Approved October 9-11, 2015 Assembly Minutes  
Doubletree Hotel, Modesto, Ca  
Approved by substantial unanimity on May 14, 2016 Livermore, CA

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:**

Our chairperson opened Saturday’s meeting at 8:42 A.M. and Sunday’s meeting at 8:00 A.M. The Serenity Prayer, 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts, General Warranties, AA/AFG Statement, and the Alateen Safety Guidelines were read both days.

NCWSC Roll Call was taken on Saturday and Sunday.

There were 209 GRs present on Saturday morning.

Minutes for the May16, 2015 One Day Assembly were approved.

The proposed 2016 budget had two adjustments and was subsequently approved.

We practiced the 7th Tradition on Sunday.

Saturday’s meeting adjourned at 4:50 P.M. By consensus, Sunday’s meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30 P.M.

Both days’ business concluded with the Al-Anon Declaration.

**Motions & Consensus**

**Motions**

**1510.01** To approve 05/16/2015 Assembly Minutes with no corrections.

It was noted that there was a duplicate sentence in the 12-Stepper minutes but not in the Secretary’s copy. The motion passed by substantial unanimity with 0 opposed and 18 abstentions.

**1510.02** To create a new NCWSA position of Insurance Coordinator with an alternate.

Cristin B. made the motion, Janie L seconded it. The motion passed by substantial unanimity with 2 opposed and 3 abstentions.
To approve the proposed 2016 budget as amended.

By substantial unanimity, the budget was approved. There were 13 opposed and 18 abstentions.

**Old Business**

**Thought Force on Gender Neutral Steps** - John M. (Chairperson)

The Thought Force chairperson shared the results of the online survey and reiterated that this information was shared at the October 2014 Assembly and was included in the October 2014 minutes. We were reminded that, in October of 2014, the NCWSA chairperson asked two questions of the assembly: 1) “Shall we continue the conversation on gender neutral steps?” (The responses were: 31% Yes, 63% No and 6% abstaining), and 2) “Shall we continue the Thought Force on Gender Neutral Steps?” (The responses were 39% Yes, 56% No and 5% abstaining).

The current NCWSA chairperson asked the Thought Force to reopen the survey through July 1, 2015. Eleven additional members responded to the initial question posed by the Thought Force. The responses were: 5 Yeses, 5 No’s and 1 abstention.

The Thought Force report is available on the NCWSA website.

It was shared that the WSO Literature Committee has tried to be diverse in its inclusion of shares that are gender neutral.

*Our chairperson said we would discuss whether or not we will move forward with this conversation at the February 2016 NCWSC meeting. DRs can bring that information back to their districts and GRs.*

*Our delegate stated that WSO has a policy of “Do Not Refer” for meetings that are not Al-Anon meetings. WSO will not “delist” but will not refer. As a district, this would be equivalent to a meeting that would not be on your district meeting list. NCWSA does not have a policy like this. Districts are autonomous.*

**New Business**

**Approval of a new Insurance Coordinator Position** - Our chairperson explained that the position of Bylaws & Insurance Coordinator and its Alternate are lengthy jobs that require a large amount of time. The previous members who held these positions were not able to keep up with their responsibilities and therefore stepped down. The assembly was encouraged to participate in a discussion regarding creating a new Insurance Coordinator position and an Alternate.

The one question asked was what the added cost would be. The chairperson indicated the estimated cost was $2000 and that amount has already been added to the proposed 2016 budget.

A motion was made and seconded to create a new position of Insurance Coordinator with an Alternate. The motion passed with substantial unanimity. There were 2 votes in opposition and 3 abstentions.

By virtue of removing the Insurance portion of this position, the chairperson said the position of Bylaws & Insurance Coordinator would become Bylaws Coordinator and its Alternate and we do not need to vote on these positions because they already exist.

Anyone interested in standing for the positions of Bylaws Coordinator, Alternate Bylaws Coordinator or Alternate Insurance Coordinator is asked to attend the next NCWSC meeting in February.
We were reminded that our NCWSA Guidelines state we display any motion that is being voted on after it has been seconded so all members are clear on what is being voted on.

2016 Proposed Budget Approval—The Alternate Delegate, Bonnie M., presented the 2016 Proposed Budget Summary. She stated it was an ambitious budget because we are expanding our outreach and we are projecting our membership will be generous. Also stated were the reasons for increases in various income and expense categories.

Questions and answers included:
1. Could we increase 12 Stepper budget by $200 since it continues to increase and exceed its budget in the past 2 years? Our chairperson said we will probably need to increase this line item by more than $200 in next year’s budget because we will be printing the 12-Stepper in Spanish.
2. Why the overall increase in the projected budget? Per the Alternate Delegate, “we are thinking abundantly. We need to ask our membership to support our primary purpose. Hopefully the GRs will take back to your groups our financial goals.”
3. Have there been funds set aside for childcare expenses during NCWSA events? Per the Alternate Delegate, there is not a line item for that but there is a discussion. The chairperson said it will be on the agenda at the February 2016 NCWSC meeting.
4. The budget seems ambitious? The treasurer indicated that many questions will be answered after she gives her report.
5. What are the expenses for this assembly and why the big increase from last year? Per the Treasurer, we had an additional one-time cost because we used electronic devices at the 2014 election assembly. We plan to meet the assembly budget this year.
6. In May we did not have a full ample reserve. Do we have that now? Per the Treasurer, we are short by about $8000. That is why she sent out an appeal letter to the GRs.
7. Has the NCWSC mileage rate decrease been reflected in the proposed budget? There is an increase in travel expenses for officers and the delegate because our chairperson asked for $1000 for a special project (travel to far northern and southern sections to serve those less served.) The proposed budget does reflect the reduced mileage rate.
8. Could we change “Ad Hoc” to Thought Force/Task Force? Yes.
9. Is the total for “Coordinators & Committees” related to their various events? Per the Alternate Delegate, they are not related. These funds are for things like copies, travel and things needed by coordinators to do their job.
10. Can we get more detail on these expenses? Per the Treasurer, the DRs were provided with a detailed copy of the proposed budget.

The Executive Committee asked for details of the extra expenses. The Budget Committee Chairperson (Alternate Delegate) shared the following information: $1400 increased for new coordinators to attend meetings, a $1000 request by the Chairperson for a special project (travel expenses to outlying, less represented districts to encourage participation and share information), expenses for Alateen Coordinator travel, travel expenses for budget Committee, removed expenses associated with our bookkeeper, added expenses for professional web assistance, $300 increase to the 12-Stepper budget and a $300 reduction in the Chairperson’s special project budget.

After a suggestion to restructure our assemblies to save funds and potentially receive more donations from groups, our Chairperson said currently we do not have a Thought Force to review the structure and expense of our assemblies but we can put them on a future agenda.

The proposed 2016 budget had two adjustments and was approved by substantial unanimity. There were 15 votes opposed and 18 abstentions.

District AA liaisons when Alateens participate at AA Events—Bonnie M, Alternate Delegate, shared that our Alateens are registering at some AA events as Alateens yet the Alateen name,
which is an Al-Anon title, cannot be used if the Alateen safety requirements are not being followed. She has asked that each district identify an AA liaison who works a strong Al-Anon program and has an understanding of Alateen safety. That liaison would be contacted when an Alateen participates at an AA event within that district.

The questions: “Does your district have an AA liaison now? How is your district currently cooperating with AA? Are there opportunities to cooperate with AA? What challenges are you facing now with your Al-Anon community? ” were asked of the assembly.

The liaisons will communicate with the Alternate Delegate via conference calls and emails. All interested members or questions should be directed toward the Alternate Delegate.

REPORTS

District Reports

District 1
Greetings from District 1 of Northern California AFGs: serving Del Norte and Humboldt Counties. As a new transplant to the area, the first year of my service as the district representative has been one of getting to know the communities and the groups. Due to distance challenges, I felt compelled to first visit the far north groups in Crescent City and Gasquet and the far south group in Southern Humboldt in Redway. I will soon meet all the groups in between in McKinleyville, Arcata, Eureka and Fortuna. The best part of getting to meet more of my Al-Anon family is that I get to another meeting too – and all along the Highway 101 Corridor!

In 2015 one of our two Alateen meetings went Inactive and two of our regular meetings – one in Redway and in one in Loleta also went Inactive. District 1 now has 18 Al-Anon meetings and 1 Alateen meeting. We enjoy an average of 10 GRs at each District Service meeting in addition to those members in service with literature, Alateens, liaisons with our AA community, public information, and our treasurer. We are still waiting on our Higher Power to send us an Alternate DR.

We provide an answering service with three Al-Anon members on call. We have a Literature Distribution Center servicing our district, and our meeting schedules are updated twice a year with member names and phone on the back which are shared with group members (not the general public).

Some of our events and activities for the year 2015 were:

**January** – district sponsored Speaker Meeting in McKinleyville; Six week Beginners Meetings in Eureka

**March** – Lois Wilson Birthday Celebration; love gifts prepared for Virginia Beach

**May** – Day in Al-Anon with a speaker, Judy B. from the East Bay, and Lisa B. our Area Alateen Coordinator presenting a B-17 Workshop to some of our AMIAS; sent DR to One-Day Assembly; meeting list update

**July** – district sponsored 12 Step Workshop

**August** – two campouts with AA with Al-Anon speakers; our speakers were from Fortuna and Arcata

**September** – Al-Anon participation at Redwood Coast Round Up in Fortuna with Al-Anon speaker and workshop presenter, Yvonne deG as our guest

**October** – shared outreach table with AA at the North Coast Stand Down for veterans; and five GRs planned to attend the 3-day Assembly (three were able to make it to Modesto)

**November** – annual sponsorship workshop in the planning and 20 copies of AFA2016 booklets mailed out to our professional community with the upcoming January Beginners Meetings schedule
Special note and thank you to the new Area Insurance Coordinator – our Eureka Monday Night Al-Anon and Alateen meeting had to move suddenly and insurance was required prior to meeting in the new location. I referred the meeting’s treasurer to Joan W who sent her on to Carol G and the certificate was at the facility within just a few days. What a support structure!

Each month several of our groups hold special activities: McKinleyville Monday Evening has an Ice Cream Meeting after their 2nd meeting of the month; Eureka Sunday Evening goes out for supper after the meeting and holds a birthday meeting at the last meeting of the month; Eureka Wednesday Evening has a speaker/guest topic meeting at the last meeting of the month; Fortuna Thursday Evening has a birthday meeting on the last meeting of the month; and Fortuna Monday noon goes out to lunch after the meeting. If you’re traveling on the 101 Corridor up north, come join us in our special times together.

Love in Service,
Kristie A., DR of D1

District 2
District 2 is located in Lake and Mendocino Counties. Lake County takes its name from Clear Lake, which is the dominant feature and largest natural lake wholly within California located among rolling hills. Mendocino County is on the north coast of California. Its most distinctive features are the Pacific Ocean coastline, redwood forests, beautiful mountains and rivers. The total area we cover in District 2 is 5,207 square miles.

We have 18 meetings in our District, including Covelo, Fort Bragg, Mendocino, Gualala, Lakeport, Lower Lake, Middletown, Laytonville, Ukiah and Willits.

We are a rural district and members, as you can guess, are wildly spaced apart. We hold our District meetings in Ukiah, as it is the most centrally located for our members to attend. Because we are so far apart, it is difficult for some of our Group Representatives to attend, so we try to keep in touch with groups who cannot attend through email.

The District pays for fingerprinting for members who wish to sponsor Alateen groups. We provide scholarships for Alateens to go to NoCAC (Northern California Alateen Conference). We also help Alateen Sponsors go to the R &R Weekend. Unfortunately, our efforts to keep Alateen going in our district are very difficult and we will continue to try. We support new groups by providing $50.00 to help with rent or to purchase materials. We provide meeting schedules for all meetings in our District. We hold a Day in Al Anon in conjunction with the Ukiah Intergroup (Thank you, Ukiah) in January. We also help Group Reps attend two Assemblies each year. This year we added a Spanish meeting, which really excites us. We are currently working on a three year plan to develop a budget.

The Valley Fire seriously affected our Middletown group, with many homes lost to the fire. Groups that were able did as much as they could to help, providing clothing, food and financial help. After all, we are family.

It’s been a very busy and productive year and we are grateful to be a part of the Al Anon family.

Submitted by
Carolyn L

District-3
District 3 encompasses the areas of Berry Creek, Brownsville, Chester, Chico, Greenville, Magalia, Orland, Oroville, Paradise, Quincy, Taylorsville, Willows and Yuba City. There are currently 21 meetings, of which one is a Spanish Al-Anon meeting and one is an Alateen meeting.

All of our officer positions are filled except for Alternate DR. Unfortunately she had to resign due to personal reasons. Most of our coordinator positions are filled including alternates, with the
exception of Newsletter Editor, Archives Coordinator and Website Coordinator. I am very proud of
our district which is run by very committed GRs. They ask the hard questions and strive to always
make knowledge-based decisions. This year we have had almost 100% attendance of GRs at
every meeting as well as a good attendance by Al-Anon members not in district service. In July
the GRs voted to change our district meetings from quarterly to every other month so that business
could be accomplished in a timely manner.

Our district has 10 certified AMIAS with two active Alateen Sponsors. A committee which is made
up of the certified AMIAS, members interested in Alateen service but not yet certified, the Alateen
Coordinator, and DAPP meet every other month to discuss Alateen business, which is then
brought to the district for discussion and a vote. The GRs have passed six Alateen policy
proposals to date, one of which is that two sponsors must be present at an Alateen meeting. The
GRs are committed to keeping the teens safe but also feel they must keep the sponsors safe and
therefore have raised the bar from the minimum.

The GRs report that their meetings are growing and have quite a few newcomers at most of their
meetings. Most have done or currently are doing a group inventory and find that it has helped the
group as a whole. Attendance ranges between 10 - 30 depending on which group you attend, and
most are doing business meetings once a month with good attendance. They have also reported
service positions are filled.

The district hosted a writing workshop the end of September and is currently planning a speaker
meeting for Sunday, January 31st in Paradise with Tom W. as the main speaker and an AA and
Alateen speaker as well. The committee is working very hard to pull this event together and it
promises to be quite special. Flyers will be coming out soon with all the details. We hope you will
come.

I have deeply enjoyed working with the GRs this year. They all happily step up when and where
needed, come prepared to do business and seek to follow the Traditions and Concept of Service to
the best of their ability. I am the DR but they are the District. I facilitate and they lead as one
united front. I am very proud of what our district has accomplished this year and I look forward to
continuing the journey with this wonderful panel of GRs, Officers, Coordinators and Alternates.

District 3 in Unity, working the Steps in Recovery!
Humbly in Service and Deeply Grateful,
Julie E, DR District 3

**District 4**
This district did not have a District Representative. A report was not given or submitted.

**District 5**
We serve Petaluma, Cotati, Rohnert Park, Sebastopol, Santa Rosa, Guerneville, Calistoga,
Cloverdale, St Helena, Healdsburg, Windsor, Kenwood, and Sonoma.

We have 49 Al-Anon meetings, 9 Spanish meetings, 10 Alateen meetings with 2 Spanish Alateen
meetings.

There have been changes in our district from 5 checking accounts to one and we passed our
budget for the first time in a long time.

At the end of May, we had an AMIAS workshop that John M conducted. We had various
participants that came as far as Chico. And in the end of June, we had a KBDM workshop, which
our Delegate Yvonne facilitated.
Not all of our positions are filled yet, but I trust my Higher Power that members will step up.

Upcoming events are our Ala-thons for Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day. The Ala-thons are so important for that’s when people are looking for help with their alcoholic. Our Bash will be held in December, our Day In Al-Anon, will be scheduled sometime next year and along with AA, we will be involved with the H&I Conference, which will be held April 29 to May 1, 2016.

We are also revising our By-Laws since they haven’t been updated since 2003 and our Public Outreach and Diversity Coordinators have been busy with various Health Fairs.

I am very blessed to have Arlene O as the ADR and DAPP for our District and grateful for the other Officers, Group Reps, and Coordinators for their support.

There are many challenges and hurdles that our district has to deal with, but with the help of our Higher Power I know that we will face them with Unity, Love, Hope and Respect toward one another. It’s Principals above Personalities.

Your trusted Servant,
Martie S, District 5 Representative

**District 6**

Hello from District 6!
Thank you to the GRs and Coordinators who make my job easier. I wouldn’t be able to do this position without their amazing help and the help of my Higher Power who has helped me learn how to live “One day at a time.”

District 6 encompasses Yolo and Solano counties, including the cities of Benicia, Fairfield/Suisun City, Vallejo, Napa, Rio Vista, Vacaville, Dixon, Davis and Woodland. We have 34 Al-Anon meetings and 2 Alateen meetings. There are 8 meetings in CA State Prison, Solano, 1 in the CA Medical Facility, Vacaville, and 2 meetings in Juvenile Hall, Woodland.

Our District meeting is held the 2nd Saturday of every odd month. The attendance of the GRs and Coordinators this year has been fabulous!

Fall is a beautiful season of abundance. Abundance comes in many colors, just like Autumn leaves. For me Abundance is being happy and content with what is, and not worrying so much about what isn’t. This has taken a lot of practice but with the help of my friends in Al-Anon, the tools in the Al-Anon program and especially my Higher Power, I am changing! For District 6 it’s coming in our Fall Fundraiser, with the theme Abundance. This exciting event happens on October 24th from 11:00am – 4:00pm at the Davis Community Church, located at 412 C Street, Davis. Come and help us celebrate Abundance with a door prize, donation drawings, a delicious potluck lunch and a panel of speakers, including Nick D. our Area Diversity Coordinator, Veronica P. our Area PI/CPC Coordinator, Francisco, our Alateen speaker, Lee W. our AA speaker, and Bonnie M. our Alternate Delegate. Come and hear their Experience, Strength and Hope on Abundance. A flyer is posted on our District 6-10 website, our NCWSA website and in the Share and Care. Hope to see you there!

Grateful to be in service….. One day at a time…..
With Warm Hugs,
Dru – DR, D6

**District 7**
A report was not received.
**District 8**
A report was not received.

**District 9**
District 9 is Located in El Dorado and Amador Counties, in the foothills on the way to South Lake Tahoe, and south down Highway 49 all the way to Pine Grove. I looked it up, we span over 2,300 square miles, we are quite spread out and we don’t have a lot of meetings, however our current membership is strong.

We in District 9 are blessed that over 90% of our district volunteers attend our bi-monthly district business meetings. This panel, we start each business meeting with one of our members sharing about one of the concepts of service; I have to say it has been a wonderful informative growth experience for me. It is my pleasure and my honor to be the DR for this district.

Our PI/CPC Coordinator is doing a super job and working diligently getting the word out in our community. Our Institutions Coordinator has several volunteers working inside our jail, institutions, and now there are volunteers at Mule Creek prison. Our dedicated Alateen Coordinator/DAPP has had a fun year and now has taken on the project of working with our local high schools to introduce an Alateen meeting, can’t wait to see what the future brings for our Alateen program. We also have a loyal teleservice coordinator answering calls from the community as well as all of our enthusiastic GRs keeping our membership current with what is going on. This group is the best!

Our district has bi-monthly open speaker meetings, a safe place for newcomers to hear the Al-Anon message and an open Al-Anon forum for members of any program to see what Al-Anon is all about. They are the first Saturday night of even months… and now include a recovery mixer… hope to see you all at our next one February 6th 2016 at Light of the Hills Church in Cameron Park.

This year we also had two separate Days in Al-Anon, one included a cookie bake-off that was a blast and yummy… so many great cookies… couldn’t believe it, I won 3rd place! We had great Al-Anon and AA speakers and we are looking forward to our next fun day in Al-Anon, a chili cook-off “Take What You Like and Leave the Rest”, on Saturday January 23rd… don’t forget to mark your calendar and be working on your recipe.

I have placed a flyer in the folders for our upcoming Fall Workshop which will be on Saturday November 14th Titled “Let it begin with Me” We’re excited to be partnering with District 10 for this event and are anxiously looking forward to having Veronica come to our district and share her interactive workshop with us. Also as part of our workshop we will have a discussion panel, including both Al-Anon and Alateen speakers with the topic being “Loving Relationships” Love, Forgiveness and Self Esteem. At our Fall Workshop each year we serve brunch and have complimentary childcare. We welcome all of you to come up to the foothills, maybe go to Apple Hill and spend a few hours with us at our Fall Workshop. Check the NCWSA website for all the information.

I am so grateful I get the opportunity to do service alongside these terrific individuals, our District 9 GRs.

Thank you for letting me be of service! I look forward to what the future will bring, one day at a time…

Heide
District Representative
**District 10**
District 10 covers northeastern Sacramento County plus Placer and Nevada Counties (from Fair Oaks to Truckee).

Our district consists of 47 groups - including 4 Alateen groups - and is part of the Intergroup that includes Districts 6-10 with whom we support the AIS office in Sacramento. We are a large district, with meetings that are spread out geographically. We have a Google Group that is becoming very effective in keeping groups in communication between our district meetings. I am grateful that I have been invited to chair meetings to talk about service, and I plan to visit all of our meetings who do not currently have GRs to advise them of what we offer them in support and to encourage them to elect a GR who can be added to our Google Group. In this way, they can stay informed of what is going on in District 10 even if they cannot attend monthly meetings.

District 10 meets the third Wednesday of each month (except December) and we have monthly speaker meetings on the third Sunday of each month. These speaker meetings are hosted by our groups, and I’m excited to say that every Speaker meeting through 2016 - but one - already has a group that has signed up to host.

Our Alateen Coordinator, Sharon S is looking for opportunities to expand our Alateen program. We had a table at the Woodcreek High School Health Fair. We recently received a request for information from another school, and Sharon has plans to reach out to more schools within Roseville. We currently have 19 certified AMIASs who are qualified to sponsor Alateen meetings.

In May, a new Spanish speaking meeting started in Orangevale. We have meetings in Folsom prison, and our Institutions Coordinator, Ted S, has added a meeting to the women’s section of the prison. Auburn Juvenile Hall has also requested a meeting.

In February we participated with the D6-10 Intergroup in the annual Spring Fling AA Convention with Al-Anon participation. In March we held our annual District 10 Fund Raiser Speaker Meeting and Potluck Dinner. Our speakers, Jeff C and Leslie L were wonderful; and, as usual it was very well attended, including people from surrounding districts.

In June, our district participated at Auburn Unity Day, an AA event with Al-Anon participation. There were two outstanding Al-Anon speakers, Andy H and Wendy L, as well as Al-Anon marathon meetings. There was also a very informative Institutions panel who shared on the outreach to local prisons and other institutions. New participants stepped up at that meeting to become certified to attend meetings in prisons.

Also in June, our district was offered the opportunity to participate in the NCCAA conference at the Auburn Fairgrounds. We had an Al-Anon literature table available, and a number of Al-Anon’s were available to answer questions. There was great interest in Alateen especially. On November 14th, our district will be participating with District 9 in a PI-CPC Workshop. Veronica P will be attending with a presentation on “Let it Begin with Me,” and we will have a panel on “Loving Relationships.” Fliers for this workshop are in your folders as well.

**Challenges**
Unfortunately, some of our panel coordinators and one officer have had to resign – our PI-CPC and Diversity coordinators, our Co-Coordinator for Institutions, and our Alternate District Rep. Our challenge is to continue with the great efforts that they have made to keep the district active in the various areas of Public Outreach. We are taking advantage of opportunities in these areas as they come up, and we look forward to working with District 6-10 Intergroup when opportunities arise for our district to continue outreach and 12th Step opportunities.
We have an incredible panel of group representatives, officers, and coordinators; and so we are certain that we can continue to support our district as well as it has been supported by our terrific previous panels. We are grateful also for the level of participation in district events and service from members of our groups.

Thank you for listening,
Yvonne P.
District 10 Rep

District 11
Marin County, District 11 currently hosts a total of 32 meetings comprised of 29 Al-Anon meetings in English, 1 Spanish Al-Anon meeting, 1 pre-Alateen meeting and 1 Alateen meeting.

We have over 75% of our meetings represented at our monthly district meeting with voting GRs or Alternates, our coordinator positions are filled with the exception of Events Coordinator. That said, the members have put together a speaker event scheduled for Saturday, Nov 7, 2015 from 7-9 which is entitled “Tickle Your Funny Bone”. Our speaker will be sharing her experience, strength and hope about how humor has shaped and supported her recovery. You are all invited to attend, there is a flyer in your bin. The committee has been meeting regularly in the art studio of one member to make individual ‘funny bones’ for attendees to take home. So if you find humor lacking in your recovery – feel free to come to Marin and choose a funny bone!

Our Pre-Alateen meeting has a regular attendance of 3-5 members with two sponsors at each meeting. Currently, a total of six (6) Alateens are scheduled to attend NoCAC in a couple weeks with at least two (2) of our AMIAS sponsors attending as well.

Our Friday Night Stepped-Up meeting continues to draw at least 100 attendees and we are encouraged to see many of them are younger members – YAY!!

The Saturday Parents Speaker Meeting also brings up to 200 attendees on a regular basis.

Most recently, our district meeting held two meetings in a KBDM format with a broad range of opinions and discussion regarding the district sponsored newcomer’s meeting, which is held every Monday evening from 7 – 7:45. This meeting uses the WSO Beginner’s Meeting Guidelines for its script. Over time, the script has gotten wordy, so a task force has been created to write and propose a new script.

In addition, all meetings are discussing the fact that there is little support from the membership in attending this newcomer’s meeting, so we are asking if it remains the best way to attract and introduce newcomer’s to Al-Anon.

As DR it has been my pleasure to meet with the GRs on a monthly basis and review our district business. We start each meeting with a short meditation and a discussion on a tradition or a concept. This has been very helpful in keeping discussions focused on recovery and our primary purpose.

Thank you for your time and Keep Coming Back!
Oh thank heaven for District !!

Respectfully Submitted,
Darby T
DR District !!
**District 12**

Hi I’m Mary, District Representative for District 12, San Francisco. I like to compare a healthy meeting to a stew. Each member adds an ingredient no one else can. All those shares or ingredients are important to the success of a meeting.

So it is with a district. We have many vital ingredients and how they are prepared and delivered varies with each trusted servant.

We currently have a total of 50 meetings, which make up the meat and potatoes of our district. Two of these meetings are Alateen and three Spanish. We also have our monthly speaker meeting, which in January changed location to where our Saturday Social AFG meets. In addition, we moved the day of the month to the 3rd Saturday. Support has increased since this change, partly because we now have access to a small parking lot.

Alateen, which we count on to keep our ingredients fresh, continues to grow. We have 12 AMIAS and hosted an AMIAS training in March with about 75 attendees. Early in the year Jaina stepped forward to be our DAPP just in time for the annual recertification process. We have made some inroads into a few San Francisco schools including Ida B. Wells, French American International, June Jordan School for Equity and James Lick Middle School where a panel of our teens, who had the day off, successfully presented the Alateen message. We have been welcomed at the Health Education class at Lincoln H. S.’s five classes each semester for the past three or four years. This past semester, we used the Alateen DVDs created by WSO to supplement our presentation and they were a big success because the classes got to hear their peers sharing about Alateen. The second of our two District 12 Alateen meetings started June 30 and the teens are happy to have an additional meeting available. In an effort to promote unity within our district AMIAS community, we will be holding a group inventory prior to John exiting as our Alateen Coordinator.

Our district meeting is the broth that blends us all together. Currently, slightly more than half our meetings have GRs to represent them. This past July, we lost the conference room in our office building where we have met for the last 10 years. With space at a premium in the city, we were grateful when our past DR Cynthia graciously offered us a space, we gladly accepted. Our district stew still needs some additional ingredients such as an Institutions Coordinator and PI/CPC Coordinator. We are fortunate to have Veronica in our district and as she learns of events in our lively district, she has forwarded details and encouraged our participation.

We had our annual Day in Al-Anon on August 15th with about 40 attendees. We had an AA, Al-Anon and Alateen speaker. There was a table set up with supplies to make God boxes throughout the day and we had an amazing donation drawing with about 15 baskets donated by members or groups.

To encourage a rich flavor, we are fortunate to have a Finance Committee. We are incorporated, having an Office/Literature Depot and a paid worker. Our Finance Committee is made up of our Treasurer, Alt. DR, our past DR, a current GR and former GR. It works with the Treasurer to put together a budget to present to the district and monitors our budget throughout the year. In addition, it tracks a tax calendar to assure we meet deadlines, generates a district appeal letter, which includes an appeal for matching contributions, it digests financial issues the district may be facing and helps present and discuss them at district meetings assisting the treasurer in communicating about them and seeking ways to support district endeavors and arms of service.

Every good stew needs to be blended and simmered so the flavors “communicate” with each other. We have a wonderful website and volunteer administrator. We also have a Yahoo Group, which we are in the process of converting to a Google Group to be more effective.
This should give our area a taste of the diverse flavors of our amazing district, for which I am grateful to serve as DR, the servant sous chef.

**District 13**
A report was not received.

**District 14**
What I love about a new Panel is its potential - the opportunity to create three years of growth and change for ourselves, our groups and our District.

We started the year with a simple agenda, explaining how our monthly meetings work, needing to fill many empty Coordinator positions, and to date, all but one have been filled, even Archives, which is daunting, as District 14 has been in existence since 1971. Each meeting begins with an optional Concept study, and discussions which for those that attend are enlightening in regards to understanding how the business side of Al-Anon can be successful.

In late January, we held our Budget meeting, presuming good will within the District, and ten months later, we are on target with group contributions, as well as expenditures less than expected. We also have contributed $1,000 each to WSO and NCWSA.

In less than 25 square miles District 14 has over 55 meetings per week, including several Alateen meetings, one in Juvenile Hall, 10 Spanish meetings, and one each Women's and Men's. We are also exploring starting a YAR meeting, (Young Adults in Recovery). Our fully stocked Literature Depot is in Martinez, California. The District itself covers Central and Eastern Contra Costa County. We have currently 26 active AMIAS, with several in process, and have held two well attended training sessions, one just last weekend. There are meetings waiting to start, but we need Sponsors in the areas for the meetings to begin.

Our annual Day in Al-Anon, each February, was a great success. Attendance was nearly 200. Our speakers were a Los Angeles family in recovery: a father in AA, an adult daughter who had been in Alateen, and an Al-Anon Mother. Our next DIA will be Feb 20th, and you are all invited!

Our upcoming Men's Day in Al-Anon, next weekend in Pleasant Hill, will be our third. I understand that it will, again be fabulous.... Fliers are on the back table, please take to your meetings.

D14 has a travel budget that formulaically builds over each month, and this year in March, three past Panel members were selected by random drawing and I attended SWRDM in Salt Lake City, all expenses paid by the District. It truly was a life changing experience for us all. I'm also proud to say that our current Delegate, Yvonne, and immediate past Delegate, Patrick all hail from District 14. This fund for travel is reserved for WSO sponsored events, and in the past we have sent members to TEAM events, SWRDM, and the Internationals in Pittsburgh and Vancouver.

Last month, Yvonne came to the D14 Business meeting and talked to us about abundance, and in gratitude, I am pleased to say that D14 is blessed with abundance, financially as well as Service. Our website was revamped as was our on-line newsletter, both are not only informative, but a pleasure to read and interact with.

We provide scholarships to NoCAC, Woods, as well as Sponsors R&R. This year, we sent 14 to Growing Together Weekend.

Forward thinking MDIA chairs instituted a new registration process for D14, and we now use PayPal for our major events.

D14 has a monthly speaker meeting in Walnut Creek at Kaiser Medical Center. It was started about 13 years ago by our Delegate, Yvonne, who, by the way, also started our Day in Al-Anon.
The meetings are hosted by our Groups and recorded. We have had some amazing stories, each October, the District itself hosts the Anniversary Speaker Meeting, this year, on the 24th we will have Fernando M from S. Ca share with us. We have an active lending library of CDs, including almost all speakers from at least the last 4 years. Our recording coordinator held a workshop to teach the workings of technical aspects and we now have a small committee of people that can step in as needed.

District 14 is incorporated. We are in the process of updating our guidelines so that we can be current with changing times. We also serve as our own Intergroup.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent my District, and to serve with exceptional officers. Billie, the ALT DR is truly my right hand, our Secretary keeps the entire District informed as soon as requested, our Treasurer monitors all aspects of our working capital, and the immediate past DR is always available to share her ESH of the panel preceding this one. The GRs are the lifeblood of District 14, and I especially want to thank those who are in attendance at this Assembly.

District 14 couldn't do what it does without the dedication and service of its members, I am so proud of this current panel, its ability to grasp the issues at hand and willingness to ask questions, take on challenges and to be conduits of information to support what we commit to. The hugs and the smiles, respectful discussion make every day worth the efforts to keep the District healthy and running on a full tank of gratitude. Our next step, one day at a time, is to set goals for the next year...

Watch District 14 fly into the future!

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn H.,
DR  D14

District 15
Hi everybody,
We are District 15, what a privilege it is for me to be standing here with you and our District GRs. Our area includes the cities of Hayward, Castro Valley, San Lorenzo, San Leandro, Oakland, Alameda and Piedmont. We have approximately 43 weekly meetings; 35 in English, 5 Spanish and 3 weekly Alateen meetings—one of which is bilingual.

Our District meeting is held bright and early every third Saturday of the month 9:00 - 11:00, with an attendance of approximately 30 GRs, coordinators, and officers. All three of our Alateen meetings have GRs, who regularly attend the district meeting.

Our Alateen Coordinator along with the Alateens are on fire raising money for themselves. They decorated collection cans that were distributed to our groups, resulting in this year’s group donations already surpassing 2015’s expectation. This money enabled more scholarships for their events. We sent 10 teens to GTW with full or partial scholarships, and they are preparing for NoCAC. We are having more teens speak at our monthly fellowship events—some of them speaking for the very first time! Plus the Alateen groups are even sponsoring their first MFE—the Halloween party, traditionally a fun event for families.

October 3rd was our annual Day in Al-Anon/Alateen with AA participation. The teens raised more scholarship money with a delicious bake sale. Groups donated bountiful baskets for the silent auction. We had a turnout of around 100 Al-Anons, Alateens and AAs. All those who came enjoyed meetings, the potluck lunch, speakers and fellowship.
Kathleen, our Public Outreach Coordinator, is at an event this weekend raising awareness of Al-Anon. They have had an outreach table at 8 events this year, often with Spanish speaking volunteers.

This is the first panel in quite some time that we have an institutions coordinator. There are three institutions where outreach will occur with the goal of starting meetings.

I've had a slow start in visiting all the meetings in our District, but I hope to visit them all by the end of my term, with the hope of increasing the connection between members, groups, Area, and the WSO.

We still have a few open service positions. Not all GRs are attending District meetings and not all meetings have GRs, but I'm hopeful that this will change. I am grateful for all the GRs, coordinators and visitors that show up and participate.

I am so grateful for Al-Anon service doing for me what I could not do for myself.
Maria

District 16

We are District 16 and the cities of Dublin, Livermore, Sunol and Pleasanton are located in the District (also known as the Tri-Valley). There is also one meeting in San Ramon. There are a total of 21 meetings including an Alateen and a pre-teen, a Men-only, two Women-only and one meeting centered on relationships along with a bunch of other meetings that have themes including Adult Children as well as Steps, Traditions and Concepts study. We have a monthly speaker meeting where the speakers can be recorded and are available on the website. One can go to a meeting in our District any day of the week. Our Business meetings occur once a month and are productive, lively and chaotic at times. We use respectful behaviors to help keep the meeting orderly.

We have a Web site (Al-Anon Tri-Valley D16.org). There is a contact phone number (Tri-Valley Al-Anon/Alateen Answering Service: (1-925-277-7661), as well as an email address (Help@alanontrivalley.org). We use Google Groups to exchange information. Events in our District include a Day in Al-Anon in the spring, and a Fall Fest in the fall. Other events include an Alateen event called the Flap Jack Fundraiser and earlier this year a workshop called “GR 101” which was on training for the incoming GRs of this panel. The NoCaC Last Chance Dance occurs frequently in our District as well. I heard that the District is bidding to have an assembly as well.

Our Alternate DR actively participates as an Al-Anon liaison at many AA events as well as Health fairs and the like. She will be working on the NCCAA 69th Spring Conference -March 2016 in San Ramon. She goes to represent Al-Anon at Kaiser, Amador Valley High School Health Quest on March 26, and participated in AA Valley Service Center's Summer Picnic on Aug 16. Alateen is robust in our District. The Alateen meeting typically has 18-24 teens and a GR who came to Assembly. There is also a preteen meeting. Gratefully, our District is financially sound where we have enough funds (and then some) to keep the District financially solvent and able to make purchases such as the Al-Anon table cloth. We also have a separate Alateen budget and are able to provide scholarships to the Alateen and AMIAS events. Our Literature coordinator provides literature at District events. Our public outreach does a strong service in providing speakers at shelters and health care organizations.
Now we are by no means perfect:

- In September, one meeting was dropped due to lack of participation.
- An issue that occurred at a meeting that was brought to the District meeting and discussed and presumably was resolved; however the group that was involved felt that the District did not adequately address it.
- At our last Day in Al-Anon which was a great day, the church made accusations about how we left the condition after the event and threatened to not allow us to use the facilities again. We met with the Pastor and were able to resolve the issue and are still having our events at the church.

**District 17**

Zippity Do Dah Everyone. We are the FUN District serving Fremont, Union City and Newark! My Higher Power has put Delta, my wonderful sponsor in my life and the bonus is she is the Alternate District Rep. We get to work closely together as Trusted Servants for the members and the community we serve.

I am not here today because I've learned I can make good choices that serve me well without guilt or shame. My husband and I, only by the grace of God's blessing, are celebrating our 33rd Wedding Anniversary this weekend.

All Trusted Servants positions at the District level are filled. We have monthly scheduled Intergroup meetings well attended. We have reports from the Treasurer, Coordinators and each Group Rep. and we discuss issues that are important from our members. We vote monthly to donate an amount to NCWSA and WSO. Our recent Intergroup meeting discussed 10 items and voted on issues to create a “Bullet Point Sheet” to refer to when the same questions arise time and time again.

We have 10 meetings and 9 are represented here today by a Group Rep. We have 2 Beginner Meetings, a Men's Meeting and an Alateen Meeting. The newest Focus Meeting started this week; “Hope for Parent's”. We're so excited as Fremont Hospital which serves the Chemical Dependency & Mental Health community has opened their doors to us. The history behind the relationship with them is that for the last 3-4 years at least 1 member from Al-Anon and 1 from AA attend their weekly meeting for the outpatient program and these members share their experience, strength and hope at Family Night. Our members say this is one of the most rewarding services they've experienced. While we were hoping to keep the Spanish Meeting and continue to support them, they relocated to a neighboring district.

We have 5 AMIAS and 1 completing paperwork to be certified. Our Alateen members attendance fluctuates greatly and we have kids younger than 12. Our recent intergroup meeting discussed having enough AMIAS available so that those younger than 12 can have their own meeting while the teens can have theirs. This summer a local church contacted our hotline to ask how they could best help their youth group members who have addiction in their home. Three AMIASs showed up at Teen Night to do outreach. A few of those teens and their mom came to the next monthly speaker meeting.

Our monthly birthday speaker potluck meetings are thriving, growing and are well attended by Al-Anon’s, Alateens and AA members as we have a speaker from each program share. Each meeting rotates hosting the speaker meetings as if it was a party in their home. Thank you to our members who interact with newcomers at these meetings to make them feel at ease and they keep coming back. Thank you to the AMIASs in other Districts for driving the Alateens to our meetings when Nasser has asked them to share.
Our Public Outreach Coordinator secured a table at the Newark Health Fair and members gave of their time to talk to the community to hand out Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2015/2016 and answer questions about the family disease of Alcoholism.

Our Day In Al-Anon this year was a huge success held in July and the theme was Beach Blanket Al-Anon. We had Debbie S. & Skip S. come up from San Luis Obispo to speak. Olivia was our Alateen speaker and she is an incredible young woman. We had 5 workshops based on our CAL Literature; Courage to Change, Many Voices, One Journey; When I got Busy, I got Better and Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses as well as a Sponsorship workshop. All of these were chaired by members out of our district from Marin to Modesto, San Jose and Half Moon Bay. Thanks to all who came and did service. We will make ourselves available to you as well because together we can do that which we could never do alone and no longer have to.

Have a Wonderful Assembly.
Love in Service,
Eva B., District 17 Representative

District 18
In our District, you will find 35 Al-Anon groups with 46 meetings in 17 cities and 8 Alateen groups with 8 meetings in 5 cities.

Included in the Al-Anon meetings are two 30-minute meetings just for newcomers, one on Saturday and one on Tuesday, both followed by a regular Al-Anon meeting. Our newest Al-Anon group (starting just this month) is LGBT and Friends AFG meeting on Monday night. We have special focus groups for men, for women and for parents of alcoholics. We have 2 Spanish-speaking groups holding 3 meetings. We have an Alateen meeting in a middle school and another in a runaway shelter for teens. We are as diverse in our meeting personalities as we are in our geography. I believe the longest drive you could take across our wonderful district would take you a little over 2 hours and cover about 91 miles from Groveland to Tracy. If you stopped at any meetings along the way, you would be surprised how few of us fit the Al-Anon stereotype of being married females past the age of 60.

Now I could go on all day about District 18, but let me recap just a few highlights:

• This past year, our dedicated Alateen coordinator and co-coordinator encouraged members to step up and give presentations to at least 16 schools. Two more presentations are planned for October and November, one of them at a Junior College. An absolutely amazing achievement when you consider the size of our District. One Alateen meeting started as a direct result and kids have been encouraged to attend meetings wherever possible. This service work also helped us to attract new AMIAS – that is, Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service. Our members showed up to Sponsors R&R in force this year. I love the enthusiasm!
• Convention: Kudos to our District 18 Al-Anon members which pulled together like the amazing team they are...to be your hosts for Convention 2015. And if you attended, we hope their smiles were a big part of Coloring Your World with Recovery!
• Roughly half of our groups are sending their representatives to our monthly District Meeting on a regular basis. I would love to see this number increase. This year we stepped out and tried something new, holding our monthly District meeting in October in Soulsbyville which is near Jamestown. Back in summer, we held one of our AMIAS trainings in the town of Groveland. We just thought it was high time we showed some fairness to our amazing membership who live in the mountains and drive great distances to be active in our service meetings and events.
• During the 2nd through the 4th weeks of every month, our members carry the message to Modesto’s treatment programs including Stanislaus Recovery Center, New Hope, Nirvana Men, and Nirvana Women. We also go to Juvenile Drug Court in Modesto and Changing Echoes in
Angels Camp. We are always looking for more volunteers to serve by sharing a bit of their story or a reading with the families of those in treatment.

• We are having a Day in Al-Anon on Friday Oct. 31st in Oakdale (Community Methodist Church 1480 Poplar St) – and you are invited! This is during the day 8:30 am to 4 pm. Theme is Recovery, the Best Kept Secret. There were great speakers, food, fun and fellowship. Come and have some honest recovery with us; we’re friendly not scary!

**District 19**

Hi everyone,

My name is Sheri. I have the privilege to serve as D-19’s district rep. District 19 serves Kings, Tulare and Fresno and Madera counties.

We have 51 meetings in our district, within those there are 2 Alateen meeting with a new one just starting up. Several book study, step meetings, beginners meetings and Spanish meetings available.

We have a district speaker meeting first Monday of every month, where we invite an A.A. speaker to share their ESH for a combined meeting.

We have our coordinator positions filled with the exception of Institutions and several Alternate positions.

We have monthly district meeting. The GRs have voted to have ½ workshops the other business meetings.

Several meetings are deciding to do group inventories.

At a recent budget committee meeting, a district inventory was discussed. The topic will be on agenda in November for discussion and possible vote to proceed with inventory.

October 3rd District 19 participated in Unity Day with the local A.A. Districts. Alateen members performed an Al-Anon literature play. Al-Anon members performed a play entitled “Al-Anon- The Lois Story”. Our Delegate, Yvonne was, the Al-Anon speaker. Thank you to Yvonne and Arlene for coming to Fresno, having a bite to eat with us and sharing a story or two.

On the A.A. side of the program, everyone participated in a writing workshop. I was walking through, from the kitchen to the registration while the workshop was in progress, the sharing part was happening. An Al-Anon member stops me and says, is this part just for the A.A.’s or can we share too? This is Unity Day. What a concept huh! Or Tradition!

Next Special Event for our district is Oct 24th, all are welcome to attend. Joy. M from Northern Cali will be our speaker.

Also, local Al-Anon members will participate in this year’s NCCAA conference, to be held Halloween weekend.

These events and all other information about our District 19 can be found at Southvalleyalanon.org

**District 20**

Dear Assembly,

I am honored to represent District 20, which serves the cities of Alviso, Cupertino, Los Altos, Mountain View, San Jose, Santa Clara, Saratoga and Sunnyvale in Santa Clara Valley. In our district, we have 23 registered Al-Anon meetings (2 of which are Spanish speaking) and 11 active
Group Representatives. We have 3 Alateen meetings (1 of which is Spanish speaking), 1 Ala-Kids
meeting and 16 certified AMIAS. We also have several Al-Anon members who actively support our
district services.
Our district has been active this year on-boarding new Group Representatives, encouraging
greater participation, ensuring our meetings stay connected to Al-Anon as a whole, hosting bi-
monthly speaker meetings and participating in public outreach. Here's a brief summary of our
successes and challenges this year as well as our opportunities for next year.

Successes:
• Purchased and distributed the 2015 Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism Forum in our community.
• Purchased 2016 Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism Forum in English & Spanish for distribution next year
• Hosted bi-monthly Speaker Meetings on behalf of Santa Clara Valley districts 20, 21 and 22. We
  provide refreshments, literature and fellowship. The meeting is recorded and a CD is made for
each GR to take back to their meeting. In June, we borrowed the area audio equipment, worked
with Nick to identify an interpreter and were prepared to offer English to Spanish translation. We
didn't have anyone who needed translation but now we know how to coordinate the efforts for next
time.
• Created a District 20 Appeal Letter to encourage greater participation from the district groups –
  asking that they elect a GR for their meeting and donate to district service.
• Helped cover costs for 2 Al-Anon members’ life scans as part of the AMIAS certification process.
• Made and distributed a bookmark love gift to attendees at this 3-
  day assembly.

Challenges:
• Getting meetings to see the value of district participation and/or finding someone willing to fill the
  Group Representative position.
• Sorting out group concerns where a Treasurer stole 7th Tradition money from 3 different
  meetings. We reasoned things out, reviewed the Service Manual and Conference Summaries for
  answers on how to proceed. One group went to a lot of effort to retrieve the large sum of money
  but was unsuccessful. In the end, that group tightened their guidelines and put checks and
  balances in place for the Treasurer position to ensure greater safety for the meeting. We trust, but
  not blindly.
• Working through an incident that impacted our Treasurer. She was robbed at gunpoint while
  exiting the bank after depositing district funds. No money was taken since it had just been
  deposited. We closed our account and after much hassle opened a new one with a different bank.
  Most importantly, the incident traumatized our Treasurer and she is still dealing with the effects.
  After much consideration and deliberation, she has chosen to step down as Treasurer to better
  take care of herself. This lead to open and honest conversations and how we can better support
  our Trusted Servants to ensure their safety.

Opportunities:
• Clarify the partnership between Santa Clara Valley Intergroup and Districts 20, 21 and 22 and
  find ways to more effectively work together. Our Intergroup provides essential services to the
  districts as outlined in the Santa Clara Valley AFG Intergroup Report.
• Support diversity in our community through our Santa Clara Valley Speaker meetings. For
  example, invite Spanish speakers and offer Spanish with English translation.
• Widen the pool of host groups to include all of Santa Clara Valley for Speaker meetings.
• Update the District 20 website.
• Host an AMIAS training workshop.
• Host an Al-Anon/Alateen literature workshop.

I am so grateful to get to do service with such fun, passionate and committed Group
Representatives and Al-Anon Members in service. As our Al-Anon closing says [we will continue
to] “talk to each other, reason things out with someone else, but let there be no gossip or criticism
of one another. Instead, let the understanding, love, and peace of the program grow in you one day at a time."

Love in service,
Cynthia P.
District 20 Representative

**District 21**
District Twenty One includes the middle section of Santa Clara County, with our meetings primarily in San Jose, Santa Clara and Milpitas. We have 19 meetings in our district in English, 8 in Spanish and 4 meetings in institutions. Included in those meetings is a YAR meeting, a gay and lesbians meeting, two women’s meeting and two Alateen meetings which are held in institutions.

Our district meets bi-monthly on the first Wednesday of the month, on odd months, at 7:00 in Campbell. We use our District meetings to discuss issues within our groups and our service rolls which are outlines both in our Service Manual and the Guidelines for our service positions. Our district has established a budget, which took some work, since we hadn’t had one from the prior years. We are now discussing what to do with our funds, which will include funding whatever service activity we commit to, having a prudent reserve, and contributing to NCWSA and WSO. In May we had 7 GRs attend Assembly, and hope we can have more members step up to the GR position.

District 21 is supported by the Santa Clara Valley Intergroup which provides us with literature, and coordinates activities in public outreach, hospitals and institutions and Alateen. We are represented on the scvafg’s website, scv-affg.org, which lists our meetings and any events we may plan.

Besides running the District meetings, my main activities have been visiting all the meetings in our district, which I hope to finish by the end of the year. While I am attending the meetings, I verify the current mailing address (CMA’s) and contact information from the records WSO provides. I also try and encourage participants to be of service beyond the group level, and see if I can offer any support.

In June, we hosted Yvonne, our delegate, to meet with Santa Clara Valley Intergroup and our three districts (20, 21 and 22). We were excited about her visit since she got to discuss what happened at the World Service Conference and answered questions from all who attended. The Intergroup Reps don’t hear directly from our delegate, so her visit helped educate all of us and keep us connected.

I enjoy being of service, especially the fellowship I experience with the GRs and DRs, visiting all the meetings, and learning more about Al-Anon through my connection to NCWSA. I am grateful to all the people who have given me support and the opportunity to be of service.

In service,
Maria G, District 21

**District 22**
Hello, I’m Carla F.
2015 began with me as DR and Nancy D as Alternate DR. We are supporting each other in the positions more than usual. We have alternate car trouble and talents. We had no Group Reps. to start with but we asked and between that and those who have taken on the responsibility on their own, we now have ten active GRs and growing.

It has definitely been an ongoing learning experience. The duties gain in clarity as we go.
Hosting the one day assembly accelerated our knowledge of how things work. I am relying on connections with committee members YEAH and reading and learning from the Service Manual, bylaws and NCWSA records.

Since our three districts are separate from (AIS) Intergroup, we are all looking at ways to support and communicate more effectively with each other.

One of our GRs, Bonnie, has been instrumental in locating a new affordable meeting place for our district meetings. Our first meeting in the new location was in May.

We hosted a good old-fashioned Ice Cream Social in July. It was mid-summer and horrible heat but it was a success. We had one speaker, a couple of hours and lots of ice cream. Fifty or so people attended, including Alateens headed to the Bash afterward.

We are planning to host our traditional February event, Day in Al-Anon with the focus on service. We have a chairperson Jill who is working on a venue and date. Please stand-by for it. We recently sent off six scholarships for Alateens to go to NOCAC.

Our project for Outreach was purchasing pamphlets and carrying them to choice places to spread the word.

It seems we barely have enough time in our hour and one half bimonthly meeting to handle all the topics before us. We are enthusiastic!!!!!!!!!!

I’m very thankful for the participation of a group of great GRs in service.

Grateful In Service,
Carla F.

**District 23**
District 23 encompasses Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties. We have 28 meetings, 5 of those Spanish-speaking meetings. Our district meets bi-monthly and we have about 90% participation from officers and GRs. Because so much business is covered at the District Meetings we voted to meet an extra 3 times a year in a more intimate setting with a pot-luck and time for more personal shares.

A big focus in our district has been to revitalize Alateen. AMIASs have been encouraged to share frequently their personal ESH from doing service with the Alateens. More members have signed up to become AMIASs and we meet every other month with breakfast potluck at one of our member’s house. We share our ESH and pass on information to each other. We have created an AMIASs email list within our district that will allow us to stay in close and easy contact with each other. Unfortunately, because of poor Alateen attendance, we chose to close our 2 Alateen meetings. We are in the process of looking for a location with enough meeting spaces so that an Al-Anon, Alateen, Ala-Kid and perhaps AA meetings can be held, thus encouraging the model of family recovery.

Public Outreach: Our district has been very inspired by the public outreach efforts of the group Libertad de Vivir in Watsonville. They have set up Al-Anon information tables outside of a market, The Strawberry Festival and the Watsonville Pride Day. Their enthusiasm is contagious.

We continue to strengthen the Home Group model. Individual groups now host our bi-monthly speaker meetings. Also the responsibilities of our annual Winter FunRaiser are divided with tasks chosen by each group.
For the first time in many years we voted to hold an Annual Picnic, that was a lot of fun. Chris M., our Alateen DAPP, led us in a watermelon eating contest (hands behind your back) as well as hands behind your back, dive face first into a pile of whipped cream, fish out the bubblegum at the bottom of the pile and blow a bubble. First one to blow a bubble! (Hint: go for high quality, familiar tasting bubble gum). Members shared how moved they were by the love and warmth at this event.

We continue to carry the Al-Anon message into our local jails with 6 members doing service in this way. We are hoping to start reaching treatment centers.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service. My recovery grows in leaps and bounds because of this service position.

Gael R. (DR District 23)

District 24
Greetings from District 24! Our district is spread out from Jolon to Castroville! Many small and rural towns as well as Monterey are included.

I started my new journey being District Representative in January of this year (2015).

Sometimes I feel like I am being tested because of some controversy being brought up and tension in the air. I know I am not alone in learning, growing and fulfilling my responsibilities on our panel. I feel it will be a "District Team" effort. There has been condescension in our district meetings which I am hoping will end soon.

Currently we have 31 English speaking meetings which include; 2 Woman's; 1 Men's; 2 Beginner's and 3 Newcomer/Orientation. We have one Alateen meeting and 12 Spanish speaking meetings-Total of 44-Wow!

Our panel and members are trying to get all of our information updated!!

We have a district 24 website which has been an asset to our district; for meetings, events, fliers, contacts, forms, information for members and is diligently kept up to date. We know from newcomers and out of town visitors that they have found us via their cellphones from our website which is very encouraging.

The use of our website is apparent as the "Hits" from January to September 30th of this year (2015) were 232,866. "Visits" so far are 39,266. The month of September-"Hits" were 23,148 and "Visits" were 3,485.

Our district has its own Literature Distribution Center (LDC) which has a diverse inventory of literature. We are in the process of doing more outreach!! We had a "district" call-out to any meeting that had 2015 "Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism" booklets to bring to our July District meeting to assist the King City outreach project that was on July 26th 2015. We had several booklets delivered!! At the King City outreach event there were 5 of us members- 2 bilingual. We had over 50 people stop at our table!! We ran out of our Spanish copies of "Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism" booklets including past issues (2009-2014) and most of our pamphlets in Spanish. We also handed out meeting schedules. A few "future" Alateen and Ala-tots stopped by as well!!! Gave them an Alateen pamphlet!! Many people had heard of AA but not of Al-Anon. It was a great opportunity to inform those that were interested. As a member shared with me-"Our pamphlets aren't doing anyone any good on the shelves"!!
Our district decided to send out 2015 “Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism” booklets, a meeting schedule and one of our speaker meeting flyers to 60 professionals. We also ordered 2016 "Al Anon Faces Alcoholism” booklets- 800 in English, 200 in Spanish and ordered the pamphlet-"Attracting and Cooperating" (S-40) and the professional referral pads which is a written tool to encourage people to attend our program. As a district we will be distributing these to professionals, hospitals, libraries, etc.

We currently have 13 Certified AMIAS in district 24. Some are subs for the Alateen meeting and some are going into Monterey County Juvenile Hall which has 4-5 meetings a month!

CTF Soledad State Prison has 10 meetings a month and includes a Spanish language meeting!!

Our district is in the process of changing the composition of our Budget Committee to be transparent and inclusive by adopting more of the practices of the NCWSA Budget Committee.

Starting this year (2015) I have observed many changes are occurring -meeting facilities and event venues are changing their "Policies and Procedures;" higher rental costs; now asking for proof of insurance and the need to fill -out forms.

I feel participation in our district needs improvement. I am grateful but the same people step up to service (including myself). It's sad to think how many members don't realize how important service can be to recovery.

Last month on Friday September 11th we had our first ever Spanish open speaker meeting with English translation which was a huge success!! It was held in Salinas! Nick D from Groveland was the Al-Anon speaker and Juan L from Hollister was the AA speaker. Alateen Francisco from Oakland was our translator. There were about 70 in attendance with 5- 10 newcomers.

Luz y Esperanza meeting from Seaside put- on a delicious fundraising dinner of Tamales and Salad. They hosted this open speaker meeting along with Solo Por Hoy and Esperanza Para Hoy meetings of Salinas. Several others in our fellowship made this event possible- Josefina served as liaison with the Spanish host meetings and put in countless hours translating the format into Spanish. Darrell R of Livermore drove Francisco to and from the meeting. David B was part-of a network of people who ensured that the translation equipment made its way from Northern California to Salinas.

Thank you- Area Diversity!!! Jody and Lynn, both AMIASs helped with childcare.

In closing- I would like to express my gratitude to the members in my district who are willing to provide me with needed transportation!! Also, the many members who have and continue to encourage me to persevere in this journey of being District Representative- and finally - to those who gave me feedback in helping with this report!

Sincerely Submitted,
Terry H
D-24 DR

**District 25**
District 25 is located between District 12, San Francisco, to the north and District 13, Mid-Peninsula, to the south. It includes the Northern Bay Area Peninsula cities of Pacifica, Daly City, Brisbane, Milbrae, Burlingame, San Bruno, Colma and South San Francisco.
This small district currently has 7 English meetings, 5 Spanish meetings and 1 Alateen Meeting. Attendance is good at our meetings with a mix of old-timers, regulars, newcomers, men and women.

District 25 holds two annual special events, a Summer Serenity Luncheon and an end-of-the-year Holiday Tea. One of this District’s strengths is its commitment to Alateen. Our District Alateen Process Person and Sponsors work tirelessly to provide a safe meeting place for the young people of our area in need of the recovery Alateen provides. The Al-Anon Groups in District 25 contribute toward Alateen Scholarships and meeting expenses.

District 25 faces challenges as do all districts. We need to fill more district service positions, start new meetings in towns that don’t currently have them and establish better communication with the Spanish groups in our district.

Most of all, we need to reach out to teens, to young adults and to everyone suffering from the effects of alcoholism. Sometimes it seems as if Al-Anon is the world’s best kept secret. Too often we hear how the newcomer found Al-Anon “by chance.” This program saves lives and grants serenity and we need to continue to spread the word.

Our little piece of A-Anon on the Northern Peninsula may be small in size but for those of us in recovery there, it's like a large, welcoming family with all the things that count; experience, strength, hope and love.

Yours in service,
Jim M Alternate DR for District 25

District 26

STATE OF OUR DISTRICT

Al-Anon Family Groups within our District

- 28 – Registered meetings in English
- 3 – Meetings in Spanish (1 registered and 2 others not registered)
- 31 – TOTAL (or 4.5/day – let the hand of Al-Anon/Alateen always be there)
- From the specific words used to describe the meeting’s focus on our District Webpage:
  - 2 – Beginners
  - 1 – Newcomer welcome
  - 1 – Old-Timer
  - 1 – Men’s focus
  - 4 – Women’s focus
  - 3 – Welcome Children
  - 1 – Alateen
  - 1 – Alateen for children
  - 4 – Adult Children of Alcoholics
  - 1 – Parents
  - 3 – Bring a lunch
  - 7 – Study Al-Anon together
  - We step-up, wake-up and recover, from morning light, mid-day, afternoon and night with slogans that help and give hope for a breathe of fresh air and freedom from despair – woohoo!
  - 2 Alateen 6-11 & 12-18 AMIAS over 12

District 26 Meetings

Monthly
- District speaker meeting – 1st Saturday, 6:30-8:00pm Richmond and
- District speaker meeting – 3rd Friday, 7:15-8:45pm Berkeley
- District Art in Al-Anon meeting – 2nd Saturday, 1:00pm
- District Business meetings – 3rd Saturday, 1:00pm-3:00pm – We will have 36 meetings in this panel.
- Serve at two institutions

Annually
- District Financial Inventory (TBD)
- Holiday Potluck – District Business Meeting in December each year
- Winter Holiday Marathon Meetings
- New Year’s Day Meeting
- Solano Stroll Outreach
- June Al-Anon Family Picnic

Workshops
- Sponsorship – This month
- Writing your story for Forum & CAL – November
- Working Step 4 – December

District 27
A written report was not received.

Alateen Liaison & Committee Reports

Alateen Liaison North - Justin T.
- I went to the Bay Area to help start another Alateen meeting in Berkeley.
- Because Convention is in the North this year, I am on the committee and made Spanish and English versions of the Alateen registration (which will be released soon).
- I continue to attend monthly NoCAC Committee meetings.
- I am going to continue to try to bring Alateen to the schools in my area, including my local high school.

Alateen Liaison Central – Taft W.
- This summer, our previous Alateen Liaison for Central stepped down when she went to college. As her alternate, I am now Liaison! We were both elected at NoCAC 2014, and Shelby is our new alternate.
- Alateen members continue to be involved in other districts. In the past year, Alateens have spoken and shared at events both within and outside their own districts.
- Alateens have also presented on panels at various high schools to spread the message of Alateen.
- This August, a group of Alateens went to Oregon to support the Oregon Alateen Conference (OAC).
- Alateen continues to grow – San Francisco added another meeting this summer!
- If you need to contact me, I can be reached at alateenliaison_c@ncwsa.org.

Alateen Liaison South - Vanessa B.
I have been going to my school and talking to freshmen about Alateen and how my E,S & H has changed me and how great Alateen is. So far I have spoken to teens that want to go to Alateen but their parents won’t let them. Our district is spending money for members to go to schools but we are not getting any outcome because the parents don’t feel they have a problem or don’t want to
be associated with it. It’s unfortunate because the teens want the help but they can’t go to a meeting or try it out. I wonder what we can do so the teens can attend when their parent/guardian does not want them to go.

In our district, we are trying to do a fundraiser for next year’s NoCAC and GTW. A member is making a quilt and we will sell tickets. We are trying to do the best service we can so other teens can go to NoCAC and other meetings like that.

I enjoy doing service,
Vanessa B.

Executive Committee - Dede W.
Greetings Assembly,
The currently serving Executive Committee (EC) has met their service commitments by continuing to respond to and process all requests for financial assistance for the area and to respond to any requests for conflict resolution. There are many other things the EC handles but the two tasks above are the way we frequently interact with the larger NCWSA members.

If you need to be interviewed by the EC to be an area financial assistant, please do the following:
- email the EC chairperson (ecchair@ncwsa.org),
- offer the EC 3 days and 3 times that you would be available for a phone interview
The EC chairperson will respond to you and confirm a phone appointment time that works for everyone. After the interview, the EC Chairperson will contact you to let you know the result of the interview.

If you plan on bringing an issue to the EC for conflict resolution, here is some helpful information:
- Please carefully review the B-27 conflict and complaint resolution guideline. This guideline will help you to determine whether the conflict is ready to submit to the EC for review. Please follow the guideline and its steps prior to asking the EC for help in resolution.
The EC has started to look at guidelines that we use to see if some updating would be helpful. We will discuss more on this topic in the upcoming months.
If you have questions regarding the Executive Committee, please let any one of us know – we will be glad to answer, if possible.

Yours in service,
DeDe W
Executive Chair, on behalf of the Executive Committee.

When asked when the officers would be interviewed, the EC chair stated the Alternate Delegate and AAPP were scheduled for interviews this assembly weekend.

2016 NCWSA Convention Chairperson –Patty B.
The enthusiastic members of the 2016 Convention Committee have met three times 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………… DRs 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 – “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.

A report was not received.

Inappropriate Behavior Thought Force- Gael R., Chairperson
Gael shared that there are hard copies of the Inappropriate Behavior survey on the tables. The survey is also on the homepage of NCWSA.org and is located under the News and Announcements section. The Thought Force prefers members to answer the survey online. The information will be tallied and given to the Task Force. This survey is open until December 31st, 2015.
Coordinator Reports

Alateen Coordinator - Lisa B.

AMIAS Trainings
It is not too early to schedule a 2016 AMIAS training in your district or intergroup. I have attached a list of topics and the approximate time needed to thoroughly cover the topic(s). I will only be available once a month and January and September are already spoken for.

Sponsors R & R
• We had 69 participants at the 9th Annual Sponsors R & R. I have been processing the evaluation forms and I’m thrilled by all the positive comments. Our biggest challenge was that the Hillside cabin bathrooms were out of commission during the majority of the weekend. We had three amazing speakers and all workshops were well received and we have many new suggestions for 2016.
• I have placed a “Save the Date” flyer for the 10th Anniversary R & R September 16-18, 2016. I am sure that the committee will find a unique way to celebrate the 10 year anniversary.

NoCAC
• I continue to attend monthly committee meetings and as you have heard it is happening! Keep those registrations coming.

Liaisons
• I am thrilled that we have all three liaisons present this weekend. We have also filled the position of alternate liaison for the south section. If you are looking for an Alateen speaker in your sections, please contact the liaison in your section.

WSO
• I continue to receive requests for information which I forward on to the Alateen Coordinators or District Representatives in your district. Please follow-up as soon as you receive the request. If you do not have the time to contact the party requesting information, please let me know and I will contact them.

Goals
• I am planning on scheduling a second telephone call with district Alateen Coordinators in January 2016.

If you are in these districts I still need the names and email addresses of your Alateen Coordinators: Districts 2, 4, 7, 8, 24, and 27. I would like for them to have the opportunity participate too.
• See that the Alateen Liaisons Guidelines that were submitted in “draft” format last panel are 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
• January 10, 2016 Districts 6-10
• September 16-18, 2016 Sponsors R & R

Alateen Express
John has completed the Fall issue of the Alateen Express.

Alateen Rocks!
Yours in Service,
Lisa B

Archives Coordinator - Diana C.
We have placed a copy of the Group History Checklist (AR-6) in your GR packets and there are also extra copies on the table. The World Service Office suggest that the Area Archives keep a completed “Group History Checklist” for each Group, and I am hoping that all you, GRs, will
encourage and help members of your Group to complete the Group History Checklist and send a copy to the NCWSA Archives. Please send the document to me, email to archives@ncwsa.org or mail to Diana C. at 3207 Villa Manucha Road, Newman, CA 95360.

I want to thank the long time members who have completed the Longtime Member Questionnaire and sent a copy for the NCWSA Archives. I enjoyed reading your shares and have them on file in the Archives. We have place the Longtime Member Questionnaire in your GR packets and there are extras on the table. You can also find it in The 12 Stepper. Please distribute to your Long Time Members (25 years or more) and send a copy to the same address above.

The e-communities provided by the World Service Office for Area Archives Coordinators has been changed to AFG Connect. This is a community where we can share files and have discussions regarding Archives. If you have any questions you would like me to post, just send me an email or see me later.

A Blast from the Past…In 1971, the council and assembly voted to merge. The council’s funds were transferred to the assembly. At this time, the name chosen for the assembly was Northern California World Service Area (NCWSA). As John F., the first area chairperson explained, "There is a lot of leg work to do if you want to perpetuate Al-Anon." A past delegate shared, "Many members were content to attend their meetings and still are. They didn’t understand why it was necessary to spend a Saturday driving to and from an out-of-town meeting and spending time away from their family. But we embraced this new thing called Service." The World Service Conference even changed the names of the "district committeeman" to that of "district representative" at their 1971 conference. From “Journey to Recovery” A Fifty Year History Book, Northern California pages 16, 22.

Remember historical DVD rentals are available at the World Service Office; the AV-24 “Lois W. and the Pioneers” and AV-01 “Lois Story”. Please consider sharing these wonderful historical stories at your District’s Events. You can contact me for renting.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,
Diana C., Archives Coordinator
Terry C., Archives Alternate Coordinator

Bylaws Coordinator
We currently do not have a Bylaws Coordinator. However, Jim S. is serving as interim Bylaws Coordinator until February’s NCWSC meeting. At that time, we will hold an election to fill this position.

Diversity Coordinator – Nick d
Dear Assembly of beautiful people en el Norte de California. Bonjour! Guten Tag. Konichi wa. The family disease 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 Stephan and I strive to work with all Districts and Groups to:

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

Diversity Committee
The Diversity Committee is solid and invites and welcomes any new members from Al-Anon and Alateen. We ask you to communicate to your groups that if anyone is interested in growing their recovery in this area to get in touch with us by email ncwsadiversity@gmail.com
• Sponsors R&R (Occidental, September, 2015)
The equipment was ready, all the materials were translated into Spanish but, alas, no native Spanish speakers attended. Maybe there was a conflict, as last year we had a handful who appreciated the service. That said, there were many diverse AMIASs at the R&R Conference and I continue to be amazed at how all of our differences really enhance how “not alone” we are. We all suffer from the same disease and I continue to learn to love accept and embrace all differences. Many R&R newcomers I spoke to felt quite at home and the committee again did a fantastic job! Thanks to all for the great training, speakers, and all the workshops designed to include and welcome everyone. I don’t think a single person did not feel “part of”.

• Spanish Speaker Meeting Salinas (September 11th, 2015)
I had the honor and the privilege of sharing my story en Espanol at the Salinas Speaker meeting. Our own Alateen “Captain Fabulous” Francisco did an amazing job of flawlessly interpreting my Spanish for the English listening audience. It was the first time during this panel or the last that we had so many people listening to live English interpretation with headsets in the Audience. We had at least 60 people listening in English and the translator was Francisco…. Fabulous! Thanks to all who brought your phone headsets, the headset splitters worked marvelously.

A huge thanks to District 24 organizers, to Luz y Esperanza GFA, Seaside, Solo por Hoy GFA, Salinas, and Esperanza para Hoy GFA, Salinas. And the food……I don’t think I’ve ever had better Tamales or Salsa.

Diversity Day (August 15th, 2015)
The second Diversity Day this decade was a great success despite logistics issues (San Jose had 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 Diversity day 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 peoples’ hearts, and our first ever virtual speaker from Omaha also reached across the screen. Several asked for her phone number. The Alateens also held an extremely powerful workshop titled, “What We Need, and What You Want.” What do they need? More AMIASs, especially male AMIASs. In 2016 we plan to move both the date and venue for Diversity Day. We are exploring financially reasonable fee venues in or near San Francisco and/or near a major transportation hub like BART, so if anyone has suggestions please let us know. We believe that Diversity day could also rotate through North, Central and South, the way other events do for future years.

Diversity Day 2016 will need trusted servants, so if you’re interested please let Stephan or me know and we’ll be happy to answer any questions. We would also appreciate help in announcing that we are looking for help 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.

Open Positions for Diversity Day 2016
• Facility Coordinator
• Workshops Coordinator
• Hospitality
• Event Treasurer
• Al-Anon in Social Media
• Special Workshop
• Speaker Coordinator
• Virtual Speaker
• Spanish Speaker
• Al-Anon of Color
• Al-Anon with Disabilities
• LGBTQIA Al-Anon
• Asian Al-Anon
• Young Al-Anon
• Alateen Panel
• Transition from Institution
• AA Speaker
Sponsors R&R
While this is a separate event from Diversity, one from our team coordinated the workshops and communicated the urgency of gender identity and sexuality issues among the teens. This resulted in a powerful workshop that addressed these issues.

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. They are looking for not only interpreters they are also 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 contact us. Note that this convention conflicts with NOCAC and a 2016 Convention meeting that Sunday (both in Sacramento).

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. One example of this “dual stage” translation is the material that has been brought to the Yolo County Juvenile Detention Facility. Thanks to the help from one of our bilingual Alateens, it is now possible for two English speaking AMIASs to bring Alateen meetings to monolingual Spanish speaking attendees.

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.

Our beloved Debbie, 12 Stepper Editor, also asked us to translate the 12 Stepper. Like we told Rosanna, we don’t have the resources to translate such a technical document. That said, we suggested Debbie use the Google Tools and do her best. We anticipate the “google” translated version will be a DRAFT and will be not perfect and once people read it we will get a better sense of what is needed, and what is too much or too technical to be translated. Kudos to Debbie for letting go of the fear that these tasks are perfect. I would also like to point out that I have been doing online research on the matter and I have found two things that are really important. First, most online content can be translated with most browsers into multiple languages, on the fly. These are not perfect, but it’s instant and free and gets pretty close.

Second, as far as actual real time Al-Anon/Alateen content translation, Northern California has done more than any other area in the country and even internationally. I hope everyone feels good about this and if you find a source that has done more, please let me know.
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”.

Diversity Outreach/Translation Equipment
- We continue to encourage Area to invite Spanish Speakers to all the main workshops.
- The purchased headset splitters (that almost double our 37 headset capacity) did and will enable English Speakers to get more English translations. 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 2015 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 and communicating what Diversity looks like.
- We continue to reach out to diverse groups and encourage all GRs to ask any fellow members that are also part of LGBTQIA, 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 the 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

Future Events – that will need Trusted Servants to help:
- All California Al-Anon Spanish Convention Walnut Creek November 6,7and 8, 2015

Partial List of Documents translated Available in Spanish is 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:
- A-22.7 Alateen Travel And Treatment Authorization
- A-22.3 Letter To Alateen Sponsor Applicant
- B-17 EN ESPANOL Alateen Safety Guidelines
- Sponsors R&R registration packet
- NoCAC Registration packet
- Growing Together Weekend Registration Packet

Love in Service,
Nick d. Diversity Coordinator
Stephan T. Alt Diversity Coordinator

Facilities Coordinator - Carol S.
- First, I would like to thank David and Bruce for purchasing our new Legacy Banners. They did a wonderful job.
- I have been working with the Doubletree Hotel for the past several months getting everything ready for this Assembly.
- The negotiations for our Feb Committee meeting in Manteca fell through. Their renovations were going to interfere with our meeting. I still don’t have a facility for our meeting in February. I am continuing the search. I sent out more inquiries this week.
- 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 most of the monthly Convention committee meetings.
- I was hoping our May Assembly would be in Santa Rosa with District 5. The space for Assembly was great, but there wasn’t an affordable space for us to have our committee meeting, so I am looking in other areas. I walked through a facility this week in Livermore that shows promise. I filled out an application and sent it in. I am hopeful.
- If any district would like to host an event, there’s a “Request to Host” form on the NCWSA website. If anyone needs one today, I have some with me. We really do need your input, because the prices are rising for each event.

In Service,
Carol S.
NCWSA Facilities Coordinator
Dear Family:

It's been a fast-paced and ever-changing group records world! George and I have been peddling as fast as we can to be sure your requests for group records changes are updated and accurate.

The most important record that affects mailing receipt of the Forum Magazine, the 12-Stepper Newsletter and other Al-Anon mailings is the CMA – Current Mailing Address for the groups. If I were to guess, I'd say 60% of the group representatives are also the CMA for their groups. But that is not the default because many groups have another service volunteer to be the CMA or a building or PO Box that is the CMA. That is why we have two spots on the A16 Al-Anon Group Record Registration or Change Form. The person or entity that receives the group mail implies the mail is getting to the group and hopefully someone is announcing to the group about what was received, how a member can read it and where it will be available. WHEN MAIL IS RETURNED TO SENDER, usually WSO – they put the group into “NO MAIL” status which remains in effect until updated to a correct mailing address. It costs money to send a group a mailing and it costs money to have it returned. More importantly, members are not getting information!

Voting cards have key information taken from the WSO database. It is an integral part of the voting process at Assembly. More will be reviewed on voting protocol at Assembly, but with regards to accurate group records, please review what your card has. If anything is incorrect on the voting card, please be sure to obtain an A16 Group Records Change Form, from: our website, https://www.ncwsa.org/forms/, your District Representative or by contacting us (grouprecords@ncwsa.org). Print outs of A16 will be provided at the assembly group representative voting card registration table. Sometimes, it is helpful to see the complete group detail report so that you are updating everything which is not all on the voting card. A group detail report can be obtained by emailing us or your District Representative.

Lastly, thank you for your patience and willingness to serve at or beyond the group level. It's an amazing fellowship. We hope you enjoy the Assembly and look forward to meeting you!

George & Wendy

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**Institutions Coordinator** - David B

Hello Everyone,

The last nine months have been an incredible journey. I will share some moments and provide an overview of some of my activities along with some particular suggestions regarding what my experience in Institutions service has taught me.
District 3 Chico and District 19 Fresno invited me to conduct an Institutions Workshop at their District meetings. The participation with questions and sharing was very good. I shared one important ingredient of Institutions Service, which is starting and managing relationships with the professionals. The pamphlet ‘Cooperating Not Affiliating’ is an important tool for me in keeping Al-Anon ‘Al-Anon’. Sharing on my recovery using a variety of pamphlets provides me easy talking points to draw their interest to the literature and to the many different paths members walk before entering the rooms of Al-Anon. Members sharing their experiences reminded us once again that it is easy to reach outside our recovery community and into the community at large.

I have been working one on one with some District Institutions Coordinators not as many as I wish to, but with those who want to talk and reason things out to get a better understanding of Institutions service. The most important suggestion I offer is to schedule frequent District Institutions Committee meetings for members to attend and learn what opportunities there are to work their Twelfth Step in their community. This tool has proven to be very effective in other Twelve Step programs.

Speaking of other programs, the Al-Anon participation at the 2016 H&I Conference is progressing very well. The NCWSA Institutions Conference Planning Committee has already involved the groups in District 5 by means of a survey asking what facilities they would like the Conference panels to focus on. The committee has voted to invite Claire R. of Virginia Beach, Virginia, to share her experience, strength and hope as the guest speaker on Saturday. Claire has been working at the WSO back when the office was in New York City and her focus for many years has been Institutions Service. The H&I Conference will be held at the Veterans Memorial Hall in Santa Rosa on April 29, 30 and May 1, 2016. The registration flyer is out and has been submitted for posting on the NCWSA Website as well as the WSO calendar.

Last June, I participated on a conference call with the WSO staff, NCWSA Chairperson Joan W., and Delegate Yvonne deG concerning the grant application to bring Al-Anon into seven state prisons. I informed Executive Director Rick B that I accomplished what was needed from just the process of applying for the grant. The first accomplishment was raising awareness of the growth of the Al-Anon membership in the six state prisons to the State Corrections Administration in Sacramento. The second was informing the Administration what resources may be utilized to start meetings in all seven facilities. The third was the invitation from each of the seven prisons to meet their staff and share what the Al-Anon program is about. All seven visits were very positive and all agreed that the Al-Anon program would benefit their clients. The grant was declined near the last stage of the process. Al-Anon received the most number of grants of any other organization. Nine grants in total were awarded, including two for Southern California World Service Area. They also declined the grant.

I have been working with our new Point Persons at three prisons. Teresa T. is the first NCWSA Point Person at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville. The weekly Al-Anon meeting has consistent attendance and there are four volunteers with two more members expressing their willingness to help carry the message inside. Dean C is the Point Person for Mule Creek State Prison in Ione. 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 started attending the meeting. Art B is 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 might turn out to be November. Patience is the key to serenity on someone else’s schedule.

Two Al-Anon meetings started on Sunday, August 23rd at the High Desert State Prison in Susanville. Art B., Brenda H. from District 3 and myself facilitated the meetings. The meetings are held on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. One meeting is already full and starting a
waiting list. Flyers requesting volunteer have been distributed at Group meetings as well as the District Meeting in Reno as well as in District 3.

The first Al-Anon meeting started at Pleasant Valley State Prison on Monday, October 5th. Sheri W of District 19 attended. Another local member has submitted her volunteer application to the facility. There are four more of the state prisons that invited Al-Anon into their facilities. These will be added in time. 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.

Lastly please convey the gratitude from our inside members as well as members involved in Institutions service for our members’ donations to the Pink Can Fund. As the Al-Anon and Alateen programs are being shared with people at more facilities, the continued year-to-year increase of funds demonstrates our commitment to sharing our recovery with others.

In Service with Gratitude,
David B

Insurance Coordinator – Carol G.
Hello Assembly members! I have been doing the job of “Insurance Coordinator” for about 2 months now. I read the guidelines (as suggested by Joan) and realized that I could, in fact, do this job.

I am grateful to the Panel 55 Coordinator and her Alternate Coordinator, as well as the previous coordinator and alternate coordinator for providing me with an excellent tool for me to follow with very clear instructions on just what is required to obtain certificates for regular meetings as well as "special events".
I have been in contact with the Panel 52 Coordinator as well as our client advisor and asst. client advisor for our insurance broker. All three have been extremely helpful to me in my quest to get insurance certificates for individual meetings and special events.

"Hats off" to our "assistant client advisor". She truly IS a "miracle" worker. An example: I got a very panicky phone call from a member who thought that their yearly special event was automatically covered by our insurance because we used the same facility for another event. The member called me the Tuesday night before the event was to begin (3 days later). I submitted the request THAT night and told them it was an "emergency request". Less than 24 hours later, we had the certificate of insurance. She IS our "Angel of Insurance".

We have renewed our Directors and Officers Liability Policy which was to expire on Sept 18, 2015. The next item on my agenda is to negotiate with our broker the renewal of our Commercial Liability Insurance which is due in February 2016.

I continue to submit requests for insurance for regular meetings as well as for "special events". Please use our form A26a (regular meetings) and A26b (special events) when making your requests. Save yourself some stress and don't wait until the last minute to submit your requests. I don't want to take advantage of our "Angel of Insurance".

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.
Carol G., NCWSA Insurance Coordinator
Literature Coordinator – Catalina L

Writing Workshops
In April and in June Verena and I conducted writing workshops for submissions for the Intimacy piece and for the new daily reader, which resulted in approximately 13 shares being submitted to the WSO.
In May, Art B conducted a writing workshop of all men for submissions for all four of the literature pieces: Parents/Grandparents of Alcoholics, Intimacy on the Alcoholic Relationship the new daily reader and the Forum. Art had 36 participants and 4 shares were submitted to the WSO.

Literature Orders for Institutions
In the past 12 months, Verena and I have processed orders totaling more than $40,000 for literature for institutions.

News from the WSO

Literature Currently in Development The WSO posted a Request for Proposals for Al-Anon members who are professional freelance writers/editors and interested in writing/editing INTIMACY IN ALCOHOLIC RELATIONSHIPS (working title) or PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS OF PROBLEM DRINKERS (working title). As of last October, the Intimacy piece had received 1,134 sharings so far, and the parents/grandparents pamphlet had received 150. The Committee continues to seek additional sharings for both pieces.
To submit a proposal, members can take the following steps:

- Enter your password—any variation of your group name followed by AFG.
- Click on the “WSO” tab from the list of options on the home page.
- Click on “Inside the WSO.”
- Click on “Freelance Writers/Editors” under “Employment Opportunities.” You will find all the information you need to submit a proposal there.

The deadline for submitting a bid for either of these projects is October 15, 2015.

New Daily Reader The WSO will probably accept sharings for the new Daily Reader for the next two years. The difference between this book and other daily readers is that it will reflect our fellowship as it is today. One Day at a Time in Al-Anon (B-6) is primarily focused on wives with alcoholic husbands, usually in A.A. Courage to Change included many sharings that were so general and generic that they removed personal details and specific relationships, giving the impression that we are all the same. The Committee felt that part of the power that we have when we share at meetings is that we aren’t all the same. We all have differences, and yet the program works for all of us because of what we have in common. That is what we hope this new daily reader will reflect.

The new daily reader hopes to include sharings that represent the fellowship as it is today. How can we help more members submit writings that reflect the inclusiveness of our program?

The Associate Director of Communications—Literature said this can be challenging, because since our books don’t include the names of those who write, it can be difficult to know if a man or a woman wrote the story. Diversity is not always evident in most of the sharings received so far. A Coordinator suggested encouraging writers to include more descriptive information about themselves in their writings. For example, they could start the sharing with, “I’m a young man from Nebraska…,” or “As a grandparent of an alcoholic…,” and then share how they use the program in these particular situations. The hope is that the daily reader will let members who feel alone and isolated know that they do belong.
One Coordinator suggested reaching out to those groups made up of members in similar life situations, such as women’s, men’s, LGBT, or parents’ groups, and ask them to share their experiences. One bilingual Area will be accepting Spanish sharings and translating them, so they can be submitted to the WSO. This is a way of being inclusive of the Spanish-speaking segment of the fellowship.

We hope to have the daily reader ready for the 2018 International Convention, so Coordinators were asked to continue thinking of additional ways to reach out to our diverse fellowship and encourage these members to write.

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.

**Conflict Resolution** The new conflict resolution tools are now available in Spanish and French: *Loving Interchange to Resolve Conflict* wallet card (SS-71/FS-71) *Conflict Resolution using our Twelve Traditions* card set (SS-72/FS-72) *Talk to Each Other—Resolving Conflicts within Al-Anon* booklet (SS-73/FS-73) *Using Al-Anon Principles to Resolve Conflicts* kit (SK-70/FK-70)

**New, Lower Discount for Reaching for Personal Freedom** Beginning immediately, cases of *Reaching for Personal Freedom: Living the Legacies* (P-92) will be sold at a 25% discount. The new case price will be $270.

Many Al-Anon members have found *Reaching for Personal Freedom: Living the Legacies* (P-92) to be a very helpful resource for personal study, group discussion, and work with Sponsors. This workbook, however, is much more substantial than the other pamphlets and booklets that are given “P” numbers.

Literature Distribution Centers (LDC), Al-Anon Information Services (AIS), and General Service Organizations (GSO) will still receive an additional 17% discount on top of the newly reduced case price. Previously, this workbook was sold with the 10% discount that is given to pamphlets and booklets, at a case price of $324.

**Al-Anon e-books now available through Canadian provider** *Alateen—Hope for Children of Alcoholics* (eB-3) and *How Al-Anon Works for Families & Friends of Alcoholics* (eB-22) are now available as e-books through the Canadian retailer Kobo. The *How Al-Anon Works* e-book is available in all three languages (English, French, and Spanish). The *Alateen—Hope for Children* e-book is available now in English and Spanish, and will be available in French soon. The e-book version of *Having Had a Spiritual Awakening…* (eB-25) will also be available soon through Kobo. This announcement is informational only, and is not an endorsement of any outside vendor.

**Connecting with other Areas through Area Highlights.** Please check out the Fall 2015 issue of *Area Highlights*, where you will find a wealth of helpful information from members involved in service throughout our worldwide fellowship. Once you access the Members’ Web site, [www.al-anon.org/members](http://www.al-anon.org/members), click on “District Resources” or “Area Resources” under the “Service Structure” tab, or click on [http://al-anon.org/members/pdf/AreaHighlights/AH47_3.pdf](http://al-anon.org/members/pdf/AreaHighlights/AH47_3.pdf). This quarter’s issue includes articles by Literature Coordinators about submitting sharings for new pieces in development, and using the pamphlets as a recovery resource.
CAL Sample Chapter. Each quarter we post a sample chapter of Conference Approved Literature on both the Public Outreach site, www.al-anon.org and the Members’ site, www.al-anon.org/members. Through the end of September, the chapter is from Paths to Recovery (B-24). From October through December, it will be Many Voices, One Journey 9B-31.

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.

“CAL Corner”. September’s “CAL Corner” articles in The Forum focus on how Discovering Choices (B-30) has helped members in their recovery. The October articles will be about So You Love an Alcoholic (P-14).

In loving service and gratitude,
Catalina, Area 3 Literature Coordinator email: nocallit@outlook.com; Phone: (415) 509-2706
and Verena, Area 3 Alternate Literature Coordinator

PI/CPC Coordinator– Veronica P.

Al-Anon is 1/5 the size of AA
THE AVERAGE MEMBER IS 60YRS OLD, CAUCASIAN, WOMAN, MARRIED

QUESTION:
IF THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOLISM KNOW NO BOUNDS, WHY HAS THESE STATS STAYED TRUE FOR THE PAST 60+YEARS SINCE AL-ANON’S FOUNDING? WHAT HAPPENED TO US?

1. Played a Video Clip Message to the GRs a Message from your Area Outreach Coordinators
2. Conference Calls 2nd Thursday of every month 6-7pm Email us to get an invitation to listen in. Please refrain from participating in the discussion if you are not a District Public Outreach Coordinator. We will have Q&A from 7-7:15 for discussion and questions
3. Who’s Who in Outreach. If you are a District that doesn’t have a District Coordinator please elect one and send me his/her contact information. Some Districts have Committees which is fantastic, but the District Coordinator serves as a communication link. If there’s no link, there’s no voice representing your district on what is going on in terms of Outreach.
4. Did a walkthrough on the Members Website. It was reported that this site only has 600 hits!? There’s a wealth of information and content that will help individuals, groups, districts, and outreach area trusted servants find the information they need to supports various outreach community projects.
5. Showcased WSO FB page, Twitter, Alateen FB page, Al-Anon PSA’s which are posted on the WSO YouTube Channel and National Website
6. PICPC now accepting bookings for 2016. Book with myself or Pleas to be a speaker at your district meeting, DIA or special event to talk about outreach
7. Held Office Hours during my Saturday dinner break at a local restaurant near the hotel. if people wanted one-one sessions, group discussion and assistance about outreach in their district they were able to reach me here. Invited Diversity and Institutions to join me as well.
8. Using Moxtra cloud collaboration platform for our conference calls and collecting ESH if this is a workable solution for our type of service work. www.Moxtra.com By NO MEANS is this an
endorsement of this product or service. Simply informing the area of what we’re using to do our service work.

The original report was a PowerPoint presentation. If you would like the slides, please email the PI/CPC Coordinator.

12Stepper Coordinator - Debbie O.
1. Reports have been compiled from the NCWSC Aug 28-29, 2015.
2. Working on the NCWSA October 2015 Assembly Reports.
3. GRs I encourage you to review the 12-Stepper on page 3 has all the contact information any member of Al-Anon may need, share this with your members so to allow them to join our 60 plus year conversation.
   a. Page 4 lets you, the GR, know when to expect the 12 Stepper.
   b. The mailed copies are the WSC Delegates Assembly in May and the Three Day Assembly in October of each year. To follow the guidelines of our nonprofit status they need to be in your mailboxes 45 days prior to each event. The End of the Year version will be online only at www.ncwsa.org/newsletters, and go to the most current edition or read other editions as well. This version needs to post 120 days prior to our Feb NCWSC meetings. I am doing my best to have it posted shortly of this event.
4. Page 5 is a calendar of events for all of Northern California; this is where districts can post the information on events not supported financially by NCWSA. Send you information to 12stepper@ncwsa.org and I will post it in the next edition. Take into consideration that on the printed version I will only be posting events that will be happening after the mailing date.
   a. Also on this page you will find all the contact information for all your trusted servants and what their position is, from your delegate to the Regional Trustees, and Past Delegates.
   b. After the Chairperson welcome letter and the tentative agenda is where you, our GRs, get to put on your “Business Hats “as this will be the minutes from the May Delegate’s Assembly or the October Three Day Assembly that you will be accepting or amending.
   c. As a past GR, the 12 Stepper was hard to decipher what was to be voted on by NCWSA (Northern California World Service Area) and what was the business of NCWSC (Northern California World Service Committee). It is my hope that this will help you find what that may be. This report all comes from our Area Secretary as the official minutes.
   d. Went you get to the part that let you know you can “Take off your Hat” is where we your NCSWC are reporting on what has been asked of us between Assemblies.
5. On page 35 comes the District reports, Intergroup Reports and Area Highlights.
   a. District reports are only submitted and presented at the Three Day Assembly. DR’s here is where you get to talk up your districts strengths to share with other district.
6. All preceding pages are area supported flyers, such as the Longtime member questionnaire, which comes for the WSO (World Service Office) Convention, Sponsors R&R, TEAM Event and NoCAC only, no flyers from an individual, group or district will be posted here.
7. If you like to travel and want to see how other districts do things there is a district meeting list along with a regular scheduled district supported speaker meetings. Do I hear Road Trip?
8. We use a lot of Acronyms so hopefully page 44 helps with that.
9. The map of our NCWSA is a very helpful tool to know what our boundaries are!!! Pun intended.
10. The last page is a subscription form for all members to get a copy of the 12 Stepper. All registered groups, DR’s, Officers and Coordinators get a copy at the area’s expense. Encourage all your members to subscribe so we can all stay informed. At $6.00 a year or 2 years for $11.00 what a deal. More tools than my family of origin gave me on a good day.

11. On page 40, not 42 as the table of contents states, we are looking for personal shares on how doing service has helped you in recovery. Melinda, my Alternate, has created a flyer stating our guidelines on what we want. Please use your Al-Anon Spiritual Principals in following these guidelines to share the message of service to your group members.
   a. We have attached the flyer, a worksheet and the 12 Stepper subscription form, which I talked about earlier.

12. There has been a rotation of leadership in the NCWSA Mailing Committee from Connie F, thank you for your service this last 15 plus years in getting us to this point. I have appreciated all your help more than you know. Welcome Carol G in stepping up to fill this position.
   a. Connie has updated the 12 Stepper Editor Guidelines along with the Mailing Committee guidelines so both guidelines are consistent with each other.
   b. They have been submitted to the Area Chair Joan W for approval or amended. More will be revealed.

13. It is my request to anybody sending reports to me Please put the subject and date of event in the Subject Line to help me keep things from getting mixed in with other reports. I work with more then on service date at most times. So thank you for helping us help you.

14. I was talking to a member from District 24 who is a bilingual member and the question come up to translate the 12 Stepper into Spanish as a lot of the Spanish members were not coming to Assembly due to the language barrier and it would be helpful if the 12 Stepper was translated. Thinking about this I did use Google Translate in my workplace with a great outcome, so I decided to do the same with the latest version of our 12 Stepper. Our Area Diversity Coordinator has been very busy and unable to help out in time

15. We do have a Spanish liaison in District 18 so I reached out to her for help; I met up with her and another Spanish member and found we have a common bond. We all want change. They both go to a fairly new Spanish meeting in District 18, they asked me the importance of going to an Assembly. As our Hispanic Liaison she understands what our district does so I explained that it is a bigger version to help share the message of recovery and the work it takes.

16. They were very aware of the process of moving forward and are now willing be taking turns coming to Assembly this weekend to get the information, as they have family plans outside.

17. I want to Thank Lorena (District 18 Liaison) and Olivia for the help in getting this 12 Stepper translated and I have gotten the Ok to have them printed at the $100.00 limit to bring to this Assembly, and we will go through our normal channels to get copies to all our Spanish speaking meetings. We have 120 active Spanish meetings within NCWSA. What a great tool for us to give them this weekend. This is very exciting for me and it gives me hope for our diverse members to get the message we are getting.

18. It is our hope that the 12 Stepper is more than a business publication, as it states in the WSO Al-Anon guidelines for Newsletter g the Purpose of a Newsletter is a vital communication link to help keep groups and members informed. Establishing individual newsletters guidelines can make it easier for an Editor to determine what information to include. An Assembly, district, or Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) may take a group conscious or create a task force to clarify purposes, such as to:
   - Encourage attendance at service events.
   - Communicate local, Area, and AIS news
   - Attract Al-Anon members into service

Love in Gratitude and Service, Debbie O and Melinda N
**Website Coordinator** - Beth Ann B.

Dear NCWSA:

Beth Ann and I have established goals for the website for each of the three years of our term. Our primary goal for 2015 is to completely document the current status and function of the website and the processes involved in maintaining the website and make improvements to the online meeting data. There are many errors in the online meeting data and this is a top priority. There may be a brief time when this function is not available while upgrades are made. Dean C. is assisting with programming and we are working with Wendy and George in Group Records to coordinate this upgrade.

We have hired a professional web consultant to upload flyers and other documents, and calendar events, as well as other processes involved in the day to day operations of the website.

We have identified a major challenge involving the considerable magnitude of emails that are generated by the contact forms for the website. Beth Ann and I are alternating the duty of answering or forwarding emails. Please use the contact form on the website for the easiest way to contact the person on duty.

Our primary goal for 2016 is to establish the written documentation pertaining to all aspects of the website to facilitate training the next team of Website Coordinators. For 2017 our primary goal is to invite prospective Website Coordinators to train with us to prepare for a smooth transition at the end of 2017.

Respectfully,

Penny G, Alt Web Coordinator

**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 were able to provide 12 half scholarships both Alateens and an AMIAS to attend NoCAC this year. Earlier this year we donated money for Alateens to attend the 2015 Convention and Growing Together Weekend.
- Intergroup continues to hold elections for open positions. We need the following positions filled: Alternate Chair, Insurance Coordinator 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.
This intergroup covers twelve districts. There are also other districts in our Area that aren’t involved because of distance.

We have been trying to reach Hispanic members by doing workshops and events.

Last February we did a workshop on the first four Concepts.

In March we celebrated our 22nd anniversary, and our Area Public Outreach Coordinator, Veronica P. did a workshop on reaching out to our communities.

In July Lisa B., Area Alateen Coordinator, did a Workshop on Alateen Guidelines (the English version) at our office in South San Francisco.

On August 30th we had Guadalupe V., AMIAS Alateen Coordinator, do a workshop on Alateen guidelines, in Spanish.

The last event we had was September 20, 2015. It was a family picnic at a beautiful park in San Leandro. Attendance was pretty good, in spite of cold weather.

Of Service,
Janie L.
Hispanic Intergroup Liaison

Santa Clara Valley Intergroup- Bruce D.
Santa Clara Valley 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, Meeting Group Representatives 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 Directory, Newsletter, 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 our multiple service bodies are delivering the Al-Anon message as effectively as they can, in concert with one another.

At our June meeting, Area Delegate Yvonne attended and presented her World Service Conference Report to a group of 50 members who were treated to the same expansive view of the international fellowship that we all received in May. It was a valuable evening for Al-Anon in Santa Clara Valley.
Intergroup presents two special events a year. Unity Day is an annual AA event with Al-Anon participation and is one of our most significant outreach events of the year. Held this past August 9th in San Jose, Intergroup presented a day-long 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 together. 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.

Saturday, 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 the addition of raffles, silent auction, bake sale, Step 11 garden retreat, food and music. We’re pleased that Yvonne will be returning to share Experience, Strength and Hope and to lead a workshop. Once again, several dozen members will be turning out, in service, to help with the event, held on behalf of Districts 20, 21 and 22.

Gratitude in Service,
Bruce D., Santa Clara Valley Intergroup Liaison

Spanish Intergroup East Bay - Mary Carmen G.
Hello, my name is Mary Carmen,

I am here on behalf of the Hispanic Intergroup, located at 113 West 10th Street, Pittsburg, CA 94565, (925) 432-1821. 1(866)241-1790.

The Intergroup office is having great response from the members and growing each day with more members attending. The Intergroup meetings are every 1st Sunday of the month. At this time, we have been open for 8 years. The Intergroup has 21 Al-Anon groups, 9 Adult Children groups and 1 Alateen group for a total of 31 groups all together. One Alateen group closed this year.

The Intergroup has 4 committees: Public Information, Institutions, Records and Alateen. The committees hold workshops on a monthly basis. Public Information is passing the message in all the areas from the list of volunteers. Records are working on always having an up-to-date directory and we are working on having a website to download the latest directories.

We also have the bulletin called “El Cometa”. This year it has more pages and is printed monthly and distributes to all the groups.

Hospitals and Institutions does not have a coordinator at this time. However, the board is holding workshops every three months. Archives is working on filing all documents in our file cabinets.

The Intergroup has been working on opening more Alateen groups. We’ve been having workshops once a month on the first Sunday of each month. We also are motivating members to become sponsors.

We have out Literature Depot providing literature to all the groups in our area. We have Conflict Resolution using our 12 Traditions.

Thank you very much.
With love in service,
The Pittsburg Intergroup
Delegate & Officers Reports

Delegate – Yvonne deG
Hello Al-Anon Family Groups

Welcome new GRs to Panel 55 1st Fall Assembly.
It has been a year since I had the honor and the privilege of being elected Delegate and since then I attended the South West Regional Delegates Meeting in March, where past, current and alt delegates of the south west region come together including area chairs.
SWRDM 2016 will be March 11/12/13 in La Hoya San Diego. For those who are interested please contact me.

I of course attended the World Service Conference in Virginia Beach in April and I brought back a report to our one day assembly in May.
Thank you Ca north for your love gifts and cards.
The 2016 WSC is 11th to the 15th of April.

Part of my job is to visit all the districts.......I got invited to District 1 and visited Fortuna where I spoke and did a workshop on Spiritual principles.
I did my Delegates report in Fresno and Santa Clara Valley Intergroup. I spoke on abundance at District 14’s district meeting and visited District 8’s district meeting and District 23.

I was invited to speak at Fresno’s AA Unity day with Al-Anon participation and it was there that for the first time I heard the Al-Anon Declaration Let It Begin With Me and the Responsibility Statement of AA said side by side.

I visited Districts 11 and 5 with a KBDM workshop.
Thank you for your invitations, Questions, phone calls and emails. Please keep them coming ........however even without an invite I will show up sooner or later.....

Be aware that you can invite any of the officers or coordinators.......get to know your trusted servants so that in 2017 you will make informed decisions about your next panel of leadership.

I am very excited to have been invited to do a delegates report at the Spanish Convention in Concord on Fri Nov 6th, which I will be presenting in Spanish

As the Delegate I work on the WSO Public Outreach committee. I had the pleasure to record a podcast for Public Outreach in the fellowship about Service. Another one is in the process and this one is outreach to the newcomer who has not been to Al-Anon.

I put out the COB Chair of the Board of trustees letter. I would like to remind you about the fact that WSO is operating on a deficit budget. And one of the questions was what is N CA doing in relation to the deficit budget of WSO?

One of the WSC questions was, “Is the current model of Alateen the best model for the future of both Al-Anon and Alateen “. WSO asked to take the question back to our area’s particularly Alateen.
Currently I am putting together a survey on that question with the delegate of Massachusetts. I am sorting through input from the US, Canada, Puerto Rico and the Bahamas. I was asked to present the question @ OAC in Oregon as their Delegate was not able nor experienced in Alateen.

The World Service Office has the following positions available at its Headquarters in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Attached are the job description and resume information.

- **Associate Director of Member Services—Groups**
- **Event/Project Manager**
- **Director of Member Services**
- WSO is now accepting proposals by Al-Anon members who are experienced, professional freelance writer/editors to work on two new pieces of literature in development: **INTIMACY IN ALCOHOLIC RELATIONSHIPS** and **PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS OF YOUNG PROBLEM DRINKERS**

Where to go to find these? Go to the WSO website…. @Al-Anon.org……Go to Members password anything with **afg** added to it …..go inside WSO and then to employment opportunities.

**Interesting titbits of New Zealand**

New Zealand has 8 delegates

*The exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and the NZ dollar was good this year so they were able to buy more literature.  
*NZ has 40 certified AMIAsSs  
*Archives is collecting and preserving E.S.H of individuals to help preserve NZ Al-Anon history for present and future generations  
*They have comprehensive guidelines around interviewing including an oral history release form  
*They use virtual meeting technology for their committee meetings called webex. And out of the 14 they had 4 face to face.

**Alternate Delegate** - Bonnie M.

Welcome all to our first Fall Assembly of Panel 55.

As your Alternate Delegate, one of my responsibilities is to work with our Budget Committee to prepare an annual budget. In August we presented the draft 2016 Budget to the Area World Service Committee (NCWSC) and made the suggested adjustments. The resulting budget was sent to NCWSC to share with their District membership. A summary budget is in the GR packets and is what the voting members will vote on this weekend.

I’ve had the opportunity to visit District business meetings in District 18, 19 and 24. In each, there were spirited discussions resulting in decisions reached through a loving Higher Power expressed in the group conscience. I felt privileged to witness Al-Anon in action. Thank you for inviting me! I learn so much by traveling and getting other perspectives, I hope to visit more of you next year.

Things I’d like to accomplish during the remainder of this panel:

- Visit more Districts;
- Have an Area-wide discussion about how we can best coordinate our Al-Anon cooperation with AA events;
- Provide an accounting to those Officers and Coordinators who use our Roll Call conferencing service;
· Meet our corporate responsibilities by providing missing audit reports for our corporate records.

Insights gained:
· When I showed up to visit one District, I was asked if I wanted to help put out chairs. I felt very welcome.
· I love our Loving Interchange, even when we are passionate about our differing views; to me this is one of the great gifts of Al-Anon.

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,

All AMIAS (Al-Anon Members in Alateen Service) please stand up and stay standing during my report. I was not clear what the Area Alateen Process Person, commonly known as the AAPP, did prior to taking on this position. I am the custodian of records – keeper of confidential information for 337 certified AMIAS in our area, NCWSA. I am careful who I send my lists to. All those standing are trusting that I am protecting their last names, addresses, and other tidbits. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions and I am learning how to protect anonymity while opening the doors to Alateen meetings and events. Maintaining the safety of teens means that I need to confirm certification of adults involved in Alateen meetings and events. When any event includes Alateen I need to check each and every flier prior to posting on our web page.

There are several people who have applied but got stuck for various reasons (California Department of Justice, DOJ, not in Al-Anon long enough, etc.) and I need to keep track of these. It is the District Alateen Process Person (DAPP)’s who help the most with getting them un-stuck.

I don’t serve alone; I contact my predecessor Charli and others often. All AMIAS may now sit except all DAPPs and alternate DAPPs, District Alateen Coordinators and their alternates please remain standing. If you have any questions about becoming certified talk with your district DAPP.

New AMIAS: In the first 10 months I have corralled 59 newbies through the process of becoming certified AMIAS.

Annual Recertification March through June: 27 DAPP’s: 324 were recertified. New certifications now bring the total to 337

Web Postings: I need to assure the safety of teens at district and area events. For detailed instructions see [https://www.ncwsa.org/submit-an-event/#about-submit-an-event](https://www.ncwsa.org/submit-an-event/#about-submit-an-event)

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 being active/inactive (5 groups are inactive). That results in 82 active meetings.

As an NCWSA Officer I meet on the other officers as needed, and I sign checks.

California Department of Justice (DOJ): 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.

Serving in gratitude,  
Tom K.

**Chairperson** – Joan W  
A report was not received.

**Secretary** – Rosanna H.  

Dear NCWSA Family,

I am so grateful for all of the gifts I have received while serving as secretary. I get the opportunity to acknowledge my strengths and am able to see how my weaknesses show up in subtle ways.

One of my challenges as secretary is to take minutes and fully participate in our meetings. I am becoming a better listener but I sometimes feel too detached to be “a part of”. I am learning to let go of my responsibilities as secretary when necessary so I can be a participant in the conversation.

Here’s what I have been doing since the May Assembly:

**Officers’ Calls**- I continue to document the conversations and decisions of our almost-monthly officers’ calls.

**Institutions Thought Force**- I served as secretary for the one Institutions Thought Force conference call in May.

**Draft May Assembly 2015 Minutes** - Thanks to the proofreaders and the Website Coordinator, these minutes were ready and posted one month after the May Assembly. My hope is to have future minutes available at least one month before the following assembly. The minutes are posted at [www.NCWSA.org](http://www.NCWSA.org). Click on SERVICE, then MINUTES & AGENDAS. Scroll down to find NCWSA Minutes. If anyone is interested in joining the proofreading pool for NCWSA and NCWSC draft minutes, please email me. I would appreciate more help.

**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.

**Draft May 2015 NCWSC Minutes at the end of July**- These minutes were approved at our August NCWSC meeting.

**Updated the B28 (NCWSA Motions Passed/Failed) and B29 (NCWSC Motions Passed/Failed) Guidelines**- I have updated these guidelines and their indexes. The Bylaws Coordinator reviews guidelines for formatting before they can be posted. When we fill this Coordinator position, I will request formatting and posting of these guidelines.

**GR Packets**- I am responsible for making most of the copies that go into the packets. I found a convenient copying store and get a rate of .05/copy. I made over 4440 copies for the GR packets. In May, the content of the GR packets was posted on the NCWSC Yahoo group so DRs could forward/share it with their GRs. The WSO’s Group Inventory guidelines were included in the May GR packets and are omitted in the October packets.
Yahoo Groups Moderator- As the moderator, I invite NCWSC members to join and remove those who are no longer serving on NCWSC. The Area’s trusted servants request help, offer assistance, posts reports and sometimes express themselves on this site. I update and post the NCWSA roster and all draft minutes to this site and post Financials and Budgets for the Area’s Treasurer and Alternate Delegate. The B32 Guidelines for Yahoo Groups Moderator are still in draft form. My hope is that NCWSC approves them in February of 2016.

Finally, I went to my first assembly as Alternate GR in October 2008. I never would have imagined that I would serve as NCWSA Secretary in 2015. I am grateful to my HP for putting so many encouraging people in my path that would lead me to become willing to serve in this position. It is humbling and awesome.

Peace, love and joy in service,
Rosanna H

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

- Continued to attend Budget Committee meetings and finished NoCAC Audit.
- Participated in Officers calls and discussions.
- Presented and shared prudent reserve calculation with Officers, Exec. Committee and Budget Committee, short about $8,000 of goal, if donations are received as budgeted funds and expenses come in less than the savings could be used to increase reserves. Also, estimated that if each group gave an additional $9 we could meet our reserve goal.
- 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 and annual raffle registration and report.
- Prepared requests 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 Pay-Pal.
- Recommend continued conversation regarding accepting credit cards at events,
- Asked NCWSC members to review expenses to date and estimate expenses to year-end.
- Attended Diversity Day and provided support as needed to Committee.
- Met NoCAC Treasurer and reviewed financial details.

Attached are the current financial reports for the period ending September 30, 2015:

- 2015 Income to date - $79,711.29 (less than 2014 by $3,328)
- 2015 Expenses to date - $80,856.15 (less than 2014 by $2,783)
- 2015 Net Loss to date - $1,144.86 (less savings than 2014 by $545)
- Ending Checking Account Balance 9/30/15 - $18,814.02 (about 3 months operating expenses)
- Money Market & CD Account Balances - $23,610.56 for a Prudent Reserve (about 4 months of operating expenses. (Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Summary attached)

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 at 75% of total and providing a percentage of savings as a donation to WSO at 25% of total net profit.
- The budget anticipates $107,650 from donations and current income based on YTD actuals and last year’s final quarter estimates donations and other income to be less than budgeted by $6,000 offset by possible reduced expenses of about $6,000 allowing the area to be self-supporting and leaving no additional funds for increasing the reserves or contribution to WSO.
• Your donations are necessary to support the area expenses and projects. Please mail donations for 2015 no later than 12/15/15 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 said there is a line item in the budget to assist GRs to come to assemblies. GRs were encouraged to seek assistance from their group, district or intergroup and to share rides with others attending assemblies first.

The Treasurer said the NCWSA Appeal Letter was passed out to GRs at the May Assembly, it was given to the DRs to share with the GRs who did not make it to assembly and it was posted on the Yahoo website. It is also posted in the 12-Stepper.

Miscellaneous Business & Announcements

Ask-It-Basket Questions
1. How much does the Assembly cost for the weekend? Not the hotel, just renting the conference room? Does NCWSA make a profit from our $30 registration fee? Can the fee be lowered? Chris M.: May’s cost was about $1500 and October’s cost was about $5000, including lunch. The cost changes when we create a package/contract with the hotel or facility. The registration fee is designed to cover the cost of the assembly based on the contract.

2. How does a GR get financial assistance from NCWSA? Our district has no funds to assist. Is reimbursement available today? Chris M.: We have a $1200 line item in the budget to assist GRs. If you need assistance, make a formal request, fill out an expense form, send it to me (the Treasurer) and the officers and I will make some reimbursement available. We look at each request on a case by case basis.
3. Please ask speakers who identify themselves by district to include the county or largest city after they say the district number so we know where they are from. I can’t remember the districts by number only. Joan W.: Page 45 of our 12-Stepper lists a rough outline of every district and every city in every district is listed.

4. Has NCWSA ever considered a “webinar” for those that cannot make it here? Some don’t have money or they’re just too far. It would be great to have the option to attend from home. Yvonne deG.: We have had conversations but we have not fully dived into that yet but I’m sure that is something we will be looking at. I think it’s inevitable.

5. When an Alateen speaks at an Al-Anon meeting, what is the protocol? Is the answer in the Service manual? Yvonne deG.: Protocol means “the official system of rules governing”. In Al-Anon we don’t have rules.” Is there a guideline?” is the more appropriate wording I would use. Guidelines refer to our principles. Alateens are members of Al-Anon and no one can tell anyone what they can and cannot share.

6. How can we best welcome Alateens (transitioning into Al-Anon) to help them feel comfortable in Al-Anon? Yvonne deG.: When I see an Alateen in an Al-Anon meeting, I see them as just another member in an Al-Anon meeting. I don’t under-estimate their knowledge and their experience, strength and hope. I would suggest we not do adult-isms: “oh, you’re so cute and I’m
going to tell you how it’s supposed to be.” Welcome them and talk to them like another human being.

7. What is the current WSO deficit? Yvonne deG.: We approved a budget that roughly $50K less than our expected income. That information is in the World Service Conference (WSC) Summary. We are asked to be fully self-supporting. Currently, our main source of income is literature. We are not self-supporting through our own contributions and we cannot continue to rely on literature sales because literature is changing.

8. What is a Thought Force, how is it initiated, what comes out of it and are they done at every level of Al-Anon? Yvonne deG.: We create a Thought Force to gather the facts and the information we need to make an informed decision. We can then create a Task Force to execute some of that information. It can be done at all levels.

9. I would love to be a part of the discussion on defining Al-Anon as not just for friends and families of alcoholics but for those with all addictions. I read a lot about the expansion of this definition in “Hope for Today” but I can imagine many, many more people served by the Al-Anon community and tools with this expanded public definition. Yvonne de G.: This was a topic discussed at the last WSC. You can find the discussion on Page 48 of the 2015 WSC Summary. The WSC summaries are available online at the members’ website. There are other programs for other addictions.

10. When is the October Assembly and how will we get this information about it? I do not receive information on assemblies from my DR. Joan W.: when I was a DR I would have an assembly district meeting. We spent half of the meeting discussing the NCWSA budget and the agenda and discussed what the GRs need to bring back to the group. We want our GRs to be prepared and we have little time to do that during the assembly.

11. In regards to district voting rights, please give me some direction and/or guidance as to why GRs should be the only voting body at district level in regards to Al-Anon policies/business. Please tie this to Tradition 4. Explain why others voting at district level affects Al-Anon or AA as a whole. Joan W.: I find it’s important to have voice and maybe a vote of past GRs because they carry E,S, & H which the new GRs may not have. We want balance. Each district and group is autonomous.

12. How many people attended this assembly? Joan W.: 189 people pre-registered with 24 of those members not showing. There were 112 members who registered at the door. The total number of registered members was 301.

13. The Bay Area has a large Asian population. Has any thought been given to publish literature in Asian languages? Catalina was not present. Joan W.: Each country provides their own translation. WSO does not carry all languages. For languages not listed on the members’ website, you can get it from the country that speaks the requested language.

14. We have a CD lending library that includes Al-Anon and AA speaker tapes. Can we lend AA CDs at our Al-An meeting? Joan W.: she was taught CDs are the same as AA literature and we don’t sell or loan either and it’s confusing to members.

15. Where can I find exact borders of districts? Joan W.: See page 45 of our current 12-Stepper.

16. When did the term “alcoholic” get replaced with “qualifier” in meetings and is this a treatment program term or a psychology term and is that acceptable in meetings? Joan W.
shared what she says: “I came into the rooms of Al-Anon because my husband’s drinking bothered me.” We don’t have to say “my alcoholic”. Joan wrote an article that was printed in The Forum.

17. What is the date for the Spring One-Day Assembly? Joan W.: It’s in the past 12-Stepper. Per the Website Coordinator it is linked under October 10-12, 2015 on the NCWSA.org calendar. These dates are tentative: 2016- May 14th in the Central Section and October 14-16th 2016 in the Northern Section. For 2017- May 13th and October 20-22nd (election assembly).

18. How can a group promote sponsorship and working the steps? Is it okay to have sponsors identify themselves during the meeting? This also affects our business meetings as most of the time is used in reminding members of traditions and concepts and domination, gossip, etc. Patrick B.: Sponsorship: What it’s All About pamphlet, sponsorship as a meeting topic, show of hands of those willing to sponsor or create a sign-in sheet (although this could discourage someone from asking someone who did not raise their hand), share what working the steps and working with a sponsor has done for you(Let It Begin With Me).

19. One of the groups I attend is considering giving chips to members who are celebrating Al-Anon birthdays. I have not seen anything specifically against this in the Service Manual. Is there an Al-Anon policy against the use of chips from outside sources? Patrick B.: This is a matter of group autonomy, we don’t want to promote a business or have a company logo on the chips, consider if is it causing any division in the group. Also, page 97 of the Service Manual discusses Al-Anon Related Jewelry & Trinkets.

20. I did not attend Al-Anon meetings for 8-10 years during the middle of my 23 years in the program. Does my Al-Anon birthday begin when I returned to Al-Anon or do I count from the beginning of the 23 years? Patrick B.: It’s a personal decision, it’s not a competition and to consider what feels right to you.

21. Per page 98 of the Service Manual, speakers are reimbursed for expenses only. Our group has given gift cards (e.g. Starbucks) to speakers. Is this practice of giving gift cards not acceptable? Patrick B.: Page 99 of the Service manual states group funds are used for group purposes only not for personal gifts. Service is for fun and for free. Patrick said he liked receiving love gifts (handmade gifts),

22. Why is NCWSA the only area in all of Al-Anon to call the chairperson the secretary and the speaker the chairperson? Even the Service Manual says that the secretary performs secretarial duties, the chairperson reads the preamble /format, and the person who speaks is the speaker. So confusing. Patrick B.: Group service positions are defined on page 46 of the Service Manual. Groups At Work has the readings in it. If more meetings used this tool, there would be more consistency among meetings. If every member had a copy of Groups At Work we could still have a meeting if we did not have the group binder.

23. Is there a suggested monthly contribution to AIS, the WSO and NCWSA? Patrick B.: G-41, the Reserve Funds Guidelines has information that may be helpful to the group and to the individual. The group can do a financial inventory and create a budget. This form can be found on the members’ website. The percentages used are a decision to be made by the group.

24. A dollar contribution in 1955 is different than a dollar contribution in 2015. Could members be encouraged to contribute $5 or $10? Patrick B: Yes. G-41 has useful information. Patrick learned to give out of gratitude/abundance. A suggestion included a group can set a budget for the group for the year and divide that number by the average number of members then by 52 to get an estimate of a weekly contribution, also consider donating for the times you missed the meeting,
25. Does any district or intergroup or even NCWSA use PayPal as an option for donations? If not, is there a reason this has not been done yet? Patrick B.: We will be considering and using PayPal for upcoming events like the assemblies. We will get more experience as we move forward. If you do have experience or information using it, please share that with your DR who can then pass that information on to the Area.

26. Why didn’t the Treasurer’s report come before the budget presentation? Joan W.: I sent a draft agenda to the officers and that was not caught.

27. Page 21 of the Service Manual states, “members may choose to use their first name only or their entire name, according to personal preference”. When would/are full names used/appropriate? Joan W.: I would use my last name at a meeting. We protect the anonymity of the AA member. I got permission from my alcoholic to use my last name. This does not apply to people who are actively drinking.

28. What should an AMIAS do if a child brought to an Alateen meeting is not picked up by the parent who dropped the Alateen at the meeting? Tom K.: See if both parents are on the A22.7 form. If only the parent who brought the teen to the meeting is on the form, contact that parent to ask if it is okay for the other parent to take the teen after the meeting. Prevent this by discussing limits with the teen before the meeting.

29. Can the GR term be shortened to encourage more participation? John S.: The panel for the delegate is set by WSO for 3 years. This is panel 55. Currently, we elect new GRs to coincide with the delegate’s panel. If after 1.5 years, there is someone desperate to take your position, you can resign. AA’s panel lasts 2 years. In Al-Anon we have learned that the first year we don’t know what we are doing, the second year we do know and the third year we get something done and prepare our successor.

30. Why aren’t the 12 Steps read at the beginning of the sessions with the Traditions and Concepts? John S: This is a service meeting, not a recovery meeting so the service legacies are what we read.

31. A member has requested permission to record the speaker at a meeting. Is this acceptable after a group conscience is taken? Do you have any comments on note taking? John S: If you are talking about a weekly meeting, the group gets to take a group conscience whether they want to permit recording or not and the speaker always has the choice to be recorded or not. Regarding note taking, it’s up to the group to decide if note taking is acceptable. If the group takes a group conscience on note taking, that decision should be include in the readings so all understand.

32. Will a recording of last night’s speaker meeting be available for members? Joan W: Yes. Someone has recorded Vali F. and we will make that recording available.

33. Has WSO considered updating the Steps and Traditions in order to attract younger members? Tradition 11 refers to radio but not internet? Joan W: In our Service Manual we have updated language that includes electronic media.

34. Why are we continuing the gender neutral discussions? We voted last year. What were we voting on? Does our vote really count? Joan W: Absolutely.

35. May an autonomous Al-Anon group agree that any member of the group can substitute the word God for any He or Him in the Steps and Traditions? Groups can therefore have
autonomy and the minority opinion (Concept 5) is respected. Joan W: It is not considered appropriate. We need ¾ of the groups to change our legacies.

36. Can I say “God instead of “He” in the Steps and Traditions as they are read at the start of our meetings? Joan W: No.

37. According to his report, our Institutions Coordinator said he discussed a grant on behalf of the meetings in prison with our delegate and others. What gave the impression that going forward with the paperwork was acceptable? What Traditions applied to the action? Joan W: The details are in the August 2015 NCWSC meeting minutes. The Alternate Institutions Coordinator referenced pages 98 and 99 in the current Service Manual.

38. I need to report back to my group what we really voted on regarding the Gender Neutral Steps. The majority of the members would like you to stop the survey. Joan W: The survey ended on June 30, 2015. I asked for it to be extended because people were upset in October 2014. We did it to allow people to contribute.

39. Where can we read current delegate reports that are being reported at today’s NCWSA assembly? Yvonne deG: On the NCWSA website, go to Reports and Forums. It was sent to the DRs: ask for it if they don't bring it to you.

40. Can it be seen to that all the papers left are recycled please? Also, maybe next big event can ask that there be recycling for our coffee cups and cardboard boxes, etc.? Carol S: I will take them home and shred them. We can recycle if the facility will accommodate us. This facility does recycle. Anyone wanting to take on this responsibility should see Carol S.

Announcements
1. NoCAC committee “passed the pumpkin” for scholarships for Alateens to attend NoCAC.
2. A request was made for 13 English speakers to chair the Al-athon meetings at the Spanish Al-Anon Convention in Concord on November 6-8th, 2015.
3. Lisa B. and Stephan T. are the Alateen sponsors for this event. Please see them if you have any questions. All AMIAs are identified with red dots on their name tag.
4. Al-Anon lamp will be auctioned off at the 2016 Convention.
5. Lost items are at the podium and will be given to the front desk when we leave.
6. The Area Outreach Thought Force is meeting for lunch today. Anyone interested in participating on the Thought Force is welcome. Please see Veronica P.
7. Groveland is having a potluck speaker dinner to raise funds for teens. All are welcome. Feel free to donate without attending.
8. In Fresno, AA with Al-Anon participation. There will be workshop on the pamphlet, “How Can I Help My Children?” AA members will be invited to attend.
9. SCVAFG, Friday October 23rd we are having our bi-monthly speaker meeting. Find this information on the NCWSA.org website.
10. YAR in District 21, will commemorate its first meeting on the second Thursday in December. All are welcome.
11. On October 24th, District 16 is hosting a Fall Fest. The theme is “Keeping it Simple”. The DVD, “Lois’ Story” will be shown.
12. Spring Fling will be in February. It’s an AA event with Al-Anon participation.
13. Alateen liaisons are open to visiting your districts.
15. Join us for Yosemite Summit Conference. It is an AA event with Al-Anon participation. Registration is available online.
16. Men’s DIA in District 14 next Saturday. On October 24th, we will have our anniversary speaker meeting.
17. October 24th we will have a birthday potluck in District 17. Anyone wanting to get a summarized list of events sent to you via email, please see Nasser.

18. Friday November 13th, there is an open speaker meeting in Monterey that will be hosted by one of the Spanish speaking groups.

**Miscellaneous items**

A GR Orientation, a DR meeting, and a workshop entitled “Obedience to The Unenforceable” were all held on Friday evening. The GR Orientation presentation will be available to DRs. The workshop slides are available upon request from Joan W.

During Saturday’s business, Vali F., the Delegate from Arizona, facilitated a workshop called, “Expanding Our Vision” and John S. facilitated a Service Manual workshop.

The Archives Coordinators asked members to read “Bell Ringers” from the year 2005.

The tentative agenda included an Al-Anon meeting on Saturday night at 9:15. There was not enough interest in having this meeting so it was cancelled.

*Respectfully submitted on February 13th, 2016 by Rosanna H., NCWSA Secretary*
## 2016 NCWSA Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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Approved by NCWSA Assembly October 10, 2015
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<th>POSITION</th>
<th>NAME</th>
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<tr>
<td>Delegate</td>
<td>Yvonne d</td>
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**OFFICERS**

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

**EXEC COMMITTEE**

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

**COORDINATORS**

- Alateen: Lisa B
- Alt. Alateen: John McG
- Archives: Diana C
- Alt. Archives: Terry C
- Insurance: Carol G
- Bylaws (Interim): Jim S
- Diversity: Nick d
- Alt. Diversity: Stephan T
- Facilities: Carol S
- Alt. Facilities: David D
- Group Records: Wendy L
- Alt. Group Records: George L
- Institutions: David B
- Alt. Institutions: Dean C
- Literature: Catalina L
- Alt. Literature: Verona R
- PI/PIC: Veronica P
- Alt. PI/PIC: Pleas S
- 12 Stepper Editor: Debbie O
- Alt 12 Stepper Ed.: Melinda N
- Website: Beth Ann B
- Alt. Website: Penny G

**DISTRICT REPS**

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

**INTERGROUP**

- D 6-10 Intergroup: Lisa K
- SCV Intergroup: Bruce D
- Spanish – East Bay: Maria Carmen
- Nor Cal Hispanic: Janie L
- Hispana South: Maria Elena

**ALATEEN LIASON**

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

**CONVENTION**

- 2015 Chair: Patty B
- 2015 Co-chair: (open)
- NoCAC: Jessica M
- NoCAC co-chair: Brittany
- NoCAC Sponsor: Moriah R
- NoCAC co-sponsor: Stephanie T

**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
- 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

**PRESENT= X**

- D-15 DR: Maria A
- D-15 Alt DR: Nerissa M
- D-16 DR: Bill G
- D-16 Alt DR: Sandy S
- D-17 DR: Eva B
- D-17 Alt DR: Delta D
- D-18 DR: Brenda W
- D-18 Alt DR: George L
- D-19 DR: Shen W
- D-19 Alt DR: Helen
- D-20 DR: Cynthia P
- D-20 Alt DR: Jackie C
- D-21 DR: Maria G
- D-21 Alt DR: Robin W
- D-22 DR: Carla F
- D-22 Alt DR: Nancy D
- D-23 DR: Gael R
- D-23 Alt DR: John R
- D-24 DR: Terry H
- D-24 Alt DR: (open)
- D-25 DR: (open)
- D-25 Alt DR: Jim M
- D-26 DR: Maggie E
- D-26 Alt DR: Amanda W
- D-27 DR: Gaye
- D-27 Alt DR: Mary R
- D-36 DR: Alice L
- D-36 Alt DR: Cheryl L
- D-37 DR: Audra L
- D-37 Alt DR: Linda L
- D-38 DR: Valeria
- D-38 Alt DR: (open)
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Roll Call October 2015.docx