

N.H. Area 35 World Service Committee



Alanews

Connecting New Hampshire's Al-Anon and Alateen Members
May 2019

Volume 17. No. 6



A note from our Area Treasurer Group and district treasurers are asked to make all donations to Area 35 payable to NHAFG Area 35. The mailing address is NHAFG Area 35, P.O. Box 220, Concord, NH 03302. *Please* put your group number on the check! (see meeting schedule for number if you don't have it handy.)

Shore Up Your Program

36th Annual N. H. Al-Anon and Alateen Convention with A A participation

November 1 – 3, 2019

**The Margate Resort on Winnepesaukee
76 Lake Street
Laconia N.H.
603 524-5210**

Mail-in convention registration forms available at NHAI-Anon.org. Early registration \$20. (\$5 for Alateens.) Use code NH Al-Anon for room registrations only by calling the Margate directly.

29th Anniversary Wednesday Beginner Meeting

June 12 10 A.M.- Noon

Bethany Covenant Church
1 Covenant Way (off rte. 101) Bedford, N.H.

Al-Anon and AA speakers
Fellowship* Light lunch (pot luck)

ACRONYM TIME

JOY

Judge Only Yourself

New Hampshire Area Assembly actions

Smiles, applause and gratitude went out to all who helped bring the Area's revised by-laws and handbook to fruition. At the May 2019 Assembly, approval was given to these documents. An Alateen document is in final approval stage with the World Service Office. Now, the Area has a Board of Directors who carry out legal business as a New Hampshire nonprofit, and the Area has its officers, coordinators, district and group representatives who carry out Area and local leadership, according to Al-Anon's Concepts.

Our Area has two remaining coordinator positions—we need an **Alateen Coordinator**. Our Alternate Delegate, Noah P has been standing in as the Interim Alateen Coordinator and is available to answer questions or help guide someone in this position. We are also in need of a **Public Outreach Coordinator**. In addition, there's an opening for **AA Liason** to meet with Area AAs and coordinate cooperation between Al-Anon and AA. Contact chairperson@nhai-anon.org for details.

Training and background checks are complete for 20 AMIAS (Al-Anon Members in Alateen Service), with two Alateen meetings in the planning stage. An adjustment to the 2019 Area budget was approved to cover the cost of mandatory background checks. Any Alateen meeting requires four trained AMIAS – two to attend the meeting and two to be on call as backups.

A Technology Committee will use Zoom for online meetings to review and improve the Area website.



from our Delegate
Our Delegate, Nancy D., returned from the 2019 Al-Anon Conference in Virginia Beach with much for us to think about and do.

Nancy reviewed the current WSO budget and provided a handout to each GR and DR so groups can understand and have the details as to what it costs to support our Al-Anon Groups. For 2019 the WSO estimates 5,387,600 in revenue and 5,511,969 in expenses. Copies can be obtained from the Area Secretary.

To further explain the Cost of Services (expenses)...4 times a year your Group's CMA receives a **Quarterly Appeal Letter** which lists all that your abundant giving has provided to keep the fellowship moving forward. A copy can be obtained from the Members tab on the WSO website. This list of responsibilities carried out by our World Service Office identifies for you the services provided that make up the per group cost of **\$292.30**. Many members are amazed when they see the services list. Do your groups consider the amount it costs to support our groups? Do your groups budget to try to meet the group cost? If not, why not? There is a great reference for a discussion found on Warranty One, Page 213 of the Service Manual. Another great discussion on Spiritual Principles of Al-Anon's Self Support page 101-102 under Financial Matters. **We did a great job in New Hampshire contributing \$15,444!** Let's keep the momentum going!!

New Public Service Announcements can be viewed on the Al-Anon.org website. Check it out under "Members", then "Public Outreach" If you are interested in seeing how to go about getting your Group or District involved in sharing this information with your local radio stations please contact your District Rep, or the Area Chairperson (chairperson@nhal-anon.org) or Area Delegate (delegate@nhal-anon.org) via email.

The Al-Anon.org website has expanded, and become very popular. Last year, it had 3.5 million hits. As of March 2019 it already had a million hits.

"Electronic Virtual Meetings" and "Back to Basics: Support Group Growth" were chosen agenda items. This year literature translation is a priority. Our Al-Anon WSO and our Al-Anon groups support Trilingual Literature. Moving ahead, updates and new literature will be translated into Spanish and French as a priority in conjunction with the English versions.

Copies of the new bookmark, *Just for Tonight* (M-81) and Love Gifts from around the U.S, Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico and the Bahamas were available to group reps from the N.H. Area.

2018 Conference Thought Force report

Questions Regarding Strategies for Member Outreach

What are some ways to encourage discussion and clarify the idea of "welcoming newcomers to our group" for our members, many of whom are of the belief that allowing families and friends of drug addicts to attend Al-Anon meetings violates our Traditions?

Consider suggesting that your group do a group inventory (G-8a, G-8b) to discuss ways in which all newcomers are welcomed, including those with drug-addicted loved ones.

Consider asking newcomers who attend because of drug addiction or alcoholism in a family member or friend if they felt welcomed, and if they have suggestions about how the group can improve to make others feel welcomed.

Suggest that your group discuss Traditions Three and Five, in light of recent survey results, to get comfortable with the idea that those potential members might be welcomed in spite of not having obvious alcoholism in a family member or friend.

Consider having a group business meeting to discuss what message the group wants to give to the newcomers, keeping in mind the health of the group, its purpose, and the importance of welcoming potential members.

Consider having a beginners meeting (G-2) and inviting all those who are interested to attend.

How do we gracefully and gently let those newcomers, potential members, and members from other programs know that it is not necessary to let the group know (or talk about) the drug-addiction experience?

Emphasize the importance of keeping the focus on ourselves.

Consider using the "Al-Anon Focus/ Declaration" Table Tent Card (S-24) which can be referenced during the meeting, or read it as a reminder during the opening.

Consider having a rotation of members available after the meeting to discuss any concerns the newcomer may have.



Safety is a concern that is starting to come up in Area discussions. Groups and members are encouraged to print the guidelines for Safety in Meetings found at Al-Anon.org under the members dropdown, subtopic "group resources." They may never be needed but prior preparation is a good thing