

NCWSC Committee Meeting Minutes

July 31, 2010

Hilton Garden Inn, Redding

Approved February 5, 2011. Moved (Carla G), seconded (Bruce H); passed with substantial unanimity.

Note: The meeting minutes for this meeting are not chronologically ordered. In an attempt to make the minutes more easily used as a reference, the minutes will be ordered in a topical fashion.

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The meeting was convened at 8:06 AM with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Traditions (Karen HA), Concepts (Tobin R) and Warranties (Mary Jo K) were read.

Chairperson's Welcome (Patrick B): We will get out by 5. Will have a timekeeper again today, Denise. Green card will be put up at 5 minutes, red card at 7 minutes. If discussion at microphone, green card at 1 minute, red card at 2 minutes.

Roll Call was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm with the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration

Motions

1007.01: Approval of Minutes from May 2010 Committee Meeting, with corrections Moved, seconded, and passed with substantial unanimity.

1007.02: Approve Presentation of Budget as Amended to October Assembly. Moved Sandi, Seconded Karen. Passed with substantial unanimity.

Motion to adjourn: Moved by Chris, seconded by Cindy. Passed w/ substantial unanimity on voice vote.

By substantial unanimity the Committee authorized the Insurance Coordinator to purchase Sexual Abuse and Molestation coverage in the amount of \$100K.

By substantial unanimity the Committee authorized the formation of a Thought Force on Assembly Evaluation Forms. Thought force volunteers: Karen HA and Peggy P and Pattie R. and Patrick B.—GRs can also participate: DRs please request participation. Contact Karen HA or Peggy P.

Substantial Unanimity to keep Assembly schedule the same.

Try to replace the Committee meeting that was held with the May Assembly with a technological meeting.—SU
SU to have a trial in about May, but in long run need to have between July and February. Task force: Chris D, David B. Lisa B, Art B., and Patti M.

Web sites need to have privacy statements, so the web site committee can choose to put it on. Does it need approval? We can affirm the decision. There being no concerns, the decision was Affirmed.

Elections

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee is the legal board of directors for NCWSA. It was created by and is directly responsible to members of NCWSA. Its duties include maintaining policies, authorizing expenditures above budget, approving budget revisions when necessary, approving and discharging agents, supervising officers, agents and employees. One of the fiscal responsibilities is to review the Prudent Reserve, especially withdrawals. The members must be or have been a DR. It is OK to serve 2 consecutive terms, then must take a break. Current members of EC made comments. David: I learned a lot, lots of growth. Peggy: this has been a quiet term for EC; perhaps a previous member would like to describe some of the issues that have come up: it is a growth position.

Question: How often and how do they meet? Conf Call, in person usually in connection with Committee Meetings or Assembly. Meet to interview financial assistants and officers. Time commitment: fairly low recently. First came caucuses of each section (North, Central, South), then election of members at large.

North-Peggy P. (D5) affirmed by SU
Central-Diana S. (D11) affirmed by SU
South-David B. (D24) affirmed by SU
New members introduced themselves. And each was affirmed by SU
At-Large Charlene R
At-Large Deb H
Written Ballots 26: both candidates elected. Thanks to Past EC members.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee Report: (Harlan)

Since the last committee meeting, I was asking for volunteers to help interview the Officers and it was decided to let the new EC do it. There is no other business to be taken care of. I want to thank the committee members for their trust in me. I enjoyed doing the service with Area.

Budget Committee Report (Joan W)

Area Finances 101 - Joan gave a presentation on how to read a financial report and complexities of current bookkeeping challenges. It is necessary to be able to read a financial statement.

Joan W. went line by line over budget. Quite a few items need to be changed either up or down. Discussion: Line 39 Diversity should be increased because of its importance. A lot of suggestions have to do with Public Information, so that should be increased. There was an argument to increase PI/CPC in order to address diversity. Should not plan a loss, would like to see all of events projected to break even. If we are planning on giving a grant, we should have that as a separate line item rather than project the event to be a loss. Can also look at it as a service to the area. Assembly is paid for by group donations—by itself does not need to be self-supporting. Budget in pretty good shape, don't need to be fiddling with details: it's about a gentle budget. Travel to prisons Line 51: already \$2190; Committee recommends \$5K. Line 61, 12-stepper expense could be reduced to \$3500. Donations: don't be overly optimistic: Line 10B should be lower. Line 77A could be brought down because Chris thinks she can get a deal. Budget Committee wants to increase Prudent Reserve another \$2500, which gets up close to where we used to be.

NoCAC Committee (Meghan)

Fundraiser last weekend went very well. Grossed \$648, net around \$400. There will be a Bash Aug 6-8, at Manchester State Park, near beach. Flyers in bins. On Oct 16 they will host the Last Chance Dance in Pleasanton. This is the last chance to register without \$20 late fee.

Registration is \$180. NoCAC is Nov 12-14, at Crown Plaza Milpitas. Passed a bin for donations. I hoped to have our treasurer here but she broke her ankle. The attendees need parental permission, etc. Safety travel authorizations are on the back of all flyers.

Q from a DR: The Alateens have to be 12&up. May families come?

A: They are welcome, but usually it's the kids and sponsors. Parents can stay or leave.

Convention Committee (Chris D)

Convention Coordinator Report, July 29, 2010

Planning for the next year's convention, This Side of Heaven in 2011, is well underway. We've met as a committee and scheduled most of the meetings for the rest of the Conference year. As usual, there's a lot to do but we already have a great committee to get it all done.

Summary of activities and plans:

Open positions on the Convention Committee:

Alateen Sponsors Male and Female

Alateen Male and Female

Non English Chair and CoChair (Diversity)

We particularly encourage Districts 23 and 24 to "attract" volunteers from their districts for these positions as they are close to the site. District 19 - you can help too!

Logo Contest

This year's theme: This Side of Heaven in 2011

Deadline: September 24, 2010

Please send entries to:

Chris AC

444 Saratoga Ave, 38L

Santa Clara, CA 95050

408-691-3242

mrs_gratitude@sbcglobal.net

Site search for Convention 2012 underway

Convention 2011 Proposed Budget

INCOME:

Registration	\$8,000.00
T-Shirts	\$2,250.00
7th Tradition	\$1,150.00
Donation Drawing/Silent Auction	\$1,300.00
Hospitality	\$300.00
TOTAL INCOME:	

\$13,000.

EXPENSES:

Facility	\$3,900.00
Speakers	\$1,960.00
Committee Room/Travel	\$2,500.00
T-Shirts	\$1,500.00
Publicity	\$400.00
Alateen	\$456.24
Other	\$2,283.76
TOTAL EXPENSES:	

\$13,000.

Convention Committee Meeting Schedule

All are welcome to join us at our Convention Committee meetings!
 Meetings are typically scheduled on the second Saturday of each month,
 and we've planned a mixture of face-to-face and conference call meetings.

Date	Location
August 14	Elk Grove
September 11	Oakdale
October 16	Santa Rosa
November 13	Web-based conference call
December 11 Tentative	Web-based conference call
January 8 Tentative	Hotel Walk-Through Seaside
February 12 Tentative	To be Decided
March 12 Tentative	To be Decided
April 9 Tentative	To be Decided
April 29, 30, May 1	Convention 2011 Embassy Suites Monterey Bay Seaside, CA

Report prepared by Chris D. Convention Co-Chair

For questions, or if you would like to volunteer, please contact:
 Debbie O (Chair) at 209-202-2381 or convention@ncwsa.org
 Chris D (Co-Chair) at 650-593-3241 or cd314sp@sbcglobal.net

Long-Range Planning Committee (Peggy P for Claudia M)

Our purpose as a committee is to bring ideas and research them for the best use for our Area to focus. We are not in a hurry and we take our time to thoroughly research the agenda items. The following items have been discussed with the following recommendations.

Executive Committee Term

Upon reflection we determined that although issues with a particular EC may arise, they do not seem to be particularly related to the length of the EC Term. The LRPC reviewed the issues facing the Executive Committee and spoke with past and present members of the EC, and do not find that there are substantial problems resulting from the current 18 month EC term. The LRPC therefore will retire the issue of the EC term from our rolling agenda at this time.

NCWSA Info at a Glance Dashboard (previously “Dashboard”)

The LRPC recommends that the NCWSC form a “thought” task force or committee to explore the feasibility and potential designs for a new, unified and simplified set of visual charts and reports to reflect NCWSA finances and status. This set of reports to have the tentative name “NCWSA Info at a Glance Dashboard”. The LRPC will share the information and suggestions that it has made with the thought force.

NCWSA Meeting Map

The LRPC recommends that the NCWSC form a “thought” task force or committee to investigate the feasibility of mapping and maintaining group data on NCWSA.ORG. The LRPC will share the information and suggestions that is has made with the thought force.

Diversity, aka How can NCWSA broaden its membership, i.e. by age, ethnic and/or cultural background, etc.?

In order to better understand the issue and what it means to our members, the LRPC developed and distributed a Diversity Survey to GR’s and NCWSC members at the May Assembly and via our listserv. We asked for completed surveys to be returned by July 30th and I can report that people have taken full advantage of that date as I received several e-mail responses this week and have been handed several more responses this evening (Fri night). The responses received as of last week were consolidated for an initial review by the LRPC to prepare the preliminary report we’re presenting now at the July meeting.

Today’s report is based on 54 responses. With the additional surveys I’ve received this week, the final report will be based on over 60 responses. We received responses from 18 of the 27 districts, with a range of 1 to six responses per district; several surveys did not provide district or position

information. Several of the responses were clearly based on the GR taking the survey to their meeting and getting the group's input. Responses were from 37 GR's or AGR's, 5 DR's, 3 Area Coordinators, with the remaining identified as Other or not answered. The LRPC did decide that when the survey results are forwarded on, this information will not be included in order to maintain anonymity and confidentiality.

The results show there is a strong consensus that diversity is a problem within our Area. One respondent replied consistently that we are doing well already and to continue doing what we're already doing and one respondent answered one of the questions with "If it ain't broke, don't fix it". Otherwise, all respondents felt there was a problem with diversity and definitely room for improvement. There was also agreement and gratitude for the work we *are* doing on diversity and for the work Janie is doing. There were a number of ideas and improvements suggested for what can be done. However, the LRPC has not had time to evaluate and discuss these ideas. This will be included in our report to the Assembly in October. We will also make our recommendations at that time.

In developing this survey, one of our primary interests was in getting a better understanding of what this issue means to our membership. As stated in our first question - What does diversity in Al-Anon/Alateen mean to you? Overall, the responses indicate diversity in seen in a very broad scope. Here are some of the responses:

A willingness of members to reach out to those who don't believe Al-Anon is for them, especially because of cultural, ethnic or language difficulties.

Fellowship reflecting the whole community

Everyone feels comfortable

Inclusive of all

Acceptance, unity, and inclusion regardless or real or perceived differences

Openness and non-bias to diverse opinions...respect and honor in thoughts, words and deeds in acceptance of anyone

Serving our community - meeting the unique needs of each are of society.

In addition to race, ethnicity, culture, age, gender, sexual orientation, physical abilities, inmates, dual members, other diversities were identified - socio-economic, qualifiers, creeds, religious beliefs, addiction/recovery profiles, points of view

A colorful sea of about equal representation of males and females

Al-Anon would look as diverse as the community it exists in.

When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, let the hands of Alateen and Al-Anon always be there, and let it begin with us.

One of the things I found interesting was that some responses indicated passive actions, as in being welcoming, being willing, being accepting, while other responses indicated more active actions, as in doing,

changing, reaching out. Basically, there is a lot of opportunity for improvement and our members will be able to find a way that is comfortable for them.

Overall, the survey has provided us with valuable insights and information about how our membership feels about diversity and suggestions for improvements. We are grateful for the responses we received and feel they will provide a the basis for positive change. Please pass on our thanks and appreciation to everyone who took the time to complete and return a survey.

Assembly Evaluation Forms

Some recommendations made last time: form a Thought Force to have more than Chair review these- there is info relevant to LRPC, EC, Officers, Coordinators. Suggests that surveys be re-written to actively solicit information about groups, area, etc. SU to form Thought Force on Assembly Evaluation Forms. Thought force volunteers: Karen HA and Peggy P and Pattie R. and Patrick B.—GR's can also participate: DRs please request participation contact Karen HA or Peggy P.

Coordinator Reports

12-Stepper Editor (Denice E and Kathy H)

Cutoff time for next 12 Stepper is August 14. Don't need District Reports because they will be in the Assembly minutes. Thanks to Kathy H, who has been a big help, and to Connie who picks up the 12 Steppers from the printer and mails them. If you see errors, please tell her. Please send reports as Word documents rather than PDFs. Please specifically look at the section in the 12 Stepper that lists your Districts business meetings and speaker meetings.

Alateen Coordinator (Carla G)

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve as the Alateen Coordinator. It has been an amazing rollercoaster since I was last with all of you. I'm excited to be here with you, as I had to miss meeting with you in May. Below is an update since our last meeting in May:

The Sponsor R&R currently has 30 registrants, half-way to our goal of 60. The 2010 Sponsor R&R weekend is September 10-12, 2010 at Westminster Woods in Occidental. DRs and Coordinators please share this information with your GRs and Alateen Sponsors. Registrations are due by August 28 so we can confirm food, etc. Our speakers this year will be Art B, DeDe W. and Doris W. who is a WSO Trustee coming from Oklahoma City. The Sponsor R&R is an educational training and awareness program for sponsors and those who might be interested in becoming sponsors. The weekend includes speakers, workshops,

discussions, and fellowship. Attendees of previous years have shared how valuable the experience was to their development as a sponsor. Please consider supporting your district sponsors who may not be able to afford to attend on their own. This year's planning committee consists of DeDe W., Chris M., Yvonne D., Bonnie M., Liz R., and Louise M. Thank You!!!

NoCAC 2010 planning is in full swing with Megan H. Chair and Zoe D. Sponsor. Please support their events this summer and encourage Alateens, sponsors and Al-Anons to attend November 12-14 in Milpitas.

In cooperation with District 14 we will hold an Alateen Sponsor Workshop on October 23, 2010 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Bonnie C. from Cape Coral, Florida will be sharing the *Gifts of Alateen Sponsorship* in a workshop prior to her speaking at the District 14 Monthly Speaker Meeting. Bonnie has much to share! Flyers will be in your bins and on the website soon.

Shawn A. collected many submissions for the Alateen Express from the Growing Together Weekend at the Woods. Watch the NCWSA Website for the next edition of the Express.

Additional plans for Alateen include:

NoCAC Bash on August 6 to 8, 2010.

NoCAC Last Chance Dance October 16, 2010.

Speaking at the District 12 Speaker Meeting on August 8, 2010.

Convening the Alateen Safety Committee to discuss NoCAC Guidelines and other issues of Safety.

Continuing to be available to support the growth of Alateen with Sponsor Workshops or Forums at Al-Anon/Alateen events. Feel free to contact me or Shawn A., Alternate Alateen Coordinator.

Alateen Liaison Report

Camilla R. (N), Cat B. (C), Jessica G. (S)-not present

Archives Coordinator (Chris M)

The evidence of recent Archives party is on the wall: our first Archives display. People hesitate to join a committee, so she's just having party, food is good, and people show up to help. The three of us did a lot of work, and it was fun, I was motivated: we got through 1/3 of inventory boxes. Our next party will be August 28, 10-3 in Soquel, Please, DRs, if you have an Archives Coordinator, I would like to know and I would like to support them better. I have created Archives binders for district Archives people. There are more Archives people than she knew.

Bylaws and Insurance Coordinator (Bruce H)

Attended three Committee Meetings and Spring Assembly this year.

Have updated Guidelines, ready for NCWSA Website.

Immediate Past Delegate, Literature Co, ByLaws & Insurance Co

Processed a check out form for Diversity.

Attended ad hoc Privacy Committee and Insurance Committee on Sexual Abuse and Molestation.

Because of important family reasons I will miss Assembly.

Bylaws and Guidelines

Insurance

We have renewed our D&O insurance. The annual premium is reduced by \$109 because we had no claims and have stayed with the same carrier for more than two years. Thanks to Patrick and Carol for getting the paperwork signed and check written so I can mail it when I get home today.

The Thought Force on whether or not to purchase Sexual Abuse and Molestation coverage for the Area, established at the February NCWSC meeting, met this morning and unanimously agreed that we need to have this coverage and recommended to the committee that we purchase a \$100K policy for the coming year. A claimant will be required to give up their anonymity in order to file a claim. As this is not likely to become a "press, radio, TV and film" tradition, it would not be an issue. I will clarify with the carrier whether or not it will cover sexual harassment but doubt that it will as SA&M is a criminal offense and Harassment is a civil offense. I will also ask if it covers the issue if it occurs with child care associated with an AI-anon meeting. The additional premium is covered in the amount purposed for the 2011 budget.

By substantial unanimity the Committee authorized the Coordinator to purchase a Sexual Abuse and Molestation coverage in the amount of \$100K.

Diversity (Janie)

I'm moving right along with my commitment, but not as fast as I would like. I have visited some different meetings with diversity needs and have brought their needs to the attention of the proper group with answers.

Also, I am the events coordinator for our (Spanish-speaking) intergroup, and last weekend we had our picnic in San Jose. It was a complete success.

I'm still working on the diversity quilt. Like I said at the last meeting, the quilt has been one of my projects since I became diversity coordinator, and it is going to be completed before I finish my term of office (hopefully).

I'm still looking for an alternate diversity coordinator to share responsibilities over this widespread area.

Q; specifications for squares for diversity quilt? Please put it on the yahoo group.

Facilities Coordinator (Portia for Debbie O)

Report was given on facilities for the February 2011 Committee Meeting in Aptos and July 2011 Committee Meeting at El Dorado Hills.

Group Records (Connie F)

ORAT. (one report at a time).

I am going ask you to review to my report from the Assembly as it has lots of information. If you don't have it please check the next 12 Stepper for a copy.

Some of the highlights are:

Processing AI-Anon new group registration and record change forms.

Choosing a group name.

Multiple meetings within one group.

Be sure you supply complete information on Form A16. The post office requires a complete name for the current mailing address. If possible supply your zip + four. If you fill in the space for the GR (box 15) and nothing for the CMA (current mailing address - box 8), the CMA will NOT change. To update the CMA, that section is required to be filled in.

When you enter contacts in section 14, I would like to remind you these names and numbers are available to whoever requests information about your meeting.

Lots of really exciting changes are happening with group records.

First off, USPS requires an address verification process before we can send our bulk mailings (12 Stepper). I sent the data base to the company chosen to process our updates. Good news, we had less than 2% updates (not including all the zip + fours I need to add) and our charge for this service was \$40. Not only reasonable but quick, and easy.

WSO has and is making major changes in processing and reporting of Group Records. The first step is completed with our area's WSO records available for me to view make recommendations and print some reports. In the near future, Group Records Area Coordinators along with WSO will be able to change AI-Anon group records directly in the WSO database and run group reports as needed. After it gets up and running if reports are not available that we use, I was told we would be able to request additional reports. My hope is we will need only one data base (WSO), and our area could capture all the labels and reports we need from WSO's database. We would need a data base for NCWSC and subscriptions for

the 12 Stepper. There will probably be more 'issues', but for now it looks this position will have huge guideline changes.

The new Service Manual will be distributed soon. Note in the sections referring to the group's name in the "Policy Digest" and "Al-Anon and Alateen Groups at Works" have been revised to provide more clarity as groups names are listed in the Area Web sites, which are linked to the WSO Web site and meeting schedules. WSO is verifying that group names reflect the Al-Anon program.

Other Reminders:

Keep personal names and addresses confidential. I return all data documents to the DR. Please develop a process for disposal of old records. I shred any documents with a personal name or address. Alateen registrations come only from AAPP; not directly to Group Records.

Do NOT submit changes or new groups to WSO or NCWSA via a spreadsheet.

KISS

FYI: 728 Total Active Groups; ___ Active Alateen (___ Spanish and ___ Preteen); ___ Spanish Speaking; ___ Parent Focus; ___ Hospitals and Institutions; ___ AIS. Mailing 983.

Question from DR: What does "Mail was Stopped" mean? NoMailStatus comes from WSO; they mailed something to that address and it was returned to WSO. That status is maintained for 2 years, then becomes inactive.

Institutions (Louise M)

The Institutions Committee wants to thank all of your groups which have been donating to prison literature these past few months. We still have four meetings on Sundays and three meetings on Tuesdays at Solano. At Soledad our group is getting larger – we now have about 40 inmates who meet in the gym. The inmates at Solano and Soledad are now forming what we call "satellite meetings", meetings they hold during the week in their buildings. They are submitting their applications for their WSO group number to be recognized as an Al-Anon group. They are now taking more literature and Forums in to their buildings for those members who are new. Attraction rather than promotion. They tell us that at first they were teased because they went to those Al-Anon meetings. Now the other inmates want to join them. Can you believe that we will be in the prisons a year? We started August 23rd in Solano. We plan to have a birthday celebrations. We wanted a banquet but may have to settle for coffee and cake. Plans are underway for our celebrations at Soledad in December.

We have a program at Deuel Vocational Institute in Tracy. We meet once a month for perspective parolees. It is a special program which introduces them to outside organizations that can help them once they are paroled. They take literature and meeting directories. We are also in the county jail in Santa Cruz and a jail in Sacramento. Many thanks to the many volunteers at the recovery homes. If you need literature, please contact me what literature you want and I will make arrangements to either send them to you or mail them.. I have had a phone call from the California Youth Authority which wants to have Al-Anon/Alateen meetings for their juveniles. We are trying to work out a day that we can meet to set up our meetings. Chowchilla, the women's facility, would like to get us in as soon as they can get someone who works in the prison to sponsor us. I sent two boxes of literature to Chowchilla which has two prisons for women there. I also sent literature to the California Youth Authority. San Quentin will probably start in August. One problem is that we need sponsors who get paid overtime for escorting us into the prisons and staying with us during the programs. The other problem is finding a place for our meetings and a time. We still need volunteers. We cannot support any new meetings without volunteers. The bulk of the volunteer work is coming from our small committee. Remember that you are all uniquely qualified to carry the message. These people cannot attend meetings so it is our responsibility to carry the message in.

I have two coffee makers, 42 cups, that were purchased for Solano but then they decided that we could not take coffee in. If you are interested in purchasing one of them, the cost is \$30 each.

One of our inmates at Solano has had his article printed in the August Forum. See page 4 the article entitled "Al-Anon brings hope to inmate." We are sooooo excited to see one of our "guys" become published.

If you are going to have a Day in Al-Anon, Day in Service, or speaker meeting and would like our committee to present a panel, a workshop, or a speaker meeting, please contact either Yvonne or me. We would be glad to go to your district.

The AA Hospitals and Institutions Conference with Al-Anon participation for 2010 was a great success. Yvonne D and here committee did a wonderful job. We had tremendous speakers, panels, and workshops. If you are interested in a DC, Sound Solutions recorded the whole conference. The 2011 conference will be at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Fresno. Flyers will be out shortly. Save the dates of May 6. 7. And 8. 2011.

The recovery that we witness at every prison meeting is nothing short of a miracle. Please continue passing around the pink cans. We could not do what we do without your help. Also encourage those who can not go into the prisons to apply for the inmate correspondence service. That involves writing letters – men to men, and women to women (not a lonely hearts club) – about once a month after you have been

accepted into the program. All letters go through WSO, inmates' letters are screened through the prison system. See your DR for application forms.

Literature Coordinator (Sandy S)

It's an honor and privilege to serve as your Literature/Forum Coordinator. My alt is Kim H. I'm happy to be here with all of you at our July committee meeting.

LITERATURE REPORT:

The new 2010 Service Manual is expected to be printed in the fall of 2010. When the English-language "Service Manual" is printed it is distributed to the Current Mailing Address (CMA) of all registered, active English-Speaking groups in the World Service Conference structure, as well as Area Delegate, Chairperson, and all Area Coordinators served by the WSO and all AI-Anon Information Services and Literature Distribution Centers in the Conference structure. The French or Spanish versions are given a similar distribution that includes French-or Spanish-language groups and French or Spanish Coordinators. (as a reminder, please make sure all groups are registered with WSO, so each group rep will receive a copy).

Please continue to increase awareness of Opening Our Hearts (B-29) and Discovering Choices (B-30).

WSO is preparing a new book (Tracing Our Growth) about AI-Anon's history, planned for April 2011.

The new bookmark that replaced the Crying House is now available. The bookmark reads:

When you don't know where to turn... because someone drinks too much... AI-Anon Family Groups can help. The bookmark is not listed in the 2010 Catalog, due to it was printed after the catalog came out. The order number is M76 and it is free of charge. (you pay shipping/handling only). It also comes in French and Spanish. (Remember—when you buy from your local Literature Distribution Center, **you support your local services**. For a list of LDCs please go to: <http://www.ncwsa.org/lhc.html>)

FORUM REPORT

Subscriptions have increased by 15% since December, but even though these numbers are encouraging, remember that our primary goal has to do with quality rather than quantity; we want to make The Forum a meaningful part of our personal programs and AI-Anon group discussions.

A 2010 Forum subscription readership survey has been sent out by WSO. It is asking your opinion about the Forum. A copy is included with the Forum by mail, or you may complete it on-line at www.ai-anon.org

anon.org/members. Go to the Survey for Members tab and click on the link provided. Please no multiple submissions. (Reminder: GRs are the Forum Representative to their group. Please refer to Seventh Tradition pamphlet (S-21).

Second printing of Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2011, orders may be placed until 5pm ET Wednesday February 9, 2011. It will be shipped before April 1, 2011.

Discussion: DR (Mary Jo) -Look at the Inside Al-Anon, point that out to our GRs. Literature Coordinators-GRs are the voice of the Forum. Also WSO is doing a survey about Forum. DR (Cynthia)-literature in Braille? Info at web site.

PI/CPC (Brenda for Patti)

There have been several conference calls with WSO that Patti did. She gave a reminder that they need contact info for all District PI/CPC people. Workshop at May Assembly: any feedback? Please just give a note if you heard anything from your GRs etc. Was it helpful? Please include what kind of information we could help you with, or any other questions you have for us. Chair: we did collect feedback on the evaluations.

Web Committee (Jim S.)

Web Site Committee members are Shannon J., Alternate Web Site Coordinator, Art B., Mike M., Lori K., Bruce D. & Chris D. Other volunteers at the District/AIS level keep the Independent and Separate web sites updated. Thank you for your Service on the NCWSA Web Site.

Currently status of NoCal Web Sites:

13 - Independent/Separate Districts & AIS's

8 - Dependent Districts

New Form A3 Map With Boundaries compliments of Chris D. posted to the web. Districts and Sections.

Send flyers though Bonnie M., AAPP, when mentioning Alateen on a flyer. Alateen last name, phone number or e-mail cannot appear in the flyer.

Use an Al-Anon Sponsor contact.

All Alateen Meeting's posted on the web require a current WSO Number, current registered meeting address and Certified Sponsors. This includes Dependent, Independent and Separate Web Sites connected to

www.ncwsa.org.

Coordinator has paid the fee to keep both of our URL's (ncwsa.org and northerncaliforniaal-anon.org) live for the next ten years.

The text for Journey To Recovery: A 50 Year History of Al-Anon and Alateen in Northern California book is available on the Literature sidebar link.

In The Works:

Site Map as a side bar link.

Privacy Ad Hoc Committee will finalize Privacy Statement and Guidelines that will be in the sidebar and under Service Guidelines on web.

Summary of NCWSA Web Site:

State Map: http://scws-al-anon.org/state_map/index.htm

Service Links: <http://ncwsa.org/service.html>

Forms

Guidelines

Donation Form

Minutes

Assembly

Contact Us: <http://ncwsa.org/contactus.html>

12-Stepper: <http://ncwsa.org/12stpridx.html>

All event flyers with any Alateen involvement must be approved by our AAPP (Area Alateen Process Person) at AAPP@ncwsa.org before it will be placed on the www.ncwsa.org web site.

Usage Statistics for ncwsa.org:

Summary Period: Last 12 Months

Generated 30-Jul-2010

Summary by Month				
Month	Monthly Totals			
	Visits	Pages	Files	Hits
Jul-10	20,835	54,726	190,146	245,688
Jun-10	27,142	81,458	208,161	258,094
May-10	27,027	91,252	224,138	280,250
Apr-10	27,520	85,168	232,747	292,375
Mar-10	27,748	91,669	248,337	317,117
Feb-10	24,787	68,998	206,539	270,779
Jan-10	30,567	82,336	238,181	312,079
Dec-09	19,000	43,733	162,466	213,952
Nov-09	35,621	70,412	194,413	250,667

Oct-09	22,054	50,529	183,371	251,406
Sep-09	20,436	51,741	201,711	271,314
Aug-09	18,901	49,633	203,817	276,192
Totals	301,638	821,655	2,494,027	3,239,913

Delegate's Report (John S, Panel 49, California North, Area 3)

Has met with WSO on Public Outreach. Trying to figure out how to do more outreach to teens and how to provide tools to Areas to do outreach. Working on TEAM event. Has spoken once since May, available for others. Will speak at Alameda on 8/31 Tuesday evening, and at Berkeley half-day in Al-Anon 9/11/10. Request from DRs rather surprised him. Officers' conference call could be duplicated with DRs. WSO is moving forward with teen chat rooms, moderated. Upcoming Virginia Beach, 60th anniversary, he thinks April 16. There will be a party at WSO. July 4th weekend 2013, International in Vancouver, and some will go on Alaskan cruise after. Some people talking about chartering a train, bus, or plane to go there.

Preparing for Assembly - John S.: DRs are the conduit to prepare the GRs for Assembly, we hope this will be an interactive presentation. I remember having a hard time explaining the financial statements, so others in District did it. Back then we did financial report and budget together, and that made people crazy. The financial reports is the current state of the finances for the corporation, and the budget is the plan for the following year. They do not match! It gets confusing when you try to make them match.

GRs must read the 12 Stepper: that is their guide to Assembly. They need to bring it to Assembly after reading.

Basic logistics: how re you going to get there? Talk about carpools, sharing rooms, plan for meals. Plan and manage expenses. One way to reduce expenses is to carpool and share rooms. If coming from a long distance, there are funds in the NCWSA budget.

District Hollers are a lot of fun, but the time will include district holler, introducing members. There will be a total of 5 minutes at the microphone. Try to line up and be ready to start immediately after the last report.

Discussions: One time at the microphone per issue, 2 minutes, then sit down. If somebody else says what you were going to say, please sit down rather than repeat the point.

Minutes: discuss them with GRs. They should trigger memories. If they have corrections, OK to send them to the Secretary before Assembly.

Minutes to be posted to web site at the same time as sent to Stepper. When Stepper editor sends to printer, also sends to web site. There will be a clarification at the beginning at Assembly about who has Vote and who has Voice. What's the difference between AI-Anon meetings and NCWSA as an organization: the person who is there with a voting card is a shareholder in the corporation for that day. Business: Old, New, Motions. Talk about things rather than make a motion. KBDM. OK to bring a topic to the chair. Motions limit discussion. We do not follow Roberts Rules of order. Take the agenda and go through it with your GRs. The more informed the GRs are before they go to Assembly, the more fun they will have at Assembly. Our Regional Trustee Karen Rimmel will be there, and speak on Saturday: she is a wonderful speaker and very funny. The GRs will love her.

Officer Reports

Treasurer's Report (Carol G)

Treasurers Financial Report – Carol G. –actually Joan went over current Financial Report. Carol opened the floor for questions. Coordinator (Louise): what is the current mileage rate?: 50 cents per mile.

Chairperson Report (Patrick B)

He is working on the agenda for October Assembly. He'll send it out soon. Taking some feedback from last Assembly evaluations.

Secretary Report (Johanna MM)

First, I want to give great thanks to Nancy A. and Elaina McR. for taking care of the February minutes. Unfortunately, there were more changes I need to make than I had time for in order to present them to you for approval, so they will have to be presented later. I do have the May Committee minutes for approval today. I would also like to thank Sandi C. for taking care of mailing the material left in bins.

I do want to remind you that the recorder picks up all the side conversations, at least as interference to the main speaking. Thus, if you want to make a comment, either come to the microphone or step outside, please.

Remember to check your bins early, often, and especially just before you leave. If you leave your nametags with me, I'll bring them back to Assembly in October.

Alternate Delegate Report (Joan)

I have learned a lot. This panel of officers and delegate get along well; that means a lot to me.

AAPP Report (Bonnie M)

Not able to bring or print a report. We did make it through another year of recertifying every AMIAS who chose to renew. I had hoped to have a report for each District. The renewal process was difficult and draining. AAARRRRGH!! My goal is to get an update to each DR and DAPP to let you know who has and has not renewed, what groups are active in your districts. I have a fair-size stack of applications for new AMAIS and new meetings, which I did not get to during the renewal process. We are all volunteers, members serving members. We have day jobs; we are human, which can be an annoyance. Our B17 Area requirements have been in force since October 2007, which says we follow WSO requirements. There's nothing new, we're just letting people know what they need to do. Carla and I are available. We are gradually accumulating an Alateen Safety Committee. We have some volunteers but we welcome more. Our Yahoo group for AMIAS is up and active. Carla has been using it to communicate. Hot topics: Event guidelines. Would you like me to post them on NCWSA site and/or on the Yahoo group? Privacy: Art will address. Generally events outside Northern California are not posted, because they may not follow our Alateen Safety requirement. By the strictest evaluation of our guidelines, we can't post TEAM events, etc., because they don't meet our safety requirements.

Discussion: Former Del (Sandi): They don't have to meet our guidelines because they don't occur here. AAPP: B17 says that all have to abide by B17. Should we follow that tightly? Can we take a group conscience guideline? DR: doesn't that only apply to our Geographic Area? AAPP: that's the question. Secretary: maybe a statement that it has not been approved by NorCAI AAPP? Former Del: each Area does have Alateen Safety requirements. DR (David): Suggest we modify B17-- Chair: would have to go to Assembly. Could Alateen Coordinator, AAPP and Website Coordinator discuss this and come out with new wording? Institutions Coordinator: if out of state event has no Alateen participation, we can post it. Alateen Coordinator: outside events are not part of our structure. Maybe something could say "Outside of Area 3 and does not meet our guidelines". Website Coordinator: if in another event, it seems clear it does not meet our Guidelines and does not need to. Chair: clarifying language would be good. Needs to be presented to October Assembly.

LisaDR23: Is there a possibility that when Bonnie gets hit with all the renewals, can she get other people to help her do the renewals?
AAPP: we do have in name an Alateen Advisory Committee, and it's largely a matter of getting focused. Lisa: if she asks for help, she might get it. Former Del: when I had Archives, I was trying to get an Area committee together. It's helpful.

Intergroup Liaisons

AIS District 6-10 (Sacramento area)

No report

Santa Clara Valley AFG Intergroup (Chris AC for Anita R)

We've been very busy this summer, this year. Preparing for Unity Day event August 26, Milpitas, Sunday. Spanish meeting will be there, and will have a speaker meeting, Christa V., in the afternoon. Special event October 23 will be somewhere in Santa Clara Valley. Will host Assembly October 8-10; this has been going slowly, but I hope to get lots of help very soon-flyer asking for help in your bins. A Bylaws Committee has been formed to revise SCV Bylaws. We have a great set of coordinators. All positions are filled. Our latest newsletter is in your bins. Has a Braille Courage to Change. We do a huge health fair in San Jose every year, got thanks from an elected representative thanking Al-Anon for getting information out. Rhonda D is the chair for the host committee for Assembly

Hispanic Intergroup-Julieta

No report

Spanish East Bay Intergroup

No report

Other Business

Thought force on rotating DRs, one third each year. (Patti)—No Report

Area Finances Thought Force (Joan)

Thought Force to Update Convention Guidelines.

TEAM Workshop: November 6, 2010 at the DoubleTree in Livermore.
Coming from WSO: Marcia Lahr, (international communications), JP

Martineich, (new trustee), and Ric Buchanan, Executive Director. We need to know what you want for the program. Back to Basics: Steps, Traditions, Concepts, and Sponsorship. Diversity, Alateen, GR boot camp, and sharing of service. Do them separately or together? Karen is chair of host committee. Schedule 10-5. WSO is creating podcasts for GRs and what their jobs are. One idea is 1.5 hr workshop on GRs with podcasts. Sharing of Service: each from WSO share their service story, then participants from audience or preselected come up and speak about their service story. Alateen sponsor workshop. Figure out how to get Alateens there. Alateen resources available within Northern California. Get folks to Sponsors R&R or have them get to your districts. On the other hand, maybe we need to tell WSO that we think Alateen is important. "Alateen faces Alcoholism". There will be some concurrent workshops, perhaps some done twice.

Privacy Committee (Art B.)

Members:

Art B., Past Delegate; Bruce H., Bylaws and Insurance Coordinator; Chris D., D-13; Deb H., D-10; Jim S., Web Site Committee; Yvonne DeG., D-14

Reasons for the Committee:

Concerns about privacy of names and addresses were discussed at the Committee meeting in February. I suggested a policy similar to that of the WSO. Patrick created an ad hoc committee to report what our practice is concerning full names, addresses and other information collected in the course of the NCWSA business. Members listed above volunteered to serve on this committee.

Proposed Schedule:

To present the privacy statement itself at the July 31st meeting.

Accept suggestions from any questions concerning the principles and unclear language.

Post it on line following the meeting.

Print it in the next issue of the 12 STEPPER.

Review:

The Committee learned what information is collected, how information is stored, when and how information is used and when information is removed. We asked that members of the committee review this information as it affects each position. Members of the committee also personally spoke with several members of NCWSC. We did not receive any additional information following the May meeting.

Conclusions:

We have prepared two documents, named, **Privacy Statement** and a **Privacy Implementation**.

“Privacy Statement” will be posted on the NCWSA web site. It outlines in general terms what NCWSA does and does not do in regard to the use of personal information provided by its members and others.

Privacy Implementation” will be added to the NCWSC Guideline, which is also posted in the Guidelines section of the NCWSA Web Site. This document identifies specifically by individual members of the NCWSC as to what is collected. This is intended to be a temporary guideline in that the Privacy Committee believes this information should reside in the individual’s guideline. As guidelines are changed to include privacy, the temporary guideline will be removed.

We believe that these policies report accurately what NCWSA currently does. It does not make new policy. Because there is no change in policy, we believe it is only necessary to request agreement from the NCWSC Committee and provide an announcement at the Assembly.

Art B discussed the differences between

Privacy

Secrecy

Anonymity—If we prevent other people from knowing who we are, it interferes with working Tradition 11.

This is not new; this is what we do. Web sites need to have privacy statements, so web site committee can choose to put it on. Does it need approval? We will put it in 12Stepper and inform them at Assembly. We can affirm the decision. Are there any concerns? –None. Affirmed

Assembly/Committee meeting schedule

One-day Assembly feedback was generally positive. Liked the workshops. Logistics, AV equipment: intended to have tables but a miscommunication happened. There was mixed feedback on lunch. Delegate got good ratings. We need to be careful about lighting situation. There was lots of positive feedback re how registration ran.

What feedback did you get about the schedule?

Deb-10-liked the May format. Yes, do that again.

Cynthia-12-loved the workshops, enjoyed Conflict Resolution workshop. Public Outreach workshop was perhaps good but there was not enough information about sources.

DeDe D18-we were glad to host it. Group Reps found it exciting.

If you want to invite someone to Assembly, take them to May, the fun Assembly.

Substantial Unanimity to keep Assembly schedule the same.

Committee Schedule: People who discussed DR schedule at lunch decided to keep Feb meetings as is, but start doing monthly conference calls with DRs and Delegate, Chris D to coordinate. First one will be in September, a weekday night. Could it be recorded? Chris D researched technology options: recording of phone meeting can be done if group conscience says we should.

A handout on alternatives was given. Different types of meetings are good for different purposes. Art: Bylaws meetings were all by conference call, which worked great, but we were task-oriented. It would be worth trying this out, testing where we are not necessarily task-oriented. Would like to try one Committee before the end of our panel. Likes the idea of clustering. Bonnie: some large holes in map of conference centers, but there might be others, like colleges and libraries. Chris: UC system has nothing system-wide, individual campuses might have something. If there is someone in the system, they might be able to find something. Karen HA: Applaud Chris for all his work. Suggests that some DR might try webinars after conference calls. Someone does have a webinar account. Need a task force. Maybe some of the groups meeting by conf call can try out webinar. Try to get it together in time to replace the Committee meeting with the May Assembly with a technological meeting—SU. Still need a Committee meeting before Assembly. Best to have it 2-3 weeks before Assembly. Big gap is between July and February. Would be nice to have technological meeting between those meetings. SU to have a trial technology meeting in about May, but in the long run we need to have one between July and February. Task force: Chris D, David B. Lisa B., Art B., Patti M.

Bids:

None submitted

DR Meeting Report (Charlene)

There were 7 topics suggested; they worked with 4.

Loss of DR meeting once a year when we combine Committee Meeting with Assembly, DRs not feeling heard or represented by Delegate. Would like Delegate's presence at DR meetings.

Alateen meetings and sponsors in Areas. Some districts have their own guidelines for Alateen sponsors, include having 2 workshops per year, some have PI/CPC go into schools to promote Alateen, some have Alateen sponsor meetings before District meeting, some long-time sponsors burned out, suggestion of putting info on web site.

Diversity: health fairs, affects all cultures, languages, ages
How do we feel about our service so far: we have grown. Some DRs have changed how they do their business meetings. Some DR provide more communication with web site.

Discussion: Keep getting more requirements, every time we meet one requirement, we're hit with another.

Delegate to DR meeting: Former Del (Sandi): Delegate chairs Officers and Coordinators, which happens at the same time as DR meeting. DR: wants our voices heard, see us as representing our groups, want to be sure communication happens. Nothing's wrong, but wants it to be better. Some meeting web-based. Guidance of Delegate would be useful. DR (Karen): We love our Delegate, just want more of him: more leadership guidance. We've had lots of discussion but no solution yet. Virtual hug. Former Del: I started Delegate's meeting with Officers and Coordinators, because the DRs then excluded the Delegate. DRs wanted to talk about local problems, didn't need information from Coordinators or Delegate. This is an interesting difference. DR (Peggy): One of the EC's duties is to interview officers, but not Delegate: the Delegate serves the groups directly. DR (Juaneta): feels Delegate needs to be in DR meeting because we're bringing info from our groups. DR (Chris): Extent to which DRs feeling heard or involved. We come to meetings and take notes. Might be better to have conversations, give and take. Delegate: how many districts have invited me?: 5 of 27. I am available to come to your district. What is purpose of Officers and Coordinators meeting? Used to be for Delegate to give info to Coordinators, but not needed since coordinators get info from web. Should we combine the two meetings and generally discuss our problems as a whole? Maybe 1 hour together, then split. When DR meeting began, there was a split in how the DRs felt about the committee leadership. When it started, DRs felt they needed their own meeting. We probably need a full committee discussion meeting. AltDel: this is an interesting proposition. I've been DR for 3 different districts. The DR meeting was very useful for me. Most of the DRs have been new, so there's not a lot of institutional memory. Some DRs have felt intimidated at Committee meeting. Would love to have more participation from DRs at Committee meeting. Please do step up at Committee meeting. DR (DeDe): When Delegate goes to WSC, how do they feel connected to groups. If participating in DR meeting, could feel what it's like in groups. For Northern California to feel that Delegate when they go to WSC would be in touch with what the groups and DRs feel is important. Not sure it would work to have a big meeting, may need some confidentiality as a DR, besides which DR meeting took 2 hours and was squeezed. Coordinator (Jim): when I was DR, I had groups share what was going on in their meeting. Links of communication need to continue, whether at the Friday meeting or in some other forum. Probably have some similar issues come out. I am in favor of having some forum to get that info out. Roundtable last night, some was redundant. DR (Cynthia):

I'm a mid-termer who just started, I don't know what I'm doing. One of the things brought out last night is that by the end of 3 years, you finally know what you're doing. Mentorship is good. Questions need to be asked. I've tried to do my best reaching out to coordinators, and I appreciate the help I've received. DR: should we have a thought force on this? Chair: maybe some people should get together at lunch today and discuss this: what are we going to do in February. We can check in after lunch. Coordinator (Denise): could be Immediate Past Delegate to sit in to give experience. Chair: how many DRs would rather have a DR meeting and how many would rather attend orientation with GR? DR: Could we do both? Chair: there could be a DR meeting before orientation.

Alateen Coordinator: I hear what DRs are saying about frustration about one more requirement for Sponsors/AMIAS. Point to Guideline 17. We're trying to make that come alive. You need to have a policy to make events safe for Alateens.

Announcements

Don't forget to check your bins and leave your name tags.

Next Meeting

February 4-5, Aptos