

THE REFLECTOR

May 2011

Al-Anon got to be 60 years old because our program pioneers took care of our program and past members kept the lights on. South Carolina, Area 50, is esteemed by having many past delegates actively supporting Al-Anon today. It is an honor to interview these admirable women. I'll start with a modest, gentlewoman with an amazing sense of humor.

Barbara Anne McKinnon: Panel 39 - 1999, 2000, 2001

How long have you been a member? *If all goes well, my 29th Al-Anon birthday will be in July*

How were you introduced to Al-Anon? *Our son was in treatment at Lancaster Recovery Center and I suppose after the counselors heard his story they truly decided that his mother needed Al-Anon in the worst way. Two counselors called me and at that point I would have done anything – I went, fussing to myself that it was not I who had the problem (I was dealing with a prescription drug addicted mother, an alcoholic spouse, and an alcoholic son—comes in groups in some families!). When I left the meeting that first night I knew I had found just what I needed.*

Were there special challenges in service? *To be very honest with everyone, speaking and leading groups in public have never been any trouble for me. I really enjoyed being Chairman, even though there were problems along the way, it, to me, was rewarding. In high school my English teacher spent most of her time teaching and practicing public speaking – one of my appreciations in this program is recognizing that I had an opportunity to say a big thank you to her before she died.*

Is there something about Al-Anon you would change? *The biggest change I would make would be to go back to the day when COMMITMENT really meant something. I can remember being told to go to a meeting no matter if you were tired, or didn't want to go, it would be to my advantage. Then I was told to get into service. It appears that so many today do not feel the commitment to meetings nor service. And they are missing so much.*

What is your personal meaning of Al-Anon? *Meaning of Al-Anon: I went to Al-Anon because at that point I had reached the end of my rope. I stayed because I felt comfortable and was showed a spiritual program to work to help me get better. Al-Anon means more to me than recovery from living with active alcoholism, it means a whole new family for me, a family with whom I sometimes disagree with but most of the time welcome as my friends/family. It means I began recovering from fear of taking risks, learning to go places for my enjoyment. There are many times when I still feel like a newcomer as I listen to others sharing their experience, strength, and hope.*

DELEGATE for South Carolina Area 50

I want first, to thank everyone for their love and support, the many cards and the love gifts sent to me as WSC. I also want to take this time to say how very proud I am of the SC Area as a whole. When listening to other delegates at the WSC and some of the issues they face in their areas, I have to say that we are a very healthy area. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the past delegates for their excellent leadership and stewardship that has brought us here and kept us healthy.

Participating in the World Service Conference was everything I had hoped it would be and more. I had received a lot of experience, strength and hope from past delegates before I went to conference. That gave me a head start on what to expect at conference. It also helped that I had met most of the Southeast Delegates at the Regional delegates Conference in February. The tone of the Conference and watching it in action was inspiring. You could really see that everyone wanted us to succeed and that presuming good will was not just a catch-phrase. I have a number of things to tell you from Conference:

We voted on the property decision and it was passed to continue to own the WSO property. We were there at the open house on Saturday and witnessed the burning of the mortgage.

The Al-Anon website has been updated. It is much more user friendly. It gives you quick access to audio, video and text information. It debuted April 13. Hopefully, some of you have seen it. If not, please take the time to check it out. I know you will like it. The new green and blue icon identifies the new series of podcasts. They cover many topics and allow for comments. Also under blogs are several subjects. There is a need for Spanish and/or French members to share. You will also find the Unlimited Abundant Skills Inventory on the website. I encourage all of you to fill this out.

Our new book, Many Voices, One Journey is also now out. It is 400+ pages of history and recovery.

Financially, WSO is in good health. Contributions and sales have stayed relatively consistent even in this economy. The audit will be posted on the members' website. WSO still needs our contributions to continue with a prudent reserve. Contributions are also need to expand our circle of hope. Our contributions support PSA's, literature, Conference, etc.

E-communities, which several of our coordinators have access to, are also expanding. Past and present conference members will have access around the 1st of May. Area Chairs should have access in August, with DR's getting access sometime in the fall. This will enable discussions with our counterparts in other areas.

There is a new Al-Anon DVD video coming out. I have a copy for anyone that would like to view it. There are new TV and Radio PSA's available. Al-Anon has the top 2% of all PSA's per the latest Neilson Report. Send emails to any Radio or Television station that you hear playing our PSA's to thank them. Public Outreach Coordinators are asked to develop and maintain a distribution list of members excited to assist in outreach efforts. Cut and paste you e-community comments and send them to your list. You can also make drastic improvements to Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism use using a distribution list. If you are interested, please give your email address to

Nancy G., our Public Outreach coordinator.

Area Highlights will no longer be printed after the summer issue. It will be available on the members' website.

We are staying about the same in *Forum* subscriptions. It averages nationally about 1.5 – 2.5 subscriptions per group. These are a great tool for meetings. It gives people contemporary sharings that can assist them. It is also a great resource for articles for parent of Alcoholics.

One of the questions that came up at conference was can we be of better service working with professionals or treatment centers? Can we be more welcoming to newcomers? We have lost our foundation of referrals. Haven't revised guidelines/suggestions to match treatment programs – they have changed, become more condensed programs. Some suggestions are having more speaker meetings; having a pre-contact greet someone at the door; rebuild our foundations thru treatment centers or substance abuse counselors.

One of the most exciting pieces of news is the new soft-cover *How Al-Anon Works*. This version costs \$5 and encourages groups to buy these to give every new member of the fellowship a copy. For years, AA has had the practice of giving new members a copy of their Big Book. Now, Al-Anon has a tool to do much the same thing with their new members. These soft-cover versions are meant to be an outreach tool to new members, not take the place of the hard-cover book that ongoing members purchase. We talked a lot at conference about Unlimited Abundant Resources – where we can use our money by paying it forward to new members with this book. *How Al-Anon Works* is mentioned in the latest edition of *O Magazine* in an interview with Ashley Judd. It was one of her ten most influential books list. In coordination with Oprah, there will be an App for I-Phones that will allow you to hear a sample chapter of *How Al-Anon Works*.

While at Conference I participated in a Thought Force on using the *Service Manual*. We will be continuing to work on this thru the summer and may present our information at the next conference. I also saw presentations from Thought Forces on Dual Membership; Do Not Refer policies, Memorial Contributions, How Service Promotes Growth and Conference Structure. We also saw presentations on TEAM events and voted on the budget, audit and Trustees report. We elected a new Chairman of the Board of Trustees and other positions. We saw a Task Force Presentation on submitting items for the Conference Agenda as well.

We had a presentation on Cultural Diversity. We are still predominantly 56 year old white women in Al-Anon and need to develop new strategies to reach out to other cultures and ethnicities.

To those of you who have been asking me about the possibility of getting CAL on e-readers, etc., we have been told that WSO is looking into this possibility. One of the issues is that Amazon wants 60% of the profit to do it through them, so WSO is looking at other ways to accomplish this.

We were presented with information about the International Convention in Vancouver in 2013. More information about International should be available in Fall 2012.

The site for the 2012 World Service Conference was announced. It will be in Stamford, CT and we will all be visiting Stepping Stones.

I have many pieces of information available on most of these topics. If you would like more detailed information on any of these, please let me know. I would be happy to discuss a presentation to your district focusing on any of these topics.

LIS,

Jan Rogerson, Delegate, Panel 51

GROUP RECORDS COORDINATOR REPORT

May 6, 2011

It has been a busy time since January 1. Since then I have completed all but 14 group changes. I am now able to make changes and even set up new groups electronically with WSO. This has made the process so much more convenient and faster as changes are sent directly to WSO group services.

I also developed a paper trail. Copies of change forms are sent to Delegate and Secretary for storage. I also send copies of WSO changes to District Representatives , Chairman, Webmaster for reference . A data base has also been set up for all Group Representatives information needed for emails and mailing purposes.

I am excited about Area 50 soon becoming 100% informed in all aspects for Groups.

Thanks you for the honor of serving
Jovce Hord/ Group Record Coordinator

The most current “Calendar of Events” is located at the Calendar of Events page on the SC web site. WWW..AL-ANON-SC.ORG

AAPP - AREA ALATEEN PROCESS PERSON

The 2011 Alateen Sponsor and Al-Anon Member in Alateen Service recertification notices have been sent to all certified Alateen Sponsors and AMIAS. They are due back to me by May 31, there is no exception. WSO has also sent each group a “2011 Annual Alateen Update Sheet” that needs to be completed and sent to me. Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Susan Outen

PAST DELEGATES

Panel 01*	South Carolina did not have a delegate for panel 1.*		
Panel 03 1963	Henry Townsend	Greenville	(deceased 02/04/80)
Panel 06 1966	Julia Stork	Cayce	(deceased 04/01)
Panel 09 1969	Douglas Graham	Spartanburg	(deceased 10/86)
Panel 12 1972	Margaret Harbin	(deceased 09/03) She was the first newsletter editor and one of the SC Pioneers.	
Panel 15 1975	Ruby C. Dodd	7105 Cottageville Hwy., Round O 29474	(843)835-5477 rubydee@lowcountry.com
Panel 18 1978	Bessie Long	178 Edgewood Road, Easley 29642	(864)295-4425 dgc53@live.com
Panel 21 1981	Winnie Blount	3401 Concord Rd., Amarillo, TX 79109-4719	
Panel 24 1984	Ginger Bowers	Lancaster, SC	(deceased 01/19/04)
Panel 27 1987	Betty Sue Wilkie	514 E. Home St., Hartsville 29550	(843)332-3995 BSWilkie@aol.com
Panel 30 1990	Edna Smoak	117 Edwards St., St. George 29477	(843)563-3506 EkSMOAK@edistoelectric.net
Panel 33 1993	Shirley Shuler	18 Atkinson Rd., Chester 29706	(803)385-3518 Sshuler@infoave.net
Panel 36 1996	Bobby Strange	409 Willow Winds Dr., Columbia 29210	(803)772-9638 BobbyStr@aol.com
Panel 39 1999	Barbara Ann McKinnon	605 W. Barr Street, Lancaster 29720	(803)286-0050 blmckinnon@comporium.net
Panel 42 2002	Nancy Bommer	403 Edisto Lake Rd., Wagener 29164	(803)564-6487 scflutter@aol.com
Panel 45 2005	Susan Lebhar	108 Alwyn Blvd., Summerville 29485	(843)875-0784 Sueleb@sc.rr.com
Panel 48 2008	Linda Ruthven	9506 Raven Drive, Ladson, SC 29456	(843) 871-8202 catsmeow2747@sc.rr.com
Panel 51 2010	Jan Rogerson	136 Sessions Drive, Aiken, SC 29803	(803) 642-2898 rogerson1@gfroceable.com
Panel 23	Alma Cromer	West Virginia delegate now SC resident 717 East Butternut Rd. Summerville, SC 29483	

We are so entirely grateful for those that pioneered the path before us.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

It has been a great 4 months of service. I have worked on a data base for all Group Representatives in Area 50 S.C..I feel that my Higher Power has been testing me with patience. Several times I would sigh a breath of relief for a finished project , only to realize it wasn't finished. Hopefully there are only a few changes to make and then Finished !.

I have also designed name tags for AWSC and also Area Assembly. I think that this will open up a more friendly and inviting feeling in our meetings. Sometimes stepping out of the box is good for growing.

My main objective is "Unity". As in Tradition 1 and 2, that is our main purpose. We are only trusted Servants , we do not govern.

Love in Service

Joyce Hord

Area 50 Alternate Delegate

Public Outreach Coordinator's Report for the Reflector – May 2011

I have some big shoes to fill, Dian has done a wonderful job and I want to thank her for passing on to me a vast amount of knowledge and experience.

Big news!!! New multi – purpose Public Outreach video on DVD. It has three primary audiences: Adults who might be affected by someone else's drinking, Teens who might be affected by someone else's drinking and Professionals who might be in a position to refer patients, clients, customers and students to Al-Anon and Alateen meetings. Decide who you think would best benefit from this – school, colleges, guidance counselors, police, clergy – it is \$5.00.

Remind the membership to take the WSO survey, it is easy and quick and check out the new WSO website, as well as the state website...

Districts are having Public Outreach "pushes". They are sending out Letters to the Professionals, Clergy and Police, going to Health Fairs around their cities and towns to promote Al-Anon and Alateen. Setting up booths to give out literature at Alcohol awareness functions. One District held 'mock' meeting at Southern Wesley University in Central to a group of students about how addiction affects family members. They are passing out literature, meeting lists and old Forums at various places, forgetting Al-Anon/Alateen literature on purpose. Institutional meetings are being held in Treatment Centers, in Inpatient Psych Hospital and one District was asked to attend Drug Court.

****It is time to order 2012 "Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism" July is the deadline, order a lot and get them out to the professionals in your cities and towns. Be sure to order the 400 free "Crying House" bookmarks with every book order, these can be given out at meetings for the membership to distribute.

Once again, we are going to be giving Public Outreach money to the District that gets their report to me one month ahead of the Reflector deadline. \$50 for the first report and \$35 for second. So mark your calendars, the deadline for the next Reflector is Sept 13...so Public Outreach Coordinators, get your big red pen out and get your report to me by August 13th and get some extra monies for your Public Outreach budget. Let's let South Carolina know Al-Anon/Alateen is alive and how and where to find us!

Love in Service,

Nancy Gannon

FORUM COORDINATOR

At the 2011 Convention at Myrtle Beach four subscriptions to the FORUM were given away. The recipients were drawn from people attending their first convention. About 30 copies of old FORUMS were given away, as well as 50 copies of the *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2011*.

After the workshop on writing for the FORUM, anyone who wanted to handed in their writings and I have forwarded those to WSO.

FUTURE PROJECTS:

At Area Assembly a subscription of the FORUM will be drawn from the names of anyone attending Area Assembly for the first time.

Nan Moorer (Literature Coordinator) and I would like to visit any district meeting where there is interest in having us conduct either Literature and/or FORUM workshops. Please let us know if your district is interested. You can contact either one of us at the following:

Susan English — Randomfarm@aol.com

Nan Moorer — ncovington@gforcegable.com

Treasurer's Report

Hello Area 50! This is my first 'official' treasurer's report for our area and I have enjoyed putting the report together. It is a wonderful opportunity and very interesting to try and locate all the different group numbers and areas. That being said, I again plead with all DR's to please please ask all GR's to inform their group treasurer of the correct mailing address for contributions. Our past treasurer is still receiving many contributions. This is going to be problem in the near future as she has moved and all the mail that is now being forwarded to her address is going to stop shortly and **all mail will be returned to sender**. So.....my mailing address again is: Fran Beckham, PO Box 14043, Surfside Beach, SC 29587.

Our beginning balance as of January 1,2011 is **\$7722.26**. Our income from January 1 to April 30, 211 which includes \$390 TEAM registrations is **\$3828.46** and our expenses for the same period total **\$3899.21**. Our ending balance as of April 30, 2011 is **\$7651.21**.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve!!

In service,

Fran Beckham
Area Treasurer

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CPC
Open

Institutions
Open

Spanish Liaison

Open

Archives Coordinator

In celebration of Al-Anon's 60th anniversary, Archives Coordinators across the United States and Canada have been working on a project to identify the dates when each meeting in their Area was started. For South Carolina, less than 30% of the groups have a start date listed on the Group Records printout which comes to the Alternate Delegate twice each year. In order to participate each Area had to find sources to identify the missing start dates.

I would like to thank each of the groups who sent me their group history forms to supplement those listed in the printout from the World Service Office. As of this past Saturday, I now have copies of group histories which had been submitted previously. My current plan is to send each of those groups a copy of their group history so they can update it. We are many voices on one journey, and our group histories make the voices heard. The group histories and other official records are going to play a significant role in SCAFG during the next three years as SCAFG and SC Alateen turn 50, and *The Reflector* turns 40.

Love and Fellowship,

Linda R.

Did you know that South Carolina divided into districts in 1975?

Frequently Used Abbreviations

AAPP: Area Alateen Process Person

AIS: Al-Anon Information Service

AMIAS: Al-Anon Member Involved In Alateen Service

AWSC: Area World Service Committee

CAL: Conference Approved Literature

CMA: Current Mailing Address

DR: District Representative

EIN: Tax Identification Number

GR: Group Representative

GSO: General Service Office

LDC: Literature Distribution Centers (we use Raleigh)

TEAM: Together Empowering Al-Anon Members

WSO: World Service Office. A physical building in Virginia Beach, VA

WSC: World Service Conference.

Explanation of terms start on page 65 of the Service Manual

CONVENTION 2011 FINAL REPORT

May 6, 2011

Convention 2011 is now over, but the memories remain. The learning experience, the bond that grew within our Committee, the ins-and outs, the revolving committee members, and most of all, the over whelming amount of recovery that we all received and took back home Sunday morning within ourselves.

The wonderful Speakers, the exciting workshops that were offered, the hospitality room filled with great food and heartfelt fellowship , and yes even the hilarious entertainment "Focus On U", made this a great Convention to remember. Our main purpose from the beginning was not the \$, but the awesome time spent between members of this wonderful program of Al-Anon. I feel this was accomplished.

I am especially grateful to those who stepped up to fill in when positions were left unattended. Every member of 2011 Committee was so thankful for the Chairman and Co-Chairman of Communications Committee. Both of these ladies went far and beyond not only their own committee, but also helped out Registration and Fundraising without being ask, and stayed there until the end. This is how service work is done. I will be handing down 2011 notebook at Assembly in June, hopefully when it is shared by 2012 and 2013 , those Committees will also see beyond the reports, the pictures , and the words, and see and feel how Convention 2011 Committee grew in their program and even became a little closer to the Alateens in S.C.. and as we see changes in us all we have the opportunity to leave a Stepping Stone wherever we have planted our seed.

Love In Service,
Joyce Hord
2011 Convention Chairman

Literature Coordinator

Literature has exciting news for our state with the publishing of our newest CAL, Many Voices, One Journey (B-31). I received my copy and what a joy to read. It is clearly refreshing to find such a book just full of growth and recovery. The book lends itself well to both reading a little each day because it is broken up in segments but it also lends itself well to a meeting because of the great questions that following each segment. What fun in hearing recovery that spans 60 plus years. It is clearly fun to take part in sharing this new literature that spans over the life of Al Anon, how appropriate on our 60 year anniversary. The area purchased a case of twenty four and at the time of this typing I have only 3

left. What a great response. Many Voices, One Journey may be bought through the Literature Distribution Center in Raleigh, NC or Mail your order to AFG, Inc., 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617 at a cost of individually \$16.00 plus shipping and handling. You may get order forms through the WSO website as well as I have a few. On www.al-anon.org/members you can find soon a write up on the book itself. Happy Reading!!

Literature was clearly a hit at our Al Anon/Alateen Convention in February. I sat up a table that included older literature just for display. Many folks stood around, read and asked questions. I gave away many free pamphlets as well. We sold many of the pieces of literature that were inherited from our previous literature efforts. We sold appropriately \$200.00 worth of literature. I felt quite good with the interest shown and thank you all for your encouragement and support.

On April 2, 2011 I took part on a conference call through e-Communities which was attended by many Literature Coordinators throughout the USA and Canada. How interesting to have a chance to hear the thoughts and actions of others from all over. I found SC to be very knowledgeable about what is out there in literature as well as what a Literature and Forum Coordinator does. Clearly I have much to be thankful for in all my mentors in service. Please don't forget the CAL sample chapter at www.alanon.org or www.al-anon.org/members. At the members site you can share on the topic.

Finally I would like all to know that your Literature Coordinator, Nan M. and your Forum Coordinator, Susan E. are excited to be in the process of pulling together a road trip around the state to offer some form of workshop to address Literature and The Forum. Can't wait!!!!

Submitted In Service, Nan M.

Secretary's Report

Greetings from Myrtle Beach! I am so excited that summer is here again and I feel blessed to be so close to the ocean to enjoy the serenity that it offers. Of course, the traffic that comes with it tests that serenity at times. I hope wherever you are that you are looking forward to the coming months of summer and all that it has to offer. One of those offerings is the Area/TEAM event that is happening June 3rd and 4th in Columbia. How thrilling to have not one, not two, but three World Service Office members coming to visit us and share their experience, strength and hope with us, along with giving us a glimpse of what is happening in their offices. I know that the economy has each of us watching our pennies, but if you get a group together and split the cost, it will be well worth it. I have found through the years that the fellowship that takes place in the motel room is just as valuable as the event itself. I hope to see you there.

I want to thank everyone who has sent me reports for the AWSC and Area minutes. If you haven't sent me a report, I would appreciate one, as your reports and information make up the minutes. It's great to hear what is going on in your part of the state and helpful to share ideas about what is working and how you are solving problems in your District. I look forward to reading your reports.

Please help me keep my contact list updated by sending me any changes to your email. I don't want to miss sending anything out to anyone.

Love in Unity & Service,
Melanie Martin
Area Secretary

Another treat from a Treasured Pioneer.. South Carolina is the finest Area. We have experience and wisdom of our past Delegates—they chose to put program before themselves.

PAST DELEGATE INTERVIEW

Edna Smoak PANEL and YEARS: **Panel 30 (1990, 1991 & 1992)**

LENGTH OF TIME AS MEMBER OF PROGRAM: **40 years**

HOW WERE YOU INTRODUCED TO AL-ANON? **By an AA Member**

BESIDES SERVING AS DELEGATE, CAN YOU RELATE ANY SERVICE EXPERIENCES THAT ARE ESPECIALLY MEANINGFUL FOR YOU? **I have served in just about every capacity beginning as sec/treas, then GR of my home group, then on up the ladder. All service work is important as it makes me search through our CAL for information and study our Hand Book. While serving as delegate, I was on the Literature Committee and I received a blessing through this service as I understood how our books and other CAL pieces come together.**

WHAT ONE THING WOULD YOU CHANGE ABOUT AL-ANON TODAY? **I wouldn't change a thing, but, would stress that we stick to the basics of the program. It worked years ago for just a few, so why change it.**

2012 CONVENTION REPORT

“Quiet the Mind, Open the Heart” is our 2012 Convention theme. It suggests the spiritual practice of our program--taking time to slow down and reflect and to experience joy.

We will be returning to Myrtle Beach, February 16th to 19th, 2012, but we have a new location—Ocean Dunes Resort and Villas at 75th Avenue North and Ocean Boulevard. Our general sessions, workshops and hospitality room will all be in the Conference Center which is connected to the hotel. Ocean front double rooms are \$51.18 per night plus taxes and fees. There are also 2 bedroom villas with full kitchens available for \$111.18 per night plus taxes and fees. For more hotel information, visit the web site: www.sandsresorts.com/resorts/oceandunes/ To make reservations, call 800-599-9872 and specify “SCAFG 2012 Convention”.

Districts 3, 4, 5, and 10 are the convention hosts. The committees have selected speakers and workshop topics to carry out the theme. Kurt O. has designed the quilt for the drawing; there will also be drawings for gift baskets. We’re making plans for hospitality and entertainment.

The convention flyer with registration form is on the Area website. Registration is just \$20.00 for Al-Anon and AA members if mailed by January 15, 2012 and \$5 for Alateen members. Send registrations to:

Jane Kaplenski
PO Box 591
Jackson, SC 29831

Any questions? Contact Janet Lockhart, Convention Chair, 803-779-4018, or Beth Garrick, Convention Co-Chair, 803-447-9612.

ALATEEN REPRESENTATIVE MESSAGE

Dear Alateens of the State,

There are a few things I want you to know as your State Rep. First, I want you to know that area is coming up on Friday, June 3rd, and I hope to see you there, even though it may be a bit different. Second, for many of us, a much awaited date is upon us... Alateen Camp. It is July 15th through the 17th. The schedule is almost done and I think it is turning out great. We still have a few openings for speakers and chairs plus we still need a theme for this years dance, so if you are interested, have any ideas, or want more information, e-mail me at gothic-skate@yahoo.com, or Jan H. at sc_alateen@yahoo.com or talk to us at Area. I hope to see you soon.

Best Wishes,
Your Alateen SR: Gene W.

DISTRICTS ONE, SEVEN, TEN

No Reports Submitted

**HAVE YOU DONE SOMETHING NICE FOR YOUR SPONSOR TODAY?
DO YOU TAKE YOUR SPONSOR'S LISTENING EAR FOR GRANTED?**

**WHO WAS OPENING UP THE ROOM WHEN YOU FIRST STARTED AT-
TENDING MEETINGS?**

DISTRICT TWO

**Spring has sprung, hail has fallen, the flowers are bloom-
ing, and we are excited that we have a new group, the Mon-
day AFG, meeting at St. Margaret Episcopal Church in Boil-
ing Springs!**

**The South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind in Spar-
tanburg is planning to host a program in the fall centering
on the Al-Anon and Alateen Programs and our message of
Hope. If any reader knows of a deaf or blind Al-Anon mem-
ber who can clear a SLED background check, and who
would be willing to come to Spartanburg, please contact
Dory Davis at (864)585-5931.**

**We are continuing to encourage members to be willing to
certify and sponsor Alateen groups.**

Sent in Love, Gayle E.

Submitted By Gayle our District 2 Representative

The South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind in Spartanburg recently contacted AA with a request that several members visit the school and address the students, introducing them to AA and offering resources to help any who struggle with alcohol. AA contacted Al-Anon, and on the Monday following our annual Al-Anon/Alateen Convention, three AA's and two Al-Anons met with about 75 students and several staff members at the school and presented a message of hope and healing. The presentation on that Monday was primarily focused on AA. One blind AA member told his story; and a short, animated film was shown depicting the dangers of alcoholism and the healing offered through AA. Meeting formats were briefly described, and then students were invited to ask questions. I and another Al-Anon member answered questions about Al-Anon, and briefly explained why we needed to practice the 12 steps ourselves--that we needed to recover from the effects of the disease

of alcoholism just like the alcoholics did. I emphasized that both groups viewed each other with great compassion, and that we strove to cooperate as we each worked to recover from the effects of a deadly disease. The AA's were able to leave with the students and staff literature to help them better understand the disease of alcoholism and the path of recovery offered through AA's 12 steps. Some of these materials were printed in Braille.

In the days and weeks following the presentation, the school counselors received visits from a number of students wanting to discuss issues related to alcohol abuse. Some of the students talked about the use of alcohol in their homes. The School would like to host a presentation again in the fall, this time centered upon Al-Anon and Alateen. In preparation, I and other local Al-Anon members are seeking resources that will help carry the message. If any reader knows of a deaf or a blind Al-Anon member who can clear a SLED background check and who would be willing to come to Spartanburg to present their story to the students in the fall, please contact me, as their contribution would be greatly appreciated. If anyone knows of a source of CAL printed in Braille, this, too would add significantly to the value of a presentation at the school. Finally, if an Alateen member would be willing to stand and tell his or her story to the students, it would help them

identify with the message of hope that Al-Anon and Alateen have to offer. Additionally, any monetary contributions to help with the purchase of literature will help further carry the message.

"When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help..." Let's together offer a hand to those within the deaf and blind community who suffer from our shared disease, and who do not have available to them the same precious resources that we in Al-Anon and Alateen enjoy so freely.

Please contact Dory Davis, at 864-585-5931, if you can help supply any of the above listed resources and help make this fall's presentation at the School for the Deaf and Blind the most meaningful and helpful it can be. Thank you.

With love in service, Dory D.

DISTRICT THREE

Submitted on May 3, 2011

Nowhere But Up hosted our last district meeting on March 5 in Aiken. Nan M. and Jeri W. led a workshop on Concept Two, and Nancy B. presented a PowerPoint showing all the different things available on the Al-Anon websites. We talked about the upcoming TEAM event as well. We will be hosting our District Three All Day with the theme “Spring Into Service” on May 14 from 10-4 pm at Camp Kinard in Batesburg. Please plan to join us for a good time including a game by the Alateens, a skit, a service panel and FUN! Our flyer is on the website. Please come join us. At the district meeting we also signed a picture of our state butterfly as our delegate gift. Our next district meeting will follow the district all day in Batesburg.

**Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Jane Kaplenski
District Representative for District 3**

District 4 Report – May 1, 2011

We have been working with Area 50 Alternate Delegate Joyce H to update the information for all our groups. Joyce has been doing an excellent job and we appreciate the hard work she has put in to get us updated. We have only one group left with no GR or contact person, but all other groups have elected GRs or have a mail contact. After discussing with Joyce, we redistricted the Serenity group in Newberry into District 4 from the Spartanburg district. Newberry is very close to Chapin, and Chapin is part of District 4; it just makes sense to move that group into our district.

We have updated our meeting schedule and voice mail; we now list meetings from Richland, Lexington, Kershaw and Newberry Counties. It is a logical grouping of meetings and we are pleased to be able to present these choices to those looking for a meeting in the Midlands.

We held District 4 meetings in January and March; our next meeting is Sunday, May 15 at 3 PM at Virginia Wingard Memorial United Methodist Church on Broad River Rd in Columbia. We also look forward to attending the 2012 Convention Planning Committee meeting at that same church on Saturday, May 7, from 1:30 – 4:30 PM.

From our District 4 Public Outreach Coordinator, Maris B, comes the following report:

In January, I ordered 100 pieces of each of the free literature from our WSO offices. I bundled them up and distributed them to whichever GRs wanted to take them back to their groups. Some folks had asked for literature that could be used for discussion topics at their meeting. The most requested were: "The 7th Tradition," "Joy of Service," "Links of Service" and "Why CAL?".

In February, District 4 had a table with literature at a "Helping the Hurting" conference that was aimed at providing resources for the faith community. We were able to give out many meeting schedules and information for the professionals and employee assistance programs. We also gave out more than 30 Al-Anon outreach bookmarks to help people share our message.

District 4 celebrated Lois W's birthday, March 4th, by "Remembering to Leave Hope" in a variety of public places. Groups spread the word by members pairing up or going out individually and leaving meeting schedules, bookmarks, and the Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism booklets all over town. Some of the places we left literature were: libraries, community centers, restaurants, bars in the college area, bulletin boards at grocery stores, shopping centers, pharmacies, gyms, waiting rooms, doctors offices, and even movie theater lobbies!

We closed out April by having a table at a Faces and Voices of Recovery (FAVOR)

conference. Four Al-Anon members took part in service by staffing the table in two shifts and sharing meeting schedules and literature with all of the conference speakers and attendees.

A big thank you to everyone who has helped to attract people to Al-Anon and been willing to staff tables and distribute literature. Outreach works because you are working the program and "carrying this message to others!"

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Lattimore
District 4 Representative

REFLECTOR SUBSCRIPTION FORM

One complimentary copy of the Reflector is sent ,via e-mail, to each registered group in South Carolina. Subscriptions for individuals or groups in print can be obtained by sending the following information, along with \$12 to Fran Beckham, P O Box 14043, Surfside Beach, SC 29587. Please make checks payable to SCAFG. This subscription will run from January 2011 – December 2011.

Date _____ Group _____ District _____ Amt. Pd. _____

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

_____ Email: _____

New _____ Renew _____ Gift _____

Is this subscription for a group? _____

District Five

May 2011

District 5 has a new slate of willing members in positions and new GR.s Deanna S., Sara F. Lisa F., Jena D., Martha J., Melva, and Bonnie. I am looking forward to working with members still serving and new members on board. I would like to encourage all members in District 5 to attend District Meetings.

We have set up our calendar of meetings for the year. We celebrated 50 years of SC Al-Anon with a cake Jan. 16Th. in Florence. The meeting was well attended by new and seasoned members.

Several members attended the 2011 convention at the beach. Being on 2012 convention committee several members visited the new site for our next convention. Fliers were handed out to each group.

We had our 5TH annual All Day workshop in Summerton. April 2ND. 2 great speakers and workshops done by Florence groups and one by the Alateens. Had lots of good sharing. We had several new members attend. We also had goods prizes for drawings. Not to mention the good food fried chicken and barbecue. We also had a cake to celebrate Al Anon being 60 years old.

We have Outreach funding from last year and we shared 100 Faces with all 7 groups in our district. Groups handed out Faces at Dr's offices, bookmarks were also taken to Library in Sumter they also took "As we Understood" to both branches. Waiting rooms, Treatment centers were also brought up as places to leave hope. Outreach continues by all members willing to share about Al-Anon. March 4 Th. "Leave Hope" is great spring outreach event. We will be planning District Outreach project with funding from Area Oct. 2010.

Requests were made for members willing to serve as Alateen in service to get with Susan O. Susan is also our District Alateen Sponsor Rep.

The Hartsville group has signed back into the District and Area. Members were present at last Meeting. Members asked WSO for help and Susan O and Elizabeth D. and I attended their Thursday night meeting. We took "Faces", bookmarks and Group inventory and lots of ESH. They meet Tuesday and Thursday night at 8:00 P.M. at the AA building. Welcome back they are one of the states oldest groups in SC.

We covered the 2 day Area and Team Event Planned in June. Members encouraged to share their interests in subjects covered. and to plan to attend all day event with WSO speakers for the event. Members were encouraged to attend.

Each group then shared about meetings, Covered number of core members at-

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Each group then shared about meetings, Covered number of core members attending weekly, concerns about new people not staying. Several groups are doing Step meeting or extra meetings on Steps and Traditions.

Another issue in our District is student Nurses attending meeting as their schools request. We as a District have asked Schools to send students to meeting the first week of the month only. Some groups were having students every meeting in the spring and summers. We will continue to work with them. We also want to post on the web site when and what meeting students as welcome to attend. It was also suggested that meeting info explain open/closed to people looking for groups.

We talked about Items that are to be covered the District and by the groups as funding allows. Each group need to take care of group needs then share up.

New Group records forms were completed to be turned into Joyce.

Fran B. business cards were given to each GR present.

Next Meeting May 15TH in Sumter at 2:30 P.M.

District 5 Rep Dian

DISTRICT SIX REPORT

District 6 met on Saturday March 12th In Walterboro, SC. There were 18 in attendance

During our meeting the need to gather and record group histories was stressed by Linda R. Jan H introduced the need for an “Alateen District Representative” Jan H introduced term for 1 year (renewed for next 2 possible) requirements and responsibilities were presented. The idea is for attracting Alateen members to district meetings and increasing participation. Although there was a lot of discussion, GRs were encouraged to return to their groups to propose the introduction of the Teen Alateen District Representative.

It was announced District 6, 7, and 8 to host 2013 Convention, Planning committee meetings will be determined. Contact with District 7 has not been made to coordinate meetings. The district needs a new District Alateen Coordinator replacing Sally. The DR is reaching out to all of the certified Alateen sponsors to see who is interested in the position.

Hosts for our next two District meetings:

May 14th - St. George/Walterboro AFG groups providing a workshop on 4th Step.

July 9th - Summerville.

Your trusted servant,

John C. – District 6 Representative

DISTRICT EIGHT REPORT

District 8 has had their first and second meetings so far this year. As a new DR I am really having a lot of fun and we do have some things going on. We have all our district positions filled and everyone is so willing to participate that it makes my job easier. We are already planning our District 8 All Day for September 17th at Myrtle Beach State Park. Be on the lookout for the flyer, which I will have up as soon as possible on the South Carolina Al-Anon website. We have a new Public Outreach Coordinator and she is exploring different ideas for us to do. Hope to see all of you in June at the Area/TEAM event. It sounds like fun!!!

We had our first District meeting on 1-22-11, we had a great turnout.

My goal this year is to bring the information back to the district with enthusiasm and to challenge my district in a positive attitude

Love in Service,
Mary Ellen Rathof

ME

DISTRICT NINE REPORT

Al-Anon is alive and well in district 9! We had a district meeting on March 15 with all but 3 of the groups represented. We rejoiced that we had received word from Joyce H. that all 18 of our group records were completed and correct at this time! (Wonder how long that will last?) This includes 2 inactive groups. We also have 1 group that spun off from another group and has been meeting almost a year but has not become “official” yet.

Topics for discussion at this meeting was the need for more stories for the Forum and guidelines for speakers. Each GR was given a copy of the Forum request for stories with encouragement to use as a meeting with the group. Hopefully some submissions will come forth from this effort. We have a district-wide speaker meeting the first Sunday night of each month. Groups take turns providing refreshments and the speaker for this. We went over some suggestions for speakers and each GR was reminded to download the official guidelines from the website to give to speakers when asking them to speak.

We also began planning our annual all day retreat. Cheryl B. agreed to chair the committee for this. The retreat will be held on September 24th so mark your calendars now. It will be held at Pleasant Ridge Retreat Center as it was last year. More information will be coming soon.

District 9 has had two opportunities for out reach in April. On Friday, April 15, a group from the district took a “mock” meeting to Southern Wesley University in Central. The group spoke to a class of budding counselors about how addiction affects family members. Then on April 27th a group will maintain a booth at a health fair the Spinx Company is holding for its employees. They will be giving out information on Al-Anon, the district 9 schedule for meetings, and old forums.

Respectfully submitted,
Dale C., DR for district 9

AREA ALATEEN COORDINATOR REPORT — AWSC May 7, 2011

Prepared by Jan H

As we move into the 2nd quarter of our first term, I am happy to report that our SC Alateen program is making progress (not perfection) in our four primary concerns. We are hopeful that we will entrust more support from the membership at large and that you will spread the word.

Transition of Alateen Area Coordinators: A successful transfer of the Alateen bank account occurred from SunTrust to Wachovia. Pertinent information has been shared with key Area Officers and transactions will be documented (in an Excel spreadsheet format) for future reporting purposes. Between Susan O and I, we have participated in three WSO Conference calls. Highlights follow:

WSO has introduced an online discussion board via e-communities where all Area Alateen Coordinators can communicate directly with each other. The current three topics: *Structure of Area Alateen Conferences, Alateen Sponsor Certification Requirements & Alateen Public Outreach.*

An Alateen Service E-Manual is forthcoming to the WSO (members only) website. A variety of Alateen Service resources will be available for download. We were asked for suggestions of information we would like to access there. Response ranged from successful meeting topics to request for translations.

Alateen Chat Room Meetings are just getting off the ground. A relatively recent phenomenon, the Alateen Chat meeting rooms are screened for high security. Currently 11 areas have applied and been approved and only 6 scheduled. We are one of the 11 and are collecting names and e-mail addresses of (teens and sponsors) interested in participating. We are planning a 'hands on' Chat meeting workshop at our upcoming 2011 SC Alateen Conference.

Providing more support to Alateen Sponsors: We are grateful to our Webmaster who has jumped through hoops with us to provide our sponsors the necessary documents and resources for download. Since January, these include business meeting notes and a range of forms needed necessary for transporting teens, updating group & sponsor records including certification and recertification forms.

More Alateen Sponsor help and support is needed – especially in districts 1, 2, 8 where there currently are no Alateen meetings open to the public. Also, Districts 5 & 9 are running on minimum (2) to no Alateen Sponsor back up for weekly Alateen meetings. There are many ways members can work their program supporting their district Alateens and sponsors that would not require weekly attendance at an Alateen group. Ask an Alateen sponsor or let me hear from you at sc_alateen@yahoo.com.

Increasing communications among teens and sponsors within the area:

The first Alateen E-News was released 2/13/2011 to an approximate 60 members (teens & sponsors) within the Alateen fellowship with two more released since. Among the reasons this electronic news was created was to serve as a communication vehicle to alert our area wide fellowship of new postings to the website, call for input on upcoming Alateen events and activities in the planning stages, & to share member and group news. The second E-News drew several responses (from adults) that provided a learning opportunity that resulted in the creation of our official "Rules and FAQ's" (...i.e. internet etiquette) on our new electronic communications. This guide defines what is okay and not okay when responding to mail from our new e-mail and has been posted to the website. Check it out.

Our new e-mail address - sc_alateen@yahoo.com - was established as command central for Area Alateen to receive inquiries from the public as well as to disperse communications throughout the fellowship. This mail comes directly to me. It is the address from which the Alateen E-News originates. Please add this to your own address book (for referral purposes) so that you will be able to receive mail – instead of going to your spam box. Since we have gone live (late January 2011) 30+ inquiries have been received from the public, responded to with forwarding contact information provided to appropriate DRs and Alateen contacts. All but District 1 thus far have been sent referrals. When you receive these referrals, please let me know if you are NOT the correct contact and/or if you are unable to follow up.

A Request for more Public Outreach – There has been some passionate discussions taking place about how to spread the word about Alateen meetings and the need for more sponsor support. The topic often comes around to a decision to not post Alateen meetings to the public made at the area level in the early forming of SC Alateen and prior to the internet becoming the central communication channel it is today.

Increase Alateen/Alateen Sponsor participation and voice at all levels (District/Area /Conferences & Conventions): At Area Assembly we held our first “Alateen Break-out Session” where we began planning our 2011 SC Alateen Conference. We also tossed around various ways to improve communications among our fellowship and invited our Webmaster to help us explore various methods of using the website. Since January, we have posted many new resources accessible via the *members only* pages at the website, then clicking on *Area 50 Alateen* tab. Check us out!

At the 2011 SC Al-Anon/Alateen Convention in Myrtle Beach several activities were added to the weekend to enrich the Alateen experience. Among these included a Friday Night business meeting, a midnight hot seat meeting and the favorite Saturday afternoon beach/poolside downtime with Frisbee.

2011 SC Alateen Camp /July 15 – 17. The Contract for services at Camp Kinard was secured in early February. An increase of fees has occurred for the weekend and will be reflected in a slight increase from \$85 per member to \$90. We are requesting a pre- registration (form available online) and a \$15 deposit. The remaining \$75 balance can be paid at arrival. A limited number of scholarships are available by request. Al-Anon fellowship can make donations (checks written to SC ALATEEN) and mailed to: AC Sponsor/1102 Laudonniere St, / Bft, SC 29902.

State Alateen Rep Gene W is working hard to put together the Alateen program in cooperation with all groups. He will provide a separate report on the status of plans.

District 6 is the first to consider a teen service position be added to their slate of officers and coordinators. The proposal under review includes a description of duties and term for the teen District Alateen Coordinator position. This new voice would serve as direct link from GR to State Alateen Rep and serve in partnership with the adult District Alateen Coordinator.

ADDENDED NOTES:

Misc: Established FreeConferenceCall.com / toll free 877.482.5838
Sc_alateen@yahoo.com