Approved Minutes August 29, 2015
Courtyard by Marriott, 1350 Holiday Lane, Fairfield
Approved 02/06/2016. Passed after corrections with substantial unanimity.

Note: The 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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Routine Business:
The meeting began at 8:28 am. The Serenity Prayer, 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts, General Warranties, AA/AFG Statement, and the Alateen Safety Guidelines were read.

Committee Roll Call was taken.

Minutes for the May 17th, 2015 NCWSC Meeting were approved with one correction.

By consensus, the meeting continued past the original 4:00 pm end time. The meeting adjourned at 4:28 pm with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Elections
Insurance Coordinator- Our Chairperson read from our Bylaws, Article VII, Section 3, C which states, “If any Coordinator cannot complete his or her term of office, the Alternate Coordinator automatically becomes the Coordinator. If there is no Coordinator or Alternate Coordinator, the Chairperson may appoint an interim Coordinator. An election should be held at the next NCWSC meeting to fill the vacant position” and Section 4 which states, “If the need arises for a new Coordinator position or there is no longer a need for an existing Coordinator position, that action shall be initiated by NCWSC and approved by a majority vote of the NCWSA Members”.

Our chairperson explained the challenge that the previous coordinator and alternate had serving in this position and why we might consider creating a new position by dividing the Bylaw & Insurance Coordinator and its alternate into a Bylaws Coordinator with an alternate and an Insurance Coordinator with an alternate. Our chairperson asked the NCWSC if we were in favor of filling the Insurance portion and Bylaws portion of the position now and we will bring the topic of splitting the position to the GRs for approval in October. All present were in favor of this action.

Carol G. was the only member present who was willing to stand for the Insurance position. She shared her service experience and stated that she was already processing some of the insurance certificate requests for the Area. No one was present to stand for the Bylaws position.

By substantial unanimity, Carol was elected.
**Motions, Consensus and Charges**

**Motions**

1508.01 To approve 05/17/2015 NCWSC Minutes with one correction. Motion by: Darby T., second by Tom K. Passed with substantial unanimity.

1508.02 To accept the 2016 budget with agreed upon adjustments. The budget will be summarized and presented to GRs in October for approval. Passed with substantial unanimity and one abstention.

**Consensus**

1. To allow Alateens to sell NoCAC T-shirts in the back of the room. A NoCAC Scholarship Can was also passed. The funds raised from both activities would go toward NoCAC scholarships for teens.

2. To move forward in electing members for both the Insurance position and the Bylaws position today and allow the GRs to approve the creation of a new position in October.

3. To purchase our 3 Legacies on banners for display at our Area events.

4. To continue with Area business past 4 p.m. in order to discuss and resolve all remaining agenda items.

**Charges**

1. Create an Area-Wide Public Transportation Ad Campaign Thought Force.

**Old Business**

**Buying 3 Legacies Banners** - Joan W.
Per Bruce D., the cost is $115 per banner. Each banner is 6 ft. tall and retractable. A consensus was taken and by substantial unanimity, we agreed to purchase the 3 banners.

**Institutions Grant -** David B.
David stated he had two goals he wanted to accomplish regarding the California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation’s (CDCR’s) Institutions Grant. Those goals were: 1) to raise awareness of Al-Anon’s growth with CDCR and 2) to obtain an invitation from each of the seven prisons to go inside and bring an Al-Anon meeting.

He shared he heard about the grant opportunity during the lunch break at the February 2015 NCWSC meeting. An email was sent to most of the officers and he was clear that all officers were aware. After some thought, the plan was to use the Service Manual, apply for the grant and bring the subject to NCWSC at the next meeting in May.

David’s report called “FAQ-Seven Prisons” was posted on the NCWSC Yahoo group.
New Business

**Area-Wide Public Transportation Ad Campaign** - Veronica P.
The PI/CPC Coordinator presented a comprehensive slide show with estimated costs for placing ads in and on various modes of public transportation in the Northern California area. The question posed to NCWSC is:

*Should the NCWSA invest in a print/ad campaign to support Al-Anon awareness to the general public within Northern California?*

The cost was estimated from the low $1000s to $341,000. A discussion followed and included topics such as acquiring PSA space for non-profit organizations, using District 13’s ad campaign as a model, drafting an appeal letter to Northern California, passing a colored can around, addressing districts not included in the campaign that are outlying/ economically challenged, raising the PI/CPC budget from $1800 to $5000, and mentioning ads create awareness that we exist.

A Thought Force was created to gather more information. A sign-up sheet was sent around for anyone wanting to be on the Thought Force.

**Workshop- Obedience to the Unenforceable** - Joan W. and John M.
The catalyst for this workshop was the changing of the words in the Steps and Traditions in an Alateen meeting by an Alateen sponsor. When asked by the District’s Alateen Coordinator to change the words back, a battle ensued.

Joan and John read excerpts from 12 Steps & 12 Traditions (B-8), Paths to Recovery (B-24), Al-Anon Spoken Here Table Card (S-24) and Al-Anon Spoken Here pamphlet ((P-53), The Al-Anon Focus (P-45), and the 2014-2017 Service Manual (P-24/27) in a PowerPoint presentation.

The chairperson reminded us that we have an obligation to speak up when we know our legacies are not being honored.

John posed the following question for discussion:

*Do we want to discuss and establish a “Do Not Refer” guideline for our Area?*

Our delegate stated that districts have autonomy and can decide how they would like to deal with meetings that are not Al-Anon meetings, that NCWSA does not have a policy that we all have to follow and that we say it’s not okay to change the steps but there are no consequences to the many meetings that do change them.

We were encouraged to write down suggestions on one of the 3 large papers hanging on the walls.

The suggestions and comments included:
- Do not Refer
- Don’t put the meeting on the District Meeting List/Schedule
- Put on February 2016 Meeting Agenda – Proposal to establish NCWSC Policy on meetings that change words to Steps/Traditions. Use other areas’ policies as a starting place.
- Why would a group follow an Area Guideline when they don’t follow the WSO’s Guidelines?
- Host a Speaker Meeting/Workshop where the topic is “Obedience to the Unenforceable”.
- The Alateen steps are not different from the Al-Anon steps. We do a disservice to our Alateens to let them think a simplified version is what the steps are.
• During a recorded speaker meeting, when someone misreads the steps that misread is passed on.
• District 10 came up with a guideline which states they do not de-list meetings. They suggest members go to the group business meeting and discuss it there or they can go to other meetings.
• Our Service Manual says our groups can choose the closing prayer of their choice and it does not need to be CAL. (Per page 22 of the 2014-2017 Service Manual, “groups close in a manner agreeable to the group conscience.”)
• Some meetings have the following written at the top of the handouts passed out at their meetings, “If you are unable to read the words as they appear here, please pass this on”.
• “Talk to each other, reason things out”.

Our chairperson shared that anyone having problems in their district can certainly ask the delegate, past delegates or officers to come to your meeting for support and discussion.

This workshop will be presented at the upcoming October Assembly.

REPORTS

DR Meeting – Dru W.  
Our DR meeting went very well. We opened the meeting at 8:05pm with the Serenity Prayer. We then had introductions and each DR and Alt. DR gave a short share on why they became a DR or Alt. DR. This took longer than expected but one DR felt very connected to everyone and was very happy we took the time to do it this way. All the DRs echoed this sentiment.

After the DRs shared we only had about 15 or 20 minutes left and decided to talk briefly on two agenda topics. One was passing on communications we receive from various sources. The other was GRs not taking District information back to their meetings.

The meeting closed at 10:05pm with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,
Dru W.
District Rep. – District 6

Alateen Liaison & Committee Reports

Alateen Liaison North - Justin T.
Justin stated he has been collecting shares for the Alateen Express, started a meeting in Berkeley, and is serving on the Convention Committee.

Justin then passed a cup to collect donations for hotel accommodations for Alateens at the 2016 NCWSA Convention.
**Alateen Liaison Central** – Shelby M. (Alternate)

Hi,
The previous Alateen liaison stepped down so Taft stepped up as primary and I (Shelby) am alternate. Her district, 12 San Francisco, started a new Alateen meeting in a different area of the city where there are not a lot of meetings. At this past Bash, someone asked me to be alternate Alateen liaison because she needs an alternate so I said yes. I have been to assembly before but this was my first NCWSC meeting. I have been on past committees for NoCAC and I plan on starting to attend the district Alateen sponsor meetings.

**Alateen Liaison South** - Vanessa B.

Vanessa shared that she has gone to her school asking them to have a guest speaker to talk about Alateen and Al-Anon. More teens are attending the Alateen meetings. Vanessa was asked to share about Alateen at a church’s youth group. Tuesday Night Alateens want to have two Alateen speakers with Al-Anon members invited to listen.

**Budget Committee** - Bonnie M.

Budget Committee Meeting 08-18-2015

- We reviewed the current draft budget, including all budget increase requests included
- Based on the Actuals as of Aug 13, so far, our income exceeds our expenses; but some of us are already close to our budgeted amount for this year
- We increased the budgeted donations for 2016 by $3,000., but reduced the expected Donated Expenses by $2,000 because of the reduced mileage reimbursement rate. We kept the “appeal letter” line to reflect the increased donations needed to balance increased expenses
- Institutions is projecting $1900 income from the H & I conference
- Highlighted items indicate increased budget expenses
- Income and expenses were increased for Sponsors R & R
- We lowered the expected amount for Archives Storage and added that amount to Archives to fund Archives events
- We split Bylaws and Insurance Coordinator positions, and added to Committee expense to account for an additional coordinator and alternate coordinator
- We lowered the expected cost for Diversity Interpretation and added that amount to Diversity Other to fund Diversity Day
- We increased the budgeted amount for Alateen, Facilities, Institutions and PI/CPC Coordinators and the Budget Committee
- We discussed but made no changes to Conferences (Officers and Delegates)
- We increased expected expenses for Assembly Facilities and for the H & I Conference
- We increased Corporate Expenses as suggested by our Treasurer and removed the expense for a bookkeeper
- We incorporated PayPal expenses with our other Bank Fees
- We reviewed our cash flow and prudent reserve.
- A new bank account was opened for “Online Registration”; registration funds received in that account will be transferred to general fund
- We began the discussion about “Square”
- The Budget Committee moved, seconded and unanimously passed our approval of the Treasurer’s recommendation to roll over the CD.

A discussion followed. Some of the topics included professional website support and clean-up, increasing Area income to cover increased Coordinator expenses, letting DAPP/Alateen Coordinators and District PO Coordinators do some of the district training to unburden the Area,
increasing NCWSC travel to allow for potential new position(s) of Bylaws Coordinator and Insurance Coordinator and their alternates.

By substantial unanimity (one abstention), we approved the 2016 budget with the suggested corrections. A summary of the 2016 budget will be presented to the GRs for discussion and approval at October’s Assembly.

**Executive Committee**- Dede W. (Read by Darby T, EC member)
Since May 2015, the committee has met using telephone conferencing on one topic: how NCWSA would be affected by accepting grant money.

In addition there were 4 successful interviews with potential financial assistant positions. These were also conducted via telephone conferencing.

The committee has yet to perform interviews with the committee officers, however has plans to schedule interviews in the coming months as well as during the October Assembly with additional interviews as necessary to completion.

Respectfully Submitted

Darby T, Exec. Committee Recording Secretary
DeDe – Chairperson
Heide, Gael, Yvonne, Darby – committee members

**Thought Force Reports**

**Inappropriate Behavior Thought Force**- Gael R. (Chairperson)
The Inappropriate Behavior Thought Force contacted all the NCWSA DRs asking them to please inform their GRs about this thought force: that our process of Knowledge Based Decision Making (KBDM) involves gathering written documentation from member’s experiences around inappropriate behavior, what it was and how it was or wasn’t resolved. We also let everyone know that this documentation is confidential and just stays with the Inappropriate Behavior Thought Force. We’ve had about 12 reports. At this time we feel that it would be beneficial to put out a survey around inappropriate behavior and how it was or wasn’t dealt with. That’s our next step in gathering information for KBDM.

We invited Kacy, an Alateen member, to join our Thought Force. He accepted and is in our Yahoo group.

We contacted the WSO and gathered information from them as to their suggestions and experience on how to deal with inappropriate behavior.

Respectfully,
Gael R.

**2016 NCWSA Convention Chairperson** –Patty B.
The enthusiastic members of the 2016 Convention Committee have met three times (3) since forming. Most of our convention members are novices in convention planning, but what we lack in experience we make up with a willingness to be of service and an eagerness to make the 2016 convention memorable.

At our first meeting, we read through the 2015 convention surveys and looked at what worked well and where we could improve or implement changes. Overall – there were positive comments and people enjoyed the weekend. They liked the speakers, the accommodations and the workshops.
Some of the surveys commented on revising the pre-registration for Alateens, making the name tags larger “for old eyes” - and more interactive workshops.

A few of the surveys commented on the lack of visibility and recognition of our Coordinators and Area Officers. They wanted to know, “who are and where are our trusted servants?” People often hear a name but don’t know the face. In April 2016, we want to publicly acknowledge and recognize our trusted servants. We want people to know who you are and have an opportunity to talk with you and ask questions.

These are the topics we have covered in our meetings thus far……..

1. Our convention will be held April 15, 16th and 17th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Sacramento. We tried to find a reasonably priced location in Napa, but it seems there isn't one. Crowne Plaza Hotel is located at: 5321 Date Ave. Sacramento, California. The room price is $104 per night. You can reserve your room now by calling 916–338–5800 and identify yourself as being with The NCWSA Convention to get your discounted rate.

2. Carol was able to secure all meeting rooms of the hotel for us that weekend—so we won't have to be concerned about proms, weddings, or other parties going on during our meetings.

3. Theme chosen for 2016 convention is Tree of Life – Roots of Recovery. A logo contest flyer was posted to Yahoo and all submissions were due by August 23. The committee will choose the logo from the submissions at the September meeting.

4. A Save-The-Date flyer was printed in English and Spanish. This flyer will also be posted on the NCWSA.org site and the Yahoo group. Please make copies and share it, talk about it and encourage people to attend. I also attended Diversity Day and left copies of the flyers for people to take.

5. We still have some positions that need to be filled. We need a Convention Co-Chair from Central Area.......... DR's in Central….. Please spread the word because the convention will be in your lap next year! This is a great opportunity to learn and grow in the program. The other positions that need to be filled are; Program Chair, Donation Drawing Chair, Entertainment Chair, Speaker Chair, Ala-thon Chair.

6. Last year I had the honor and pleasure of learning from Diana how to plan a convention. The most important thing she told me to ensure a successful convention was, read your guidelines – know them inside and out! To quote from them now – it states – “The purpose of the convention is to unify, inspire and grow.”

We need everyone here to help us make 2016 Convention a success. We ask you to carry the message and encourage people in your groups to come to convention in 2016.

2015 NCWSA NoCAC Chairperson - Jessica M.
Jessica said there are NoCAC registration packets and Last Chance Dance flyers in the bins. She did not make enough flyers for all. She shared that NoCAC is like a home away from home for her.
Coordinator Reports

Alateen Coordinator - Lisa B.

AMIAS TRAININGS
Since we last meet I have done AMIAS trainings in districts 13 and 15 and for the North Bay Spanish Intergroup. I now have a Power Point presentation of the B17 that is in Spanish with English on the same slide. I am still available to do trainings in October, November (after NoCAC) and December before the 15th. It is not too early to reserve a date for 2016. I will only be available once a month. I will be posting a list of topics and the time need to adequately cover these topics on or by the October Assembly so that you know what your options are and the time needed to cover the topic(s) when planning your training sessions with me.

9th ANNUAL SPONSOR R & R
• We have now passed the pre-registration deadline date and we do have some space still available. The cut-off date is September 8th if space is still available. At the time I am writing this report we have @ 50 completed registrations. There is small pile of registration packets available on the table for those who might need one today.
• You don’t have to be a Sponsor or an AMIAS (Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service) to attend.
• This year we will have workshops that are recommended for first time attendees (typically ½ of the attendees are first timers) and we will have the translation equipment available (Spanish to English OR English to Spanish) and a weekend of fellowship, workshops, talent show and easy does it time.

NoCAC
• I have been attending monthly committee meetings, fundraisers and the two Bashes and happy to report that NoCAC is happening this year.
• We still need an Alternate Alateen Liaison for the Southern Section (districts 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 27.)

WSO
• We have not had any Alateen Coordinator’s telephone calls since the last one in May but have had some healthy discussions on the WSO E-Communities. Some of the topics have been; Travel and medical authorization forms, Adult teens, Background checks, AMIAS age requirements, Outreach through social media, Alateens at area assemblies, Meeting formats, Encouraging study of steps and traditions and use of Alateen materials, Alateen service positions, 7th Tradition, What to do when there is only one Alateen at an Alateen meeting, Why do kids come to Alateen, etc..
• There was a call out for suggested questions for an Alateen Survey. This question was posted to the Alateen Coordinator E-Community List Serve, “Is the current model of Alateen the best model for the future of both Al-Anon and Alateen?” Thank you to all the members of our area who responded. I submitted your comments and questions to the List Serve by the July 31, 2015 deadline.
• There is an official WSO Alateen Facebook Page https://www.facebook.com/AlateenWSO?fref=ts Check it out and I have put a flyer from the WSO in your bins.

GOALS
• We had our first District Alateen Coordinator’s telephone call on July 13th. There were 9 of us on the call and the topics were, “Having More Fun” and “Public Outreach”. I plan on having another call in January.

If you are in these districts I still need the names and email addresses of your Alateen Coordinators; Districts 2, 4, 7, 8, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25 and 27.
• See the Alateen Liaisons Guidelines that were submitted in “draft” format last panel approved and posted to the NCWSA website.
• I have completed revisions to the NCWSA Alateen Coordinator Guidelines and submitted them to the Area Chair and am waiting for them to be approved and posted to the NCWSA website.
I have been working on the creation of the Sponsor R & R Guidelines that was started some time ago and hope to have it approved and posted to the NCWSA website by the end of this year.

UP-COMING TRAININGS

- September 18-20, 2015 Sponsors R & R in Occidental
- January 30, 2016 Districts 6-10

ALATEEN EXPRESS

John is looking for sharings from Alateen and AMIAS. Sharings can be pictures, poems, etc. Please send them to John. His contact information is on the top of this front side of this report.

Alateen Rocks!
Yours in Service,
Lisa B

Archives Coordinator - Diana C.
I am grateful to announce that we moved the Archives Inventory Memorial Day weekend to Turlock Mini Storage, in Turlock. We leased a 10X10 at a cost of $65/month. It all fit in with a little room left to work. I want to thank Chris and all the hard working volunteers that showed up and help us get the job done! They loaded the U-Haul in about an hour, and I was on the road to Turlock that afternoon. Thank you so much for your Service, you all Rock!
I will be having an Archives party the beginning of next year to start the process of reviewing the unmarked boxes and getting everything sorted and labeled.
We received an email from Joe Tanory, WSO Archives Coordinator, through the Archives e-community which referenced the Group History Checklist (AR-6) and the Longtime Member Questionnaire (AR-1). I have distributed both of these documents to the DR’s requesting emailing to the GR’s for their participation in completing these documents and sharing the information with the Area Archives and Art B. These documents would assist Art B. in compiling information for the sequel edition of the Northern California History Book, Journey to Recovery.
A little bit of history from “Many Voices, One Journey” — A.A.’s first International Convention in July 1950 gave a high profile to the family groups. In the July 1950 issue of A.A.’s “Grapevine”, in an article titled, “The Non-Alcoholics—God Bless ‘EM!, an A.A. member expressed gratitude for the support of the families—and amazement at the way they worked the Twelve Steps themselves…..page 30. Read the letter. It is an inspiring testament honoring the insight and wisdom of our Founders! As Lois W., Al-Anon Cofounder, said “Anybody can start something, but carrying it out is the real challenge. And all the rest of you are doing that job. You’re all founders in your own right, carrying the message.”

Remember Archive displays, skits and/or movies are available for special events and will be provided upon request. Sharing area Archives at events is a great way for the fellowship to learn about the past. Please allow at least 2-3 weeks for us to access and/or assemble the records.

Thank you for the opportunity to Serve,
Diana C., Archives Coordinator
Terry C., Archives Alt Coordinator

Bylaws and Insurance Coordinator – Carol G.
Hello Committee Members!
I was given the opportunity to look over the information in the Insurance binder almost 3 weeks ago. I worked with Joan in trying to figure out just how to get insurance certificates issued to those groups requesting them.
Fortunately, the Panel 55 Coordinator and Alternate Coordinator provided an excellent tool for me to follow, with pretty clear instructions on how to get certificates for regular meetings and “special
events”. Since going over the information provided, I decided that I could temporarily “fill in” and get insurance certificates.

I have been in contact with the Panel 52 Insurance Coordinator and the Assistant Client Advisor for our Insurance Brokerage Firm. Both have been extremely helpful in answering my questions. As with most service positions, I have had a couple of challenges including having a computer “crash” (forcing me to learn a new operating system) AND a modem quit working (requiring a service call to replace an antique model). I almost had to write this report by hand.

I was able to submit 4 requests for insurance certificates last Friday and am pleased to report that our brokerage firm issued them within 4 days. I have been advised to allow a week between submission and receipt of a “certificate of liability”. Also, please make sure all of the blanks are filled in on the form that is submitted.

The next most pressing item is to renew our Directors & Officers Liability Policy (our current policy expires 09/18/15). I will be contacting our Client Advisor during the next week to accomplish this. I have been enjoying working in this position.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.
Carol G

**Diversity Coordinator** – Nick d (read by Stephan T.)

Dear NCWSA:

The family disease of alcoholism knows no boundaries: Religion, Sexual Orientation, Ethnicity, Age, Gender, Language, etc.

The Diversity Theme for this Panel is working and continues to build momentum as we strive to:

“Offer hope and welcome to Anyone, Anywhere reaching out for help”

1. **Diversity Committee**
The diversity committee is solid and welcomes new members from Al-Anon and Alateen. We ask you to communicate to your groups that if anyone is interested in growing in this area to get in touch with us by email ncwsadiversity@gmail.com

2. **Diversity Day (August 15th 2015)**
The second Diversity Day this decade was a great success despite logistics issues (a marathon in front of the building that morning, and two competing events; one in SF and, a public outreach event in the East Bay). The turnout was not quite as large as last year, however at one point, we had about 70 people attending from all walks of life. The recovery workshops touched people’s hearts and our first ever virtual speaker also reached across the screen. Several asked for her phone number. The plan for next year is to move both the date and venue. We are looking at a center in downtown SF and will firm up details later this year. Diversity Day 2016 will need trusted servants so if you’re interested please let Stephan or me know. We would also appreciate announcing this in your Districts and Groups. We do not require physical presence in this committee, as much of the planning and logistics are done via phone and email.

- Facility Coordinator - Open
- Workshops Coordinator - Open
- Hospitality - Open
- Event Treasurer - Open
- Al-Anon in Social Media - Open
- Special Workshop - Open
- Speaker Coordinator – Open
- Virtual Speaker - Open
- Spanish Speaker - Open
- Al-Anon of Color - Open
- Al-Anon with Disabilities - Open
- LGBTQIA Al-Anon - Open
- Asian Al-Anon - Open
- Young Al-Anon - Open
- Alateen Panel - Open
- Transition from Institution - Open
- AA Speaker - Open
3. Simultaneous Interpreters/ Document Translators
We continue to seek fellows that can do simultaneous interpretation as well as translators to any and all languages. The talent pool is building slowly and we are so grateful to those who have already done service this year. That said, we received 3 requests for simultaneous interpretation so far this year that we could not satisfy because we don’t have enough people or because the equipment was already promised to another event, or because the request came at the last minute and people had commitments. There will be a big need for Interpreters at the All California Al-Anon Spanish Convention held November 6, 7, and 8 in Walnut Creek. Please refer to the email I sent out a few days ago. They are looking for not only interpreters, and are interested in attracting English Speaking members, so there will be continuous meetings in English and they are looking for meeting leaders. The full range of topics is in the email and if anyone is interested please contacts us. Note that this convention conflicts with NoCAC and a 2016 Convention meeting that Sunday.

4. Document Translation
Thanks to all of you who are now using Google translate to take a first pass at translating documents. This makes our job on the back end much easier and we have been able to turn documents around much faster. In fact, there are several of you that have been confident enough to simply publish the Google Translation version. While the tool is not perfect, it’s highly accurate, and conveys accurately the information on the fliers. This is a true example of progress, not perfection.

Our beloved Secretary, Rosanna, approached me this spring and requested if we might/could translate committee meeting minutes. Unfortunately when it comes to business and technical documents google translate is very far from perfect and translating such a big technical document is at the moment an enormous feat that no one has time to tackle. It’s a noble endeavor but at this point not realistic because of the volume and the technical issues related with technical translations.

5. Content Translation/ Interpretation Requests
As mentioned earlier we don’t have enough people in the pool to cover all events in the area, so we would ask that you all ask any fellows with that skill set (again, any language) to send me an email or call us so we can add them to the availability database.

⦁ Districts/Groups/events may also submit requests for translation equipment by using an online form or simply sending us an email. We try to respond quickly but sometimes we are unable to so please be patient.

⦁ Thanks to the Spanish Intergroups and Districts who reached out to talk about how we can help expand the concept of diversity and how we can collaborate in the area to extend our reach, and to encourage them to keep Al-Anon members informed about any activities involving inclusion of diverse population members. We hope to attend as many events as possible. We are also excited to be able to help cross pollinate the California Spanish Convention this year.

⦁ If anyone needs the equipment please let us know. Districts are free to provide their own interpreters (fellows in the rooms), or if you’d like the Area to provide we need as much advance notice as possible. We only have a few folks signed up for simultaneous translation and these folks are quite busy.

⦁ So far this year we’ve not received any request to provide ASL interpretation, as needed upon request. We are also looking to expand our base of fellow Al-Anon’s that are fluent in ASL so that we can share the message from within. We have discovered in the last few years that “professional” interpreters who are not part of the fellowship get interpretation technically “right” but that the interpretation loses meaning as the Al-Anon program language gets “lost in translation”

6. Diversity Outreach/Translation Equipment
⦁ We continue to encourage Area to invite Spanish Speakers to all the main workshops.

⦁ I have been asked (I’m honored) to be the Spanish Speaker at the Salinas Speaker meeting September 11th at 7 pm. There will be live interpretation to English by our own "Captain Fabulous" Francisco. It will be his first time and he will be amazing. Hope you all can make it and please bring your phone headsets (see below) – Location: United Methodist Church 404 Lincoln Avenue,
Salinas, CA. The meeting is hosted by the following groups Luz y Esperanza GFA, Seaside, Solo por Hoy GFA, Salinas, and Esperanza para Hoy GFA, Salinas

• We expect that the purchased headset splitters (that almost double our 37 headset capacity) will enable English Speakers to get more English translations. The feedback of the Spanish speaker at last year’s Convention and the feedback we received from the interpretation was great. To enable us to serve you better we ask that anyone with a smartphone headset to bring their own and use it please. Most headsets work really well with the splitters and plug right in. We are also looking at purchasing additional headsets. However, we have not since convention last year had a demand for even half of the equipment. We need more English speakers to “want what they have” and attend Spanish speaker meetings to “hear the translated message”

• Our research indicates that the next generation of translation will be phone/tablet/internet-based and we will continue to research as we build the capabilities and drive the cultural change required for the demand to exist.

• At Diversity Day, thanks to Veronica we were able to include in our Donation Drawing 2 poster size framed August Forum covers (with WSO permission) They were a big hit. In fact I have received a couple of requests since then, so I offer to you all that if you are having an event with any type of an auction that we can reproduce a few more for your carrying the message and fundraising efforts. Thanks Veronica for your creativity, initiative and diverse thinking of ways to reach out.

• We continue to reach out to diverse groups and encourage all GRs to ask any fellows that are also part of LGBT, Asian, African-American Populations, Hispanic Cultural centers, that you put us in touch with those so we can share about Al-Anon in the area. Native Americans seem particularly underrepresented.

• We have yet to create working groups to reach diverse groups of people and work on ways to help them feel included and part of Al-Anon. We ask all DR’s to announce that we are looking for people to participate in these meetings (which will be virtual, to a great extent) and those interested to email ncwsadiversity@gmail.com or call me Nick d @ 925 570 3969

Diversity Database

• We continue to use Google Drive to centralize our interpreter/translator database, establish a workflow to efficiently translate documents from English to Spanish.

• The Drive is shared with collaborators and is set up using ncwsadiversity@gmail.com account that can be shared with past and future trusted servants. We added two people to this database since the last report.

• We also need translators in other languages

Potential Future Events – that will need Trusted Servants to help:

- AMIAS training
- Salinas Speaker Meeting - Spanish Speaker September 11 (see above)
- Sponsors R&R
- NOCAC
- California Al-Anon Spanish Convention - Walnut Creek November 6, 7, and 8
- SF Unity Day (October)

Partial List of Documents translated Available in Spanish are posted on the NCWSA Website. (If you are looking for a particular document please contact us and we will help you find it.) Some of the most used documents are as follows:

- A22-7-AlateenTravel and Treatment Authorization
- A22-3-LetterToAlateenSponsorApplicant
- B17-EN ESPANOL Alateen Safety Guidelines
- Sponsors R&R registration packet
- NoCAC Registration packet

Love in Service,
Nick d. - Diversity Coordinator
Stephan T. - Alt Diversity Coordinator
**Facilities Coordinator** - Carol S.

- Our 3 day Assembly will be in Modesto at the Doubletree Hilton on October 9th – 11th. The room cost will be $114 per night. The registration flyer is out and there are copies in your bins and on the back table. The pre-registration forms are already starting to come in. Remember the cut-off date is September 18th. We need to reserve 100 rooms each night, so don’t forget to get your rooms. We will be having a hospitality room, so bring some of your favorite snacks. I have attended all the Assembly committee meetings.

- Our next NCWSA Convention will be at the Crowne Plaza in Sacramento, April 15-17, 2016. Room cost will be $104 per night. I’ve attended all the monthly Convention committee meetings. Patty will give her report with all the details.

- I am in negotiation with a hotel in Manteca for our February Committee meeting on February 5-6, 2016.

- I have been speaking with Martie from District 5 and they would like to host our May Assembly in Santa Rosa. I will follow up with District 5.

- If any other districts would like to host an event, there is a “Request to Host” form on the NCWSA website.

In Service,
Carol Smith
NCWSA Facilities Coordinator

*Carol added that on February 5th and 6th of 2016, we will be at the Manteca Best Western. They are planning to finish some construction in December but will not affect our meeting/eating rooms. The room rate is $85/night.*

*For October Assembly, there will be a Pre-Registration table and a Registration table. GRs go to the Voting Registration table to get a voting card. Committee members pay the $30 then complete a reimbursement form.*

*The current Request to Host Form on the website is an old version. The updated form will be approved by Joan then posted on the website.*

*Tom K thought that we could raffle off an “Al-Anon lamp” at the October Assembly. Everyone would get one ticket and additional tickets could be purchased for a donation.*

**Group Records Coordinator** - Wendy L. (read by George L)

Dear Family:

At the time of this report, 474 Group Records have been updated or modified – 207 by us, 267 by World Service Office (WSO). CMA’s (the current mailing address on record with WSO via A16 change form) have been receiving in the mail a WSO Group Update Form. This annual review process allows them to connect with the CMA and the groups directly. As part of the record clean-up they do additional updates that might not have been reported otherwise. Please return to them as requested.

**District Reps & Detailed Group Reports:** As announced previously, we can print out your District group detail reports if you do not have the technology to print yourself. Please contact us if this is necessary. We are trying to be cost conscience and whenever you request your group detail report let us know how you want it: electronically and we will send you a PDF via an email attachment or as a print-out and mailed to you. We can even do an excel export. EVEN BETTER, DISTRICT
REPS CAN ACCESS THEIR GROUPS DIRECTLY WITHOUT GOING THROUGH ANYONE! See next section:

**WSO ONLINE GROUP RECORDS:** Included with this report is WSO “Online Group Records” Instructions. WSO Online Group Records is a Web based service tool available to the District Representatives (DRs) to help them keep the groups’ information up-to-date in their district. The URL to access the application is: [http://www.al-anon.info/OnlineGroupRecords](http://www.al-anon.info/OnlineGroupRecords)

You can view your district Al-Anon and Alateen group, and Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) records in the WSO database. The access information is the same one used for e-Communities. It allows you to:

- Compare Area records with the WSO records.
- Check when a new group has been registered or a change has been processed.
- Run reports for your district “on demand” that can be e-mailed to groups if needed.

The Area Group Records Coordinator should be notified of any discrepancy between the Area and WSO records so records can be updated accordingly in a timely manner.

Detailed instructions can be found on e-Communities in the “WSO Online Group Records” subfolder. Please don’t hesitate to contact the WSO Group Records Department if you need further assistance to access or navigate the WSO Online Group Records application. Or take a moment to have either one of us show you. Thank you for your service and allowing us to serve too!

George & Wendy

**Institutions Coordinator** - David B

Hello Everyone,

The Al-Anon participation at the 2016 H&I Conference is well underway. The NCWSA Institutions Conference Planning Committee has already involved the Groups in District 5 by asking what facilities they would like the panels focus on. The committee has selected and invited the Al-Anon speaker who is Claire R. of Virginia Beach, Virginia. The H&I Conference will be held at the Veterans Memorial Hall in Santa Rosa on April 29, 30 and May 1. Please see the updated ‘Save the Date’ flyer.

I participated on a conference call with the WSO staff, NCWSA Chairperson Joan W. and Delegate Yvonne d. I informed Mr. Buchanan that I accomplished what I needed from the process of applying for the Grant. That was raising awareness of the growth of the Al-Anon membership in the six state prisons and the invitation from each of the seven prisons that I had visited with other members to meet the staff and share what the Al-Anon program is about.

District 3 Chico invited Veronica P NCWSA Public Outreach Coordinator and me to present respective Outreach workshops at their District meeting. It was a great opportunity to focus on the different types of institution facilities with emphasis on Treatment / Rehab Centers and Crisis Shelters. District 19 Fresno also invited me conduct an Outreach Workshop as well. I shared my recovery program with professionals by using particular pamphlets which I relate to. The literature left with the professional continues to carry the message of Hope long after I have left. There was a lot of interaction and questions.

I have been working with our new Point Persons at three prisons. Teresa T is doing a very nice work at California medical Facility in Vacaville. The weekly Al-Anon meeting has consistent
attendance with the exception of facility oversights. There currently are four volunteers and two more members expressing their willingness to help carry the message inside. Dean C is the Point Person for Mule Creek State Prison. The first meeting was on July 17th. The staff has been very supportive and the inside membership grew very quickly. Deb H and Louise M have expressed their willingness to help when they can. This is in addition to two volunteers. Art B has finally received his Brown Card and is now the Point Person at San Quentin. The volunteers have grown to over ten. This will be of great help as this Institution has finally invited Al-Anon into the general population. The anticipated start date will be October but that may turn out to be November. Patience is the key to serenity on someone else’s schedule. Literature will be ordered as soon as the donation form is signed.

The newest inside meeting was just last Sunday, August 23rd at the High Desert State Prison in Susanville. Art B., Brenda H and I facilitated two meetings; the first at 9am and the next at 1pm. Brenda is the Institutions Coordinator for District 3. There were 33 incarcerated individuals in the meetings. They read from Hope for Today and How Al-Anon Works as well as from Groups at Work. They asked many questions and shared on how they were affected by someone else’s drinking. The meetings will be on the second and fourth Sundays of each month.

I will continue to encourage members to expand the number of treatment/rehab centers that they reach out to in sharing Al-Anon with the loved ones of alcoholics. I am especially focusing on encouraging our fellowship to reach out to women’s crisis shelters and homeless family shelters. I believe these types of facilities may be an opportunity for members to find new growth in their program. I certainly have.

In Service with Gratitude,
David B

**Literature Coordinator** – Catalina L

**Writing Workshops**: On June 4, 2015, Verena and I held a writing workshop in District 11, Marin, for the New Daily Reader. There were 14 participants and 5 people sent in their written shares.

**Literature Orders**: For the period May – August 8, 2015, Verena has processed 12 Literature orders totaling $17,399.59.

**News from the WSO**

A. Update on sharings for literature pieces in development:

- **Intimacy piece update**: We have received over 1,140 sharings, but can still use more. Also, we are now accepting proposals by Al-Anon members who are experienced, professional freelance writer/editors who are interested in working on this new piece of literature in development. Please let members in your Area know of this exciting opportunity. Qualified members are invited to submit a bid by going to www.al-anon.org/members. Enter your password—any variation of your group name followed by AFG. Then click on the “WSO” tab on the home page. Click on “Inside the WSO.” Then click on “Freelance Writers/Editors” under “Employment Opportunities.” All the information needed to submit a proposal can be found there. Submission deadline is October 15, 2015.

- **Parents & grandparents pamphlet**: We have received over 150 sharings, but need many more—especially about how parents and grandparents apply the Twelve Steps to the specific situation of being affected by a young person with a drinking problem. We are also looking for Al-Anon members who are experienced, professional freelance writer/editors to
submit proposals for this pamphlet. Interested, qualified members can find further information on the Members’ Web site by following the steps listed above.

- New Daily Reader: If we are to meet the proposed deadline of July 2018 (for the International Al-Anon Convention in Baltimore), we need everyone’s help in getting many more sharings that are appropriate for a daily reader.

- Please use the "Getting Submissions for the New Daily Reader" topic on the discussion board to share with other Coordinators anything you are doing to interest members in writing for the daily reader. It’s found under "Encourage Members to Write," on the "Discussions" section of the e-Community.

- A guide for conducting writing workshops for the new daily reader has been posted in the “Workshops” subfolder of the Literature Coordinator e-Community. Titled "Writing Workshop Guideline for New Daily Reader," it is intended to help members write thoughtful meditations that are in keeping with the intended spirit of the project. By the way, the daily reader writing guideline was included as an insert in every copy of the July issue of The Forum. Please encourage members to use it. A copy of the guideline appears at the end of this Report so that all may use it to conduct writing workshops in their Districts.

B. The Forum

Electronic Forum is now more widely available! Individual copies of The Forum are now available on Amazon and Kobo for $1.49 (U.S.) and Apple iTunes for $1.99 (U.S.). At this time, annual subscriptions are not available from these electronic bookstores. An annual electronic subscription to The Forum continues to be available from Nook, the Barnes & Noble electronic bookstore. The cost of an annual subscription is $11 (U.S.). Individual copies can be purchased for $1.49 (U.S.).

This announcement is informational only, and is not an endorsement of any electronic store, reader or other products sold by electronic bookstores.

C. Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2016

Thank you for encouraging members to distribute Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2016! This month, Al-Anon members in the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, and Bermuda have started to share more than 220,000 copies of Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2016--in English, Spanish, and French!

It's the largest printing in the history of our public outreach magazine!

Congratulations—and thank you for encouraging members in your district to participate in this important outreach.

Your dedication, caring, and willingness to reach out to those who are still suffering is Twelfth-Step service that's vital to all of us in our shared recovery.

D. The Forum’s CAL Corner:

July’s “CAL Corner” articles in The Forum focus on how As We Understood… (B-11) has helped members in their recovery. The August articles are about Paths to Recovery (B-24).

Sharings Needed for “CAL Corner”: Please urge members to write about their favorite CAL. We could especially use sharings on Many Voices, One Journey (B-31), Reaching for Personal Freedom (P-92), Al-Anon’s Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions (B-8), or our Conference Approved Literature in general. A sharing sheet for “CAL Corner” can be found in the “Literature Projects” subfolder of the Literature Coordinator e-Community.
E Area Highlights

- Please check out the Summer 2015 issue of Area Highlights. Once you access the Members’ Web site, www.al-anon.org/members, click on “District Resources” or “Area Resources” under the “Service Structure” tab. Or you can click here: http://al-anon.org/members/pdf/AreaHighlights/AH47_2.pdf. This quarter’s issue includes three articles by Literature Coordinators about using the Legacies in our personal lives, why we use only CAL in meetings, and how reading a variety of CAL benefits recovery.

- Using Area Newsletters: Each quarter the WSO staff searches through Area newsletters for articles about literature that we can include in Area Highlights. It appears that relatively few Literature Coordinators are using their newsletters to encourage the use of CAL. Those who do often only reprint the information from WSO updates. Please consider writing articles for your newsletter about Area literature projects, workshops, or literature summaries and reviews from local members. We’d love to share them with others in service through this newsletter!

Respectfully Submitted,
Catalina nocallit@outlook.com (415) 509-2706 and Verena verena.rytter@comcast.net 415-892-5034

Writing Workshop Guidelines for the new daily reader are attached to Catalina’s report and extras were placed on the back table.

PI/CPC Coordinator – Veronica P.
NCWSA Public Transit Ad Campaign
See Slides for breakdown costs and map coverage email picpc1951@gmail.com Slides are also posted on NCWSC Yahoo Group Search for “NCWSA Ad Campaign” with in the Yahoo! Group.

Districts That Don’t Have A District Outreach Coordinator:
D2 Spanish Intergroup - North D12
D4 Spanish Intergroup - South Spanish Intergroup - East Bay
D20 D9 D21
D22 D27 D14

PICPC Volunteers
Bruce D. (Mountain View, CA) will be serving as the contact point for creating and placing orders for table cloths, Pull Out Banners, District Customized Posters, Bill Boards, Bus Ads. Email him at Bruce.publicinfo@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events
1. Next Outreach Workshop Sat Oct 10th 5:30 - 6:30pm at Assembly
3. D9/10 Outreach Workshop Nov 14th
4. D9 Speaking on the topic of Abundance Oct 9th

PICPC Infrastructure Panel 55
1. Private Chat Group using BAND to communicate with District Coordinators to Area Outreach Coordinators
2. Trial testing MOXTRA platform a cloud based work group platform that provide conference calls and sharing docs live with your teammates.
3. Monthly conference Calls 2nd Thursday of the Month email picpc1951@gmail.com to be a guest caller
4. Digital Newsletters to connect members to PO activities. Live Date Oct 2015
5. Encourage Group Discussion to Add Outreach position for your group

**Book Us For Your Next Event!**

1. Contact us to lead an Outreach Workshop in your district

In Service One Day At A Time,
Veronica P.
NCWSA PICPC Coordinator
(408) 315-3162

**12 Stepper Coordinator**- Debbie O.

1. I have compiled all reports to the best of my ability.
   a. Inputted all that was received.
   b. Please Note: when you send in your reports put in the subject title what it is and which meeting it is for. I am ok with sending it on the list serve or my email of 12steppereditor@ncwsa.org or my personal email of mefirst55@yahoo.com.
2. This issue of the 12 Stepper has been a gift for my serenity. Learning to do one thing at a time makes things go much smoother and as of today your October 12 Stepper is at the printer and it is my hope they will be in your mail box within 2 weeks.
3. I am working with Connie and the mailing committee, as we have a change in the chair for that position and working on making updates to the guidelines to reflect the changes.
4. To all DR’s: your reports are important to us. So get all your district information for the October 2015 Assembly to me at the above emails as this will be going into the End of the Year Issue and will be mailed out with the WSC Delegated Report Version for May 2016
   a. No DR reports are given at the WSC Delegated Assembly, so the October Assembly is your time to highlight your districts highlights and accomplishments.
   b. PLEASE SEND IN ALL REPORTS WITH IN 2 WEEKS OF THE OCTOBER ASSEMBLY, as we are trying to have all the issues done in a timely manner.
5. Moving forward as a passed GR, I never understood what I needed to vote on in the 12 Stepper so I have added a caption before “Draft NCWSA Minutes May 16, 2015 Draft” to help in aiding our new GR’s in what they will be voting on. Then adding a caption “Ok GR’s take off your hats and enjoy the ride…” at the end. Then as a DR I understood what to look for and still see confusion in our GR’s faces on what to review in the 12 Stepper, hopefully this will allow them, our most valuable members, to breathe and enjoy the journey of service. The thing I know is the process sometimes is confusing at the start of a panel. By year 3 the light is on and we all have a better understanding of our jobs.
6. My alternate Melinda N and I are working to get members sharing’s on Recovery in Service section and add it to the 12 stepper for 2016. The focus would be using the Spiritual Principals in our Service Recovery using the Traditions and Concepts, with the sharing’s being approved by our Editing Committee of 12 members to ensure the Principals are followed.

Thank you for all your support,
Debbie O and Melinda N., Coordinator and Co-Coordinators for your 12 Stepper

**Website Coordinator** – Beth Ann B.

Dear NCWSA:
I recently joined the Web effort as the Alternate Web Site Coordinator to support our Web Site Coordinator, Beth Ann. We have outlined tasks and goals for the remainder of 2015, for 2016 and for 2017.
Our vision for the Website is to completely document all aspects of the ownership of the domain name, hosting account, map software and any other related software such as virus protection and analytics. Our goal is for 100% NCWSA ownership of all aspects, versus different components on individual ownership accounts. We are reaching out to the past Web Site Coordinator and past Alternate Web Site Coordinator to document the existing conditions. We are defining the day-to-day tasks and determining who can best perform them on an ongoing basis, whether it would be either of us, or a professional web assistant. This definition of tasks and assignment of tasks will ensure a smooth transition to the next Web Site Coordinator and Alternate.

Before the end of 2015 our goal is to complete this task and document the current status and function of the website and processes. If there are any problems with the ownership of the domain name or hosting, we have requested authorization from the NCWSC to hire professional assistance if necessary for the task of transferring the domain to a new hosting account and transferring the ownership of the domain.

We have requested that the Web Site Coordinator be provided with a computer to be able to work with the meeting schedule, site back up and other functions. Dean C. has volunteered to assist with the selection of a computer and software, and we will be making this purchase in 2015.

We have requested a budget in 2016 for professional services, both for the ongoing tasks and the professional assistance. We have also requested a travel budget for Beth Ann and I to meet for cross training and planning of the website.

Respectfully,
Penny G, Alt Web Coordinator.

The Website Coordinator agreed to post the agreed upon tentative 2016-2017 NCWSA and NCWSC meeting dates on the Area’s service and events calendars if these dates were submitted as events. Carol S agreed to do so.

**District 6-10 Intergroup** - Lisa K.
Hi Everyone! I am, Lisa K, the Chair for Intergroup D6-10.
- Our AIS office is located at 5429 Palm Ave, Suite A, Sacramento, CA. Our office hours are Monday – Wednesday 10- 3 pm and Thursday’s 10 – 4 pm. Closed Friday – Sunday. Our email is aisbookcenter@yahoo.com.

- We print our meeting schedules quarterly - available both in our monthly newsletter the Share&Care, and at each meeting. Meeting schedules are also available on our website.

- Our AIS office is operating solely with the help of volunteers and they do a tremendous job! Having all volunteers, the AIS Office has 7 coordinator positions: Office & Facility, Communications, Literature, Finances, Office Volunteers, After Hours Phone and Share&Care Subscriptions. They are always in need of volunteers both at the office and for the after-hours phone line.

- Due to operating the office for two years now solely with the help of volunteers, we have found ourselves with a surplus of money, and are forming a Thought Force for members in Districts 6-10 to help come up with the best way the money should be spent. A letter explaining this surplus and an invitation to join the Thought Force has been put on our website, in our newsletter, as well as distributed to each group, via Group Representative. Members in D6-10 who are interested in joining the Thought Force should email our Intergroup Treasurer, Brian R. at: surplus_funds_committee@hotmail.com.
• We have established an area scholarship for our D6-10 Alateens and AMIAS to attend NoCAC. After September 1st, this money will be donated directly to NoCAC’s own scholarship fund to help any Alateen in the area (NCWSA) at their discretion. Prior to September 1st, please contact Stephan T. at sdttds@yahoo.com or (530) 601-0377 regarding this scholarship money.

• Intergroup continues to hold elections for open positions. We need the following positions filled: Alternate Chair and two Service Board Members. We were very happy to recently elect two co-chairs for Spring Fling, Isabelle B. and Steve O. - they will be finishing out this position for the next two years.

With Gratitude, Lisa K, (916) 903-9022 or lisafitz@aol.com

Northern California Hispanic Intergroup – Janie L.
Janie said the intergroup covers 12 districts. The rent was raised so they are doing workshops to raise funds to cover our expenses. Technology and transportation make it hard for the older members to participate in events.

Santa Clara Valley Intergroup- Bruce D.
Santa Clara Valley Al-Anon Family Groups Intergroup is the Al-Anon Information Service of Districts 20, 21 and 22 in the greater San Jose area. As an AIS, Intergroup is charged with managing important program functions in fulfillment of our program purpose of helping families and friends of alcoholics, both in and outside these rooms.

Intergroup consists of a group of Officers, Service Board Members and a full slate of Coordinators, virtually identical to the service positions of our Northern California World Service Committee with the addition of TeleService, Meeting Directories, Financial (separate from Treasurer), Special Events and Bookstore Coordinators, plus alternates.

Intergroup meets monthly, and works in cooperation with the three Districts it serves. As stated in the G-4 Guideline, Al-Anon Information Services, “Experience shows that when the Information Service works closely with the Area and the Districts, it increases its formula for success.” Currently, a Thought Force is examining whether the multiple service bodies are delivering the Al-Anon message as effectively as they can, in concert with one another.

Intergroup presents two special events a year. Unity Day is an annual AA event with Al-Anon participation and is one of our biggest outreach events of the year. Held on August 9th in San Jose, we presented a program of 8 meetings. Many AA’s and their family members attend our sessions. The AA Chairperson shared with us that after they opened up the event to Al-Anon several years ago, attendance blossomed with entire families now attending. In addition, the event created a multitude of service opportunities for our own membership with 38 members turning out as speakers, secretaries and information and registration table hosts.

Coming October 24th is Intergroup’s Day in Al-Anon, this year titled “A New Day, Celebrating the Al-Anon Gift of Family Recovery.” Another full-day program is planned for this annual fundraiser with speakers, panels, workshops, raffles, silent auction, Step 11 retreat space, food, music and skits. Once again, some three dozen members will be turning out to help with the event held on behalf of Districts 20, 21 and 22.

Yours in Service,
Bruce D.
Santa Clara Valley Intergroup Liaison
Spanish Intergroup East Bay - Maria Carmen G.
To: NCWSA Family
The Intergroup meetings are every first Sunday of the month, at Pittsburg CA.

This year one Alateen Group was closed and one Adult children Group was opened, up to now the Intergroup has 21 Al-Anon Groups, 9 Adult children Groups, 2 Alateen Groups we still have a total of 32 groups up to this year.

The Intergroup has four Committees that are working to support the groups that require help every month; however at the moment we do not have a Coordinator for Institutions. The service is being done by the table.

We celebrated our 9th Speaker Meeting, with a Speaker from Mexico City, who is an Al-Anon member as well as a Psychologist. We had great food and we recorded the 3 workshops with service topics.

We are working on planning our annual event, with workshops and guest speakers for October 2015.

Sincerely,
The Pittsburg Intergroup.

With love in service
Mary Carmen Gibson
Liaison

Officina de informacion Hispana Al-Anon del Este de la Bahia (South Bay Spanish Intergroup) - Maria Elena H
(No report)

Delegate & Officers Reports

Delegate – Yvonne deG
Hello All
I am Yvonne your current Delegate, thank you for the privilege of Serving. I have visited Fresno and Santa Clara Intergroup to give my Delegates report. In District 5 and 11 I did a KBDM workshop. Upcoming:
- I will be visiting District 14 and speak on abundance
- District 8 on Sept 2,
- Fortuna Sept 4-5-6,
- Ventura 11-12-13,
- R&R 18-19-20,
- Unity day in Fresno Oct 3
- DIA SCAFG Oct 24th
- Spanish Convention Nov 6th
- NoCAC ? Nov 6-7-8
- SWRDM March 9-10-11-12-13 San Diego 2016

I am also working with WSO, Pat Q., Director of Public Outreach on a podcast specific to Service.
*Board of Trustees Big Question:

How do we envision responsible Service Leadership in Al-Anon, a vision that inspires today's members to be tomorrow's leaders who are motivated by spiritual principles?

More info on page 38 of the 2015 World Service Conference Summary or online on the WSO website under Members …..Password anything that has AFG in it.

*A concern came through WSO from members in Ca North about meetings changing the steps in meetings to gender neutral. Here is the response from WSO.

Dear ____,

Greetings from your World Service Office! Thank you for contacting the WSO about Al-Anon groups in the ____changing wording in the Legacies when they are read at meetings. And thank you also for your patience in our response.

Tradition One talks about our “common welfare” and encourages unity as a path to recovery in Al-Anon—“personal progress for the greatest number depends upon unity.” Your willingness to address the issue at the district, Area, and World Service is heartening. Your experience in Albuquerque is an example of what can happen when members talk to each other and reason things out in a principle-based manner, and we’re happy to provide you with the shared experience of other Al-Anon members and groups that have experienced similar situations.

The “God” referred to in our Steps and Traditions is of no particular religious belief, doctrine, or gender. The spiritual nature of our program suggests that we each reach outside of ourselves to a Higher Power, but at meetings, members refer to a generic Higher Power for the sake of unity of the worldwide fellowship. It is subject to each member’s personal interpretation and is used interchangeably with the words “Higher Power,” “a power greater than myself,” “the God of my understanding,” and “God as we understood Him.” Our program encourages mutual respect, and members observe the Traditions because they work. This is referred to as “obedience to the unenforceable,” and our survival as an organization depends on it.

According to our Al-Anon World Service Conference Charter, Article 3-d:

“...no changes are to be made in the Traditions, Steps, Concepts of Service, or General Warranties of the Conference Charter (Item 12) without written consent of three quarters of the Al-Anon groups.” (2014-2017 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27), pg.172).

A proposal to poll the groups worldwide on a change to our Legacies would have to be initiated by the World Service Conference (WSC), Al-Anon’s largest group conscience. Our cofounder Lois W. once said, “We realized if the Steps were altered once, they could be altered again and again. Their meaning and power might be lost . . . .” The difficulty of changing our Legacies is reflective of their importance.

(The Service Manual is posted on the Al-Anon/Alateen Members’ Web site: http://al-anon.org/members under the “Group Services” tab. Use any variation of your group’s name with the letters AFG as the password e.g. Easy Does It AFG or sundayafg.)

Tradition Four allows for group autonomy “except in matters affecting another group, Al-Anon or AA as a whole.” While members are free to interpret the Steps and Traditions according to their own
perceptions, Al-Anon’s unity is preserved when they are read aloud as written in our meetings. This assures Al-Anon members that wherever they go throughout the world, Al-Anon’s message of help and hope will remain clear and consistent. Thank you for your willingness to address this issue in your district so that Al-Anon can remain a viable resource for the families and friends of alcoholics seeking the Al-Anon program of recovery.

We hope this information is helpful and that you continue to find recovery and serenity in Al-Anon. Thank you for all you do for the families and friends of alcoholics and please feel free to contact us again if we can be of any further service. Please note that it is our policy to copy the Area Delegates on correspondence from their Areas (removing identifying information to preserve member confidentiality) to keep the Delegate informed of concerns in the Area.

*A lot of members do not know the difference between Assembly and Convention…….Greetings from the World Service Office (WSO)!

A convention is an event where members share and celebrate. An Area Assembly is a business meeting.


*This quarter the question asked comes from the finance committee:

“What strategies did your Area identify as a way to close the deficit budget?”

*Dear Board of Trustees, during the Executive Committee meeting, we discussed information related to allowing members to submit automatic monthly contributions through their credit card or PayPal. The cost was prohibitive.

From Aug 2015 Exec Committee minutes:

A process for automatic monthly contribution drafts was reviewed. The WSO discovered that it would cost $13,000 to install this feature and would also require a $6,000 annual fee. A similar process for making contributions through all mobile devices was also researched. This process would cost between $12,000-14,000 along with a yearly licensing fee of $5,000.

It was noted that this information should be made available to the fellowship so that they are aware that their suggestions have been heard, but that at this time it is not financially feasible. It was also suggested that this information also include that PayPal was also considered, but that it would not be possible to identify who is making the contribution and would not allow the WSO to verify if the person making the contribution is a member.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or to invite me to your district.

Love in service Yvonne de G Delegate Panel 55

When asked by the Delegate what strategies our Area identified as a way to close the deficit budget, the following suggestions and comment were made by the NCWSC committee:

• Our Treasurer said we were considering sending a percentage of our surplus at the end of each year.
• Districts have fundraisers with all proceeds going to Area and WSO.
- At one time, 20% of the convention registration went to WSO. We may want to reconsider this approach.
- We need to discuss the topic in order to address it.
- Southern California decided at the end of one panel to donate all of their money including their reserve.
- Districts and groups could occasionally send a larger percentage of funds to WSO and a smaller percentage to NCWSA.

**Alternate Delegate** - Bonnie M.

Since our May NCWSC meeting:

- In July, I met with our Treasurer, Chris M to complete the audit of the 2015 NoCAC financial records. There are still a few documentation issues but we saw no cause for concern over their finances. Lisa B, our Alateen Coordinator, continues to work with the current NoCAC committee to improve their processes.
- The Budget Committee met by phone in August to update the draft 2016 Budget presented in May. We incorporated the budget requests received, made adjustments for the reduced mileage reimbursement rate and tentatively added lines for an Insurance Coordinator, that can be implemented if NCWSC decides to split the position of Bylaws and Insurance Coordinator into two positions of Bylaws Coordinator and Insurance Coordinator. Following the Budget Committee meeting, Chris made some additional recommendations based on our 2015 Actuals to date, and to add income and expense lines for the Diversity Day event.

I've placed copies of the draft 2016 Budget in your bins, and copies of budget request forms are on the back table. I've attached the Budget Committee minutes to this report.

In April, I was offered an opportunity to serve as Al-Anon Liaison to the NCCAA (Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous) Steering Committee. NCCAA puts on AA conferences three times a year throughout Northern California. This is not part of my job as Alternate Delegate but my Area level service gives me the opportunity to work with the Districts to improve our cooperation with Alcoholics Anonymous. Since April, I’ve had the opportunity to attend the local planning committee meetings for the Fresno Conference this October and am scheduled to attend the local planning committee meetings for the San Ramon conference in March 2016 (in cooperation with District 16 Al-Anon) and the local planning committee meetings in Santa Rosa for the June 2016 conference there (in cooperation with District 5 Al-Anon). I've asked Joan to include a discussion of our Al-Anon cooperation with AA events in New Business

Thank you so much for letting me to be of service.

Love in service,
Bonnie M.
NCWSA Alternate Delegate

**Area Alateen Process Person**– Tom K.

Dear NCWSA Family,

**New AMIAS**: In the first 8 months I have corralled 53 newbies through the process of becoming certified AMIAS.

**Annual Recertification March through June**: The 27 District APP’s contacted nearly 400 AMIAS in NCWSA to sign and initial every question on the A22.1b form to maintain certification as AMIAS. I then manually updated the WSO database and 2 excel spreadsheets to keep track. Results: 336 were recertified. I sent a list of AMIAS to each district DAPP at the end of July.
Web Postings: I need to assure the safety of teens at district and area events by checking that;
• at least 2 AMIAS are committed to ensuring the safety of all teens at each event
• the Alateen safety statement is on the flier and is not on fliers for events that do not state that Alateens are expected to be involved
• “B17 section F Minimum Safety and Behavioral Requirements for an Alateen Member” is read at each area event with Alateen participation

Annual Alateen Meeting Update: 82 meetings in NCWSA were sent a form and an envelope printed with my address from WSO in April. I received 51 of these forms, the remaining 31 groups sent a confirmation of inactivity/inactivity (5 groups are inactive). That results in 77 active meetings.

R&R Planning Team: I am on the planning team for the annual Alateen sponsors event in Westminster Woods September 18-20. I am preparing to lead a workshop “B17; Underlying Principals”.

NCWSA Officers’ Meetings: We meet on phone calls as directed by the chairperson Joan.

Shredding: Once I completed recertification I shredded records from 2013 as per procedure. Records from 2014 and 2015 are kept in a locked file cabinet.

California Department of Justice: I am the custodian of records for NCWSA, I am the only person who sees finger printing results. Turnaround can be weeks or months, I’m never clear why such variation.

August 18th I attended a WSO conference call with a dozen other AAPP’s and learned a few more tid-bits about using their database.

Serving in gratitude,
Tom Kellogg

Chairperson – Joan W
Hi Committee Members,
• Our Thought Force regarding California Institution Grant has completed their task. I would like to thank the officers, Darby, Representing the E.C. and Marilyn, District 14 for participating. Ric B., Executive Director, WSO, requested that we have a conference call after I spoke with Claire R. Ric, Claire, Yvonne, David and I listened as Ric explained that it would be violating our Traditions if we were to accept the offer from the State of California. David will be discussing this later today.
• I have been busy with many small details of the workings of Northern California. None seem monumental, but together they do take a lot of time.
• Met with District 18 Assembly Hosting Committee in Modesto.
• Met with Carol S., Facilities, for 2016 Convention walk-thru in Sacramento, signed contract.
• I have completed the 3-day Assembly Agenda and posted it on the server. I am delighted to have Vali F., Delegate from Arizona, speak on Saturday night and conducting a workshop on Saturday afternoon. Had a lot of fun with her at breakfast on Saturday morning at SWRDM.
• I have prepared a power point based on “Obedience to the Unenforceable” which I hope will generate KBDM among our districts, groups, and Area. It has come to my attention that a
few members are unhappy with groups wanting to change our legacies. I also have noticed an increase in the use of AA literature among Al-Anon speakers and other outside programs. I may modify it for use on Friday night at the GR Orientation at Assembly.

- I was excited to find a past member or NCWSC, who I had worked with previously, agree to help our Area by responding to all of the requests for insurance certificates. It was such a concern as I couldn’t seem to start that process. Thankfully she is willing to stand for the position of Insurance Coordinator, if the committee and NCWSA are willing to add a separate coordinator position i.e. Insurance.

- I thank all of you for your support during our first year of this panel and performing your 12th Step work.

Love in Service,
Joan W.

Secretary – Rosanna H.
Dear NCWSC Family,
I am learning a lot about myself as I gratefully serve as secretary. Here’s what I have been doing since May:

Posted the Draft May Assembly 2015 Minutes in mid-June- I moved the Bylaws & Insurance Report to the May NCWSC Meeting Minutes since it was written for NCWSC.

Post-Approval Correction to the October 2014 Assembly Minutes –Our Delegate brought an error to our attention after the October 2104 Minutes were approved. The WSC Charter states, “Written permission of 3/4 of the groups worldwide is required to change the wording of the Steps”. The Minutes originally stated 2/3. The Minutes now agree with the Charter and are posted on the Area’s website.

Posted Draft May 2015 NCWSC Minutes at the end of July.

Old Minutes in Draft Form on Website- The past secretary indicates she is busy and will try to forward approved versions of the Minutes to me as she completes them.

Updating the NCWSA Roster- I update and post 2 rosters as needed: one is the updated roster and the other an update with changes highlighted in yellow. The rosters are posted on the NCWSC Yahoo group.

Updated the B28 (NCWSA Motions Passed/Failed) and B29 (NCWSC Motions Passed/Failed) Guidelines – I am waiting for a formatting review by the B&I Coordinator before they are posted.

Serving as Yahoo Groups Moderator- I continue to invite NCWSC members to join the NCWSC Yahoo group. Several GRs have asked to join. I remind them to contact their DR for NCWSC information. I am finding a big disconnect between our Spanish speaking members and Alateens when it comes to being a part of the Yahoo group. I feel there is a technology barrier that accounts for much of the lack of participation. I would love to see us address this topic soon. The B32 Guidelines for the moderator position are still in draft form. I have asked our Chairperson for time at a future NCWSC meeting to discuss and approve them. I will post the draft sometime this year.

A few reminders:
DRs, please encourage GRs and alternates to look for draft Assembly Minutes by going to NCWSA.org, then SERVICE, then MINUTES & AGENDAS, then scroll down to Assembly Minutes.
All NCWSC Yahoo group members, please be mindful of who you are addressing when you post a reply. Please send well wishes and thank you’s in private.

Lastly, thank you to our Website Coordinator and the in-house and outside proofers as well as all who provide electronic copies of your reports in a timely manner. Your support helps me be successful in service.

Peace, love and joy in service,
Rosanna H

Committee members wanting to receive copies of reports in their bin were asked to write their name on a sign-up list. The list was passed around the room.

Treasurer – Chris M.
Since the last Committee Meeting I have accomplished the following:

- Continued to attend Budget Committee meetings and finished NoCAC Audit.
- Participated in Officers calls and continued discussion until decision regarding Prison Grant.
- Presented and shared prudent reserve calculation with Officers, Exec. Committee and Budget Committee, short about $8,000 of goal, potential saving of $4,000 this year which could be placed in reserves.
- Recommended and approved to roll over CD at Credit Union.
- Continued to meet with NoCAC sponsor and received 2nd Qtr. Report and details through July.
- Prepared the quarterly sales tax report online from prior quarter data.
- Prepared requests received for payment and sent checks to be signed by the Chair or available officer.
- Provided copies of financial reports to Officers and Executive Committee Chair.
- Discussed NCWSA financial status with a District and the Group Reps.
- Discussed request to accept credit cards at events with Exec. Chair and Area Chair.
- Opened new bank account to accommodate online registration for area events using PayPal.
- Recommend Continued conversation regarding accepting credit cards at events,
- Asked NCWSC members to review expenses to date in order to evaluate needs till year-end.
- Attended Diversity Day and provided support as needed to Committee.
- Met NoCAC Treasurer and we plan to sit down and review financial details.
- Attached is the current financial reports for the period ending August 27, 2015:
  - 2015 Income to date - $67,914.41 (increase over 2014 by $6,808.22)
  - 2015 Expenses to date - $63,935.99 (increase over 2014 by $126.12)
  - 2015 Net Savings to date - $3,978.42 (increased savings over 2014 by $6,682.10) (P&L posted online)
  - Ending Checking Account Balance 8/27/15 - $22,989.94 (about 3.75 months operating expenses)
  - Money Market & CD Account Balances - $23,610.56 for a Prudent Reserve (about 3.87 months of operating expenses. (Balance Sheet posted online)

Things to Think about:

- Consider continued research to accept credit cards for payments. Square recommended.
- Recommend transferring budget to actual savings at year-end to reserves, 75%.
- Consider providing a percentage of year-end savings as a donation to WSO, 25%.
- The 2015 budget anticipates $66,500 from donations, Appear to be on target.
- All donations are appreciated. Please mail to: NCWSA, PO Box 728, Vacaville, 95696.
Please thank your groups for their donations! We can’t continue to carry the message without their continued support!
Thanks so much for your support. Think abundantly! Participation is the key to harmony!

Yours in service, Chris M., NCWSA Treasurer

The Treasurer asked us to work toward adhering to the Area’s financial procedures regarding collecting funds at Area events.

She also said she would like to have a formula set up for sending money to WSO each year and hopes we address this topic during this panel.

Respectfully submitted on December 17th, 2015
By Rosanna H.
NCWSA Secretary
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### Draft 2016 Budget

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**Change over PY:**
- Depreciation: 400.00
- Rent-Storage of Records: -200.00
- Miscellaneous: 200.00

**Net Ordinary Income**

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### NCWSC Roll Call: Courtyard by Marriott, Fairfield

**DATE:** August 29, 2015

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**OFFICERS**

Alt. Delegate: Bonnie M  X  
Chairperson: Joan W  X  
Secretary: Rosanna H  X  
Treasurer: Chris M  X  
Area Alateen PP: Tom K  X  

**EXEC COMMITTEE**

EC North: Heide P  X  
EC Central: Darby T  X  
EC South: Gael R  X  
EC At large: Dede W  -  
EC At large: Yvonne P  X  

**COORDINATORS**

Alateen: Lisa B  X  
Alt. Alateen: John McG  X  
Archives: Dana C  X  
Alt. Archives: Terry C  X  
B & I: Open  
Alt. B & I: Open  
Diversity: Nick d  
Alt. Diversity: Stephan T  X  
Facilities: Carol S  X  
Alt. Facilities: David D  X  
Group Records: Wendy L  X  
Alt. Group Records: George L  X  
Institutions: David B  X  
Alt. Institutions: Dean C  X  
Literature: Catalina L  X  
Alt. Literature: Verena R  -  
Public Information: Veronica P  X  
Alt. PJ/CPC: Pleas S  -  
12 Stepper Editor: Debbie O  X  
Alt 12 Stepper Ed.: Melinda N  X  
Website: Beth Ann B  X  
Alt. Website: Penny G.  X  

**DISTRICT REPS**

D-1 DR: Kristie A  -  
D-1 Alt DR: (open)  -  
D-2 DR: Carolyn L  X  
D-2 Alt DR: Jane M  -  
D-3 DR: Julie E  X  
D-3 Alt DR: Denise P  -  
D-4 DR: (open)  -  
D-4 Alt DR: (open)  -  
D-5 DR: Martie S  X  
D-5 Alt DR: Arlene O  -  
D-6 DR: Dru W  X  
D-6 Alt DR: Dennese G  X  
D-7 DR: (open)  -  
D-7 Alt DR: (open)  -  
D-8 DR: (open)  -  
D-8 Alt DR: Amparo  X  
D-9 DR: Heide P  X  
D-9 Alt DR: Vaughn J  -  
D-10 DR: Yvonne P  X  
D-10 Alt DR: Jeannie O  X  
D-11 DR: Darby T  X  
D-11 Alt DR: Lynn R  -  
D-12 DR: Mary K  X  
D-12 Alt DR: Veronica P  X  
D-13 DR: Linda L  X  
D-13 Alt DR: (open)  -  
D-14 DR: Marilyn H  X  
D-14 Alt DR: Billie T  X  

**INTERGROUP**

D 6-10 Intergroup: Lisa K  X  
SCV Intergroup: Bruce D  X  
Spanish –East Bay: Maria Carmen  X  
Nor Cal Hispanic: Janie L  X  
LA – Este de la Bahia: Elena  -  

**ALATEEN LIAISONS**

North: Justin T  X  
Alt North: Ashlynn S  -  
Central: Taft W  -  
Alt. Central: Shelby  X  
South: Vanessa B  X  
Alt. South: open  

**CONVENTION**

2016 Chair: Patty B  X  
2016 Co-chair: open  
NoCAC: Jessica M  X  
NoCAC Co-chair: Brittany  -  
NoCAC Sponsor: Moriah R  -  
NoCAC co-sponsor: Stephan T  X  

**PAST DEL. /Other**

Immediate Past Del: Patrick B  -  
Regional Trustee: Joyce B  -  
Past Delegate P-49: John S  -  
Past Delegate P-46: Sandi C  -  
Past Delegate P-43: Vicki H  -  
Past Delegate P-40: Marilyn R  -  
Past Delegate P-37: Cathy C  -  
Past Delegate P-34: Art B  X  
Past Delegate P-31: Peggy C  -  
Past Delegate P-28: Mary A  -  
Past Delegate P-25: Barbara L  -  
Past Delegate P-22: Jean McL  -  
Past Delegate P-19: Faun L  -  
Past Delegate P-16: Irma C  -  
Past Delegate P-13: Bonnie H  -  
Past Delegate P-10: Judy W  -  
Past Delegate P-7: Muriel B  -  
Past Delegate P-4: Ann O  -  
Past Delegate P-1: Helen B-R  -  

**Roll Call August 2015 NCWSC**