

Minutes of South Carolina Area Assembly

SC State Museum, 301 Gervais (Corner of Gervais and Huger Streets), Columbia, SC

Saturday, – January 23, 2010 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM Chairman – Susan Lebhar

10:00 AM to 10:45 AM

Welcome - Serenity Prayer - The Concepts and General Warranties were read by Linda L. (District 6).

Approval of Area Assembly Minutes October 3, 2009 were presented for vote by Susan L. were approved unanimously A motion to accept the minutes was made by Jan R. (District 3)and seconded by Mary W. (District 4)

Treasurer's Report -. Mary Ellen R. gave the treasurer's report. Beginning Balance is **\$8,838.24**. Income for the period was **\$3,329.43** and total expenses were **\$2,189.72 leaving** an ending balance of **\$9,977.95**. Motion to approve treasurer's report was made by Maris (District 4) and seconded by Fran B. by (District 8)

Chairman: Susan L. – Welcomed all newcomers to their first Area Assembly. She also talked about the date change that was necessary for this Area Assembly and changes to the SC Area website that are taking place. Make sure to check the Calendar of Events and suggesting the districts get their information to the webmaster.

Alternate Delegate's Report by Wes B – discussed changes that have been made the SC Area 50 website encouraging all to use the website to learn how to get around the site and learn about what is happening in South Carolina, find minutes, the agenda for area assembly, guidelines for the four action committees, information about the Area World Service Committee members. He also discussed when any changes in your group to be sure to fully complete a Group Change Form then submit it to Wes.

Delegate's Report: Linda read an article that was printed in the Area Highlights which had appeared in the Tennessee Trader. The article discusses how a member had been asked to attend an Area Assembly and the questions she had and wondering why would she want to attend. Assembly --- WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? I remember being a new Group representative and trekking out to my first Assembly. Another Group Representative and I got up at the crack of dawn and begrudgingly headed for Murfreesboro. I thought, "What a pain in the @#!" I was highly irritated that my Sponsor was making me go to some state business meeting. I saw no relevance to my own recovery, as I could work the Steps just fine at home with my books, my meetings, and my Sponsor. I was told that I would need to be familiar with a book called the *Service Manual* for Assembly. So, being the good little overachiever that I was, I read the whole thing – cover to cover – the week before Assembly. Let me tell you, I have never read so many words and paragraphs that made no sense to me at all. I thought, "Oh well, I read it. Now I can put that behind me and try to figure out this Assembly thing." At best, my first Assembly was a blur of reports and disagreements and some delirious fun with my friend. Now, flash-forward to the present . . . I just got home last weekend from my fourth Assembly. I was so excited to go this time. The week before, I had tried to make time to read through the *Service Manual* (for the third time!), just to brush up on a few things before I got there (can you imagine?). I've planned my calendar this year around Assembly weekends, as this is an absolute priority for me and my recover. In fact my friend and I, both notoriously late people, modified our schedules to make sure we were EARLY this time (we were!). For some reason this Assembly felt inviting,

comfortable, and friendly. I belonged. The funny thing is nothing much has changed in the structure of the Assembly in the last couple of years. What has changed is my attitude! The experience, strength, and hope I want to share in this story is that service is SO IMPORTANT for my personal recovery and growth. Each time I have attended an Assembly I've grown up a little and grown in recovery a lot. I seriously used to ignore the "service" third of our three Legacies. I just figured I'd work the other two parts extra hard and come out even! I hated the word "service," much less doing service. It just seemed like something for all of the big all-knowing officers to contend with . . .

Now I understand why the Coordinators and the Delegates give reports. I understand how helpful it is to read the *Traveler* between Assemblies and ask my group what they think about issues at home before I vote as their trusted servant at Assembly. I also understand the importance of teaching my Sponsees about service work and how to use the *Service Manual*. By the way, for anyone reading this who, like me, was intimidated (or repulsed!) by the thought of starting service work, I just wanted to say others will help and teach you every step of the way. Oh, and if you think, like I did, that service work has no bearing on your personal recovery, get ready to be pleasantly surprised! I have learned so much about myself and how I relate to others at these Assemblies. Practicing the AI-Anon principles through the *Service Manual* and participating in "live" action has greatly improved my boundaries with people, my connection to others, confidence in my "gut" feelings and my ability to ask for help and support. These qualities have improved my work relationships, my family relationships, and my romantic relationships. Reading the *Service Manual*; is exciting for me now because I have seen firsthand how it works. It is so simple and amazing. I know I can't want this gift for anyone else, and I can't sell it. But I can share it and hope that my enthusiasm is contagious! Kristi B., Tennessee Reprinted from *The Tennessee Traveler* January 2006

Old Business: No submittals were received for changes for location of meetings for Area World Service Committee meetings or Area Assemblies so for 2010 we will remain at the SC State Museum. The Convention Logistics Committee will meet at the 2010 Area Convention to discuss possible changes to where future conventions will be held.

New Business: Each attendee was given a copy of the Area Inventory which was completed and turned into Susan with compilation results to be announced at a later date.

The Workshop today titled "Sharing Solutions" consisted of three breakout areas – one for the Group Representatives chaired by Susan O.; one for the District Representatives chaired by Joyce H.; and, one for all of the other attendees chaired by Wes B.

Summary of Sharing Solutions Workshop

GR's Breakout Session of Workshop, Saturday, January 23, 2010 - Facilitator: Susan Outen/
Notes by Bob C.

Introductions

Role of GR

- Communicator (up and down)
- Voice
- Represent Forum

- Attend district and area meetings
- Reach out to other groups
- The Glue ?
- Invite others to service

How does your group utilize CAL in your meetings?

- Use in step meetings
- Forum
- One meeting per month using CAL
- Stay on topic
- Pamphlets?

Good meeting topics

- Sponsorship
- Draw from box
- Sex and Money
- Fears
- Service
- Group conscience/inventory

Rotation of Service, attraction

How do you share district, area information?

- Announcements
- Email
- Invite members to come with me to other meetings
- Regular group consciences

GR's Breakout Session of Workshop, Saturday, January 23, 2010

Present: Vickie L, Dist 9; Jan H, Dist 6; Peggy L Dist 2; Alt DR, Mary W Dist 4; Jan R, Alt DR, Dist 3; Karen L, DR Dist 1; Marie J, DR Dist 10, Joyce H, DR Dist 2; Bee DR Dist 7; Chair: Joyce H. The Meeting was opened by Joyce H with a suggestion that the open discussion by DRs sharing what is going on in their district with a focus on both concerns AND solutions.

The meeting was opened with discussion about planning, attendance and content of District meetings. Bee shared that District 7 will be having a panel of speakers at their all day discussing transition of leadership since this will be an election year. Jan H shared a Dist 6 established a goal (in 2009) to encourage more participation of their GRs. The members decided to have some fun with the problem & send "Get Well" cards to GRs that had not attended the last 2 district meetings. It was noted that at least one GR surfaced at the next meeting. The group continues to send out notices – the last being a Christmas card for the November holiday meeting – but too soon to tell if the added contact is increasing participation or just more fun by those participating.

Linda R shared note card samples that she sent out to members when she was DR at District 6– to remind/nudge GRs the week prior. The postcards said, “I’m going to District meeting are you?” Bee noted that she has 100% participation of GRs that she attributes to her personal contact w/GRs. She does not rely only on her e-mail (because many members still do not have that access,) she also calls or speaks in person with GRs prior to meetings. Joyce H noted that she visits all of her groups. Joyce H said she does not notify groups when she is coming. She starts planning District meetings 3wks ahead. E-mails GRs to ask for agenda items, reminder of host & asks for any changes. She also prints out all materials - agenda, minutes - and follows up by mailing information to those who do not come.

One DR mentioned that she use to call all her GRs in advance of district meetings – but was advised by her Service sponsor that she did not need to do that. It is the GRs responsibility to know when the meetings are to attend. Linda R shared about a telephone tree was used when she was DR (pre e-mail) & no one had to call more than 5 members nor was there burden with long distance calls.

Jan H shared that another effort by Dist 6 to reach out to GRs and other group members resulted in the initiation of “Road Trips” encouraging members to visit each other’s group between the bi-monthly district meetings. At each district meeting the members decide on a group to visit. It began by choosing a group that either had no GR or an inactive one. A question from the floor was asked if Jan notifies groups in advance of the visit to which she responded yes - she does coordinate her visits with a GR or regular attendee. Currently, the groups being selected are coming from GRs asking for added support.

General concern was brought up that some groups simply refuse to contribute outside their group.

Another DR mentioned that she was dragged into service – and it worked. Mary W reported that District 4 is having a “Meet your Pals in Service” at their next district meeting.

District 1 and District 7 passed around copies of the meeting lists they prepare and pass on to GRs. District 7 e-mails their list wider than their own district. A request was made for copies of each other’s lists be shared with all DRs. It was noted that District 7 has a message addressed to Spanish-speaking audience. Jan H mentioned that Dist 6 produces a Trusted Servants List for all GRs, officers and coordinators that include meetings with GR and Alateen Sponsor contact information, a calendar and other related contact information at the Area and WSO level. It was requested that we (DRs) establish an e-mail list to be able to communicate & share more among each other.

Other’s Breakout Session of Workshop, Saturday, January 23, 2010 – Chaired by Wes B./ Notes by Dian R.

Suggest groups do a Group Inventory. The way that this group inventory can be done is autonomous; some do it yearly; three groups break it down into three sections; could make copies of the Group Inventory Sheet (G-8) and use as a meeting topic; one group does this inventory in one night; one group does the inventory and then compiles results. Doing a

Group Inventory keeps a group on track; can stop others from bringing in other sources of literature; read 3 Obstacles to Success. Go to member's portion WSO website then go under Group Services and printout Group Inventory Sheet (G-8).

Discussion took place on how to deal with an unhealthy group who only uses the three daily readers – inform them of the other Al-Anon books we have such as Discovering Choices, the Forum. Talked about getting the flow of information through email including the AWSC information.

How do you deal with a group who doesn't want to hear any information from the District, AWSC, or Area Assembly? Instead of taking time reporting in the meeting print out and give out handouts containing the information. What does a group do when no one wants to chair – place the book in the center of the table so everyone will become willing to step up to the plate; offer to sit by a newcomer chairing their first meeting; use the book on grief which discusses the loss of dreams and hopes; study the steps, the traditions, and the concepts. Use a God Box and open it after three months; do a book study; use group conscience meetings; get the meeting back on top when the focus is no longer there; be kind to person and complement leader; use the SC Area 50 as well as the WSO website for new information to improve problems which may exist in a meeting.

Prior to breaking for lunch each chairman of the four action committees shared a brief summary of what they would be discussing. Group Services chaired by Wes B., met in the Red Room and would be summarizing what was discussed at the October Area Assembly; discussing the guideline established for Group Services of their short-term and long-term goals; discussing the Group Change Form, how to use to SC Area 50 website and World Service Office website; and Alateen. Membership Outreach chaired by Linda R., met in the Palmetto Gallery, would be looking at the guideline established for Membership Outreach looking at their short-term and long-term goals as well as continuing on with looking at their recommendations for changes additions/deletions to the Convention Guidelines. Fellowship Outreach chaired by Dawn C., met in the Palmetto Gallery, would be reviewing the guideline for Fellowship Outreach looking at their short-term and long-term goals with emphasis on two goals, discussing the second contest for the Forum writing titled "How has the Forum helped you with your Recovery". Public Outreach chaired by Dian R., met in the Blue Room, will be discussing the Crying House outreach, the Leave Hope Campaign for March 4th; and discussing the deadline for ordering Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism which is February 10th at 5:00 PM.

Susan stressed the importance of having representatives from each of the districts attending each of the four action committees. It is so important that the work of the four action committees be relayed to the districts and the groups to keep them abreast of their happenings.

Breakouts sessions followed for one hour as follows: Group Services – Alateen, Group Records, Archives - Wes B. – Chairman; Fellowship Communications – Literature and The Forum – Dawn C. – Chairman; Public Outreach – (CPC, PI, Institutions, Web Page) – Dian R. – Chairman; Membership Outreach – (2010 Convention Chairman, Newsletter Editor, and Spanish Liaison) – Linda R.

Group Services – Wes B. – Handed out a handout covering how to entering of the SC Area 50 website, a summary of the items discussed at the October Area Assembly; and information about the Group Change Forms. They covered forms for Alateens needed for conventions; discussed the suggestions received during the Group Services breakout at the October Area Assembly; how to get into the SC website and WSO website; how to get the guidelines for recertification for Alateen Sponsors, the value of group histories; looking at making sure information about District All Days to Mike to place on the Calendar of Events on the SC Area 50 website.

Fellowship Services – Dawn C. – Thanks to all who attended the Communication Action Committee at the Assembly on Jan. the 23rd. I received a lot of ideas and help for preparation for the 2010 Convention. With your help I'm ordering a number of Alateen books and a selection of Al-Anon books for sale at the Convention in Feb. It will be good to see everyone in a few weeks.
Fellowship Love, Dawn
Literature Coordinator

Membership Services - Linda R. - Worked on the guideline developed for Membership Outreach checking off the areas that have been completed and adding new goals; worked on updating the Convention Guidelines; suggested placing a website card in all of the Newcomer's Packets; the sections of the Convention Guidelines that have been worked on to this point will be emailed to all committee members. This committee will not be making the final decision on these guideline, but one completed will be brought to the Area Assembly and the GR's will vote approval or non-approval.

Public Outreach – Dian R. – Talk with your groups about the challenge of March 4th where a seasoned member is encouraged to take a newer member to a location where literature may be left to celebrate Lois's birthday by "Leaving Hope. A challenge by groups in District 5 has been put out there to get into colleges and start an Al-Anon meeting; encouraged members to reach out to the clergy in carrying the message; make sure to get your meetings posted. District 4 is carrying the message to Sistercare and another Mental Health Facility in the Columbia area. There is a lot to share first timed item is Al Anon Faces Alcoholism's next deadline is Feb. 10TH. at 5

P.M. It is a great PSA for Al Anon to share with professionals and new comers. Members continue to get the word out going to treatment centers, Dr's offices, back to School events, community outreach programs, and getting literature to your local ministers can be helpful. Remember it can start with you. There are many out there troubled by someone's drinking. The Crying House poster was placed on a CD for each District to use. The hope is that it will save each District on the cost of setting up the poster at the Copy Shop of your choice. Local meeting info can be added on at the bottom. Remember to ask to post and keep it current. March 4TH is Lois Wilson the co- founder of Al Anon birthday. In honor of her we have the Leave Hope Campaign. Again this year we are a having District contest. The most teams leaving literature in a public place will win a prize for their District. A seasoned Al anon member and a new to service member team up and leave hope and report back to your GR and then back to DR. Prize will be awarded at June area meeting. Whether you leave hope as a team or alone we can all do this. Let it begin with you. We also have a drawing at every Area Meeting \$50.00 and \$35.00 for Districts that turn in a report on outreach done in each District. Reports need to be sent to me by June 1ST and Sept. 1ST. Most Districts have members who work very hard keeping information out there for others hurting. This money is to help with the cost of Outreach. The next thing I would like to share if not done else where in this Reflector. The story of Lois Wilson has been made into a Hallmark Hall of Fame moving Airing April 25TH 2010 at 9 P.M. EST on CBS. The title is "When Love Is Not Enough". Starring Winona Ryder as Lois and Berry Pepper as Bill Wilson. We all need to mark our calendars for this great event. Would it not be great to see people come in to our rooms after seeing this movie. It is my understanding that the WSO has been involved with this project but not necessarily CAL. You may E mail me at jr_dian@yahoo.com

Susan informed members she had brought with her the display of qualifications and duties for the various offices at the Area level and encouraged attendees to look them over.

Dates to Remember: AWSC – May 1, 2010 Area Assembly – June 5, 2010

Motion to Adjourn Area Assembly. Motion was made by Karen L. and seconded by Jan R. to close meeting.

Literature Drawing was for the book of her choice – Karen P. (District 1); Karen L. (District 1) won the Literature Drawing.

Public Outreach Drawing Winners: District 9 - \$50.00 and District 2 - \$35.00

Close with Lord's Prayer and Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration - "LET IT BEGIN WITH ME" When Anyone Anywhere Reaches Out For Help Let The Hand of Al-Anon and Alateen Always Be There and Let It Begin With Me

Respectfully Submitted, Nancy Bommer – Area Secretary – Area 50 – Panel 48

DISTRICT 1: Well, the holidays are over and Convention 2010 is just around the corner, it's hard to believe. Districts 1, 2, and 9 met on Saturday January 09 to elect officers for the 2011 Convention. The theme of the convention will be "Focus On U" with an arrow on the top of the U. District 1 has 3 members so far who will be helping with the 2011 Convention, good going gang. District 1 had their first Area Meeting on January 17th, we had a good turnout. I did however neglect to inform 2 of our GR's, sorry guys, it won't happen again. District 1 is still struggling to get their Alateen program off the ground, so far no takers. We have moved the meeting site as well as the day and time; TBA. We are getting the message out via hospital ER's, schools, Churchs and even radio/newspaper. If any one has any ideas what else we can do, PLEASE e-mail me or call. We will be seeing you all at the convention.
Karen L. DR District 1

DISTRICT 2: District 2 has met twice since last report. Our November District meeting was the beginning of focusing on Group Representative responsibilities . With voting coming in October, hopefully these next District Meetings will help members prepare for Group, District and State voting of officers. District 2 has also now begun to contribute to Fundraising and also Hospitality with baskets and food that will be taken in February.
We met again January 24th, Convention 2011 was the focus. Each Group Representative was ask to go back to their groups and get ideas for Entertainment and also Fundraising . Also mentioned was the discussion of raising District Contributions by \$1.00. The vote for that motion will take place in March. More workshops on Service at all levels will also be held again in March In Service. Joyce Hord District 2 Representative

DISTRICT 3 Met on January 16th with about half of the groups in the district represented. Good fellowship and some detailed work ensued. We had a fun game and a good workshop on the "tools" of Al-Anon.

District 3's P O coordinator, Susan E., will be working on a new public outreach project for the district in getting Forum subscriptions for doctors, therapists, etc. We hope to have at least 16 subscriptions done.

We are planning our district ALL Day for May 15th. It will be held this year at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in their gymnasium. Look for flyers about the All Day. This year's theme is "Doing the Footwork."

We plan to have a pot luck dinner with workshops and a speaker and a Chinese auction – so don't forget your unwrapped gift. The All Day registration is \$5 for Al-Anon's and \$1 for Alateens. The time

frame is 10 am to 4 pm with a district meeting to follow. Hope to see everyone there. LIS, Jan Rogerson, Alt. DR. Will have their All Day on May 15, 2010 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Aiken, SC

DISTRICT 4: District 4 had a great turn-out for our 2009 Holiday dinner in December. We had three inspirational speakers, Janet L., a former District Rep, and two wonderful Alateen speakers, Stacy G. from Camden and Delia C. from Columbia, if you attended you got to shed a few tears, laugh and gain some hope and strength from each one of their stories, if you did not attend, you sure missed out on a good thing!

Taylor S. You go girl !!!, thanks for stepping up to the GR position for the "Open Door Alateen" group, your service is needed and appreciated, we also thank Hannah B. for passing on this service work, you did a great job as GR getting the "Open Door" group started 4 years ago. We thank Sam for his great job in improving the appearance of our new meeting schedule, a tough job trying to cram more meetings into the already filled schedule. You have been a trooper in this project Sam with your effort and time. Our schedule now has Richland, Lexington and Kershaw County meetings listed.. We have added two Kershaw County meetings to it; Kershaw Co AFG, Tuesday 8:00 PM, 1104 Church St, Camden, 29054; The Bright Side of The Street, Monday 7:00 PM (Rowan Presb Church, AA Bldg), 818 Ridgeway Rd, Lugoff, 29078 This year is the last year of our three-year term for District officers as well as many GR's, we are in early planning and discussion on this so that District 4 will have the **courage to change** and prepare for Fall elections. Part of this will include a "get to know your pals in service" by having a district meeting that will encourage all members to attend and hear how service works aids in recovery, and to join in some fellowship and fun. Last time District 4 met was January 10, 2010, our next District meeting will be March 14, 2010, Virginia Wingard at 3pm. If you have never attended a meeting, please plan to join us for this is the year of transition and passing on the service for all to gain in recovery. Unity + Service = Recovery Friends and Fellowship, Mary C. Warden

DISTRICT 5: Will have their All Day on April 24, 2010 in Summerton.

DISTRICT 6: Several holiday Al-Anon parties took place ending 2009 with a bang including a guitar strumming and singing Alternate DR John C at the November district meeting. Several groups invited special out-of-town guest speakers to their holiday gatherings including Summerville's Oakbrook Courage to Change, Summerville AFG and Beaufort's Monday Brown Baggers. General holiday celebrations did not by-pass the Alateens – as they attended some of the parties while teens & sponsors at Bluffton's Ultimate Alateen and Beaufort's Easy Does It Alateens had their own celebrations including wings & root beer floats.

District 6 kicked off 2010 with two new officers. Edna S (former Delegate) and current GR of Sunshine AFG in Walterboro, will be finishing out Susan L's 3rd year of her term as Literature/Communications Coordinator due to a new work schedule. Also Area Chair, Susan has been a dedicated communications reporter at each district meeting keeping us in the light on new literature and area projects as well as provider of literature samples for GRs to take back to our home meetings. And, Carolyn D, GR of H Friday Luncheon AFG and Chair of ABC, District 6's sole information service group, will be our new Group Services Coordinator. She will be finishing out Julie H's 3-year term (from Sunday Serenity in Summerville) who has been doing

double duty as District 6 Secretary. Julie will be passing on a Group Services effort for the district establishing up-to-date WSO records on all groups.

Our District 6 Public Outreach Project springs into action beginning 2010 with "Forum Subscriptions" provided by District 6 & delivered to approximately 10 different civic organizations agreeing to partner with local Al-Anon and Alateen groups. Among our partners are representatives from hospital programs, drug & alcohol abuse programs, after-school activity center, homes & services for abused women and children, free and low-cost health facilities, libraries and United Way.

District 6 Alateens continue to show their enthusiasm for service. Their attendance and contributions is growing not only at their own home groups, but they are visiting other meetings, attend district and Area assembly meetings with vital contributions at the action committee break out sessions. Current plans include over a dozen of our teens are headed for the 35th 2010 Al-Anon /Alateen Convention in Myrtle Beach. Easy Does It Teens will be bringing a colorful collection of God boxes they have made and will be for sale in the country store. Bring some extra cash as they are priceless.

Many District 6 members will be at the 2010 convention looking forward to the culmination of a year-long planning: (Mary V) on the country store making and attracting artwork from all parts of the state; (Mary Lynn B) coordinating the quilt raffle & leading a workshop; Becky B coordinating fundraising with souvenir T-shirts & hats; Susan L and Linda R on the Speaker committee and leading a workshop. Many of our members are making plans to be there helping or just enjoying the experience. Respectfully submitted, Jan H., DR District 6

DISTRICT 7: Before I begin the report, I would like to say how very much I enjoyed the State Assembly Meeting today, and came home feeling the same as I did many years ago, when I first began my service in Al-Anon. Thank you, everyone, for creating such a memorably fruitful, busy, and just downright pleasant day!

Now, I have some business I would also like for you all to know. I was instructed by my sponsor many years ago, to back up if I said something that was not quite accurate. Today, in the meeting for District Representatives, I reported – without any explanation – that District 7 had 100% attendance most of the time. This is true; however, this does not mean that the Group Representatives are always there. We have visitors who graciously fill in for the GR's and alternate GR's - - - which makes my statement less than accurate. This was very egoistic and self-centered of me to make such a flat statement. My only excuse is (Lordy I hope my sponsor understands – she hates excuses) - - - that I am fiercely proud of our district, and all the people who choose to keep in touch with me via any means they can, and exhibit to me the same 'on-fire' attitude I felt years ago. We have an outstanding group of trusted servants in District 7 - - - and I am very grateful for their hard work and service.

Okay - - I'm done with my housecleaning (hope I don't have to do this part again – this is the 2nd time I've had to eat 'crow.' I sent out an agenda for our January meeting that roughly outlined plans by way of 'dates to remember' for helping members to know what's coming up in this last year for the current district members. I am mailing this to all the state DR's at their request. My

suggestion in that meeting was that communication among the members was very important – mostly in providing encouragement to the newer members. I have tried to keep very personal with everyone – as was done for me in the beginning.

Jean B, our treasurer, will form a team with Kevin B (Friday Night Hope GR) to prepare a spreadsheet in order to make our district budget more useable.

Pam C presented her PI calendar for us to share with the groups in carrying the message. By the way, I will thank Dian R for the check that she gave me to give Pam – who once again was rewarded for her diligent work in this area. (hee hee - - I haven't told her this yet!) The Phone/AIS service is working smoothly, with 2 groups doing the phone-checking on a rotation basis. The meeting list contains our District website, with links to the State Assembly, and WSO, along with the district calendar of events. Elizabeth W has worked very hard on this service for over a year; the District website is accurate, with much information. The latest meeting list dated 17 January 2010 can be found there, also. Michele Mc is going to present a workshop next meeting on Alateen Sponsor/qualification! Yep – you guessed it! We will ALL be qualified! This is very exciting.

Sharon, Judy and Nancy have done a great job in helping out with registration for the 2010 convention. I hope we have great attendance, so that all this hard work (by the other districts, too) – can be appreciated and enjoyed.

We have also had 3 meeting changes – one in District 6 – the other 2 in District 7 - - - the current list shows the correct new information.

Since this is my last year in the 3-year term as DR, I want to thank everyone for allowing me to serve. It has been an on-going growing experience for me. I especially enjoy the company of everyone else trying to do their best! Respectfully submitted , Bee Lindfors, District 7 Representative

DISTRICT 8: Melanie M. – DR – District 8 had its meeting on Saturday, January 16, 2010. I was so proud that every at the table was full. There were approximately 25 members that came to participate. We reviewed the following:

- First I would like to welcome our new District Treasurer, SueAnn Schroer. She took over for Jim B. when he was unable to continue. We thank her for jumping in to help us. She is an asset to the district.
- We got new Meeting Lists with our newest meeting on it. We want to welcome “Serenity on Hwy 90”. Their GR has been attending district and is very excited about her group and we're excited for her.
- We have decided that the money made from the last fundraiser for Public Outreach will go toward information for the Police Department in our area. We are in processes of seeing exactly what works best in this situation. We will keep you posted.
- We are also planning our next spaghetti dinner fundraiser for Sunday, June 13th. We have someone making us a quilt and books and subscriptions for Forum and Grapevines will be raffled off along with other goodies.

- We are trying to get groups ready for election time and have sent back the DR/GR guidelines and have talked about the other positions available and how service work makes us grow and greatly improved our programs.
 - We are looking at different crafts from different groups for love gifts for Linda and I think we have come up with some cute ideas.
 - I passed out the Lois Remember teamwork form. I made it so each meeting will get their teams together, distribute CAL literature, return the form to me, so I can turn it into be counter towards the prize.
 - All of our groups are doing really well with the exception of the Alateen group. There are 2 faithful young girls that come and keep that meeting going, but don't get much other response. We have had this trouble in our district for sometime. No one is sure exactly what we can do that we aren't doing already. We will keep plugging away at it though, you never know when one night the room might start filling up.
- Melanie M. – District Representative

DISTRICT 9: Happy New Year to all from District 9, we held our first District meeting of 2010 on Jan. 19th with good attendance. The new answering service and monthly speaker meeting lists were handed out and discussed. We continue to have great attendance and great speakers at our monthly open speaker meetings at the Al-Anon club. This meeting is hosted by a different group each month. They are responsible for getting the speaker, chairing the meeting and refreshments. This is a great time to meet members from other groups. Group Reps. were reminded of the 2010 convention coming up in Feb. and registration forms were available. They were asked to contact me if they had any crafts to be taken to the country store. Joanna L. volunteered to fix our basket for the raffle. All involved with the holiday dinner in Dec. were thanked. Our speaker was Christie Ann, a fairly new member to our Traditional group. She moved back to Greenville from Chicago where she started attending Al-Anon. Her talk was thoroughly enjoyed by all as was the delicious meal and the fellowship. We had 75+ in attendance. The new business discussed was our participation in the 2011 convention. Our District will be in charge of fundraising. G.R.'s were asked to take this back to their groups for ideas. My hope for District 9 for 2010 is to continue to share the gift of Al-Anon to all who suffer from the family disease of alcoholism in our area. Yours in Service, Vickie L. District 9 Rep.

DISTRICT 10: District 10 held their last meeting on October 18, 2009. Ideas for the upcoming year were discussed. District 10 assisted District 4 with answering service in January. Our next meeting will be February 7.
Thanks Marie Juhl

Newsletter Editor (The Reflector) – Jan R. – Putting together the Reflector is just getting easier and easier. I really appreciate all who are sending their reports in and in on time! Having every DR send me the email addresses of their GR's each issue makes it much easier to send out by email to the correct people. I hope everyone is receiving their copy. I wanted to put in a plug for anyone interested in taking over this job next year – if you have any computer experience at all, it is relatively simple to put together. Thanks again to everyone who sends their report in on time! The next deadline is January 30th! See you at the convention!!!! LIS, Jan Rogerson, Editor

2010 Convention Report – Linda Q. – Seeking a Balanced Life - February 18th is just around the corner and Districts 6, 7 & 8 are ready to be your host and enjoy with you the fellowship and fun at the 35th SC Al-anon/Alateen Convention. We are excitedly anticipating inspiration and opportunity for growth from listening to the speakers and participating in the workshops. There will be shopping for home crafted and art items in the Country Store and a chance to try your luck by buying a ticket for the beautiful butterfly quilt or a great theme basket. The hospitality room will be an inviting place to grab a snack and visit with old and new friends. Don't miss the entertainment Saturday night as it promises to be great fun. Please take a few minutes to visit the Area web site (www.al-anon-sc.org) where you will find the pre-registration form, convention updates and the convention program including workshops. A map of Springmaid Beach Resort can be downloaded from the site to help you find your way on arrival. Registration, the main conference room and the country store will be in the Robert L. Reid Conference Center. The guestrooms, workshops and the hospitality room will be in the Palmetto Dunes Building. Have you registered yet? Don't miss all the fun, fellowship and opportunity for spiritual growth and renewed balance. Hope to see you February 18th at Myrtle Beach. Only 6 weeks out. Have 128 pre-registered; 195 rooms nights which meets the quota needed from the hotel; Springmaid will keep the same rate as long as when you call to make reservation you need to give them the group number; has sample programs giving you the schedule; if you need more quilt tickets see Mary; still looking crafts for the Country Store; looking for items for the hospitality room; groups may bring in baskets centered around the theme will be raffled.

2011 Convention Report – Joyce H. – Our first Convention Planning Meeting was held on January 9, 2010 in Spartanburg. Districts 1, 2, and 9 will be once again joining forces to bring you a Program based Convention.

We had received from our different groups 15 different Theme ideas. The vote was taken and the winner was **'Focus On U'**. Each District Representative was asked to take back to their groups at District Meetings notes and ask for help and ideas. Officers also were set into place and also most all various Committee Chairman. The Officers are as follows: Convention 2011 Chairman : Joyce Hord, Co-Chairman : Karen Lenderman, Voice : Sheryl Arthur; Treasurer : Dory Davis; Secretary : Connie McDaniel; Our Committees have already begun working on projects and the quilt has been decided upon and started. Our next Convention Planning Meeting will take place at Convention 2010 in Myrtle Beach in February. Respectfully in Service, Joyce Hord, Convention 2011 Chairman