

# Minutes of South Carolina Area Assembly

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

Saturday, – February 2, 2013      10:00 A.M.      Chairman – Jeri W

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**Welcome** – Opened with the Serenity Prayer - The Twelve Traditions were read by Joan H.

**Welcome to Newcomers** – **Jeri W.** – Four (4) newcomers were identified and welcomed to their first ever assembly. An appreciative round of applause was given to them.

Announcement of Dian R's and Dennis V's death and service work. A moment of silence was given to honor our lost Al-Anon servants.

**Approval of Area Assembly Minutes** – Minutes from October 6, 2012, were presented for vote by Melanie M. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Eileen R. and seconded by Nancy G. and unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report –Fran B.** - Beginning Balance is \$10,273.11. Income for the period was \$3,151.67 and total expenses were \$4,003.35 with an ending balance of \$9,421.43. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as submitted was made by Diane A. and seconded by Mary M. and unanimously approved.

**Chairman - Jeri W.** – Today's agenda is all about service and looking towards October when new panel members will be elected. We will be doing a Service Walk in which all of you will be asked to go to each current panel member, coordinator, and District Representative(s) to get more information about what they do, what time commitments are involved, and how they have grown in their respective positions. Please take the time to ask questions and see if you have an interest in any of these positions.

If you are currently a District Representative or have been so in the past and continue to be involved in service work and are a member in good standing, you qualify for all panel positions. In October we will vote for the next panel (Chair, Delegate, Alternative Delegate/Group Records, Secretary, and Treasurer). Once those trusted servants are in place, the Delegate and Chair appoint the Coordinators. In order to have committed members at the Area World Service Committee, it is vital that members who are interested in these positions make the Delegate and Chair aware of their desires. The only unique position is that of the Archivist. That position is reserved for a past delegate only.

As stated in the Reflector, we have a Thought Force in place that is involved in redistricting our Area. Those who are on the committee (please stand) are willing to hear your comments/suggestions. Also, there is a Task Force involving the duties of an Area Convention Coordinator (please stand), which if voted on at Assembly, will become a new 3 year position. Both groups will be updating Area World Service Committee on their progress.

As a former delegate always stresses - When I got busy, I got better. I hope all of you have the desire to get busy in more service work and get better.

**Alternate Delegate - Joyce H.** – We are getting close to the end of this term in service. Having the opportunity to share with others on this panel has been a wonderful experience. I hope

that many of you are considering service work within your group or State level in October. It is truly a journey that you don't want to miss.

**Delegate's Report – Jan R.** – This is going to be an exciting year for Al-Anon. We have some exciting things planned for Assembly on service and positions that will be available in the Fall. We are looking at various issues at AWSC to make SC Al-Anon even better. The Al-Anon International is this summer in Vancouver, BC. The last I heard they are expecting somewhere in the neighborhood of 10,000 people to attend. So many opportunities to grow in the program of Al-Anon!

I am starting to get the deluge of emails that come to delegates. I will be mentoring a first year delegate this year. The theme for World Service Conference this year is "Our Spiritual Journey: From Me to We." The Thought Force that I am a part of will be doing a skit at conference. Those of you who know me well, know that this is not one of my favorite things to do, but I will get it done. We also have to do a skit as part of being an outgoing delegate – in that skit, I have one line, thank goodness! I will get to make my 3-minute talk to the conference. (Nerves haven't hit yet!)

I am looking forward to working with all of you on various projects over the year. I look forward to attending district meetings and making my report. I am also available to visit groups throughout the state.

And let's not forget our Convention in February. Hope to see you there, too.

**Alateen - Jan H.** – ***Reposted from AWSC Minutes of January 5, 2013 - Happy New Year!*** We start the year with a new State Representative – Danny B., from Beaufort, and his alternate, Anna Lise B., from Mt. Pleasant, elected this past summer. 2013 is the third and final year of my area service. It has been a rollercoaster ride of fun and an exhilarating growing experience. I cherish and look forward to sharing my experience, strength and hope with the next Area Alateen Coordinator as I step down and invite all Al-Anon members with 2 years experience to consider this golden opportunity.

**2013 Al-Anon/Alateen Convention** – A printed schedule of Alateen events for 2013 will be finalized at area assembly and made available for distribution at the convention registration table. Tentative plans include (2) closed, late-night Alateen fellowship gatherings following the last speaker meeting on Friday and Saturday nights. Friday night will be a combination welcome/business meeting for all certified sponsors and teens attending the convention. Saturday night plans are all fun with music, decorations, workshop and pizza. The teen travel registration packet required of all participating teens has been posted to the website for download. An Alateen silent auction basket is being planned and we are at work on a plan to start selling "Best Seat in the House" raffle tickets beginning at area assembly for the Thursday night speaker meeting.

**2013 SC Alateen Conference** – Return to Camp Kinard in Batesburg-Leesville for July 12-14, 2013 weekend. The date needs to be fixed on the website and the travel documents (Part A & Part B) will be made available soon for download. Some copies along with a flyer will be available at the February area assembly with the June Area assembly deadline for Part, A which includes ordering meals and accommodations. We already have some of our speakers identified. Sponsorship for conference has gone up to \$95.00 so if your group wants to send an alateen that the cost has gone up.

**Alateen Meeting/Contact Info UPDATE** - An update of the Alateen Meeting information posted on the website is in progress. DRs please remind all your Alateen sponsors that NOW is the time to review the website listings (public & private) and to alert us (Area Alateen Coordinators) of changes or updates needed from what is posted.

**Area Alateen Process Person - Susan O.** – *Posted from AWSC Minutes of January 5, 2013* - We have 52 AMIAS and 15 Groups in SC. It is about time to recertify again. Information will be going out in the near future. As previously stated there is concern with the requirement for AMIAS to regularly attend District and Area meetings. When discussed at our last AMIAS meeting at Area, it was decided to request a Task Force of AMIAS be named to review all our requirements and recommend any need changes. Asked such questions as: Define regularly and can the group sponsors alternate attending?

During Susan's presentation she did ask that a Task Force be created to review and change any AMIAS regulations and requirements for Alateen that may need it and also to do a review of Alateen forms.

AMIAS – AI- Anon Member In Alateen Service – Alateen Sponsor or Helper (i.e. someone who drives)

There was a consensus for a task force. Susan O. and Jan H. will let us know who is willing to be on the task force. If you have been an Alateen sponsor in the past you may want to be a part of this Task Force.

Susan O. and Jan H. are to let Melanie know if they want her to send out a note to all the GR's about being on this taskforce for the next AWSC.

**Alateen – Danny B.** – There will be a meeting today to finalize plans for the convention fundraiser – tickets to raffle to “Sit Comfortably.” All proceeds from this fundraiser go to South Carolina Alateens

The Alateens will have a suite at the convention where all the Alateens can meet Friday and Saturday night.

We are starting to plan for 2013 Summer Camp. The dates are July 12-14 and paperwork for registration (first part) is available online. There will be two (2) speakers, but it is a surprise, so we aren't saying who. Saturday is open so please come and see what we do.

The Alateens in District 6 have a raised budget. Wooo Hoooo!

**Group Records – Joyce H.** – Just a note to thank all GR's and DR's for their continuance to send in change forms in a timely manner. I am sure there will be many more coming in closer to October and change of Group Officers. I feel the method that WSO has adopted for Group Records Coordinators to use has proven to be faster and a more effective manner in which to have changes reach WSO quicker and therefore Groups receive benefits in which to receive mail and other vital information to the correct members. Just keep those change forms coming.

**Archives – Linda R.** – *Reposted from AWSC Minutes of January 5, 2013* - Archives is currently working on assembling a complete run of The Reflector from 1972 through 2013. The following issues are missing:

Edition 14 and 15 - would have come out between August 1976, when Edition 13 came out and October 1977, when Edition 16 came out.  
Edition 17 is missing.

1978 – 1981 – All issues are missing.  
1982 – Issues 1, 2, 4 and 6 are missing.  
1983 – All issues are missing.  
1984 – All issues are missing.  
1993 – Issue 3 is missing.  
1996 – Issue 2 is missing.  
2005 – Issues 2 and 3 are missing.

If you have any of these issues, we want to scan them for the archives. You will receive them back in their original condition.

On another note Archives is working very hard on a panel discussion to be presented at the convention in February. See you there.

**Literature – Nan M.** *Reposted from AWSC Minutes of January 5, 2013* - There is little to report surrounding Literature at this time. I will be setting up a table to sell literature at our convention in February. There will be give-a-ways as well as a possible game that encourages participation.

Reminder that both I and Susan E., Forum Coordinator, invite districts to use us as needed to lead workshops on writing or in some way to promote literature and/or the forum. I also remind you as district representatives to encourage your district to submit intimacy sharing's for the present piece of literature still in the works.

Finally please encourage your group reps to look forward to and talk up the up- coming legacy workbook that will be released at the international convention.

NOTE: No piece of literature can be created if we don't write it and we don't have enough sharing's being turned out. Also, coming out at international convention is a new piece of literature that will have concepts and traditions.

**Web Page – Mike M.** – So, here it is, 2013, and it is time again for those updates to the web. Of course, I see it as an “anytime” requirement, but it is like changing the batteries in your smoke detectors...you change the time clock, and you change the batteries. Only I'm hoping for a little more interaction from you, the owners of the website.

The content of the web is a reflection on this Area, and you representatives. If something is incorrect, missing, or misrepresented, this is your website. I have worked with many folks in the past, to update the content of the web, based on their suggestions. I've even updated the layout and look based on inputs. I welcome all of those. But that interaction has been missing lately, and I'm trying to get YOU involved. Your ideas are important also.

I have to admit that some of the updates have been slow lately, but I took on three other websites, and two of them have been keeping me very busy. I had to completely redesign one, and design the second from scratch. I'm also using two other hosts, which means the access and coding is different, from even our site, so bear with me. The good news is, after April, one of these goes away, and my load will be lighter.

And I would like to remind you, all of us are human and we either forget, misplace, or let things get beyond our control. I prefer emails, because it allows me to mark them and go back to them later, if I don't have time to do an update at the moment. But even that...emails get accidentally deleted, or get mixed in with the wrong folder, and go missing, so that courteous reminder goes a long way. Just ask Jan H., who has been very active and patient with me on the Alateen updates.

Now is a good time for the District Reps to submit their schedules for their District meetings for the calendar. And why is this important you ask...so others can attend, or so members of your District have a 24/7 location to find when your meetings are.

Now is also a good time for the GRs to look at their meeting information on the web, and see if it is correct. The address, the times, the days...whether it is an open or closed meeting, which county it is in and anything else that is there. We get a lot of new referrals from the web, so it is important for EACH of you to look. If something is wrong, send me an email. Email is on the site on almost every page. Now, you will probably get asked if a change form was submitted to Joyce, but that is a kind reminder, in case it is an actual change, rather than a correction. The change form is on the web, under the members only area, and forms.

And how many people remember how to get to the members only area? Does this need to be changed? I welcome your inputs and suggestions.

In case you have forgotten, the like for the website is [www.al-anon-sc.org](http://www.al-anon-sc.org) and to get to the members only area, you click on the Al-Anon emblem in the top right corner. The password is scarea50 (all lower case.)

And that is all I have. Hope to hear from you soon.

**2013 Convention Chair – Mike M. –** Things are going quite well, and I am happy to report, I have an awesome committee team, and I would like to thank each and every one of them for all their support and work. Everything is on track and on schedule for our 2013 Convention. Just a reminder, the theme for the 2013 Convention is Keys to Success.

As of this past week, we have 184 preregistered and 84 rooms reserved at the resort. The resort opened up more rooms, and has stated they will honor the convention rates right up till the convention. They have been extremely accommodating and helpful. Just a reminder, the suites convention side has individual bedrooms, and a furnished kitchen. Some of the rooms ocean side are suites, and others are normal hotel style, but still have furnished kitchens. One thing we need to get the word out on is, there is a 12 cup coffee maker in each room, but the resort does not provide coffee or filters. You will need to bring you own.

You can still make reservations, but you should mention SCAFG when you call to make reservations, in order to get our discounted rates. They will not understand "Al-Anon" so this will not get you the discounted rates. Also, there are some single rooms with no kitchenette offered at a lower rate, but they are not as nice, and if you share one of our suites with a friends, it is actually less expensive.

Our Speaker dinner will be Friday evening at 5:00 p.m. We will be going to California Dreaming. Any of the AWSC staff who would like to attend, there will be a sign up sheet at the registration desk Thursday for you to sign up so we can get a head count and make the reservation.

The workshops will all be on the first floor except for a few, which will be in half of the main speaker room on the second floor. All of the speaker meetings will be in the large room on the second floor. Parking is available ocean side or convention side, just a reminder the marathon will be going by the resort ocean side around 7-9a.m.

If you have any registrations, I can take those today. If you would please remind your groups we must receive any mail in registrations by Wednesday, 13 Feb. Anything after that will have to be onsite. Quilt tickets and money can be turned in to Melanie M.

The registration flyer, schedule, Alateen packages, maps of the area and driving directions are all on our Area website ([www.al-anon-sc.org](http://www.al-anon-sc.org)) and available for download

Our speakers have all be contacted and lined up, and the room arrangements have been firmed up. We have something new for Sunday morning, with the "Our Trusted Servants"

panel. This will be a great opportunity for you to hear or ask questions of those who have been in this program for a long time.

We will have a country store, so if anyone would like to offer some crafts or materials for sale there will be a great opportunity for you to hear or ask questions of those who have been in this program for a long time.

We will have a country store, so if anyone would like to offer some crafts or materials for sale there, please contact, Melanie M. We will have some shirts for those who did not get their registration in early enough, some bags and items for sale there, so be sure to stop by. We will have the baskets that are brought to the convention, and they will be on display in the main speaker room. The room will be divided during workshops, so people will still be able to come view them or the quilt.

The Alateens will have a fundraiser activity at the convention. There will be "Premium" seating in couches for front for each speaker meeting. The Alateens will be raffling off these seats for each meeting, and will announce them just before the start of each speaker. Please help to support them and their efforts.

We have the quilt here for you to see, and tickets are available. I would like to thank Mary Ellen and Nancy for their hard work and awesome support for this.

Otherwise, it looks like we are on track and are looking forward to seeing everyone there.

### **2014 Convention Chair – Barbara Anne M.. – Reposted from AWSC Minutes of January 5, 2013 -**

Bay Watch Hotel, 2710 South Ocean Boulevard, North Myrtle Beac, South Carolina is the location for the 2014 Convention, February 20-23, 2014. Bay Watch has three towers and costs vary depending on size of rooms and the tower. All our Al-Anon activities will take place in tower two on the second floor. If you will check your Reflector you will see the prices of the rooms. Many of these rooms will sleep as many as eight. A feature almost all the suites have is a "Murphy bed" which is located in the living area. The rooms are:

Oceanfront 1 bedroom suite, Towers 1 & 3                      \$79.88 (sleeps 8)\*

Oceanfront 1 bedroom suite, Towers 2 & 3                      \$91.58 (sleeps 8)\*

Studio with 2 double beds, Tower 1                                \$74.03 (sleeps 4)

(\*if more than 4 occupy the room there is a \$20 per night fee for each person) These prices include the room rate, any taxes, and resort fees.

The deadline for room reservations is January 20, 2014; also, the personal registration cost if \$20 until that date and after that it will increase to \$25. Alateen registration as usual is \$5; daily registration is \$10.

Note to all Alateens – the usual forms will be necessary for this convention just as with all other conventions. These are to be handled with your Alateen sponsor, district or Area coordinator.

There will be t-shirts for sale for the 2014 convention, and as in the past, these must be ordered when you register prior to the convention.

Early registration will be offered the last day of the convention in 2013. Joyce H. and her crew will be there to register you for the 2014 convention.

**Reflector Editor – Diane F.** – Next Reflector deadlines are May 15, September 4 and November 20, 2013.

**Forum Coordinator – Susan E.** – *Reposted from AWSC Minutes of January 5, 2013* - I will be doing a Forum display at both Area Assembly and Convention and will have copies of the

Forum in the Hospitality Room at Convention as I did last year. I am still trying to come up with some creative ideas to get more people writing for and subscribing to The Forum. Some ideas are floating around in my head, but nothing concrete has come together, maybe by Area Assembly. Patience!

**Public Outreach – Nancy G.** – *Reposted from AWSC Minutes of January 5, 2013* - It was sad to hear that one of our own Al-Anon Public Outreach members passed in 2012, but let's remember Dian Russell and know that she is with her Higher Power now and still doing service work, I am sure. She fought a good fight and loved Al-Anon.... let's all leave that kind of legacy.

\_\_Districts in Area 50 continue to be very active getting CAL literature and pamphlets, Forum's and meeting lists to a variety of medical institutions, doctor's offices, police stations, libraries and other public places.

We in Al-Anon know how very important it is to spread Al-Anon's philosophy, we want others to "get what we got" from attending meetings, working with sponsors, doing service, reading literature and talking with other members. Let's make 2013 a record year for spreading Al-Anon's gifts to families and friends of alcoholics.

Have you been on the Al-Anon website and looked at the opportunities to use our "BLOG and PODCAST"??? What in the world are those things.... Why would they be helpful to me and again it's about sharing our experience strength and hope to those families and friends still suffering from the disease of alcoholism. Explore the website and expand your world.

Speaking of expanding your world... how about attending the 2013 Al-Anon International Convention in Vancouver this summer... now that's an opportunity to broaden your Al-Anon experience.

Don't forget to get those 2013 Professional Forum's out there, they are not doing a bit of good sitting on tables at meetings, put your meeting day, time and place on them and get them out into your communities.

## **Business:**

Open Discussion: Jeri ask what members want to see addressed at Assembly?  
Several members stepped up to mention the following:

- Losing members after lunch
- Not getting enough participation in our districts and area
- Getting more information up on the web so that people can get the information that they need to get it back to the groups
- Maybe getting more money to be able to afford a newer place to have a meeting.
- There is an ongoing process of education that needs to continue in our groups. We need to keep basic information out there. We may know it, but others might not and we need to let them know. Not everyone will be listening and get it the first time, but maybe the second or third time.
- Maybe a Thought-Force can be asked to look at having a two day assembly, but only have it 2 times a year.

**Forum Drawing (Susan E.)** – Susan was not in attendance so there was no drawing.

**Outreach Contest (Nancy G.)** – Nancy receive six (6) reports about Public Outreach from the districts. The winner for \$50 was District 6. The winners for \$35 were District 3 & District 5. Congratulations to them and make sure and get your reports into Nancy and let her know what is going on in your district in Public Outreach.

**New Business:**

Jeri gave out packets to DR's about the Area Assembly positions that are going to be available. They will also be on the website so everyone can see them. Members who were interested in any of the Area positions went around the room and talked to those people in the current position.

There was an open discussion – Jeri W. will be handing out the information collected at the next Area Assembly.

**Adjourn Area Assembly** – 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,

Melanie M.  
Area Secretary/Area 50/Panel 51

**DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:**

**DISTRICT 1 -**

**DISTRICT 2 - Gayle E.** - How did we get into November sooooo fast!

Happy 30<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary to Lancaster Co-Ed! They celebrated November 8, 2012, with 35 in attendance. Dinner was served at 7:00 P.M. with the Group history read followed by a Speaker Meeting. Barbara Anne Mc. was the speaker for the night. It seemed appropriate to have her speak, since she helped start the Lancaster Co-Ed group 30 years ago.

District 2 has had officer changes. Kathy Prete has stepped-up to be District 2 Treasurer and Joan Hughes has stepped-up to be our District 2 Public Outreach Coordinator.

Within our groups, Hope for Today AFG, Boiling Springs, SC, has announced that Nancy M. is their Group Representative. Last Resort AFG, Spartanburg, SC, has announced that Tim K. is their Group Representative, and Hope for Tomorrow, Rock Hill, SC, has announced that Kathy H. is their treasurer! Many thanks to our Group members who are willing to stand for positions within our groups and district!

Barbara Ann Mc. has been meeting with the 2014 Convention Committee as plans shape-up for the convention. Lots of exciting things are happening!

**DISTRICT 3 – Jane K.** – District 3 held our annual Attitude of Gratitude this year in October. We had an awesome turnout. We had an original skit written by Tom C, a



50-50 and an unwrapped gift raffle, and a writing workshop. The highlight of the day was a panel presented by several of our past delegates. Shirley Shuler, Linda Ruthven, Nancy Bommer, Susan Lebhar, and Barbara Ann Mckinnon all came and talked about their experience as delegate. The most fascinating aspect about their presentation was how technology has changed the ability to communicate over the years. From the earliest to today we moved from only snail mail and land line phones during the term of Shirley, to email, blogs, e books, and cell phones today. Each of the panelists were able to express their gratitude to the state for allowing them to serve. Those of you who know my love for skits, know I am a little jealous that Jan R will get to perform in her farewell skit this year. I can't wait to hear Jan's story about this because we know that is not her favorite thing to do!.

Our district is trying something new for our district meetings. Saturdays have become so full for everyone, we are going back to holding our business meetings before or after a regularly scheduled meeting. Hopefully it will enable more GR's to participate. Our district is purchasing several brochure holders to display Al-Anon pamphlets and meeting schedules throughout our district to help spread the message. I look forward to service in the year 2013 and hope that others will be excited to stand for group, district and area offices September and October.

**District 4 - Margaret L.** - I am pleased to report that we start off 2013 with hope for continued recovery in the worldwide fellowship of Al-Anon. We celebrated the end of another year at our Holiday Dinner on December 8 and enjoyed good food, great speakers, fabulous raffling of gifts brought by the groups and visiting with our Al-Anon family during the holiday season.

We set our District 4 meetings for 2013 as follows:

January 13  
March 3  
May 19  
July 14  
September 8  
November 10

All meetings are Sundays and are held at Virginia Wingard Memorial United Methodist Church, 1500 Broad River Rd, Columbia SC 29210 beginning at 2:30 PM. We plan to host the Delegate at our May meeting to hear her report and we will have an extended meeting that day. We hope to schedule our annual holiday dinner for early December.

During the coming year, we plan to purchase more boxes of softcover *How Al-Anon Works* to distribute to our groups. We also are actively recruiting for more Alateen sponsors and members to be sure that we are reaching the youngest of those affected by the disease of alcoholism. Our groups are planning baskets and Country Store contributions to take to the Convention in February, and we look forward to sharing the fellowship of the program with all of you there and at Assembly.

*Our District 4 Public Outreach Coordinator Maris B submitted the following report: District 4 continues to spread the word and literature of Al-Anon by distributing more than 200 copies of Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism to group members across the district, and leaving them with our Al-Anon schedules in several different institutions. We*

leave booklets at Three Rivers Behavioral Health Center, Palmetto Baptist, Richland Springs, Morris Village, and Palmetto Rehabilitation.

In March members left a piece of literature plus a schedule or business card at Libraries, doctors offices, laundromats, office bedrooms, colleges, movie theaters, and any place where people wait. We had a table with literature at several concerts and health fairs as well as conferences.

Several groups reported an increase in new members and we gave out all of our copies of How Al-Anon works and ordered more to give out this winter. Thanks, Maris

#### **DISTRICT 5 – Crystal H. -**

**DISTRICT 6 – Julie H. –** We had an All Day November 10 that was attended by 24 people. We received good feedback on it and look forward to doing it again in place of our November District Meeting in 2013.

Our district meetings are very well attended, lately averaging in the mid to upper twenty something people. We always have good representation from our Alateens. Even though our district is large and spread out geographically, people are making the effort and time to attend, and they participate in a manner that is helpful and productive. It reminds me of how grateful I want to continue to be for all of the work and time that our members expend in service to make Al-Anon and Alateen as a whole succeed.

At our District Meeting Jan 12 of this year, we had lively discussion on public outreach, agreeing that this is something our district wants to focus on continually, rather than as one shot projects. We have several distinct community areas within our district, each needing perhaps a little different “next right thing”. Our district can provide the forum for ongoing discussion, exchange of knowledge and ideas, as well as action planning. After generating an extensive list of ideas and needs, our district decided to create a task force to come up with a game-plan for implementing the best of these ideas and formulating strategies and timelines for implementation. They will present their results at our March District Meeting.

Our group reports use the structure of having the GR report a highlight and a challenge for the group they represent. We have great discussions, and we learn a lot about applying the traditions. We also learn that our groups, like ourselves, are not alone. Whatever problems our group has faced or is facing, other groups have faced them too. The link of service that the GR provides by attending District Meetings and then carrying the message back to the group prevents isolation at the group level. And that is a healthy thing!

#### **DISTRICT 7 - Marieta N.-**

#### **DISTRICT 8 – Mary Ellen R. -**

**DISTRICT 9 – Dale C. -** District 9 enjoyed a wonderful Holiday Dinner on December 2. It was a potluck affair with wonderful food and an inspiring speaker, Lebra N. from Charlotte. As the old tradition says, “A good time was had by all.”

We finished out 2012 rather quietly, but still reaching out to those around us who are hurting. Our outreach includes a monthly meeting at the Phoenix Center and one at Holmesview. Each of these institutions reach a lot of Al-Anon qualified folks. We've

also placed several books in the Greenville public library system. Jan S., our outreach leader, is doing an excellent job, with the help of many members.

2013 brings new opportunities to grow in the program, both as an individual and a district. As I reflect on my past two years as DR here, I am amazed at the work that has been accomplished through our members. I have a terrific team of GRs to work with and have really appreciated all their assistance and all I have learned through them. I wish every person could have the experience of guiding a district for a term. Going to the district meeting every other month has helped me not only learn the program but also learn the people. Reaching out to others on the service end of the program has helped me establish many friendships that I cherish. Attending the AWSC 3 times a year and area assembly 3 times a year has expanded my life in a way I never imagined. I look forward to my last year in this position, anxious to see what else we can do to help others. I really feel the benefits far outweigh the work.

On a personal note, I wish to express my gratitude to all of you who have ministered to me in the past six months. Death and sickness are never easy but with my Al-Anon pals' support and the love of my Higher Power, I am making it one day at a time ~ even with joy most days! Wishing you all a serene new year!!!

**DISTRICT 10 -Marie J.** - District 10 met on October 21, 2012. Our meeting was opened with the serenity prayer. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as read.

Marie reminded groups of the upcoming phone duty in January 2013. Each group was assigned a week. Tuesday/Friday has January 1-12; Airport has January 13-19; Camden/Kershaw has January 27-31.

Dates for 2013 district meetings are February 2, 2013 (at Area Assembly); May 19, 2013; September 15, 2013.

Convention packets were distributed to each group. Gail will deliver one to "There Is Hope" and Marie will mail the remaining packets.

Tues/Fri held a group conscience meeting concerning their book study on Friday's. At this time they will discontinue the study. They ask for support while they reorganize. Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.