

September - November, 2011

KANSAS STEPFINDER



Into action!!



Kansas AFG Area Calendar of Events

- ❖ **September 10-11 2011 AWSC meeting Salina, KS**
- ❖ **September 16-18 2011 Kansas AA Conference Hays Ks, AA with Al-Anon participation**
- ❖ **September 24 2011 Southeast Kansas Serenity Conference, Chanute KS AA with Al-Anon participation**
- ❖ **October 1st 2011 District 8 Fall workshop, Topeka KS**
- ❖ **October 1st & 2nd Hugoton Round Robin, AA with Al-Anon participation**
- ❖ **November 5th 2011 KS Area Assembly Salina, KS**
- ❖ **February 4-5 2012 AWSC meeting Salina, KS**
- ❖ **May 5th 2012 KS Area Assembly Salina, KS**
- ❖ **June 8-10th, 2012 Annual Kansas Al-Anon Conference, Topeka, KS**
- ❖ **September 8-9 2012 AWSC meeting Salina, Ks**
- ❖ **November 3rd 2012 KS Area Assembly Salina, K**

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 2012.

**FROM THE EDITOR
AWSC – September, 2011**



Fall is here! This is the season for change; the season for gratitude; the season for action! I imagine myself as leaf on the tree of life. However, I am not alone. Al-Anon continually reminds me of that. I am surrounded by lots of other leaves on this tree. When Fall comes, we all must eventually fall to the ground. Action is making choices. I can choose to remain stagnant on the ground; allowing the disease of alcoholism to destroy me. Or I can choose to allow the breeze to carry me to the safety of serenity. I have chosen to go with the breeze which has carried me to the safety of Al-Anon. In order to achieve my goal of

serenity, however, I must take action. I cannot risk being stagnant. The best choice I have made is to enter the rooms of this program and become a part of my group. That's when my journey began. I then chose to expand my growth through service. Since then the breeze has carried me far beyond my wildest expectations! Each year when summertime comes again, I am put back on the tree of life. I am bright and green and shiny! I am me!

Stevie W., Stepfinder Editor



“Today I can take some small action that will strengthen a relationship, pursue a goal, or help me feel better about myself”

(-Courage To Change-, p. 38)



My dear Friends: This is my final report to you as the Kansas Area Delegate. Elections will take place at the November 5th Assembly in Salina and Kansas will have a new panel of Officers and Coordinators. Elections are happening right now in our groups and districts. When you come to Assembly as an out-going GR or DR, please bring the newly-elected with you. It's your opportunity to "show them the ropes" - they will appreciate it and you. I am excited about this turn-over of service positions. It is time to rotate out – or in. Do you have a special story about something that happened in the past 3 years? The Stepfinder would love to have it in writing to publish so we can all read it. In the past 3 years, my service as Delegate has brought about more growth and knowledge and

understanding than I ever thought possible. The analogy I would make is learning to read as a youngster. Just learning the alphabet and how to spell and sound out words is all fine and good. Being a basic reader will serve you throughout life. But as you get older and learn to spell harder words – read more complicated sentences - your understanding of what you are reading deepens. Then as you read different books or articles or poems, your love of what you are reading deepens even more. It enriches you – makes you a better person – puts a smile on your face and a skip in your walk. That's where I am – smiling and skipping ! My wish for you is that smile and skip. My deepest appreciation and love to all of you for the opportunity to serve you and the trust you placed in my 3 years ago. This has been the most fabulous experience I have ever had. I have loved every minute of it and hope that you feel I have served you well – I certainly tried.

Love to all – Charla C, Kansas Panel 49 Delega

Alternate Delegates Report AWSC September, 2011



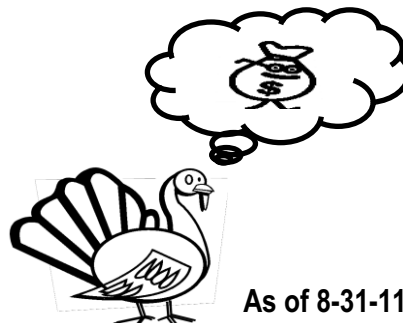
*“As Forum Coordinator you are at the forefront of a fellowship-wide effort to make ‘The Forum’ a gibber part of our shared recovery as members of Al-Anon Family Groups. Our challenge is to help members understand how ‘The Forum’ can be relevant to their recovery. In order to do that we have to first make ‘The Forum’ more visible to the fellowship as a whole. Our first job is to make sure every group in your Area takes advantage of the complimentary copy of ‘The Forum’ that they receive from the World Service Office.” (If you don’t receive your free copy, double check your mailing address in the Group Records Book. If that isn’t the problem, call me and together we may be able to straighten it out.) *“It’s new Al-Anon content adds to**

*the wisdom found in our books and pamphlets. Our second job is to encourage more members to make ‘The Forum’ a part of their personal A;-Anon program by reading the magazine and by writing for it.” (-WSO-). **Group Representatives – just a reminder that you are ‘The Forum’ Representative at the group level. Kansas has 149 group subscriptions and 74 individual subscriptions. For a total of 225 subscriptions.***



*Love in Service,
Claudine W, Alt. Kansas Delegate*

TREASURER’S REPORT AWSC September, 2011



As of 8-31-11, we have \$15,822.82 in our checking account. That is \$2245.87 more that last year at this time. Our beginning

balance on 1-1-11 was \$12,357.52. We had an income \$ 7850.55 and expenses of \$4385.58. As of 8-31-11 our reserve fund balance was \$11,897.57 + \$100.59 interest = \$11,998.16. Our total income was \$998.57 more than last year at this time, in part, because of the WSO reimbursement. Contributions from Kansas Al-Anon groups, Districts etc. were \$639.08 less than last year at this time. We received contributions from 73 of our groups. That is about 49%. That is about the same as last year. Thank you. It breaks down like this: 73 Al-Anon groups \$ 3513.31, 1 Alateen group \$90.00, 5 Districts \$635.00, 7- Personal \$125.00, 1-B-Day \$22.00, 1-Memorial \$25.00= \$4410.31. According to my figures, 75 groups have not contributed this year. Our expenses so far this year were \$4385.58. This is \$1515.73 less than last year. I estimate our outstanding 2011 expenses to be about \$7600.00 which would put us under budget by about \$800.00. This does include paying the full amount of \$2210.00 to send our Delegate to Conference next year. My last Appeal Letter of the year will be sent out with the Agenda for November Assembly. I do have the Memorial Book available

for your viewing and I do have Birthday Cards available. Please send all contributions to me at: Kansas Area AFG PO Box 281 Leavenworth, Ks. 66048. If you or your groups have any questions, suggestions, comments or concerns, please call me at 913-682-7839, email: treasurer@kansas-al-anon.org or write. I will do my best to answer your questions.

*Your trusted servant,
Cindy H, Area Treasurer*

GROUP RECORDS REPORT AWSC September, 2011



Keeping the group records current is kind of like keeping gray hairs off my head – they just keep popping up. I didn't have as many changes this reporting period, just a few address changes mainly. We even had a change of address due to someone who contacted AA, who then sent along the information to me! I did have 3 groups go Inactive: Finding Hope in Elkhart, District 16 went

inactive. The other two groups were our two Institutional groups, Leavenworth Co. AFG in District 9 and New Century Women AFG in District 10. Both of these groups went inactive due to No Mail Status from WSO; when I and the DRs tried to find out information on these groups, we could not get any responses so they are now listed as Inactive. Currently we have 143 AI-Anon groups, including 6 Spanish groups and currently no institutional groups. We have 13 Alateen groups and 2 Literature Distribution Centers/Information Services, one in Shawnee and one in Wichita. The breakdown of groups in each district is as follows: District 1 = 4 groups, District 2 = 1, District 3 = 2, District 4 = 1, District 5 = 9, District 6 = 9, District 7 = 1, District 8 = 17, District 9 = 6, District 10 = 28, District 11 = 2, District 12 = 3, District 13 = 5, District 14 = 3, District 15 = 7, District 16 = 5, District 17 = 5, District 18 = 3, District 19 = 10, District 20 = 10, District 21 = 5, District 22 = 7; this is only for AI-Anon groups, not Alateen. I would also like to read to you what has been in the Forum lately regarding the CMA – that

is, the Current Mailing Address for each group:

The Policy Committee recently granted permission for the WSO to send information to the groups via e-mail to the CMA. If you are a CMA and haven't already sent your e-mail address to the WSO, please send it to the attention of our Group Records Department along with your group's name and/or number. The CMA is vital to AI-Anon's communication process. As a CMA, thank you for the service you provide to your group.

However, please tell your groups that they can get that information to me and I will send it along to WSO; believe me, it will get there faster, since I can make changes instantly!! If you would prefer not to receive information by email, just let me know and I can take your email address off. Remind your groups that if they have changes in their group or address, please send those changes to ME, not to WSO. You can use the Electronic Group Registration/ Change Form available on our Kansas website. Just download the form, save it on your computer, fill it out, and attach it to an email to me. 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. 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 McAdam. Thank you so much for allowing me to serve the Kansas Area.

*Terry R,
Group Records Coordinator*

KANSAS STEPFINDER REPORT AWSC September, 2011

To date there are 28 hard copy subscriptions and 5 email subscriptions to the Kansas Stepfinder. I appreciate all the sharings I have received! PLEASE keep them coming! Thank you for allowing me to servie, and for all the encouragement and support I have received!

Love in Service, Stevie W., Stepfinder Editor

**KANSAS AREA AI-
ANON/ALATEEN**

WEBMASTER REPORT AWSC September, 2011



I have added a 'Frequently Asked Questions' page to the Website. It is geared toward new visitors wanting to know more about AI-Anon and what to expect at meetings. It is located in the FAQ menu. I am once again considering changing the Website in an effort to get people willing to take on the Webmaster position. As much as I enjoy it, is a service position that should be rotated. If you know of anyone interested in the position, please let me know asap. I did have one person speak up recently, but they could only do it if it didn't require any coding. Of course, whoever gets the position could redo the site entirely if they so choose. Remember to send me flyers and information via email or snail mail to post for special events. As always, I am available to come 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*

AREA ALATEEN PROCESS REPORT

AWSC September, 2011

Greetings! I'm Janet Mc., your Area 20 Alateen Process Person. Some of my jobs are to make sure Alateen groups in Kansas are keeping within the Safety and Behavior Guidelines, to keep WSO updated on any changes within your Alateen Group (Contact information, location or time change, sponsor changes, GR changes, etc.), and to keep you updated on new forms or requirements. I also recertify all AMIAS and sponsors annually— AND IT'S THAT TIME. I will provide a packet for each District for their AMIAS and sponsors with paperwork that needs to be filled out AGAIN and returned to me by



the end of May. 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. Presently Area 20 Alateen has 13 Alateen groups registered; 51 registered Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS); 36 of which are certified Sponsors. I have copies of the current list of the active Alateen groups and their respective Sponsors/AMIAS (helpers) for the Districts in Area 20. If you don't see your name, or someone you know who helps with, or even sponsors Alateen, on this list it means they are not registered properly with our Area, or with WSO. I have forms with me if you would like to take this opportunity to hang with the Alateens (it REALLY is an incredible experience), or if you would like to take one back to your group... feel free to make copies. OR, they can also be found 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 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). And one more reminder... 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.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Mc, Area 20 Alateen Process Person

"If we live each day to the best of our ability, we will soon find we don't have to worry about the future or regret the past. We will be too busy enjoying life"

(Alateen – Hope for children of Alcoholics)

Alateen Coordinator Report

AWSC September, 2011

The last several months Shanna and Jessica were busy getting ready for the Al-Anon/Alateen Conference and Kansas Alateen Round-Up. We had the Candlelight meeting at the Conference again this year with the topic "God As I Understood Him" and it was well attended. Amy S from Bucklin was the Alateen speaker and she did a great job. Many people continue to come to me after they hear an Alateen speaker amazed on the honesty and ability to share their lives at such a young age. Amy will also be the Alateen Speaker at the State AA Conference next weekend. Kansas Alateen Round-Up was held July 22, 23, & 24 at Rock Springs 4-H Ranch. We had 66 kids and 19 Sponsors and our AA speaker in attendance. The theme was "I Run To KARU" and the theme song "I Run To You" by Lady Antebellum. We had an awesome time with workshops, speakers, candlelight meetings and fellowship. Jessica chaired a workshop this year and did a great job. It was a sad time but an



exciting time for Jessica and me as this was our last KARU as your Kansas Alateen coordinators. We have really had a great time serving Kansas Alateen and thank you all for your support the last 2 + years. We love you all!

*Shanna G , Alateen Coordinator
and Jessica A, Asst. Alateen Coordinator*

2011 Al-Anon/Alateen Conference

AWSC September, 2011

I was your 2011 Al-Anon/Alateen
Conference



Chairperson. The Conference theme was “60 Years of Transforming Lives” at the Highland Hotel in Great Bend on June 17-19. We had 115 in attendance, 81 Al-Anon, 10 Alateen, 22 AA’s, 2 guests, and 29 first timers, all up from last year; and 56 banquet tickets were sold. The hotel accommodated us very well, they supplied us with big, round tables and plenty of chairs right outside of the Hospitality Room, a very pleasant area to eat, rest and visit.

Our Speakers were outstanding according to the feedback we received, and of course the Committee thought so too. Our Banquet was pool side and as the year before, far more food than we could eat. I want to thank Dist. 8 for decorating the banquet tables, and thank you to Districts 8, 16, 18, 19 20 for sponsoring our speakers’ banquet meals. A thank you to Districts 19 and 20 for the decoration on the Speakers’ tables, to all who contributed Favors at our Registration table and books for the giveaway. Everyone helped to make our Conference a success. We had another outstanding year with the Lucky Chance fund raiser, thank you to so many generous people who contributed so many items. At the November Assembly I will be presenting a check to Cindy, I won’t tell you yet how much it is but I will tell you it exceeds last year’s check. Also thank you to Charla for contributing a very special C.D. of our co-founder Lois as a Lucky Chance item, a full set of C.D.’s was given away by our taper, and the Committee gave away a free Registration for the Conference next year. I want to thank the groups and

Districts that contributed the Favors for the Registration Table, and thank you most of all for allowing me to serve these last two years as your Conference Chairperson, I gain so much growth when serving you.

*Thank you,
Judy W,
2011 AI-Anon/Alateen Conference Chairperson*

2012 Kansas AI Anon and Alateen Conference Report



The theme for next year's conference is "12, 12 and 12 in 2012" and the

committee is already getting excited about the possibilities. The Program Chair is researching speakers to assure we have great sharing and the other committee members are busy with creating ideas to make this a great conference experience for all. The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Topeka June 8 - 10, 2012. Rooms will be \$84.00 plus tax with up to four people in the room. The Holiday Inn is located at 605 SW Fairlawn, which is just off I-70 at the

Fairlawn exit in Topeka. The committee will be holding meetings via Skype and or conference calls this year in an effort to save expenses for travel since many of the committee members would not otherwise be attending the AWSC meetings. As time allows, meetings will also be held at the Assembly meetings, but we are assuming that given elections will be held in November 2011, there will likely not be time allocated at this Assembly for committee meetings. Fliers and other sources of announcements will be out later this fall and winter, so keep your eyes open and begin planning now to attend the 40th Annual AI Anon & Alateen Conference.

*In Service,
Phil G, General Chairperson*

"As I participate more in AI-Anon, I have a clearer sense of the progress that patience and commitment produce"

(When I Got Busy, I Got Better, p. 25)

AI-Anon Liaison Report

Area 25 Kansas State AA Conference

Good day to all! 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. in Hays, Ks. The hotel is very nice and easy to find – right off the highway. I've been to the committee meetings and am working with the committee to make it a great conference for both Al-Anon and AA members! There will be Al-Anon and Alateen participation in speakers and workshops. There was a recent change in the speakers. The Al-Anon speaker will be Kelly C from Shawnee, 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. Charla will also be leading a district meeting for folks in Western Kansas and other Al-Anon members who want to attend. Please come and support all these Al-Anon events! Registration costs are \$18.00 for pre-registration and \$22.00 at the door. Banquet tickets are \$20.00 and the banquet will be Saturday evening

at 5:30PM. They will be serving a NY strip dinner, which I'm sure will be filling, nutritious and delicious! 😊 There will also be an ice cream social Saturday night after the speaker meeting at 8 and that will cost \$5.00. It is going to be a very fun weekend of fellowship and fun. So you should definitely come! Put it on your calendars. I'm pretty excited and I hope you all plan on attending. Remember to register early and book those hotel rooms! I can't wait to see you all next week! Thanks so much for letting me be of service and allowing me the opportunity to help plan Al-Anon's participation in the conference. Have a lovely day!!

*Maggie R.,
Al-Anon Liaison for Kansas Area AA Conference*

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL DELEGATES MEETING (SCRDM) AWSC September 10, 2011

The 2011 South Central
Regional Delegates
Meeting (SCRDM) was
held March 4, 5, and 6th
2011 in Houston Texas, facilitated by



Texas East. Kansas was represented by Our Delegate Charla, our Alternate Delegate Claudine, and myself. Registration started at 3:00 P.M. and the program started at 7:30 P.M. on Friday. We welcomed the regions new Panel 51 Delegates, from Arkansas, Louisiana, and Missouri with them giving a short introductory talk about themselves. We had several present that had met Lois W. and shared a little bit about their experience as it was Lois's birthday. Chosen Agenda items were presented to be voted on for discussion, Topics voted to be discussed were, "What to do when someone at the area level does not do their job" "The Regional Trustee Process" "The WSC Structure in reference to the size of some areas" along with other topics. Saturday we heard from our regional Trustee who gave her report, had an opportunity for past WSC members to share suggestions about getting ready for the WSC, Current Delegates reported on some agenda items that would be on the Conference agenda, and Saturday evening we heard Clif B. Panel 48 Louisiana as our speaker. On Sunday We had our business meeting,

chose the location for our 2012 SCRDM which will be The Crown Plaza Hotel, in St. Louis, Missouri, March 2ND, 3RD, and 4TH, it was also voted to increase registration fee to continue to be self-supporting as costs continue to raise. The SCRDM adjourned at 12:00 noon. Claudine and I elected to drive home without stopping to help save on expense for the Area.

Laurel L., Past Kansas Area Delegate

WICHITA AI-ANON/ALATEEN INFORMATION SERVICE REPORT

AWSC September, 2011



The Wichita Literature Center has seen some changes in the last six months. We have a new location in the Senior Center near the downtown area. It is easily accessible, has good parking and is a safe area. Our hours are the same – Monday and Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Our manager stepped down due to health problems; and once again we have an interim manager. We have three regular volunteers and are presently training

two new volunteers. We are recruiting an additional regular volunteer. We have sold about one- and- a- half cases of the new book, *Many Voices, One Journey*. We are on our 4th case of the new soft cover *How Al-Anon Works*. Our manager usually orders additional literature once or twice a month. We are providing speakers at Valley Hope and Options Treatment Centers in Wichita on a monthly basis. In July we assisted the State outreach project to Kansas Nurses. Eleven Al-Anon and Alateen members handed out the AFA's bookmarks and other literature. Also, two members took Alateen literature to the Wichita School District counselors' in-service. One member took literature to Wichita State University campus for "Walk A Mile In Her Shoes", an event hosted by the Sexual Assault Center. We have distributed most of our 2011 "Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism". We are currently working on an outreach project to family practice doctors.

*Submitted by: Joyce H, Chair
Wichita Information Searvice*

I Planned to Run Away

When I first came to Alateen I was just about ready to run away from home. My mother was drunk every night and a lot of the time during the day, too. I am sixteen years old but still I didn't know how I could get along by myself. My father had divorced my mother recently and I was put in her custody. In Alateen I learned that my mother was sick and couldn't help getting drunk as soon as she took one drink. I learned, too, that I couldn't change her and would only make things worse if I tried. So I began to practice the Twelve Steps and the Serenity Prayer. After a while my mother stopped drinking. It would be fine if the story could end here, but it doesn't. My mother had stopped drinking before, and I knew she might not stay sober this time. Well, she didn't. She started drinking again after six weeks. But what I want to say is that I am not upset now at her drinking. I know I had nothing to do with it. I know she loves me in her own way. Someday I'll be through school and can get a job. By then I'll be independent and can make up my mind how and where I want to live. I still get depressed and sometimes fall back into my old habits but now I have friends who understand, to talk to; it's easier to begin again to practice the Twelve Steps and the Serenity Prayer. I still have quite a bit to change in myself. But thanks to Alateen, I have made a start. (Alatten – Hope For Children of Alcoholics, p. 74)




PERSONAL SHARINGS

A Lust For Life

Here in America, our thoughts traditionally turn to counting our blessings as our national holiday of Thanksgiving approaches. I find it easy now to appreciate the abundance that surrounds me as I drive in the country and see piles of golden pumpkins, and observe the rich harvest of apples, grapes and corn. I can get high on just the fragrance of cider, drying leaves and hay. The crisp days of autumn and the dazzling brilliance of the landscape fill me with wonder at the infinite variety and the endless flow of life from one form to another. These things have always been here; and yet, it wasn't so long ago that I could see nothing to be happy about. What did it matter, all this abundance, when I was so unhappy? I was jealous of those who had more than I, who seemed well-adjusted and full of life. I wished every day that I would die and be released from my grim prison. Not knowing how to cope with alcoholism, having failed at my self-appointed mission—getting my husband sober—and resenting my lot in life, I believed myself to be the unlucky victim of fate, without hope of ever escaping. In a desperate effort to find relief, I resorted to the death of my feelings. I wasn't aware of what I was doing, of course. I became a robot, going through the motions of living, but feeling nothing. I never cried nor laughed, got upset, nor enjoyed. It was as though I'd been locked out, condemned to observing life through the pane of glass. Al-Anon taught me life didn't have to



be all pain or all numbness. I could look at the positive, count my blessings, find answers to my problems—in short, make my own happiness. When I no longer found it necessary to run from reality, I began to feel again. It was a long time before I could feel deeply. I gained courage as I dared to trust others with the truth about myself; to risk being hurt in order to experience happiness; as I let go of my unrealistic goals; as I took a chance I'd be disappointed. It was worth the price. Today I feel vibrant with life, fully potent and eager to experience whatever is in store for me. I'm open to the full gamut of feelings. Life had become a challenge, a joy, a privilege, even a pain at times. Of all the blessings I have received in Al-Anon, this is my most cherished—my lust for life! (taken from 'Forum Favorites, Vol. 3, pp.6-7)



Please don't forget!
Personal sharings are
greatly encouraged and
deeply appreciated.
Email them to me at
stepfinder@kansas-al-anon.org

DISTRICT REPORTS AWSC September, 2011



“Participation is the
key to harmony”

District 5: Groups are doing fine. A couple of us have attended a few meetings in Abilene to help and encourage them. Our newest group, Choices AFG, is doing well. We are hoping to welcome the Open Door AFG in District 3 as a new group in our District if the Committee approves it. Our District Meetings are actually held during Serenity AFG's Business Meeting, the group takes time to go over any District business at the same time. A can is passed around to help fund the Answer Service which we have been able to continue making monthly payments for. Our District's email address has been a success, we have had at least 2 dozen emails asking about Al-Anon Meetings. Two of us are still taking Al-Anon meetings to the jail, we are hoping to get one or two more members interested in helping. One member has set up an Al-Anon display with pamphlets in the hospital emergency room. Another member donated “*How Al-Anon Works*” to the church library in Lindsborg. *Judy W, DR*

District 8: After taking our usual summer break in June and July from District Meetings, the Group Representatives and District Officers were back at it in August finalizing plans for our Fall Workshop to be held October 1, 2011. We are excited to be hosting Ellen C. from Addison, Texas who will do a four hour workshop titled “Traditions in Relationships”. This sure to not only be a day of laughter and fun but also a day filled with insight and recovery. Registration is only \$10 which covers the space rental, Ellen's expenses, refreshments and lunch. Door prizes will be given away throughout the day as well. We hope to have a great crowd in attendance at Highland Park United Methodist Church in Topeka, located at SW 29th and Michigan Ave. This is the same location where we held many Al Anon/Alateen Days in the past. Everyone is also invited to stick around for the following day for the Area AA Banquet at Heritage Hall. This AA annual event with Al Anon and Alateen participation will include Ellen sharing her story and Richard R. from Wichita sharing his Alateen story. The Alateens will also be holding a fundraiser with lucky chance drawings and selling soda. The District continues to speak at two recovery centers, one monthly and the other every other month. With participation being the key to harmony and everyone getting involved, there are lots of opportunities for many to share their experience, strength and hope at these speaking opportunities. Group elections are being held in mid September and October with the District elections being held at the end of October so that all the new trusted servants

will be in place to join the outgoing trusted servants at the Assembly in November. Both groups of trusted servants will be attending the November and December District meetings to help make for a smooth and successful transition. Many groups have been holding meetings on service work during August and September in preparation for the elections. We are all excited about the possibilities of the future in District eight. *In an attitude of Gratitude, Phil G., DR*

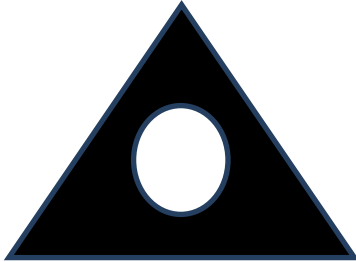
District 12: District 12 has 3 groups. Paths to Recovery, Larned which has a book study meeting followed by a regular meeting on Wednesday's. The Great Bend AFG group has three meeting times Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday. The Grapevine group, Great Bend which meets once a week has a regular meeting then a book study following that meeting on Tuesday. The attendance for our district is down for the summer, we are hopeful that attendance will return to the normal group membership this fall. We have been discussing the upcoming elections for the group and district levels and hope to hold elections the end of September so the newly elected members will be able to attend Assembly with the members that have held that office. Districts 12 has been planning a Fall Fest, Saturday October 15th. We have decided to have an An-Alon 60th Birthday Party. So please mark your calendars and plan to attend our Party. Charla C will be presenting a talk on "Lois Wilson" one of our co-founders. There will be Fun and Games, of course Ice Cream and Cake. Mark your calendars. Hope to see you there! *Jayme T.,*

District 13: I visited all the groups this past month-and-a-half. Some are growing and

some are the same. I enjoy visiting the groups. It gives me so much serenity and peace. *Loretta, DR*

District 15: District 15 held their meeting on Saturday August 20, 2011 at the LaCygne Public Library. The Linn Valley group was able to move their meeting to this great space at the library from the closet they were meeting in. We invited Charla to our District meeting to speak to us on service work. Charla shared on her years in Al-Anon and how she started out in service work and some of the challenges. Because of those challenges this started up sharing by others. Charla also spoke on how each one of us has a talent for service work. That could be from opening up the room, making coffee at the meeting level to service as a GR, treasurer etc in your group and moving up from there to the District and Area. Since our last meeting the RISK Alateen group has been moved to inactive due to attendance and school activities. Groups reported they are staying consistent with attendance. *Sherree S., DR*

District 16: There is not much to report. One Al-Anon group has gone inactive. Ulysses "A Way Up Group" had Al-Anon participation in an AA Round Robin in July. Hugoton is having an AA Round Robin on October 1st and 2nd with Al-Anon participation. The speaker is our own Jayme T., from Larned. We are planning a district meeting in October to elect a new DR and District officers. Thank you. *Selia C., DR*



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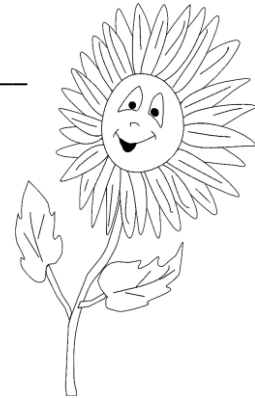
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