

March - May, 2011

KANSAS STEPFINDER



“Planting Seeds for Growth”



Kansas AFG Area 20 Calendar of Events

- * February 5-6 2011: AWSC meeting Salina, KS
- * February 25-27, 2011: Sunflower Roundup, Kansas City, KS; AA with Al-Anon participation
- * March 4 – 6, 2011: Alateen Sponsor Getaway; Living Waters Ranch, Olsburg, KS
- * March 19-20 2011: Alateen Sponsor Getaway Living Waters Ranch
- * March 26, 2011: Topeka Al-Anon/Alateen Day,, First Baptist Church, Topeka, KS
 - * April 11-15: WSC, Virginia Beach, VA
 - * April 16, 2011: Chicken Soup & Chili Feed; Great Bend Recreation Center, Great Bend, KS
- * April 16 : Al-Anon 60th Anniversary banquet & open house, WSO Virginia Beach VA
 - * May 7, 2011: KS Area Assembly Salina, KS
 - * June 17-19 2011: 39th Annual Kansas Al-Anon Conference, Great Bend KS
 - * September 10-11 2011: AWSC meeting Salina, KS
- * September 16-18: Kansas AA Conference Hays Ks, AA with Al-Anon participation
 - * November 5, 2011: KS Area Assembly Salina, KS
 - * February 4-5 2012: AWSC meeting Salina, KS
 - * May 5, 2012: KS Area Assembly Salina, KS
 - * September 8-9 2012: AWSC meeting Salina, KS
- * November 3, 2012: KS Area Assembly Salina, KS

Please note Area Assembly is held at the Heart of America Best Western & AWSC meeting is held at the Mid America Best Western. These are the dates contracted with the hotels through 201

We have some very important motions that will come up for a vote this year and I will be anxious to tell you about them. Please join us at Assembly in Salina on May 7. I will be sharing some photos and stories about Al-Anon's 60th Anniversary party. My love to you all,

Charla C., Delegate Panel 49

"In service the principle of giving that which you have been given comes to life"

(Paths to Recovery, p. 257)

ALTERNATE DELEGATE REPORT February 2011 AWSC

Hello everyone! I am Claudine Williams, your Alternate Delegate and Forum Coordinator. Great news! If you looked closely, you saw a picture sent in by Jayme T., from Kansas, in the August, 2010 issue of "The Forum". Suzie T., from Kansas sent a sharing entitled, "Adventures in Reading" which was published in the October, 2010 issue. There is a "Forum" Committee that selects sharing to print. Out of about 250 sharings, 137 may be rejected. Other sharings may be submitted to other CAL; and still others may be printed years after being submitted.

"Forum" History: Did you know.....

"The Forum" began in the early 1950's as a simple newsletter, originally written by Lois W.

"The Forum" as a concept is Conference Approved Literature (CAL).

All sharings are written by members. The primary purpose of "The Forum" was, and still is, a venue for members to share with one another and to pass on information of interest to the fellowship.

Love in Service,

-Claudine W., Alt. Delegate

TREASURERS REPORT FEBRUARY AWSC MEETING FEBRUARY 2011



The ending Groups, than contributions were the same, contributions were

contributions from 79 out of 151 groups. That is 52%. Our total income for 2010 was \$12546.26. That is down by \$153.82 from 2009. Our Literature Distribution Center gave a generous contribution again for 2010. Thanks to all who contributed last year. Our expenses were \$235.05 more than expenses were in 2009. So, it looks like we were \$459.69 over our budget but your trusted treasurer made an error. I sent \$1000.00 too much to the WSO. I don't know why I did but I did. I should have sent them \$1181.95 but I sent them \$2181.95. Thanks to Charla, we got the \$1000.00 overpayment back, which I just received the check in the mail. Anyway, we should have been \$540.31 under our budget for 2010. I am very sorry for this mistake. Our Reserve Fund Balance is \$11897.57 just as it has been for the last couple of years. It is split up into 2 CD's one matures every 3 months and the other matures yearly in April. The total interest earned for 2010 on the CD's was \$181.95, which is \$80.04 less than what it was in 2009. Our beginning balance for January 2011 was \$12,625.95. We had an income of \$666.84. We had no expenses. Our ending balance for January was \$13,024.36. I have given each DR a copy of their group's contributions for the year. They will share this information with each group. If there are any discrepancies, please let me know. I have also given the DR's a copy of the 2010 Financial Report. The 2010 Financial Report will be on the Area web site, also. My next Appeal Letter will be sent out in April with the May Assembly Agenda. As always, I have the Memorial Book available for your viewing and I have Birthday Cards and Memorial cards available for your special contributions. If you or your groups have any questions or comments, please call me at 913-682-7839 or email: treasurer@kansas-al-anon.org. Please mail your Area contributions to me at : Kansas State AFG, PO Box 281, Leavenworth, Ks. 66048. **Make sure your District # and group # are on your check to make sure the correct group gets credit.** *Your trusted servant,-Cindy H.-, Area Treasurer*

balance for 2010 was \$12,357.52. Our total contributions for 2010 from Districts, Memorials, B-Day & personal were \$7505.11. That is \$1072.20 more from 2009. Al-Anon group contributions were \$30.00 more than 2009, Alateen District contributions were \$854.72 more, Memorials were \$40.00 more, B-Day \$27.48 more and personal contributions were \$120.00 more. We received

Group Records Report February 5, 2011



WSO

Keeping the group records current is like filling the birdfeeder on a snowy day; it causes a lot of satisfaction but it's empty again in no time! I am so happy to be able to make changes to the database immediately. There have been a few glitches but those are worked out pretty quickly and it is so nice to have the changes made instantly. It seems there have been quite a few changes. One group, the Hiawatha group, went inactive. I only have two new groups to report, that is Phoenix Alateen in Wichita and Harmony Alateen in Overland Park. However, I have heard about 5 other new Al-Anon groups that are going or forming but have not registered yet. When I was in Dodge City, I talked with some German Mennonite ladies who have a group in Sublette; I gave them information on registering the group but I have not heard from them yet. I have heard of groups forming in Hill City, Eudora, Anthony, Council Grove and I just heard the other day about one in Kingman! So once I get those

registration forms, I'll report them to you and we'll get them on our Kansas website. I did have a group in Wichita move and in so doing, moved from District 20 to District 19! Currently we have 141 AI-Anon groups, which includes 2 institutional groups and 6 Spanish groups, and 14 Alateen groups as well as 2 Literature Distribution Centers/Information Services. I have an Electronic Group Registration/Change Form available on our Kansas website. This is a form I created to use here in the Kansas Area. You can download the form, save it on your computer, fill it out, and attach it to an email to me. It gives me all the information I need to make the changes with WSO. Please use it and give me feedback on it. Please fill it out completely, even if only one thing has changed. It allows me to check my records for all the information. Please remember – if you have changes, send them to ME, not WSO! I will make the changes and let the necessary people, such as WSO, the area secretary, and the area webmaster know. You will need to inform your local directory person yourself. As always, you can contact me at my Area *address* group-records@kansas-al-anon.org. As for Alateen, all changes must be sent to our Area Alateen Process Person, Janet M. Thank you so much for allowing me to serve the Kansas Area.

-Terry R., Group Records Coordinator

AREA PUBLIC OUTREACH COORDINATOR February 2011 AWSC

I am excited to announce the Area “Public Outreach” poster project for 2011. Through the Public Outreach budget, an outreach poster will be distributed to every group within our Area for reaching out to communities throughout Kansas. Each individual group will be able to list their group name, group address, and group contacts on the poster. The posters will be distributed at the May Assembly, and for groups with no representation at Assembly, their posters will be mailed to their group address listed on file with Group Records. If your group or district has not ordered your 2011 AFA (AI-Anon Faces Alcoholism), the second printing deadline is February 9, 2011 (no exceptions per WSO). Please continue to be creative with “*Taking Action in AI-Anon with Public Outreach*” by utilizing this great AI-Anon resource. Thank you for the emails and phone calls sharing your public outreach ideas and projects. Keep up the “Public Outreach”!

Janell G., Public Outreach Coordinator

ARCHIVES February 2011 AWSC



The new AI-Anon/Alateen history book will be available at the November, 2011 Assembly. The price is \$5.50.

Gwen B., Archives

“Experience teaches us that we have a lot to learn”

(The Forum, December 1971, p. 10)

Area Alateen Process Report February 2011 AWSC



Hi, everyone! I'm Janet McAdams, your Area 20 Alateen Process Person. My job is to make sure Alateen groups in Kansas are keeping within the Safety and Behavior Guidelines for OUR Area and to communicate with WSO any changes for Alateen groups, sponsors, or AMIAS. I have copies of the Area 20 Safety and Behavior Guidelines, as well as the various forms needed to participate in Alateen sponsorship and events (AMIAS, Group Registration/Change, Permission, etc.). There are two Al-Anon Guidelines that pretty much explain what my service position is about-G-34 and G-19- though we do tailor them slightly for our particular Area. You can download them at www.al-anon.org/members. Currently area 20 Alateen has 14 Alateen active groups; 65 registered Al-Anon Members involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) – 42 of which are certified Sponsors. THIS IS UP BY 8 SINCE NOVEMBER (and 4 of them are new sponsors!)--YAY! We have the formation of a new Alateen Group in Lenexa, District 10 – *Harmony Alateen*. We welcome them! I have a current list of the active Alateen groups and their respective Sponsors/AMIAS (helpers) for the Districts in Area 20. People should not be helping with Alateen unless they are on this list. I have forms with me if you would like to do service work by helping with the Alateens occasionally OR, you can find the necessary paperwork on our Area website www.kansas-al-anon.org in the Alateen section. I also would like to remind everyone that ANY Alateen changes, whether it is regarding the group meeting time or place, adding a new sponsor or AMIAS, sponsor retiring, etc. MUST fill out the appropriate form and send it to me (Janet Mc.). WSO will only accept Alateen group changes from the Area Alateen Process Person (which is me, Janet Mc.). When a GR, Alt. GR, or DR signs an AMIAS form, you are telling me that person is meeting the requirements for our Area (in accordance with the Area 20 Safety and Behavioral Requirements). If you have any questions or comments, I can be reached at 785-267-6653 or aapp@kansas-al-anon.org. If anyone you know is interested in becoming an Alateen Sponsor or AMIAS, OR are interested in starting an Alateen group, please have them contact me and I will send them information.

Love in Service,
Janet M., Area 20 Alateen Process Person

KANSAS STEPFINDER REPORT February 2011 AWSC



To date there are 25 hard copy subscriptions and 5 email subscriptions to the "Kansas Stepfinder". The subscriptions have continually increased since I began serving as Stepfinder Editor. I am very excited by this! I appreciate all the personal sharings I have received. I would like to receive more! I always include a personal sharing in each issue. If I don't get one from a member of the Kansas Area, I find one from other Al-Anon literature. I would prefer, however, to receive them from members of the Kansas Area. I thank you for allowing me to serve as "Kansas Stepfinder" Editor; and for all the encouragement and support I have received.

Love in Service, Stevie W., Stepfinder Editor

KANSAS AREA AL-ANON/ALATEEN WEBMASTER REPORT

February 2011 AWSC



The website team discussed the content for the Alateen webpage. I am waiting for input from the Alateens. They will be sending me some questions and answers to put on the Alateen page intended for young people curious about what Alateen is. The team also is working on creating some questions and answers to post on our site that would be geared toward new visitors wanting to know more about Al-Anon and what to expect at meetings. One of the GRs volunteered at the November Assembly to write a sneak peek of what's in the Forum every month that I post on the website. We hope to encourage members to subscribe to the magazine. Our literature coordinator, Judy C., has created a new literature order form that is up-to-date and posted on the site. It was getting challenging to try to modify the existing order form as we only had it in a PDF format. Thank you, Judy! Please encourage your Grs to visit the Kansas website as well at the World Service Office site to access a wealth of information. They can find out about events in the area as well as download needed forms, such as Change of Group Information; Alateen Permission forms, and literature order forms. They can simply click on the Area Assembly or Area World Service meetings or the Calendar and it will automatically open the secure login window. By logging in, they can download the meetings agendas and minutes. I re-distributed via email the instructions for using the Kansas website and secure site. Let me know if you did not receive them. Remember to send me flyers and information via email or snail mail to post for special events. As always, I am available to do a workshop on using the website. Thanks again for allowing me to serve the Area.

Hugs,

Candy M., Kansas Area Al-Anon/Alateen Webmaster

WICHITA AL-ANON/ALATEEN INFORMATION SERVICE REPORT

February 2011 AWSC



We have really big news. We have a new manager for the Literature Distribution Center. Cheryl Harrell, formerly of Larned, has ably taken the reins of the LDC. She is a perfect fit because of her years of Al-Anon and office management. We have great appreciation to Charla C. for her service to LDC during the interim period. The LDC logged over 210 volunteer hours October thru January. All positions are volunteers. Our Wichita Information Service Committee, which meets every other month, has two new officers. Our Treasurer, Anna, is new to Al-Anon and fairly new to service. Our new Secretary, Laurie, is a longtime Al-Anon member who is back in service. We are excited to have them

join the leadership of our local outreach. One note of concern—the group donations to our WIS. In honor of Lois W.'s birthday on March 4, we are asking each group to “Remember to Forget” and leave a piece of Al-Anon/Alateen literature for someone to find. Every group that participates wins a prize! There will be a Grand Prize for one lucky group, awarded through a drawing. Since the Parallax Treatment Center closed, we have been “in flux” trying to establish a new relationship for carrying the message to family members of those in treatment. We will begin taking meetings to the Options, Inc., Treatment facility on the third Wednesday of each month. They usually have 8 to 15 family members. The family members must attend family meetings if they want to have a half-hour visit with the client/ We also continue to take meetings to Valley Hope in Wichita on the first Friday of every month. We continue to do a mailing each quarter of the year to area professionals. This year we will include a copy of “Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism” in one of our mailings. Several individual members made substantial donations to our Public Outreach fund so we are hoping to sue the AFA in other outreach projects. Now that we are a non-profit, we are hoping more members will be encouraged to give their financial support to Al-Anon outreach.

Submitted by,

-Joyce H., - Chair, Wichita Information Service

2011 AL-ANON/ALATEEN CONFERENCE REPORT

Our Conference theme 2011 at the Highland we have more great Alateen. Cut off toll free 1-866-212- for the rate discount.



Registration forms with her at the May Assembly, she is also providing your District Representative with them, or groups that don't have a DR, watch your mail. We will have our Banquet poolside again. We'll again have the BBQ buffet with choice of BBQ ribs, chicken or brisket, salad and relish, Au Gratin or scallop potatoes, green beans or corn, Cole slaw, potato salad and corn bread muffins, and for Dessert, your choice of apple or peach cobbler. There will be the option of Vegetarian or Diabetic plates. The price is \$20. Speakers are: Zelda R. who grew up in Salina, but lives now in Lincoln, NE.; Becky D., Topeka, KS.; Husband Bo T., Al-Anon and wife Shirley T., AA, from West Brockton, AL.; Alateen will be Jessica A., Paola, KS. This year the meal prices went up a bit so in order to keep our Banquet price down we asked if any Districts would like to be Speaker Sponsors for our speakers' Banquet meals, and of course they are welcome to be seated with their Speaker of choice. So District 8 chose Becky D., District 18 asked for Zelda, District 10 asked for Bo T., Shirley T. will be sponsored by Districts 19-20 and our Alateen speaker will be sponsored by District 16. We'll have a Fri. Early Bird meeting. Alateens will host the “God of Your Understanding” meeting at the Friday night Candlelight Mtg. This year we are planning something different for the Sunday Morning Meeting, it will be something very special. Remember, the meetings are for everyone. There will be Karaoke and Lucky Chance which brought \$442 for the

this year is “60 Years of Transforming Lives”. Dates are June 17-19, Convention Center in Gr. Bend. I hope everyone will be able to come; ideas planned. Preregistration is \$18. and \$20. at the door, \$8. for date is June 3. Rooms are \$68. + 11.8% tax, same as last 2 years. Call 7122. Block will be held till June 3. Ask for Al-Anon/Alateen Conference Cut off date for the Preregistration is also June 3, Joyce will have plenty of

Area Treasury last year; we hope to do the same this year so the Conference would welcome whatever you would like to contribute. For the Crazy Bingo, bring something in a brown bag. It can be anything, something nice or something you want to get rid of, that's what makes it fun. The Mixer went over really well last year so we'd like to have another one. New this year will be an Experience, Strength and Hope Panel. We expect everyone will want to be there. Our Delegate, Charla, will host the Saturday Morning Workshop, "Let's Play Group Feud" which sounds like a lot of fun. We need volunteers to help Selia at the Registration Table and Lucy in the Hospitality Room. Be sure to let your groups know this and to bring snacks for the Hospitality Room. There's a lot of eating and fellowship goes on there. Volunteers who offered to make Favors for the Registration Table are District 6, the Nitty Gritty Group in District 10, New Joy Group in District 16 and Districts 19-20. If any other Group certainly welcome your thoughtfulness. or District would like to bring favors we would Décor for the Speaker Table will be contributed by Districts 19 and 20 and for the Banquet tables by Phil and District 8. It will be greatly appreciated if groups or districts would like to contribute books for the Book Giveaway, you can give them to any of the Conference Committee at Assembly or bring them with you to the Conference. Of course that's preferred as we'd love to see all our fellow members come and enjoy the Conference weekend with us. Remember, money contributions are always appreciated.

Thank you,

-Judy W.- Chairperson

2011 Al-Anon/Alateen Conference Chairperson

AA/Al-Anon Liaison February 2011 AWSC

The 54th Area 25 Kansas State AA Conference is September 16-18, 2011. It will be held at the Ramada Hays Convention Center, 3603 Vine St., Hays, KS. The hotel is very nice and easy to find—right off the highway. I went in October to the Conference Committee meetings and helped to plan the Al-Anon/Alateen events; decided on pricing and other areas of business. There will be Al-Anon and Alateen participation in speakers and workshops. The Al-Anon speaker will be Sue H., from Lawton, OK. The Alateen speaker is Aimee S., from Bucklin, KS. There is also an Al-Anon workshop on Saturday morning at 10:00 am that will be led by our Delegate, Charla C. Registration costs are \$18 for pre-registration and \$22 at the door. Banquet tickets are \$20. The Banquet will be Saturday evening at 5:30 pm. They are serving chicken cordon bleu at dinner which they described in detail at the Committee meeting; and I was intensely hungry at the time. It sounds amazing! There will also be an ice cream social Saturday night after the speaker meeting at 8:00 pm. The cost will be \$5. It is going to be a very fun weekend of fellowship and fun! So you should definitely come! Put it on your calendars. Thanks so much for letting me be of service and allowing me the opportunity to help plan Al-Anon's participation in the Conference.

Maggie R., AA/Al-Anon Liaison

"As I strive to do my Higher Power's will in service, I increasingly know that will more clearly. I feel an extended sense of balance in my daily affairs and a deepening tendency to accept more and

DISTRICT REPORTS



*"Participation is the key to
harmony"*

District Reports for the Feb 2011 AWSC.

There were no reports for District #1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 14, 15, 17, or 21.

District #5 We have an email address and have had at least half a dozen e-mailers make contact with us about our meetings and where they can find them. We still have our phone service. On March 5th @ our Alateen group will have a Chili Feed with an Al-Anon Speaker, Stevie W. Stevie W will be sharing her story to AA and Al-Anon in District12 on April 16th. Doors will open at noon with a potluck and she will speak at 3PM. Judy W will share her story in Concordia Feb. 20th. Potluck will start at 11AM and will be at the Pawnee Mental Health bldg. on College DR. --Judy W, DR.

District 8: Continues to work toward being a healthy and available District, ready to greet and open the door for others who are affected by the disease of alcoholism.

We want to invite everyone to join us on March 26th for our annual Al Anon/Alateen Day. Because of the growth of this event in recent years, we have made the decision to move to a new location this year where we will have much more space and the opportunity to continue growing. We are excited to have Jessica A. from Paola as our Alateen speaker and Shanna G. from Manhattan as our Al Anon speaker this year. Our theme is "Around The World In Sixty Years", honoring the sixtieth birthday of Al Anon. We will have workshops and of course share lunch together. In line with our theme, all are invited to bring a dish representing food from around the world, including the USA. The district will provide tea, coffee, water and table settings while the Alateens will be selling pop. Please join us starting at 9:00 AM (registration opens at 8:30) on March 26th at First Baptist Church in Topeka. The church address is 3033 SW MacVicar which is the corner of 30th and MacVicar (one block south of 29th Street). - Phil G., - DR

District 12 has 3 groups. Paths to Recovery which is in Larned that meets once a week. The Great Bend AFG group has two meeting times in Great Bend. The Grapevine group which meets once a week also in Great Bend. The Larned Group and the Grapevine Group in Great Bend have both started a Step meeting. The Larned Group step meeting is an hour earlier than the regular meeting and the Grapevine Group step meeting is the hour following the regular meeting. They are both waiting to see if the meeting will take hold and run. So far the meetings have had a regular attendance. Hopefully this spring or summer the district has been talking of having another workshop. We will let you know when that happens. -
Jayme T-, DR

District 13: I have visited all the groups in our district. I called the groups in Lyons; they aren't; having a meeting at the present time, since the group is so small. The one group in Hutchinson only had one person show up. The group in McPherson had a large group the night I attended. The other group in Hutchinson is thriving. Our group in Newton is sometimes real small with only 3 to 4 or less. Then sometimes up to 10 in attendance. -*Loretta B-, DR*

District 16: I was not going to give a report because I had nothing to report!! Then I realized something needs to be in the minutes and the Kansas Stepfinder from District#16. If you are a member of a group in District 16 and you want to see us listed---communicate back with your DR, Seila.

Districts 19 and 20 have a new Alateen group, Phoenix Alateen in Wichita. The calendar for 2011 contains helpful information: all District meeting, Website address with the member user name and password, and addresses for sending donation to the Kansas Area, District 19th & 20th. WSO and Wichita Information Service. -*Lucy C, DR.*

District 22: I have visited 2 groups and it's a joy to see other AFG groups at work. The next meeting will be March 26th, 2011 and we are working on the program. At the last meeting a group asked for a speaker along with a workshop on literature. To close with a "HIGH" I have been on since last week. Dawn from Pittsburg called and they are starting an AFG meeting again.
-*Gloria P-, DR.*

"Enter to Learn; Go Forth to Teach"

(A sharing taken from "Forum Favorites", Vol. 2., p. 145)

.....Having learned a great deal of what Al-Anon teaches—there's always something new so that we never graduate—we accept the obligation to "go forth to teach". In our new-found gratitude for the help we have received, we wish to share our experience with those still suffering, still floundering as we floundered. By guiding others in the program, we strengthen our own practice of it. By giving of ourselves, our beliefs, our practices, we are enriched beyond measure; our Al-Anon program becomes a stronger influence in our lives and our joy in it is increased a hundredfold. We cannot selfishly hoard our joy and our helpfulness and still live our program. Thus I cannot think of a better maxim for us to follow than ----- "Enter to learn; go forth to teach".

Things to Remember:

Kansas Stefinder: FREE online at <http://www.kansas-al-anon.org>

Forum Subscriptions: \$11 – 1 year;
\$22 – 2 years; \$24 – 3 years

AFG Literature: Mail orders to: Judy C, 728 NW Page Ln., Topeka, KS 66617 or literature@kansas-al-anon.org

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(A sharing taken from “Forum Favorites”, Vol. 2., p. 145)

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