for letting me be of service, Jeff

Calendar of Events

- **Saturday, May 21, 2011** - Al-Anon Area Assembly, Coeur d'Alene, ID. Located at the Best Western -Coeur d'Alene Inn. New Group representatives to attend. Ric B, Executive Director from WSO will be the luncheon speaker and Ric is facilitating a Concepts Workshop at the Spring Assembly. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME. The 2011 Spring Area Assembly checks will be made out to; **Idaho Area AFG** and mailed to: 2011 Spring AFG Assembly, Post Office Box 3392, Hayden, Idaho 83835-3392 *Early Registration \$25 Additional \$15 for Lunch*
- **June 17-19th TEAM-** Seattle, WA. WSO workshops, etc. Seabeck Conference Center. Registration: Judy J. 14911 SE Woodland Way, Milwaukie, 97267 \$125 for 2 nights lodging and 4 meals. Make check to TEAM 2011. <http://www.al-anon-idaho.org/Events/TEAM2011RegistrationForm.pdf>
- **Saturday, July 30th** - AWSC planning meeting from 10-3 pm Kopper Kitchen, Boise ID. District Representatives to attend. All member are welcome.
- **Saturday, September 17** - 3rd Annual Serenity Speaker Cruise on Lake Coeur d'Alene. Dottie and Jim AFG & AA are the speakers from Post Falls.
- **Saturday, September 24** - Idaho Al-Anon Fall Assembly, Red Lion Hotel, Twin Falls, ID

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