

Montana AFG Fall Assembly Meeting

Yogo Inn, Lewistown, MT

September 16th and 17th, 2017

Connie W, Area Chairperson welcomed everyone and the Fall Assembly was opened with the Serenity Prayer. The Steps, Traditions, Concepts and Warranties, and Montana Area Vision and Mission Statements were read.

Announcements and Introductions were made. There were 38 in attendance with 24 voting GRs.

Elaine D. along with several members opened the Assembly with a skit.

Corrections/Additions to 2017 Spring Assembly Minutes -Lori

The minutes were approved as read.

Treasures Report -Pam

Hello Everyone,

My name is Pam and I am your Area Treasurer. I brought paper copies on me due to the lateness of getting them done. I can email them to anyone who wants them also.

The checking account currently has \$9,966.84.

The savings account currently has \$3,016.88.

The Profit and Loss is looking good. We are right where we should be.

I am still getting multiple groups sending the donations to the old address. Please make sure you get the message out to the groups. I remember a couple from the Helena area. I am going to start sending out reminders to those that aren't sending it to the correct address.

I never received a letter from WSO in regards to the 2018 World Service Conference Equalized Expense. But Elaine said she had a copy. We will be paying the full expense for our area delegate.

Yours in Service, Pam C.

Please see attachments.

Breakout sessions for DRs and GRs.

The following topics and breakout sessions were held.

Promoting Service-

Old ways of thinking = "Never say No to Service"

New ways of thinking = "Take Care of Yourself"

Encourage group members to be of “simple service” in group meetings = simply leading the meeting, setting up the meeting, picking up after meeting, etc. All ways to be of service to your meeting.

Have Job Descriptions, simple bulleted list of what has to be done to perform the job.

Approach people and personally invite them to be of service encouraging them that they can do the job.

Empty Service Positions DOES NOT mean that we are being self-supporting.

You don't have to do it alone - share service positions with others can have a committee of people to do the work.

Flexible - let members know that nothing is set in stone and that the positions can be what you want them to be, there are no rules about how to do the job.

Use person currently in position to work with the next person as their service sponsor.

Brainstorming Topics/Training held at the District meetings, things people want to know about at the district level.

Group Inventory

Inform group about District Meetings, encourage members to come, make district meetings more inviting, have district meetings close to a meeting time, rotate district meetings around other meetings. Potlucks at district meetings.

District Surveys - Simple survey about service, hand out to groups get members thinking about being of service.

GR Topics at District Meetings, teach GRs things that may be interesting for them.

Zoom Meeting/Online Meetings/Call In Meeting/Chat Meetings - able to discuss brainstorming ideas and not have to be physically there.

Service Workshops at District Meetings.

Public Outreach targeting Professionals

Have a focus of what audience you want to target.

Work with AA if possible.

Al-Anon can work alone if need be.

Use “Best of Public Outreach” as a guide.

Send invitations to if working to Alateen target social workers, etc.

Make sure police, etc, have meeting lists, information about Al-Anon & Alateen phone numbers for when they have contacts with family members.

Have a luncheon, invite members to come share their stories.

Many sources of public outreach available in pamphlets.

Remember to share, how you are affected, describe your disease.

Get Public Outreach ideas to groups - deliver posters, pamphlets, etc.

Alateen

Report given - no written report received.

Dollar in a basket vs Abundance.

Report given - No report received.

Cross Talk

Read the “Obstacles to Success in Al-Anon” in group meeting.

After the meeting, kindly explain to member why its important to not cross-talk, ensuring that you keep the focus on yourself. Avoid accusatory statements.

Remind groups to keep sharing to a minimum, maybe add to opening.

Put Keep It Simple - stand-up card on table.

GR Training/New DR

Members shared - no report.

Review of evaluations from Spring 2016 — Connie gave an overview of high points.

Al-Anon cooperating with AA regarding roundups and seed money. (Sylke)

Sylke shared their district’s experience and other district’s shared their experience. All were encouraged to continue to share their experience.

Guidelines Report (Carol S/Pennie K.)

Area Guidelines Committee Report — Carol S. and Pennie K.

Recommendations were made to review the motions: what to rescind or amend.

We decided to change the Guideline committee from 3-4 members to 2-3 members.

We made a few changes as follows:

1. C54 – Change wording “prudent reserve” to “reserve fund” pg 11 and change on pg 21
 - a. C159 A bottom line Budget
 - b. Rescind – under budget and expenses – take the following out?
 - i. The Treasurer may not make payments that exceed the approved budget. If area officers, coordinators or others with spending authority for a budget line item find that expenses for their work will exceed the budget, they must notify the Financial Review Committee to request additional budget authorization.
 - ii. The committee may authorize an additional budget amount, which must be shifted from another expense line item.
2. C188 – take out by consensus or a vote : (C188) - That we accept the 2010-2012 budget as amended by Pennie.
3. We agreed to contact AWSC to update their job descriptions and to list their job expectations to educate and inform for upcoming elections...other than what is listed in the Service Manual.
4. Carol will ask Alateen Coordinator what are the new processing guidelines? Add under Group Services – pg 11
Pennie will talk to Pam to see if C144 has been accepted, add past coordinators

5. Changed page numbers on MT AFG History. Add last Spring new motions.
6. Pg 4 add: The following five questions could be used as a foundation to gather information to write the KBDM Worksheet.
 1. What do we know about our membership's needs, wants and preferences that is relevant to this topic?
 2. What do we know about our resources (finances, membership participation, etc.) that is relevant to this topic?
 3. What do we know about the current realities (membership, culture, etc.) and our fellowship's environment (technology, spiritual principles, our Steps, Traditions, and Concepts) that is relevant to this topic?
 4. What are the pros and cons?
 5. What do we wish we knew?

Motion C222 - 9/16/2017

Matter under consideration—Motion C159
Rescind Motion C159 per guideline review.

Submitted by: Pennie K. Seconded by Carol S.

Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect! Fall 2018 - (Elaine)

Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect! will be held in Aurora, CO this October. Elaine explained the process if any Montana district wishes to submit a bid to host in 2019. Kalispell has put in a bid for 2018.

New Business

Is there a need to put the Profit & Loss reports on the website? (Brett)

It was decided that the profit & loss reports are a part of the minutes that are posted on the website, so there is no need for anything else.

Purchase of a computer specific for the Treasurer business (Pam)

I am currently using QuickBooks to do the budget and Profit and Loss. There are many other things we could do with this program if needed in the future. It would be so much easier if the area purchased a laptop to put the books on and pass on to the next treasurer rather than passing the program onto the next treasurer.

It does not need to be an expensive one, just a simple one probably less than \$500.00. I can get it set up and it will be much easier to pass to the next treasurer in 2018.

We have had problems in the past with treasurers not having programs to do their job. This would assure a very important part of our Area would be preserved and more able to pass on.

This was discussed and the following motion will be brought to Assembly:

Motion C221 - 9/16/2017
Matter under consideration —Acquiring a computer for Treasurer

I move to approve purchase or gift of a dedicated computer for the Treasurer of the Area. Also to purchase the software and equipment to prevent internet fraud, theft and worms, bugs, etc.

Submitted by: Michael B. Seconded by Chris K

Spring Assembly Agenda item: Do we need to look at possibly providing computers for other area officers?

Districts interested in hosting fall meeting 2018-2020.

Kalispell, MT; Great Falls, MT and Missoula all presented bids to host Fall Assembly.

Adding member obituaries to the *News and Views*? (Pennie)

Individuals could send announcements to be included in the *News n Views* and were asked to include their home group if possible.

Upcoming Elections Fall 2018 for all positions

All positions will be up for election in the Fall of 2018. More information coming on conference calls and Spring Assembly.

Delegate's Report (Elaine)

Elaine gave a report - no report received.

Break for Dinner.

An Al-Anon Meeting was held Saturday evening.

Montana AFG Fall Assembly Meeting — Continued

Sunday, Sept 17, 2017

Connie W., Area Chairperson, opened the Sunday morning session with the Serenity Prayer.

Announcements were made.

There will be an AWSC Conference Call shortly after Assembly.

Area Speaker Meeting Work Group (Carole D., Lori K., Peggy W., Katy O., Kay S., Cindy C; Advisor —Pennie K).

The Area Speaker Meeting Work Group met Sunday before the Assembly. Carole shared how they set up the Speaker Meeting in Miles City and what worked well for them as well as the costs they had with their event and how they got the word out. The goal is to be fully self supporting with any extra funds going to Area.

Lori and Katy will be the onsite organizers for the Bozeman Spring Assembly in 2018. The Area Speaker Meeting will be held on April 28th. Look for flyers and more informations in *News & Views*, on our website and via email.

The group decided who they would like to ask to speak. Both will be asked if they wish to speak.

Please spread the word on the Area Speaker meeting - Anyone is welcome to come!

In Love & Service,

Lori K.

Thought/Task Force Update:

Montana/Idaho Team Event Task Force June 2017 (Frances M, Carol S, Norma, Cindy C, Lori K, Shannon S, and team members from Idaho)

TEAM Mon-Ida
Closing Report August 2017



Thanks to everyone who painted slogans on rocks, distributed flyers, attended the event, shared, participated, advised, asked questions, served on a committee, helped with a workshop or panel, made donations, read lines for the skit, played the game, worked on planning, or joined in the conference calls--your contribution made it worthwhile!

I hope you took away something you can keep. A page (gratitude list) of names was read during the TEAM closing remarks. If you weren't there, you were thanked aloud to all who were present. You know who you are....

We gifted the Trustees and WSO staff with custom tote bags imprinted with the TEAM logo, date and location, and the hand-painted rocks were member-to-member gifts.

After the hotel bill and committee expenses were paid, we repaid Area 32 the \$200 start-up funds plus \$136.08 surplus, and attendees donated enough to cover 14 free subscriptions to the Forum. This defines Abundance!!

TEAM Committee--Frances & Nancy Jo W. (Co-Chairs), Carol S. (Secretary), Lori K. (Treasurer), Norma A. (Advisor), Area 32 & 13 Officers, Committees--Registration, Flyers, Workshops, Hospitality, Meet & Greet, Host, Decor, Entertainment, Volunteers. We would recommend a Venue/Tech Coordinator for future TEAM Events.

The evaluation forms were gathered, responses tallied, and the results sent to WSO.

If you're interested seeing in those results, contact Frances. When Area 32 hosts a TEAM Event in the future, past committee members will be glad to provide guidance on "how it worked." If anyone would like to borrow them, the funny animal skit hats and Al-Anon Squares game materials are available for loan, also from Frances.

With appreciation and in service,

Frances G. (but I'm still me)
406-381-8483
bestshot@csinet.net

Additional New Business:

Alateen Training at AWSC/Assembly (Patty)

Alateen training ideas were discussed and was decided that Alateen training would be provided at the Spring Assembly.

A thought force was formed on Alateen training at AWSC/Assembly. Patty K, Chris K, Shannon S. and Carol S. will be on this thought force.

District Representative Reports

District 1 Report for Area Fall Assembly September 2017 - given by Carol S. for Peggy W.

District 1 is comprised of Big Fork, Columbia Falls, Eureka, Kalispell, Libby and Whitefish.

We have 9 groups with a total of 11 meeting per week. I have been making the rounds and visiting each of the groups and sharing the importance of being involved in the Area Assembly and keeping them updated on the new changes with AFG, as well as sharing my experience strength and hope. So far I have made it to 5 of the 9 groups. Out of our 9 groups, 2 have new GR's, Brenda is one of the GR's and she is with me today. We have 2 group that are still needing a GR. I am working with these groups to helping them move forward and find a new GR.

Our Beginners meeting closed, so we are working as a District to see if a group is willing to pick it up, if not then our District will be picking it up.

In August we had our Area Delegate Luncheon. It was a pleasure to have Elaine and her side kick Kathy join us for the day. Elaine spoke of how the Delegate conference went and what she discovered. There were 13 people in attendance, 3 of which had never attended the Area Delegate luncheon before, 2 of the 3 being new GR's. After finding out the financial status of WSO, I have had one group contact me wanting me to attend their business meeting so they can get their budget set to include District, Area and WSO donations. I am excited to see this happening and I have to think that more groups will be following this pattern as well.

Alateen is ALIVE in Kalispell!!!! Our Alateen will start up again in October after taking the summer off. Our goals are to have three Alateen meetings in Kalispell. Our Monday night group will start again at the Alano club, and we are planning to start a new group at Glacier High and at Linderman Educational Center. Both schools are very excited to have us on board. To do this will be searching for more AMIAS people, watch out Patty K. here we come!

We are in need of a new public outreach person to work hand in hand with Alateen outreach as well. We do believe that there needs to be more information out about Alateen, as well as Al-Anon to make it successful.

Our Information line receives about 4-6 calls a month, usually looking for meeting list or to confirm if a meeting has closed to due to a holiday on or around that day.

District 1 will be submitting a bid for Fall Assembly. So get ready to come to "Paradise" next fall!!

I am thankful for the opportunity I have to be of service at the District level, and look forward to attend more Area events in the future.

In Service and Love,

Peggy W. District 1 DR

District 6 Area Report:

September 16, 2017

At 7/8/17 meeting we received a donation of \$10 from Colstrip Group, \$21 Seventh Tradition for a balance of \$404.25.

On 8/7/17 the District received from Broadus AFG a donation of \$ 200 for a balance of \$604.25.

Last meeting of 9/9/17 District 6 discussed manageable steps towards the Public Outreach Event for March, 2018. Each town will bring a list of names and addresses to the October 14, 2017 meeting and will draft an invitation letter.

The District group conscience decided to keep money to sponsor this event.

November 4, 2017 the Hope Group in Miles City will have the Gratitude Speaker/Soup event.

We will continue to meet the second Saturday of each month until May, 2018, weather permitting.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jill M. District Representative #6

District 7

Greetings from District 7 -- Billings and the surrounding area, including Hardin, Pryor and Absorkee. We have about 20 meetings taking place in our district. In addition to regular Al-Anon Family Groups, District 7 also supports four institutional meetings: New Hope Beginners meeting, Rimrock Meeting-on-Wheels, Passages (women's pre-lease center) and Montana Women's State Prison.

Since the spring report, District 7 has held two events. The first was our third annual picnic in the park. The picnics consist of a potluck supper followed by both AA and Al-Anon speakers. The district rents a picnic shelter in a park. This year's picnic was on June 24. Attendance was not quite as high as previous years; those that were there had a good time, despite the mosquitoes attending the picnic and dining on us. This year after supper, AA members chose to go to an AA meeting and the Al-Anon members held a meeting there in the picnic shelter. Our speakers were unable to attend, thus the meetings. The second event was an 'Afternoon Tea and Delegates Report' that was held on August 26. Members attending brought sweet treats; the district provided coffee and tea. Delegate Elaine D. gave her delegate's report. About 18 members attended. The setting was informal; Elaine chose to sit at the table with us while she reported. Several members have commented since that date, that the report was the best delegate's report they had ever heard. Our Events Coordinator is Ava W.

District 7 is experiencing some angst in regards to the 2017 Roundup dispersal of funds. We have yet to receive Al-Anon's portion of the funds. We recently learned that AA made a decision without Al-Anon's input that they used the profits to purchase AA literature for their prison and jail meetings. We are in the process of following up on this information. We hope that we will be able to find out what decision process they used and whether or not we have any recourse to affect change on their decision.

Group donations and donations from our Literature Distribution Center are ample. Our groups responded well when an appeal for donations to the district went out. We were planning to donate to Area 32 and WSO from our proceeds from the Spring Roundup. We will address that after the issue of Roundup funds is completed.

District 7 is in the midst of an anonymous member survey about participation. A committee composed questions and created a survey form. GRs took the forms back to their group. When returned, the committee will analyze the data and prepare a report. The committee will present a report at a district meeting; the survey report will also be distributed to the groups. The purpose of the survey is to find out what things keep members from participating in Al-Anon beyond their group and what things the district could do to encourage more participation from the membership.

Respectfully,
Deb L.
District 7 DR

District 8 Report

Katy O. gave a report - no report received.

District 9 Report

April, 8, 2017 District 9 had our annual Italian Dinner. We serve a variety of pasta dishes with salad and bread and a variety of desserts. We have a 50/50 drawing and Speakers from Al-Anon and AA. We had 80 members of both groups attend and enjoyed the evening with good food and conversation. This is our big fund raiser each year and is supported generously by AA.

May 30, 2016 Patty our Area Alateen Coordinator came to Butte to visit our District at the Gold Hill Lutheran Church with a small number present but signed on 4 AMIAS. We had Birthday cake to celebrate Alateens 60 year Birthday. Thank you Patty!

This past August we had our Summer Picnic at Forman Park the restored Mt. Con mine yard, District provided sub sandwiches and beverages. The Groups brought salad and desserts. Dan played the keyboard and 30 people from AA and Al-Anon attended.

On September 23, 2017 the East Middle School has again asked us to set up an Alateen table. We will be there and appreciate the Counselors for calling us each year.

We are busy preparing for the 2017 Fall Roundup. The theme is Joy in Recovery we a not a glum lot. We will have 4 Groups to chair meetings. We have made table decorations, prepared baskets for a silent auction as our fundraiser and offered time and treats for the Hospitality Room. I am Chairperson for Al-Anon this time and am amazed at all the planning involved. We invite all of you and at our last meeting it was motioned to drop the \$5.00 late fee for any member who signs up to go the weekend of Area Assembly.

We plan to start an Alateen Meeting at the Butte Alternative High School after the Fall Roundup. Our Groups continue to stay about the same in size; Monday Continental 18 to 20, Wednesday Night 4 to 6, Thursday Caring and Sharing 8 to 10 and Thursday Group is now open to men also, Dillon 2 Monday at 615 pm, Deer Lodge 4 at the Mount Powell Depot Church 7 pm, Anaconda 4 to 6 with the Tuesday Noon and Thursday evening Group 7pm.

Thank you for the privilege of your friendship and support.

District 10 Report, Fall 2017

Statistics

We currently have 22 meetings in our district, 11 of which are in Missoula.

TEAM Event

You allowed us to host the Montana/Idaho TEAM event and we had a blast. Everyone who attended learned something new about Al-Anon, Service and Recovery. Thank you, Frances, for initiating and chairing the event.

Special Events

We are excited to have a Special Events Coordinator again, Lindsey D. She is trying different styles and types of events from picnics and a guacamole and salsa cook off, to god can/box making and movie nights. It's been good to have this kind of fellowship and we are looking forward what Lindsey will come up with in the fall and winter.

If anyone is interested in joining our events email list, please contact me.

Alateen

Despite all our outreach efforts, we had to close our one Alateen meeting due to lack of attendance, as well as lack of AMIAS willing or able to be at the meeting on Thursday afternoons.

Our Thursday night Legacy Group is considering adding an Alateen meeting at the same time as the Al-Anon and AA meetings. One member took his daughter to an Alateen meeting elsewhere and on the drive back she asked why we didn't have one in Missoula. That really got his service energy level raised.

Either way, we will continue our Alateen outreach to at least have teens know about Alateen and Al-Anon and the Wednesday night chat meeting.

Public Outreach

Our Public Outreach Coordinator has stepped down for personal reasons. So far, we have not been able to fill the position. We are discussing ways of including the groups more in public outreach projects to have less load on the coordinator, who – in the past – had to do it mostly by his- or herself.

Childcare

At the district level, we have started a childcare committee to consider the need of childcare for more of the meetings. Currently, we only have two meetings that offer it and some are discussing it, but are having difficulty with locations and finances. If there are any other districts, who support groups with childcare, either financially or in any other way, we would love to hear your experience, strength, and hope.

Budget

We are already in the 3rd quarter of the year and we are still discussing our budget. Abundant thinking has been hard to spread across the whole district. The discussions brought up interesting questions about our priorities, such as Special Events/Fellowship vs. Public Outreach. Even though these discussions aren't easy, we have all been assuming good will, applying the Concepts and Traditions, and we all get a lot of personal growth out of them.

Delegate Visit

Elaine will come to Missoula on September 9th to share her report from WSC and I am looking forward to report more on that during the assembly.

Submitted by
Sylke L, District 10 Representative
Missoula, Sept 3, 2017-09-03

District 11

Report for fall Assembly 2017

We have 12 meeting in our area. You can attend a meeting almost any day of the week.

We have an active Alateen group and are discussing have a group in the high school.

We had a picnic in August for all Al-Anon. had almost 50 people attend and it was open to all family and friends.

Public Outreach participated with the prison and jail conference by sharing a personal story with people who work in the system. We have a phone line receiving about 2-4 calls a month. The group continues to put an ad in the paper but discussion is the works. We tried to have a informational table at the Farmers Market and felt it was not beneficial.

We have lots of discussion on having an events coordinator when we fill other positions we have open. We are going to take back ideas in getting members to come to our DR meeting. Doing a developing a survey and offer a gift to any guest who comes "When I got Busy I got Better"

We will have Attitude of Gratitude on November 19th to is an AA sponsored event with Al-Anon participation.

Pockets of Enthusiasm is in March of 2018 17th and 18th Pam C is our speaker on the 17th at 2:30.

Helena will host the Round Up in Fall of 2018

Ann L

District 12 (includes Cascade, Chouteau & Judith Bason counties) September 2017

June 10 - Shantelle & Melissa were Al-Anon/Alateen speakers at Ryan Dam Founder's event. AFG literature distributed

June 17 - Members from Blue Monday, Daybreakers, Friday Noon & Earlybirds "Reached for Recovery" at TEAM event in Missoula held in cooperation with Montana AFG & Idaho AFG

(133 countries have Al-Anon/Alateen; 8 second window of opportunity to reach Alateen techie)

June 23 - Unity campout near Monarch included an Al-Anon speaker

July 8 - AFGs from Great Falls, Shelby, Valier, Chester & Helena were invited to a pot luck/ MT delegate's report in Great Falls. 17 were in attendance. Melissa P Al-Anon/Alateen gave a short TEAM report: include "Al-Anon/Alateen" in meeting welcome, requests Forum subscription for local high school & hopes to work with school counselor related to Al-Anon/Alateen information.

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism pamphlets continue to be placed in the Great Falls community.

Updated newcomer packet is very user friendly!

"Recovery through Unity" is the theme for May 4-6 2018 roundup to be held at Heritage Inn Great Falls. This theme was suggested by an Al-Anon member. Al-Anon speakers will have a Canadian flavor.

District representative CONNECTS is appreciated!

Submitted by Kay S

District 14 Assembly Report - given by Mike B. For Katy K.

Our district is comprised of four meetings: Two in Laurel, one in Absarokee, and one in Red Lodge.

The most active meeting is the Wednesday evening one in Laurel, which is close to Billings. The meetings are regularly attending by 12-16 people. Thanks to some dedicated members, the group was able to remodel the space they use with new flooring, fresh paint, plus some nice used tables and chairs. The furnishings had gotten old and kind of ratty, so this is a welcome development.

The Monday afternoon Laurel meeting has garnered some new members and gained a new GR, Joy Turner. There are now 6-7 people in the group and it's a very spirited one. Dorothy R., btw, has been involved in this group since 1972. She's a real trooper!

The Absarokee group is still going, with a few people attending on a regular basis. It's a real asset to the community.

The Red Lodge group, started in 2011, has a strong group of core members, with about 16 people on the contact list and at least 4-6 regular attendees. We have new people from time to time, and some keep coming back.

Our annual Christmas Party is Sat., Dec. 2nd at the Laurel Gold Club.

--

Katy K.

Coordinator Reports

Area 32 Alateen Report September 2017 Given by Patty

I believe it was the 2015 spring conference where we had a breakout session in an attempt to discover our Area's priorities. All four breakout groups decided that Alateen was its priority. I have kept that focus in mind when I brought the idea of training all officers and DRs to be AMIAS.

I would like the Area to vote on a motion that states that District Representatives and Area officers receive the AMIAS training within their first year of service. Receiving the training does not mean doing service in Alateen. The purpose is to educate and inform more members of Al-Anon.

This would serve these purposes:

1. A well informed district leader would be able to oversee an Alateen program in case there is no District Alateen coordinator. By oversee, I mean she/he would know if the adults were certified. Safety is Al-Anon's greatest concern about Alateen.
2. Also, if the AMIAS have any problems, their first resource would be in district (talk things over, reason things out). The DR who went through the training would be an asset because they would know the guidelines and be aware of the resources.
3. I noticed at our team event in Missoula, there were many misconceptions about Alateen. Certified officers and DRs could clarify those misconceptions and educate their districts.
4. Also, the DR would keep Alateen in mind and be its cheerleader, helping the district to remember "When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help; let the hand of Al-Anon always be there and let it begin with me."

If the Area is serious about growing Alateen, I recommend that eventually committee chairs and GRs receive the training as well.

Because so many Montana districts are rural, I am sending out an **Alateen poster pdf file** with information about Alateen online chat, Facebook and Instagram. I will suggest that districts post one of these poster in the counseling area of their middle school and high school.

Area 32 Montana certified 45 AMIAS in February/March. AMIAS are recertified yearly. Here are the number of AMIAS and their districts.

10 in District 1 (Kalispell)
7 in District 7 (Billings)
7 in District 8 (Bozeman)
4 in District 9 (Butte)
9 in District 10 (Missoula)
6 in District 11 (Helena)
1 in District 12 (Great Falls)
1 in District 13 (Laurel)

I've held one training this year, in Butte.

Kalispell will be starting Alateen again in October. They have a meeting at the Alano Club and Glacier High School. They are hoping to start one at the alternative high school, the Linderman Educational Center.

Carol W and Carol S are District 1's Alateen Coordinators. They held an ice cream social for the local AMIAS where they "talked things over and reasoned things out." Here are some of their ideas.

- Let the kids own their meeting: listen and guide.
 - We talked about having Alateen during study hall at the high schools.
 - How do we attract teens to meetings: flyers, announcing at AI-Anon and AA meetings and business meetings.
 - Announcing at Alateen meetings that chat forums are now on FB (WSO Alateen) and Instagram
 - We need a strong public outreach.
 - If there are challenges at a meeting, we suggest having a solution based discussion directly after the meeting.
 - Meeting ideas: have a God Box, Alateen focused crafts, pass a slogan rock around and each can speak; Bring in an Alateen speaker tape to listen to.
- Is it possible to get school credit for attending Alateen? – Maybe at the Linderman School? Halloween party.

Helena has one active Alateen meeting. **Missoula and Hamilton** have closed theirs.

Alateen Chat needs AMIAS. We had a pool of ten but we're down to six now. Serving as Chat Sponsor on Wednesday nights at 7:30 are : Abby H (moving from Missoula to Kalispell), Shannon from Helena, Audrey and Karen from Billings, Norma from Billings subs, Denise and Patty from Missoula. My goal is to have at least eight.

Archives Report:

I am Sue T., your Area Archives Coordinator and share this responsibility with the Area Archivist, who is Pennie K.

PURPOSE

The purpose of an area archives is to preserve the experience, history and memorabilia of the AI-Anon fellowship from the beginning of the family movement in that locale. This history should be preserved so as to be available to the membership and the serious researcher, within the framework of our Traditions, for the good of AI-Anon as a whole.

In this case, we are specifically focused on the history of Montana – Area 32. We have boxes of physical storage and flash drives of electronic storage thanks to many hours of work by previous Archives Coordinators and Archivists.

Over time, Area Directories, Programs, Flyers, Workshops, Delegate Reports, Guidelines, Minutes, Newsletters, Maps, Motions, Financial reports, Agendas, Correspondence, Schedules, Histories, Skits, and more, have been collected and preserved in our archives.

There is a box in the back of the room with folders for Coordinators and District Representative. If you have any of these items that we want in the Area Archives, you can put them in the folder labeled Archives. If you have electronic copies, you may email those to [me](#).

We have an ongoing interest in collecting Group histories and Longtime Member (20 years or more) questionnaires: I will see if we can make the forms available on the website and can email those to anyone who asks.

We have a Speaker CD Lending Library in a box that I have at the front table. There is a notepad in the box if you would like to check out a CD. Please mark your entry off the list when the CD is returned. If you have any Al-Anon recordings to share with Archives, let me know.

I have reached out to Archivist, Pennie. She was in the process of picking up the boxes of archives that were in storage in Great Falls.

Pennie says “Anyone that wants to know information about the Area’s Past, they can ask me and I will look it up”.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Sue T.
Archives Coordinator 2016 – 2018

Books for our archives-old and new

Do Districts have Archives position ?

Group Histories

The Forum Report September 2017 submitted by Kay S.

Subscriptions from loose change/folding at Spring Assembly-11, TEAM-14,
Great Falls delegate potluck-1. Total: 26!

Here's the latest news about *The Forum*. Please feel free pass this information on at Assemblies and via e-mail to District Representatives, Information Services/Intergroups, Website Coordinators and Newsletter Editors. Establishing an e-mail list of these members makes it easy to forward this information.

- We are excited to announce that, beginning with the August and September issues, we are giving *The Forum* a new, more contemporary look. We are experimenting by adding some new design elements that we hope you will find interesting, fun and inviting.
- We remain very short on *Forum* sharings about the three Legacies-especially about Steps Five through Twelve, and all Twelve Traditions and Concepts of Service. We also need sharings from Canadian and Alateen members.
- *Forum* Subscription Reports: First, thanks to all who responded to the questionnaire. We are working with WSO's Software Engineer to fine tune the subscription report so that it better fits your needs. We look forward to presenting it to you when it's ready.

- THE FORUM BOOK (working title): So far, members have sent in over 701 titles and publication dates of *Forum* articles that they consider the best of recent years. Please keep encouraging members to send in *Forum* stories they want to see included in this book. And don't forget to send in your own selections!
- Don't forget to let members know that there is an e-magazine version of *The Forum*. You can now find direct links for ordering it on the Al-Anon Online Store at al-anon.org/onlinestore under the "Electronic

Mark S. WSO Magazine Coordinator

Use this process to access The Forum writing guideline:

Email: al-anon.org, click on members, write in group name followed by afg (all together), click on individuals, then featured publication, then The Forum, download guidelines

The Forum fit neatly into airplane pockets going to Minneapolis twice, New York City, Philadelphia, Salt Lake City, Portland and Great Falls twice.

Group Records

REPORT OF THE AREA GROUP RECORDS COORDINATOR September 15, 2017

There are currently 115 active groups registered. Five of these have registered since the last assembly.

On January 1, 1977, the oldest group in the Area, Choteau AFG in District 2 first registered. It is interesting to note that his group is up to date with its registration information.

Two other area groups also began in 1977: Living Our Lives AFG in Helena and Serenity AFG in Laurel.

Happy 40th Birthday to these groups!

I have printed out the group detail information for a majority of the groups (I ran out of paper..) If you wish, please see me, Libby G, to check your groups' information. Many, but not all, groups have recently updated their information.

Respectfully submitted,

Libby G.
Area Group Registration Coordinator

Literature Distribution Coordinator Area 6 Fall Assembly report September 16, 2017

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2018 are available for .60 a piece at this assembly

New brochures on service are available.

Let the LDC person know if you need other materials.

Please use your closest LDC center or order on line.

Jill is absent attending her daughter, Sara's wedding.

Jill is available for other Area Assembly but no Roundups or other gatherings.

Jill can consult with others and provide Literature for District 6 as she attends meetings in Miles City, MT.

Thank You,

Jill M

Area New & Views Editor Report for Fall Assembly 2017

There have been 6 newsletters sent out in 2017

Current Subscriber Count is 334

On average a third of the contacts actually open the email or click on the link in the email.

We have had about 2 contacts unsubscribe and one no contact and 13 new contacts subscribed in 2017. (I wonder how many new members have joined Al-Anon this year?)

Public Outreach Report

September 2017

Public Outreach or Public Information or Cooperating with Professional Communities and Institutions!
This is the jest of the duties of The Coordinator! The Coordinator is the Liaison between WSO Public outreach and the District Representative's to pass on to the GR's.

This is pretty much what I have been able to do and have been privileged to be of this service.

In our District 6 we are planning on a Public Outreach project that will be on March 4th in honor of Lois's birthday. We are forming committees to invite professionals, and other personal that works with the public. We are planning on sub sandwiches and cookies to entice them!

Some of the ways that we have reached the public is with our Literature Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2017 by leaving them at Doctors, dentist and waiting rooms. We also use them at our Gratitude dinner along with their placemats. Places like CNADA, Pregnancy outreach, beauty shops, Chiropractor's, and the Mental Health Clinics in Miles City and Forsyth have been very excited to get them and they keep running out.

If you belong to another group (a Bible study) and they seem to share that they have had someone in their past that they were troubled with alcoholism are going to get from me a copy of the Forum. I am ordering 12 copies for their Christmas gift and I will distribute them each month.

Submitted by Carole as your Public Outreach Coordinator and so grateful to be of service.

Fall 2017 Website Coordinator Report

The "new" Montana Al-Anon website is al-anon-montana.org

The site will come up with a search for Montana Al-Anon, even if the name is misspelled (e.g. alanon, ala-non, etc.)

The website is now over one year old! Pam paid the annual fee of \$95.88 at the end of June.

YOU MAY HAVE HEARD RECENTLY THAT THE WORLD SERVICE OFFICE (WSO) HAS ALSO LAUNCHED A NEW WEBSITE: [HTTPS://AL-ANON.ORG/](https://al-anon.org/)

THE RELEASE OF THE NEW WSO SITE CREATED A "TRICKLE DOWN EFFECT" IN WHICH AREAS AND OTHER WEBSITES THAT ARE LINKED TO WSO HAVE HAD TO UPDATE LINKS TO KEEP THEM CONNECTED TO CURRENT INFORMATION. ALL THE LINKS ON THE MONTANA AREA WEBSITE WERE CHECKED AND THE BROKEN ONES REVISED.

I have added one new picture of a meeting place in Stevensville to the map for District 10. Please spread the word in your District that they should search for or take pictures of the building entrance that is used for the meeting. Don't forget to designate which meeting each picture will be connected to. You can send them to me at the email address listed on the Montana website: mtalanon@hotmail.com Texting is also an option – my phone number is on the Area Directory or I can give it to you personally if you ask.

I will continue listing events specific to a district on the Events page. If you have a flyer for a local event, please forward it to me and I will post it. For events in neighboring areas (Idaho, Wyoming, North & South Dakota), I have added links to their Events pages.

I have gotten a few requests to change information for groups; I respond back after changes have been made so the information can be checked for accuracy. Sometimes changes happen and the information doesn't get to me so I am always grateful to hear that somebody periodically checks their District or group information. Let me know if anything has changed or if links don't work.

I am posting agendas for upcoming Assemblies and conference calls when they are sent out, including any additional information that is relevant (e.g. the results from the evaluations for last Spring).

There is a link to request the News and Views on the left panel of every page, and also on the Newsletter page.

There is also a link to the "Contribute Now" page that Elaine talked about earlier; this can be found on the "Giving Back - Financially" page.

Thanks for giving me this opportunity to serve. Brett

Roundup Reports

Montana 2017 Fall Round-up, October 13th – 15th - Given by Chris K.

We are busy preparing for the **2017 Fall Roundup**. The theme is **Joy in Recovery** we are not a glum lot. We will have 4 groups to chair meetings. We have made table decorations, prepared baskets for a silent auction as our fundraiser and offered time and treats for the Hospitality room. I am chair person for Al-Anon this time and am amazed at all the planning involved. We invite all of you and at our last meeting it was motioned to drop the \$5.00 late fee for any member who signs up to go the weekend of Area Assembly.

Montana 2018 Spring Roundup

The 2018 Spring Roundup will be held in Great Falls. The theme is Recovery through Unity. It will be held May 4-6, 2018 at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls.

Motions/Voting GR Count - 24

Motion C221 - 9/17/2017

Matter under consideration —Acquiring a computer for Treasurer

I move to approve purchase or gift of a dedicated computer for the Treasurer of the Area. Also to purchase the software and equipment to prevent internet fraud, theft and worms, bugs, etc.

Submitted by: Michael B. Seconded by Chris K

Motion Passed. Yes - 24; No - 0; Abstain - 0

Motion C222 - 9/16/2017

Matter under consideration—Motion C159
Rescind Motion C159 per guideline review.

Submitted by: Pennie K. Seconded by Carol S.

Motion Passed. Yes - 24; No - 0; Abstain - 0

Fall Assembly Location Vote

Final Vote: Great Falls - 10

Kalispell -13

Abstain - 1

Fall Assembly will be in Kalispell (2018-2020)

Ask It Basket

Can the scholarship fund be used to help GRs get to assembly. Yes, that is the purpose of a scholarship. Pam, our area treasurer, reported there is \$154 in the scholarship fund to help with expenses on travel to assembly. Will pass basket in the spring for the scholarship fund.

Wouldn't it be awesome to have a head count of members in the Area? DRs or GRs bring counts to Assembly? Libby, Group Records Coordinator, can do this as part of her report starting next Spring.

Why do we wait until the end to vote? So we have all the information.

Are quarterly single donations needed from groups for: WSO, Area & District? There has been some confusion about this. Yes. Quarterly the District, Area and WSO need a donation. The percentages is totally up to your group. You need to take care of your group first. Let your group conscience decide what you are going to do. Another thought - Thinking Abundantly — Here's the money we would like to have to donate to each and broke it down by member. The Quarterly Appeal letter is separate from this.

Would Assembly buy Lois tape I and II for lending library of CDs/DVDs. Audio is downloadable from WSO or can be rented from WSO(DVD format).

From the donations towards *Forum* Subscriptions this weekend we have enough for 4 subscriptions. Each of the new GRs at Assembly will be getting a subscription.

The meeting was adjourned with the AI-Anon Declaration.

With Love in Service,

Lori K., MT Area Secretary

VISION: To ensure that all AI-Anon/Alateen groups in Montana have an opportunity to affect the direction of AI-Anon as a whole through shared information between the groups and the World Service Conference (WSC).

MISSION: To collect and distribute information and reports, initiate projects, and make recommendations that support AI-Anon/Alateen at all levels (groups, districts, and WSC).

Upcoming Events - Mark your calendar!

Joy In Recovery

Montana 2017 Fall Round-up

Alcoholics Anonymous Area 40 / District 71

October 13th – 15th

Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

1500 Fairmont Rd. Fairmont, Montana 59711

(406) 797-3241

Spring AWSC and Assembly — April 27 & 28, 2018

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

309 W. Madison Ave, Belgrade, MT 59714

1-877-320-8454 or 406-388-7100. Room Block: Montana AFG

Friday & Saturday Nights — Block held through 3/27/2018 — after that only if rooms are available.

World Service Committee (AWSC): April 27, 2018, Friday, 7 - 9 pm

Area Assembly: April 28, 2017 Saturday, 9 am - 5 pm

4th Annual Speaker Meeting

Saturday, April 28, 2018

Johnny Carino's — 6pm

2159 Burke St., Bozeman, MT

Fellowship, Dinner & 2 Al-Anon Speakers

Reservations due by April 15, 2018

Flyer posted at: <https://al-anon-montana.org>

2018 Spring Roundup

Recovery Through Unity

May 4-6, 2018

Heritage Inn, Great Falls, MT

Al-Anon International Convention 2018

July 5 - 8, 2018

“Celebrating One Day at a Time”

Baltimore Convention Center

1 W Pratt St.

Baltimore, MD

Registration at al-anon.org

Fall AWSC and Assembly 2018

September 15 & 16, 2018

Red Lion Inn

Kalispell, Montana

Upcoming topics

Elections September 2018 for Panel 59, 2019-2021.

Trustee Visit Fall 2020

Spring Assembly Location for 2021-2024 to be determined Spring 2020.

Fall Assembly Location for 2021-2024 to be determined Fall 2020.