

NCWSA Assembly
September 23, 24, 25, 2005
Concord, CA

The meeting opened at 8:05 am with a moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

The Traditions, Concepts, and Warranties were read. The Chairperson welcomed all.

The secretary took the roll call & reviewed the voting procedures.

The first voting count was 171.

Motion #0509.01: To thank the secretary and accept the minutes as printed in the 12 Stepper.
Motion passed.

COORDINATOR REPORTS:

INSTITUTIONS: Joan W.

- ❖ The AA Hospitals & Institutions Conference in Galt, with our participation, was a huge success.
- ❖ We had 38 pre-register and over 70 total registrants - the most in the past 3 years.
- ❖ Tradition 7 was \$148 and registrations were \$610 for a total collected of \$758.
- ❖ The facility was amazing, close to the AA event, comfortable with great ambiance.
- ❖ The event felt like our 2 fellowships were truly participating with each other.
- ❖ Betty Ann Z., from Southern California was the main speaker.
- ❖ I heard wonderful feedback on both our professional and member panels with good participation and lots of questions.
- ❖ The handouts we gave were appreciated and I received requests to help start meetings in recovery homes - my primary focus this year.
- ❖ One of the panelists was only 3 months in Al-Anon and shared that the Al-Anon introduction at the family program she attended brought her to Al-Anon.
- ❖ We had 2 Spanish-speaking meetings and one Alateen meeting.
- ❖ Alateen members sold program-related trinkets as fundraisers for NoCAC scholarships.
- ❖ We ran the WSO Public Service Announcement - lots of interest.
- ❖ I would like to thank District 8 for hosting the conference and Bob J., as the chairperson for the event - they all did a wonderful job!
- ❖ I would also like to thank District 9 for their participation with the programs, badges and speakers.
- ❖ I appreciate Barbara A., my alternate, for all her work and support.
- ❖ I was really enthused by the happy atmosphere and the distance some traveled - Carmel, Santa Cruz, Healdsburg, Fresno, San Jose and Placerville.
- ❖ AA's H & I Conference, April, 2006 will be in Visalia.
- ❖ This is my last conference as I complete my 3-year term. As with all my service commitments, I learn, I grow and (most of the time) I have fun. I feel blessed that these opportunities keep me "coming back" as I see "how it works".
- ❖ I visited Santa Clara Valley AFG Intergroup before the conference to give an Institutions overview I am available to come to your district or intergroup if asked.
- ❖ I returned yesterday from a fun trip to Italy with nine other Al-Anon friends. I came to Al-Anon to try to get my husband sober and what I found was a wonderful fellowship of men and women who have enriched my life.

LITERATURE: Open Position, No Report

DIVERSITY: Open Position, No Report

BYLAWS: Charli D.

- ❖ I inherited this job mid-year from the Coordinator who is having serious health problems.

Guidelines Binders

- ❖ For some months the previous Coordinator has been unable to prepare or send updates for the guidelines binders, so the web site committee had been posting updates.
- ❖ I received paper files, and I have saved separate files for each of the documents by taking them off the web site, and new updates directly from those submitting them.
- ❖ The guidelines notebook and the web site materials are now in synch. Distribution of the paper updates will take place at this Assembly and next NCWSC meeting, and the corresponding pages are being posted to the web site.
- ❖ When I first was on NCWSC, the binders were the only way we could keep up with the guidelines. Few members had internet access, and there was no NCWSA website.
- ❖ Over the years, more and more of our members have access to computers and to printers, the guidelines binders have grown bigger and bigger and more unwieldy. When the person charged with keeping the binders up to date goes to the web site to get the material, it is clear that a change is in order. I will be drafting a proposal to alter the duties of the Bylaws and Insurance Coordinator and some amendments to the web committee duties for consideration by the NCWSC at its next meeting. The proposal will include how to get printed materials when necessary, but will eliminate large printing orders of guidelines changes. I am in awe of the work the web site committee has put into this segment of the site and recognize that a more web based system of updates will benefit NCWSA.

Insurance

- ❖ Insurance bills have been dealt with, as have the questionnaires required.
- ❖ I have made less progress in exploring how groups can be insured, but have gathered information from the districts as to who insures them, for what, and the costs. This information is available on demand. When demanded, I will whip it into shape to be sent out.

Bylaws

- ❖ To my knowledge, no bylaws revisions have been proposed in the past year. I understand that when bylaw revisions are proposed, a committee is formed to deal with that.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 1: Humboldt & Del Norte Counties

Hello again from the Northern CA home of the redwoods, fog and cool summers. District One includes Humboldt County, north to the Oregon border, south to Redway and east to Willow Creek

I'm happy to have with me, today, these group representatives: Jennifer, Michelle, Betsy & Stephanie. This is my last Assembly as District Representative. I've served two terms as DR hoping to have one of our great new GR's take over my position. I am happy to say that Jennifer has graciously accepted to be our next Dist. Rep and I look forward to working with her.

At this time we have 21 Al-Anon groups, 2 active Alateen groups and are beginning our first Spanish speaking group and we are delighted to give this report. Jennifer & Michelle are both Alateen sponsors; this year our Alateens attended the Southern CA Alateen Conference and

I'm happy to say that they returned to Humboldt Co. very excited to have made contact with other Alateens and ready to spread the Alateen message.

We hold our District Meeting on the first Wednesday of each month and have a wonderful group of Group Reps, who greet each new challenge with enthusiasm and a "let's get it done" attitude. It has been a pleasure to work with them as the District Rep. and look forward to continuing to work with them as a Group Rep.

On February 28th, we had our Day-in-Al-Anon with Beverly B. from Lewisville, TX as our main speaker. Beverly gave several great presentations that were very well received. Our next Day-in-Al-Anon will be March 11, 2005 and will feature Kathy H. from Ohio. This will be the 10th anniversary of our Day-in-Al-Anon and we look forward to many more.; We have put a flyer in your file to take home.

This August, we participated in the first, annual AA/Al-Anon Redwood Round-up in Humboldt County. Ajit was our Al-Anon speaker and he also conducted a 4th Step workshop which was very well received.

On November 3rd, we are looking forward to having Vicki, our WSO Delegate come to visit us. We will have a pot luck in her honor, then Vicki will speak to us on her work with WSO. I am telling members that if they have any questions concerning WSO, bring them to Vicki because she has all the answers!!!!

In spite of a few weak spots, District 1 is keeping busy spreading the Al-Anon message and we are very happy to be a part of NCWSA. In Loving Service, Yvette L. District Rep.

District 2: Lake and Mendicino Counties

This year we had TWO fellowship events: A Day in Al-Anon in January (speakers were Jim from Willits, and Vicki H., our Delegate, from San Jose); and a Joint Speaker Meeting (Al-Anon sponsored with AA participation) in August (speakers Paula and Maria from Santa Rosa). Both events were quite successful, and actually made money for the District (though they're not geared to be fund-raisers).

We struggled to keep an Alateen meeting going at Ukiah High School, not easy, but our sponsor will try to start it up again as school begins. We need more Alateen sponsors and would like advice on how to enlist them and how to train them.

We completed a Professional Outreach campaign in Willits/Covelo, and have seen a noticeable growth in attendance at our Willits meetings. Soon we will launch a similar campaign in Ukiah.

We continue to have difficulty finding folks to take service positions at the District level. We have a small population living over an area larger than the state of Connecticut, which makes District meetings hard to attend. We also have expressed repeatedly as a District our hope that Al-Anon will change its rule about double winners, as that would make the finding of GR's and DR's immeasurably easier. As it stands now we will have no new DR for the next three-year term. One of our willing double winners has offered to chair our bi-monthly District Meetings; and we might then send a single winner to Area to nominally represent the District. These are the tiring acrobatics we must go through to keep our District alive and functioning.

Our aim as a District continues to be financial stability, establishing more and/or stronger groups, doing more public outreach, getting more members into service, and providing opportunities for District-wide Fellowship. We are succeeding on all fronts! Respectfully submitted, Jane G. District 2

District 3: Butte County

District 3 serves Quincy, Oroville, Magalia, Paradise, Portola, Marysville, Yuba City and Chico, plus other cities nearby.

The new "Growing Up Again" Al-Anon meeting in Magalia is off to a good start. It meets Thursdays @ noon at the Rock Church off the Skyway at Lakeridge Circle.

A new group is forming or has formed in Portola - will know later. And a fairly new group has formed in Marysville - meets Thursday @ 8 pm at the Alano Club, 518 12th Street.

A new Alateen group is just getting started in Oroville on Friday Nights 7 pm at the Alano club on Meyers Street. The sponsor is Lisa Mari W. she is looking for another one.

Alateen in Yuba City is going well. The Chico Alateen Group has just started again with a new sponsor, Kristi A. and they are looking for another one.

The Institutions Group at the Esplanade House in Chico is entering its 4th year. There is a possibility that a regular open meeting may be started there. Recently, men have started living there, so we may have male volunteers to help conduct the meetings.

We will have our District elections next month with a new slate of officers and coordinators. Hopefully, a District Group Records Coordinator will be added. And - a new Alateen Safety Administrator is needed.

The Saturday, October 15th meeting will be held at the Hospice Center off the Skyway in Paradise. Ann Van L. has made the arrangements.

From what I understand all groups in District 3 are doing well with a few newcomers who keep coming back. Irma C. District Rep

NO ONE WAS PRESENT FROM DISTRICT 4.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER'S REPORT: Carol K.

- ❖ You have in your packets the 2004 year-end financial reports (in blue) as well as the 2005 figures through July (in pink). If you have questions, now's the time. The NCWSC members also have reports in their bins that show how they are doing compared to budget through August.
- ❖ Your district representatives have a list of all donations -through August - for your district. Please look them over. There are some groups who send contributions without the WSO group number. Sometimes Sue & I can figure out who they are and sometimes we can't. So, please be sure to know your group number and that it is included with your contributions.
- ❖ You have been outstanding in your support of the work we do to keep Al-Anon alive and well in Northern California. We have a little under \$40,000 in the checking account as of this morning and \$15,673.04 in our prudent reserve. We are financially healthy, thanks to you all.
- ❖ I hope there will be several people willing to serve as Treasurer next term. I will be available for any questions you may have now or after being elected next month.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Lori K.

Members:

Northern Section DR:	Bob J./District 8	Member At Large: Gene H./District 14
Central Section DR:	Lorraine T./District 11	Member At Large: Lori K./District 16
Southern Section DR:	Linda W./District 19	

During the Aug 04 - Sep 05 term of service in addition to our usual duties we have:

- ◆ Revised the Corporate Responsibilities Guidelines

- ◆ Revised EC budget for 2006
- ◆ Revised and updated Executive Committee Motion Past/Failed document

Duties:

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Maintain the policies of the Assembly | No challenges |
| 2. Authorize expenditures: Approval of extraordinary expenses | None needed |
| 3. Approve officer requests for transfer of reserve funds | None requested |
| 4. Perform duties required by Articles of Inc. and Bylaws
Approved all investment decisions by Treasurer/Budget Committee. | Completed |
| 5. Appoint agents
Initiated appointment and review of Financial Assistants for all mechanisms of funds being received by NCWSA. | Completed |
| 6. Supervise the performance of officers and agents: | |
| a. All officer performance reviews performed on 2/11/05 & 5/13/05 | Completed |
| b. Corporate Responsibilities Guidelines
All duties to date have been completed | Completed |
| c. Conflict resolution | None Needed |
| d. Supervise the performance of agents
We continue to work with FA's re: the PO Box donations
And all area events, reviewing reports submitted by FA's. | Ongoing |
| 7. Meets at times and places required by Bylaws:
2004: Oct. 15, 2005: Feb. 11, May 13, | Completed |
| 8. Is elected and serves a term as defined in the Bylaws | Completed |
| 9. Elects Executive Committee Officers | Pending |
| 10. Transfers information to successor EC
Turnover pending new elections in fall | Pending |
| 11. Voting procedures
Utilized email/phone meetings as appropriate | Completed |

WEB COMMITTEE: Art B.

- ❖ Web Site Committee members are Jim S., James M., Art B. and Bruce D. Other volunteers at the district level keep the independent and separate pages updated.
- ❖ The web site <http://www.ncwsa.org> now average 180,000 hits per month. August had 199,000 hits.
- ❖ We received 304 messages asking for help in some way since last September. There are over 500 pages to view and we have over 100Mbytes on our Internet Service Provider's servers.
- ❖ Costs for this service continue to be minimal -- approximately \$350.00 per year. Another way to look at it is that for every 4,200 hits, NCWSA pays \$1.00.
- ❖ We noticed a large percentage of requests were for Al-Anon meetings in Southern California. I contacted the delegate and suggested a web page with a map of California linking the counties of the state to the relevant web page. The Southern California web person posted a map of California by county and linked several of the Northern California pages to it. We also linked to that page and have completed the task of making

sure every district in CA (NO) can easily be found. When we go to that map, clicking on the county is one or two clicks to getting to the meeting list.

- ❖ We continue to process meeting changes and add events as we receive them. With some new simpler software, we now create event flyers into pdf pages. This allows anyone, regardless of operating system or browser, to view the page.

Art B. has submitted his resume as Regional Trustee. It is this body's joy, to affirm that request. We are saying to WSO we support his application.

Motion 0509.02: to affirm Art B. as a regional trustee to the WSO. Motion passed.

Vicki gave a description of the regional trustee job. Each of the seven regions in the southwest region, Southern California, Northern California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, Colorado, present a candidate for the Regional Trustee to be voted on at the 2006 WSC.

There was no Assembly bid for 2006.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 5: Sonoma and Napa counties

This is my last Assembly as the District Representatives of District 5, Sonoma and Napa counties. This is the end of a 3-year panel for most of the Area Officers, Coordinators, Officers serving at District levels, and countless volunteers as well at the District level. I would like to thank Erik, Kirsten, Sandy, Margaret, Rose, Tina, Barbara B., Geri, Pattie, Mark, Claudia, Kernan, Meredith, Bill W., Lee Ann, Piedad, Janie, Peggy Natalie, Paula and Laurence, as well as our Hotline volunteers - Sharon, Dora, Geri, Elizabeth, and Jamie. WOW!

We have with us this weekend Group Representatives from both Sonoma and Napa counties who show up the first Tuesday of every month for our District Business Meeting, some coming many, many miles.

We've had some challenges with Alateen Sponsor profiling and the new requirements by WSO and NCWSA. Fortunately the profiling of Alateen Sponsors at District 5 has always been very thorough.

We spent many hours debating insurance issues. The presence of an individual attending our meetings, addressing female newcomers with inappropriate suggestions and threatening a member of our fellowship, produced a very volatile situation. District 5 adopted a motion in which we went on record to advise the Group Representatives and insure a level of protection for our members. The motion stipulated that each GR inform their group about the situation: 1) About what has happened; 2) About the actions taken and decisions made by the individuals and groups involved and about the input the District had been given by the Area and the advice provided by legal counsel. That each group then discuss the situation as it relates to their particular group and determine their response, if any, by taking a group consensus.

The motion passed August 2, 2005, showing once again how the AI-Anon Traditions and our program work.

The District 5 PI Coordinator has worked diligently to expand our Outreach network in Sonoma and Napa counties. We currently distribute meeting schedules and/or literature to 71 facilities such as libraries, churches, police stations, hospitals, colleges, schools, homeless shelters, medical clinics and offices, counseling and therapy offices, community centers, jails and recovery centers, acknowledging here the many members from various meetings in our district who have volunteered to assist with this important service, and special thanks to our Institution Coordinator for her commitment.

Al-Anon contact information and/or meeting times are published in 14 newspapers, including 3 Spanish publications, and our PSA has recently been sent to 4 TV stations, including 1 Spanish station, 4 radio stations, including 2 Spanish stations. We are also printing, at present, 3,500 meeting schedules per month.

This year, District 5 has explored and discussed in detail the various types of insurance options. We have had General Liability coverage for several years, but this year looked into adding D & O coverage and Improper Sexual Conduct coverage. Our Insurance Coordinator stepped up and spent hours researching the options, the pros and cons, and the requirements, and then, ultimately, obtaining several estimates. I am happy to report that District 5 has chosen to add D & O and Improper Sexual Conduct coverage to our policy.

I once again would like to thank Art B. and Sandy who always have time to answer my many questions. I call them my "Area Sponsors". Love in Service, Linda D.

District 6: Solano and Yolo County

"Hello everyone!!" My name is Carl S. and I'm District Rep. for District 6 of Northern California spanning Solano and Yolo Counties from Benicia up Interstate 80 East to Davis and up Interstate 505 North to Woodland and anywhere in between!! I'm happy to say that we have 26 Al-anon meetings, 2 of them Spanish speaking, 3 Alateen meetings, 1 in Davis, 1 in Fairfield, and 1 in Vacaville!!! I'm also happy to announce that Benicia will be starting up a new Alateen meeting up soon!!!!

Our Summer Fundraiser "Freedom to be me!!" was a success!! We managed to put \$509.00 net into our "Kitty". This year we tried a new format. We set up morning and afternoon workshops along with our Al-Anon and Alateen speakers. I would like to thank Bob M. our Al-Anon speaker and Ari our Alateen speaker for sharing their Experience, Strength, and Hope with us!!! I would also like to thank all who headed up our Workshops!! We had some great topics: Everything Al-Anon wants to know about Alateen; Survival to Recovery (growing up in an alcoholic home); When I got busy, I got better!!!; Lighten-up (humor in Al-Anon); and Freedom to be me!!!!

We will also be having "Workshops" at our "Holiday Celebration". It will be December 3rd at "Shepard of the Hills Lutheran Church", 580 Trinity Drive, Vacaville, CA 9 am-4 pm.

I want to thank my District Officers and GRs for making my tenure a fulfilling and rewarding experience. Without all your help and support, I don't think I could have made it through. It is how this program works. When I first walked into the rooms of Al-Anon, you were there for me. Through all my service work, you have been there for me and now through Al-Anon service work, my Al-Anon family is bigger than ever. I have met many, many wonderful people through service work, and continue to do so. Thank you all my DR buddies and NCWSA officers. I don't know what capacity of service I will be continuing, but I do know I will continue. Like the saying says: when I got busier, I got better. How true that is I'm better, but not completely well, so I will continue to stay busy and hopefully get better. Thank you all again and I'm looking forward to going out this year with a BANG. Love in Service, Carl S.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ALATEEN SAFETY COMMITTEE: Vic,

The Alateen Safety Committee presented the following motion for the Assembly's consideration. Each committee member had an opportunity to share their process as a member of the committee.

The Area currently has 252 sponsors certified, and will probably have close to 260 by the end of the week-end. We have 74 certified Alateen meetings. (That's more meetings than we had last year.)

Some of the questions that people will have will be about the cost. If the district is too small or doesn't have the funds, then NCWSA will help with the cost. 75% of the sponsors are in favor of the background checks.

There is a whole department in California that does background checks. The state offers it to us. Now, an Al-Anon member doesn't have to give another Al-Anon member all their personal details. It's done by professionals employed by the state of California. The background check helps us because it uncovers more potential problems than Megan's Law does. It protects all of us, the Sponsors and the teens have a safer place to go.

It's a different world than it was 10 years ago. We put our original guidelines in place 20 years ago and it's time to update.

Motion #0509.03: That the Area Alateen Safety Administrator:

- 1) Apply for "Applicant Agency" status with the state of California on behalf of Northern California World Service Area (NCWSA) and
- 2) Implement background checks for Al-Anon members involved in Alateen service.

Motion passed.

Discussion on the motion:

- Joan W: 8-10 years ago I was the Institutions Coordinator at SCV AFG and we had several people go into Juvenile Hall. Those willing to do the service are willing to do the background check.
- Cindy: what shows up on a background check?
 - Every conviction of an offense specified in 290 PC
 - Every conviction (or arrest pending adjudication) specified in 15660 of the W & I Code when the conviction occurred not more than 10 years prior to the date of the application or the incarceration for the conviction was not more than 10 years prior to the application
 - 243.4 PC - Sexual Battery
 - Sexual Offenses Against a Minor
 - 273a PC - Willful Harm/Injury to a child
 - 368 (a) & (b) PC - Crimes against elders or dependent Adults
 - Theft, Robbery or Burglary
 - Any Felony
- How often do we need to be re-fingerprinted? **Ans: 1x period.**
- If we've been cleared somewhere else do we need to be finger printed again? **Ans: yes**
- Where does the money for fingerprinting come from? **Ans: The budget will cover the "record review". Northern California plans to pick up the tab on the \$18/member. We would like the districts to pick up the cost of the fingerprinting.**
- Marilyn, point of information: I've been sponsoring Alateen for 28 years and I did not expect to step back in to sponsoring Alateen when I finished being the Delegate. I believe, in talking to the kids, they feel it's a real safety feature for them. I think it's a good motion and it's a responsible motion for our area.
- Debbie S: I object to the three-minute limit. I think that the background checks are a good thing. One of the things I objected to last year was that there was no teeth in the motion. I'm dismayed by how extremely difficult it's been to get information on this motion. My meeting suggested that we ratify this for only one year and discuss it again next year. **Ans: Art, Last year the motion was for a three years trial.**
- Chris: I want to double check, Are we the only national org that works with kids that doesn't do background checks? **Ans: Correct.** The teens in my group felt that as

long as they can get the sponsors that they like they're all for it. My fear was that we could lose sponsors. In my district it's been just the opposite. We have more meetings and more sponsors. I think because there's been so much talk Alateen's been more visible.

- Kathy: I speak to you as an Alateen sponsor, a Make-A-Wish executive, and a parent. This motion is made to protect attendance. Even the appearance of impropriety can be devastating. I urge the adoption of this motion.
- Laura: I have a perspective of being an administrator of an organization where we didn't do background checks, and seeing a volunteer be arrested for killing his stepson. I immediately went to instituting full background checks. It's due diligence. It's about taking responsibility,
- Lori: Does the background check with the DOJ also include being charged with, or does it include convictions? **Ans: only for convictions**
- Charli: I think we do need to do this, we did lose a meeting in our district. We do have to out reach to the Spanish community. One of our members asked, "Why don't we ask are you using illegal drugs & how much do you drink?"
- Jennifer: I have the privilege of voting against my opinion. I will say that I view this motion better than what I have to do now. I don't find Alateen sponsorship a privilege, I find it a need. I have enjoyed being a sponsor for a lot of years. Do things like: theft, robbery, etc. show up? **Ans: So long as it's not a felony. A felony will fall off after 10 years.**
- Ralph: We discussed in depth this motion and what came up was, do we have a policy for protecting the anonymity of the applicants? **Ans: Yes. The application process will be much simplified. We won't have near the personal information we have now.**
- Auggie: I filled out the form, I'm totally against it, I have some issues about anonymity. I filled out the form, but wasn't told if I was approved by someone on the committee. If I'm not approved I don't want anyone else to know. How will my anonymity be protected? **Ans: This background check will be more secured because it will be handled by the professionals. We want the information to go out as little as possible. It is illegal for the Alateen Safety Administrator to divulge any information about any person.**
- Jane: I'm glad to hear that the Applicant Sponsor Form will be simplified. Motion 51 originally used the phrase "or charged with", is that phrase going to be expressed on the profile form anymore? **Ans: the committee hasn't figured out the wording yet**
- Paul: I'm surprised that this is not in place already. I am involved with Big Brothers and I've had to go through a 3-hour interview, and an intense background check. When you're dealing with Alateens, who are very vulnerable, come into a room and can easily be manipulated by someone who could take advantage of them. I think there should be some sort of discretionary rule about people's past and felony theft that could have happened in the past.
- Joe: I think the motion last year gave us a false sense of security. I was in the Megan's database. It wasn't me, but I was in the database. I have two brothers. One of them is in the database. I chaired the Westminster Woods Event this year and it was very helpful to me to have the list of approved sponsor
- Connie: I am in favor of this, tradition 1 " Our common welfare comes first", the part that bothers me is the felony conviction. I have a brother whos recovery started with a felony conviction. It basically started with my family. The final time the police pulled him in, he was found with drugs and a weapon and that constitutes a

- felony. **Ans: If someone has a felony conviction, there is a way to have the record expunged.**
- Jackie: I want to say right off that I'm going to change my vote this year based on John's testimony. I'm still against it, but I'm willing to vote in favor. I'm concerned about the felony issue. I thought the original issue was that this would limit our liability. I'm not comfortable with people asking about the drug and alcohol use question.
 - Lucero: Do we have the information in Spanish. It's very important and necessary that we do something about getting the information to the groups. If someone from the district or the delegate gives us the information it's very good. She took the group to her church to pray, and we need to stop that. **Ans: Yes**
 - Flavia: So far, are there any complaints about any Alateen sponsors? I think the guidelines should be accepted as a first step. **Ans: No. We're aware of four times in NO CAL that teens have been abused. The first report was that the Alateen meeting closed because the sponsor acted funny. There was a sponsor who left sponsorship and went to jail (violated his parole by sponsoring). He subsequently was convicted of molesting his step child. There was a woman who attempted to kidnap a teen because she felt the teen was being treated badly by her parents)**
 - Rita: Getting back to the motion, it's my understanding that this is to be a trial basis. Can you clarify what the trial period is? **Ans: two more years.** The motion is only to apply for agency status? **Ans: yes., it's two parts, first to apply for agency status and then to apply for background checks.**
 - Jackie: I'm a District Certifier, so as a district certifier I had to be approved also, even though I'm not a Alateen sponsor. What will my responsibility be if we put this in place as the district certifier? **Ans: the district certifier will just certify that the people are members of Al-Anon, attending meetings on a regular basis. The process would be is a person is not approved, that they would not receive a WSO sponsor number. If they don't get a WSO sponsor number, they can't sponsor.**
 - Travis: I'm opposed to this motion because I'm an abuse survivor. I've never felt unsafe in Alateen. I've never felt the need to have the guidelines. I think it's coming out of paranoia. I know that people are trying to feel secure, and they think that by doing this it will guarantee nothing bad will happen. I wouldn't feel comfortable giving people my personal information to have a background check on me. I understand other programs Little League, and Boy Scouts need to have background checks. We're not Little League & Boy Scouts. It doesn't seem like we trust you. There are proper authorities and I don't think we need background checks.
 - Patti: I am the person who receives the information from the sponsor candidates. I don't feel qualified to choose who can be a candidate, because I will choose the sick person every time.
 - Jenae: I want to ask everyone to also consider the Alateens feelings. I think we should wait one more year. I don't think the Alateens are weak or stupid and I don't think the Al-Anons should be in charge of us.

Lunch Break

DELEGATE'S REPORT: Vicki H.

- My last Assembly as your Delegate, I feel both elated and sad at the same time. This experience has been one without comparison. I am exhausted, it is an exhaustion stemmed from loving service to a program and an area which fills my heart. I hope that each and every one of you will consider serving in this position at some time in your Al-Anon service career. It will bring you to many places and introduce you to many faces in our fellowship.

- I attended SWRDM in Arizona, Conference in Connecticut, the International in Toronto and RSS in Hawaii. I visited many districts in our area to share a mini version of my conference report as well as speaking and still have a couple more I'm scheduled to before year-end.
- Your World Service Office is hard at work with many upcoming outreach projects, international outreach projects of their own, and planning the 2008 International for Al-Anon. Sharings are still needed for many of the upcoming pieces of literature including "Grief and Loss" and "Relationships". Basic guidelines for anonymous sharing are attached. The members website is up and running - I do hope you'll check it out. It can be found at www.al-anon.alateen.org/members. Use your group name (no spaces) followed by the letters "afg" to log in. You can find the service manual there, sharings from the forum, guidelines, letters from the Chairman of the Board....all sorts of things. The site has most of this in Spanish and French as well.
- Last word on the updated Service Manual is perhaps October. This new manual will include all of the changes made at WSC which include changes to the descriptive text for Concept 11 and an overall rehaul of the index. The Conference worked for 3 years on passing these changes, and although some felt that the "heart" was being taken out, we hope that the book will be more concise. I trust that you will put your heart into the carrying out of the fellowship's collective group conscience.
- **On-line Alateen Bulletin Board - WSO is in the process of testing a new on-line service for Alateens. This will be a bulletin style sharing site for Alateens. All sharing will be monitored by a sponsor - possible reasons for "non-posting" status are sharing that include personal information, promotion of the use of mind altering substances or sexually explicit language. Teens between the ages of 13 and 18 will be able register for use and will be issued a screen name that will NOT include the teens name or location. We currently have one teen and one sponsor involved in this beta testing.
- The WSO has again hired a consultant to help them with their internal operations as well as how to communicate with the fellowship. This consultant attended the Conference in April and provided much feedback. The new term that we will be hearing a lot of is "Knowledge Base format". This is the basis for WSO's new process which includes passing the information via email for quick communication and the ability to forward to the fellowship in a more timely fashion. The idea that the Board is keeping secrets will hopefully be abolished with this new mindset.
- Next years conference will be discussing the Alateen Traditions. These traditions have never been through the Conference for approval, yet have become a "given" in Alateen meetings. The discussion will most likely center around "to keep, or not to keep" and if "to keep" perform an official process. My guess is that this will be a subject for the next 3 years or so...
- Trustee news - currently the Southwest Regional Trustee position is vacant as is the Southeast. The SW candidate was not affirmed by the Conference and the SE RT resigned as of this month. These two positions will be voted on at the upcoming WSC in addition to the normal rotation.
- Literature:
 - Now available: Revised *Al-Anon's Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions* (B-8) and *Alcoholism, the Family Disease* (P-4)
 - In the works - *Our Recovery in Relationships* (working title) and *Facing Grief and Loss with Al-Anon* (working title)
 - While supplies last - What's "Drunk" Mama? And the soft cover edition of *Courage to Change*
 - Humor Contest - sharing sheet attached
- Remember - when you buy from your local literature distribution center, you support your local services.
- Vicki shared her day by day adventures at the World Service Conference.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 11: Marin County

Greeting from Marin County, District 11. We currently have 24 Al-Anon meetings, 2 Alateen meetings and 3 Al-Anon Institutions meetings. A 4th Al-Anon Institution meeting is beginning soon at Homeward Bound. Our district is supported through individual and group donations & our literature depot. We hold occasional fundraisers when additional funds are needed.

District 11 has a very active Public Outreach Committee, chaired by Andrea D. The committee meets every other month. They have been instrumental in the growth of our fellowship in Marin through their active and on-going contacts with health care professionals, treatment centers, police & fire departments, libraries, schools, the county jail, prisons & churches.

The Al-Anon groups and member support our 2 Alateen meetings. A pizza fund was established several years ago and several groups make regular donations to supply pizza to the meetings and also help pay for the expenses the teens cannot pay for themselves. We used some of our district budget surplus to send 6 teens & 2 sponsors to the Growing Together Weekend again this year. The cards and letters of gratitude and thanks overwhelmed us.; We were brought to tears by a letter from the sponsor of our Novato group describing her experiences with sponsoring and asked her permission to read it to our groups. The result is that we have an ever-growing list of men & women willing to sponsor our Alateen groups.

Rosemary B., our Alateen Coordinator, held an Alateen Workshop. Pleas, the Area Alateen Coordinator, was our guest and though attendance was light it was a very productive session.

A member who moved here from Texas recently is working on setting up an Alateen meeting in Juvenile Hall. There was some resistance/fear of how that might affect existing Alateen groups. I am grateful for the guidance I received from our service manual, the Traditions and Concepts of Service, our district Alateen Coordinator and past delegate, Art B. We continue to move forward with the project and have 5 people willing to be rotating sponsors.

Most of our Coordinator positions will turn over this January. Colleen B. will move from Beginners meeting Coordinator to Meeting list Coordinator & has already begun work on a re-format of our meeting schedules. Budget Coordinator (Gordon H) and Treasurer (Ivonne K-N) have been instrumental in guiding our district to financial health these past three years. We continue to operate within our means and have a realistic prudent reserve. Our tape library is almost fully converted to CD, with many thanks to Coordinator John, Public Outreach is active and on-going. Alateen is thriving, and membership continues to grow!

I am very grateful for the 3 years of service I have done as DR. I look forward to passing leadership to the next DR for our district so that she or he can experience the fellowship in a new way and benefit from the growth that is possible through service beyond the group.

Respectfully submitted, Lorraine T., DR District 11

District 23: Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties

District 23 in Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties has 27 meetings each week including 2 Alateen meetings and 2 Spanish language meetings. All of our District level service positions are filled with the exception of Answering Service and Spanish/Bilingual Coordinators.

Since Assembly last year, District 23 has been busy growing and sharing our experience, strength and hope. In December, several members from Santa Cruz County visited the Hollister English language meeting in a "Sponsorship Outreach" visit where we provided a list of Santa Cruz members who are available to sponsor San Benito County Al-anons. Also in December, we held our annual Holiday Craft Faire and feast. For the first time, we had an Al-anon and an AA speaker, Kayne and Perry from San Jose. Our Holiday Craft Faire this year is on December 3rd. You are all invited and there are flyers in your folders.

Our Public Outreach Coordinator facilitated a mailing to several hundred professionals of

an outreach letter and the September Forum. We will be repeating that mailing this year. The District purchased table displays (M-1) for our meetings. Each meeting was asked to place its display at an institution of its choice, and to keep the display stocked with the "Are You Concerned" leaflet. A member has stepped forward to assist with public outreach to institutions. She is actively reaching out to local jails, battered women's shelters and rehab centers to establish institution meetings.

In May, District 23 co-sponsored the Northern California Convention beach bonfires. In July, several members from the Northern California Spanish Language Intergroup visited our District Meeting. They shared with us about the Intergroup, what it does, how it works, and how it can support us in reaching out to the Spanish language community in our area. As a result of their visit, we have connected with the two Spanish language meetings in Watsonville that are now carried on our schedule. Also, we had been contacted by Si Se Puede, a Watsonville non-profit that serves recovering alcoholic/addicts, requesting support for its weekly meeting for family members of its clients. As a result of the Intergroup's visit, we were able to connect the secretary of our Spanish language meetings with Si Se Puede.

During the past few years, we have had more requests for Alateen meetings than we have sponsors to facilitate them. In July, District 23 held a workshop/luncheon for those members interested in Alateen. As a result, five new Alateen Sponsor Candidates are in process of being certified. Our incoming Alateen Coordinator is preparing an outreach mailing to all schools in District 23. We have one new Alateen meeting, and expect to have additional school meetings soon.

We prepared & circulated to each meeting a handout about service, including descriptions of each District service position & the name of a person to contact for information. Hopefully, we will have all our service positions filled in January when the new panel takes over! Carla H. District Representative, District 23, NCWSA

District 16: Alameda County

The GRs introduced themselves. Greetings from District 16 which encompasses the cities of Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, and one meeting in San Ramon. We currently have 19 meetings in our district, having added 2 new Alateen and 1 new Al-Anon meetings this past year.

We have worked hard this last year on our Public Outreach program. The focus has been on the professional community along with hospitals & institutions, courts & judicial systems, as well as, local newspapers and health fairs. Our two public outreach coordinators are superstars who devote timeless hours to bringing our district outreach goals to fruition. They are thoughtful, thorough, and mindful about setting the very best example of what Al-Anon and Alateen has to offer. We love them and the work they do.

Our Alateen Coordinator has been doing a great job keeping our goals alive and moving forward since our last assembly report. We now have 2 Alateen meetings and 1 Pre-Teen meeting that continue to grow and thrive. We have been able to make a greater presence in some of our local schools and we are hopeful that we can continue to benefit from those outreach efforts, as well as, discussions about on-site meetings. Ruth continues to build a sponsor crew dedicated to sharing their experience, strength and hope with our children.

In November, 2004 we had our second annual Winter Festival. It was a wonderful evening of fellowship and was well attended. We're scheduled for our 2nd Festival this October 29th and we will be having Carol T. from Antioch as our guest speaker. It is a late afternoon/evening event that has been a nice way to kick off the holidays and winter blues. Additionally, by the time of this Assembly, we will have had an event intended to reach out to our local fellowship community, mostly, in the form of a *service workshop* It's something new we're trying and we are hopeful that it enlightens our members about all the different types of

service available to them. Vicki H. will highlight the event by sharing her service experience, strength, and hope with us.

In April we had our "Annual Day in Al-Anon" which was a wonderful success! The chairpersons and coordinators put together thought provoking presentations and a tremendous amount of work went into the donation drawing, potluck, entertainment, and extras like the meditation room and decorations. Our own Alternate DR, Elaine S., gave us a wonderful rendition of show tunes with a recovery spin on it and the audience loved it! The main speaker was Rick J. from Toronto who had us laughing, mostly, with a tremendous message of hope and recovery. The donations we were able to generate were a record high this year, most of which, funds our public and internal outreach efforts. We have already scheduled Tim M. as our main speaker for next years DIA and event plans are well under way. Save the last Saturday in April to join in the fun with us.

As this, my final year as District Representative come to a close, I find myself in much gratitude about all that I have experienced and trust I have been given these past many months. This NCWSA panel has taught me much about how to listen to the many different feelings and opinions that we all have & how, sometimes in spite of ourselves, Gods grace and the principles of the program always guides us to what is "the greater good for the whole" of our fellowship. Your shining example of *principles before personalities* is testament to your love of Al-Anon. I consider myself blessed to have sat among you.

I wish to extend a special, heartfelt thanks to two people that I work very closely with. They have supported me in too many ways to mention and their work has always been exemplary. Elaine and Renee, I love you and thank you both from the bottom of my heart.

Finally, on behalf of our district & myself, I wish to thank each and every one of our Group Reps., Coordinators, Secretary, Treasurer, and alternate DR for all they have contributed to this fellowship as it is a vital part of how we continue to spread the message of hope and recovery in Al-Anon. I will be forever grateful to have served you. Love in Service, Lori K. DR

District 15: Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

District 15 is in the East Bay, covering Alameda, Piedmont, Oakland, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Castro Valley, and Hayward. We have 30 meetings in our district, 5 of which are Alateen, 4 Spanish Speaking, and 2 Institutions. We have a district meeting the 3rd Saturday of every month and these meetings are well attended.

Recently a professional called our answering service with a request for Al-Anon support for her congregation. We sent information and later I followed up with a personal visit. She reviewed the outreach tape and presented it to her pastors' conference. The location she offered was very close to my home and the room was very comfortable. We started a meeting at his new location and it has been very well attended (up to 20 people). This renews our commitment to live answering service coverage. Was this a "God thing" or what?

Thanks to our Alateen coordinator Marilyn R. and our team of Alateen sponsors for their hard work in implementing the Alateen safety program. We have started 2 new Alateen meetings in Oakland. We now have 5 Alateen meetings, one for each day of the week.

We have formed a committee to review and up-date our District 15 bylaws. We meet twice each month and expect them to be ready to present to our district for approval before December, 2005. Love in Service, Barbara B.

Mary Gregory, Trustee, serving on the board of Trustees conducted a workshop on Leadership.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CONVENTION CHAIR:

The 2006 Convention Committee began preparation at the end of the last Convention. We chose a theme "Keep it Simple" from the many wonderful choices. We also selected chairs for the various sub-committees from the interested volunteers present. We have a great committee of volunteers but we still have co positions open. We have reviewed feedback from the prior convention and we reviewed bids for the 2006 location. The location for 2006 is the Crown Plaza Hotels & Resorts, Foster City, March 24, 25, 26. You gave us great feedback, you told us that for many of you it was the first time you heard Alateen Speakers and loved it so much that is was the most mentioned feedback we got from you. This was in part possible to a new addition we added to the convention in Monterey. The Alateen chair and co-chair put on a fundraiser and got two paid hotel rooms, so we could give out scholarships to the Alateens to attend our convention it also gave us an opportunity to get 5 Alateen speakers. This year we hope to raise enough for 4 rooms, 2 for boys and 2 for girls. We already had our first fundraiser "Fun in the Sun". It was a successful beach party and we raised \$302. after expenses. We have planned another fundraiser on February 18, 2006, "Journey around the world" from 3 till 9 pm at the Trinity Lutheran Church on Hopyard Rd. in Pleasanton. In an effort to get information to you by Assembly we got busy in July and August picking a logo, ordering t-shirts, and finalizing the timeline for the registration flyer. We have started to listen to speakers and will be finalizing our choices this fall. The program plan is to include; Al-Anon, AA, Spanish and Alateen meetings every hour on the hour; districts hosting workshops; great speakers, including Alateen; donation drawing including auction and live entertainment.

Pre-Registration has now begun and t-shirts, sweatshirts and book bags are available this weekend for sale to help support the Convention.

The committee has worked hard and we are pleased to say that we are trying to live up to our slogan "Keep It Simple". Volunteers are still needed; you can sign up by emailing us at 2006conventioncommittee@yahoogroups.com

The committee has decided to keep the treasure chest. As many of you know the registration fee is not a suggested donation. It is important that the Convention is self-supporting. So, we have created a scholarship fund for registration at the convention. Those that can contribute to help someone attend can make a cash donation into the treasure chest. And those that are unable to pay the entire registration fee at the door can ask and receive a partial scholarship as long as the funds last.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve & grow. Keep it Simple, Yvonne dG,

The convention committee put on a skit to supplement their report.

Marilyn, Immediate Past Delegate, served as the Vice Chairperson for the next portion of the Assembly. Those willing to stand for:

Delegate: John S. in Al-Anon 18 years, has served as GR for a total of six years, Served as DR D12, Chair of EC, Alt Delegate, Chair for three years (2003-2005).

Sandi C., in Al-Anon 24 years, has served as a sponsor, District Secretary, District Alateen sponsor, 1988 NoCAC sponsor, DR D16, Convention Chair in 1988, served on the EC as Secretary, NoCAL secretary.

Alternate Delegate: Jackie B., in Al-Anon for 8 years, has served at the group level, and as Alt DR, DR, Budget committee, Intergroup liaison,

Chairperson: Marilyn, in Al-Anon for 30 years, has served in every capacity in my group, my area, and just about every position in the area. I'm very active in Service, that's one of the ways I keep recovery is by staying active in Service.

Secretary: No one willing to stand.

Treasurer: Nancy M., in Al-Anon for 13 years, has served as GR, DR,

NoCAC Chair: Nicole gave the report

First, I'd like to ask for your donations for our scholarship fund. We had our first bash in June, tons of fun. In July, we had our business meeting with the hotel in Fresno and that went smoothly. Second bash in August, we made \$363 after expenses. Next event is October 1, at Christ the Good Shepard Church in San Jose. It says it's the last chance to register is October 1 but we'll take registrations up till 10/28. We're going to have games, ring toss, jeopardy and bingo with u-n-i-t-y. We just ordered our tee shirts. Another thing we're doing just for fun we're going to put together a small newspaper of what's gone on throughout the year. I put registration packets in your bins to take back to your groups. NoCAC 2005 is November 18, 19, 20 at the Fresno Holiday Inn Airport. \$107 quad, \$157 for a double. I'm working with the EC Chair on an appeal, that's going really well. We've got some people from Southern CAL and AZ. It's going to be really fun!

NEW BUSINESS:

- In May I brought the idea of having a West Coast Alateen Conference (WCAC), 2007 it's the 50th anniversary of Alateen. AZ & So CAL have their committees set up already. We've already had two events to raise money. In December we're having a formal, homecoming dance. As the chair of WCAC '07 I'd like to have your permission to be included in the insurance, and have your support.

Motion 0509.04: I move that we support WCAC 2007 by granting insurance, non-profit and membership support. Motion passed

Discussion of the motion:

- Questions: Will sponsors be certified by NCWSA? **Ans: Yes**
- If there are financial problems at/after the event, will NCWSA be responsible for the costs? **Ans: Yes**
- The lending of the 501C status is to help WCAC get up and running? **Ans: Yes**
- Every time we add an event on to the Insurance it increases the premium? Would it raise our insurance? **Ans: the next bylaws person will have to investigate.**

Alateen Liaison: Travis R.

I became the Alateen Liaison in January, 2005 and went to a bunch of meetings, on NoCAC committee, NCWSC committee, the Alateen Safety Committee, the WCAC committee. Everything's going OK. NoCAC is going good. We've had three events. We've had two WCAC events. Now I'm here, it's good and that's my whole year in a nutshell.

Sunday we opened at 8:00 a.m. with the Serenity Prayers. The traditions, concepts, and warranties were read.

DR Meeting from Friday night: Jane delivered the report

Subjects talked about:

- Insurance: who can, who can't & why not & onward into the uncertain future
- Alateen meeting in Juvenile Hall: long time Alateen sponsor concerned about how "those teens" would do
- Al-Anon: How to deal with dual addictions, 9/05 Forum on page 3 there is another attempt at wording.
- Meetings with AA participation: Tradition 3, "no other affiliation", meetings on meeting list, but how to advertise to the community.

The Delegate was presented with a love, thank you gift.

There were 158 voting members in the room.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 19: Madera, Fresno, Kings and Tulare counties

District 19 is the southernmost district in NCWSA. We are Madera, Fresno, Kings, & Tulare Counties. We have 65 Al-Anon groups including an increase in the number of Spanish and Alateen groups. We have an AIS/LDC in Fresno which is home to our district meetings, some Al-Anon meetings, an office/literature room, and an archives room. Our literature sales generate a good portion of our budget, but we have also seen an increase in contributions to district from our groups. Records also show that our groups are increasing their contributions to NCWSA and WSO. This is a very encouraging and healthy sign for District 19.

We have been experimenting with the format of our district meetings with the expectation of encouraging unity, establishing a free-flow of ideas from more members, developing an atmosphere of creativity and emphasizing "Principals above Personalities." A simple idea of just changing the seating arrangements at our meetings has given us a new look and feel. Another idea implemented has been to send 2 people out to a meeting that doesn't have a GR and introduce district to that meeting. We look forward to introducing and implementing more ideas that will attract group participation and demonstrate that District 19 is a valuable resource for developing healthy groups.

We are in the first stages of working with the Web Committee to establish our own District 19 web page connected to NCWSA website. Our Archives Coordinator has volunteered to start this project and will be creating it in the next few months. This will be a great opportunity for District 19 to further get the word out to those in our four counties.

Unfortunately our Institution Coordinator resigned for personal reasons. She was a true asset and her work and leadership qualities will be missed. We are encouraging others to come forward and continue her work. We have many institutions calling us asking for panels to come in and share. We encourage our groups to "adopt" an institution for the year. This is a good way to get groups involved, but as in most districts there are more institution requests than volunteers.

In April we held our first workshop for 2005 on Sponsorship in cooperation with the Visalia Speaker Meeting. The workshop was first, followed by some social fellowship, and then the speaker meeting. An overall attendance of 31 was there. The workshop was fun, informative, and well received. Two more workshops are in the plans for 2005.

In April District 19 celebrated our 8th year having an AIS/LDC office, Archives room, meeting room. A special birthday celebration took place at the district office and was well attended. People donated office supplies, cleaning supplies, maintenance supplies and cash. And as our tradition goes, we had a great array of fabulous food.

The remainder of 2005 will find us planning more workshops and more special events. We will further commit to making district meetings a safe and caring environment where all groups can participate and find encouragement. Respectfully submitted, Linda W. DR

District 13: San Mateo County

District 13 encompasses San Mateo County, from Burlingame to Palo Alto and from the coast to the bay. We are blessed with 34 meetings a week, which include 4 Alateen meetings, Spanish-speaking meetings, Adult Children meetings, Women only meetings that welcome gays, an abuse survivor meeting, beginner meetings, parent meetings, step and literature meetings and an institutions group. We have begun a new Alateen meeting for younger children, ages 8-11. The Alateen meetings, sponsored by individual Al-Anon groups that meet at the same time, were able to be well represented at NoCAC.

District 13 has a public information committee where one person has volunteered to be the contact person, another distributes literature to libraries and schools, another reaches the public health departments, another will represent the district at health fairs, another compiles a speakers list, and so on.

The teleservice is working well, as groups volunteer on a weekly basis to answer inquiries left on the district voice mail.

The literature office is thriving, serving an increasing number of groups. We continue to hold Speaker Meetings every quarter, and Vicki H. is scheduled to share her story with us on October 29.

The district newsletter, released on a quarterly basis, is filled with members' shares, news of the area, and excerpts from Al-Anon literature.

A new panel has been elected, to begin in January. Please welcome Carol L. as the new D.R. and Patrick B. as the alternate district representative. Lot of love in service, Terie
District Representative, District 13

District 21: Santa Clara County

The GRs were introduced. Let me begin by sending you my regrets for not being able to make the Assembly this year. Please know that I miss you all and look forward to seeing you again soon. Our District encompasses the Downtown San Jose, Campbell, Milpitas and some of Santa Clara area. We have over 35 meetings in our district. Currently we have eight meetings represented. Cindi is a brand new representative from the Saturday Morning Women's ACA group; a group that has not been represented in a very long time! Welcome, Cindi! Mike is also taking Sue's place in representing the Tuesday Gays and Lesbians Al-Anon group. Welcome, Mike!

This year the District has been busy carrying the message of Al-Anon throughout our District and beyond. Last fall our district decided to do an outreach project to local high schools throughout our district. Each GR was asked to contact a high school counselor and inform them of Alateen. After doing so they sent out a packet with Alateen information and phone contact to our Intergroup office. One school counselor contacted us asking for someone to come out and do a presentation on Alateen. Tena and Jay from Intergroup went out and did a presentation for us.

This year we decided to do an outreach project to the institutions in our district. Throughout the summer we collected Forum magazines from the members and groups in the area. We collected about 300 Forums! We also ordered 100 of this year's September Forums. We put contact information to our Intergroup office on each magazine to be handed out. After collecting the Forums, we then went back to the groups to distribute them to any local counseling center, doctor, dentist, office, etc. that the members are willing to take them to.

It's been a great pleasure as well as a great challenge to serve in this position over the last three years. This past year has been filled with many learning and growth experiences especially in the area of leadership and organizing. I am very grateful to the GR's and my Alternate DR, Peter, for their patience and understanding. Yours forever in Service, Chris

District 24: Monterey County

The progress we have made as a district with vacancies in several district level service positions has been astounding over the past few years. Here are some of the highlights from our meetings and our District for 2004-05:

- All district service positions are filled. As of our July, 2005 District 24 meeting, all district coordinator positions are filled after an almost two year vacancy in many positions, including District Representative.
- Forum Mailing for National Recovery Month. WSO recognizes September as National Recovery Month by dedicating the September issue of the Forum toward the professional community. The Thursday night Marina ODAT meeting, the Sunday night Fort Ord meeting and the District 24 Public Information Coordinator have been involved in supporting this effort by mailing out 400 copies of the Forum magazine to teachers, law enforcement officials, bail bondsmen, physicians, therapists and clergy. This annual event started in 2003 with 100 copies mailed out. The mailing contains a copy of the Forum, meeting schedules, open letters pertinent to the professional, and often times the listing of the Al-Anon twenty questions.
- Alateen: In April our district had an Alateen sponsorship workshop. Our Area Safety Administrator and Alternate Delegate (one in the same) Sandi C. drove down from Sacramento to share with us what the new guidelines mean and don't mean and to quell any misunderstandings about the requirements for Alateen sponsorship. It was a great day with the room filled with certified sponsors, those who handed in their paperwork that day for certification and even a visitor from another district who received the information at her district meeting! A new Alateen group was added at the same time as our Saturday Morning Slogan meeting. The Alateens have been active with fundraisers throughout the year at the bi-monthly speaker meetings as well as at MBAR.
- The District 24 Literature Depot continues to be a strong financial success for District 24 as well as a tremendous provider of service. The Depot supports district events and area conferences by being present with a full complement of CAL for sale. Events supported by the District 24 Literature Depot this year included MBAR, the NCWSA "Sail to Serenity" Convention (held this year in Monterey) and the bi-monthly District 24 speaker meetings.
- Out district phone service has finally been updated! After over two years of cussing and discussing our district has finally implemented a new computer phone service. The meeting list is in both Spanish and English, with meetings by day, area and language. The recording provides a CAL description and explanation of Al-Anon Family Groups and referrals to emergency 911 service if the caller is in any immediate danger. Phone numbers of volunteers willing to accept calls from prospective Al-Anon member are also listed. First names and numbers are listed (including some cell phone numbers) with the suggestion for the caller to continue to try and call until they reach someone to talk with. The upgrade to this new phone service required an initial investment of approximately \$400 and has resulted in a savings to the district of almost \$300.00 per month in Public Information funds, which can be used in other areas to continue to carry the message.
- The Bi-Monthly District Speaker Meeting has continued to be well attended with outstanding local and out of the area speakers on the first Friday of every odd month.

This event is held at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Aguajito Road in Monterey, and out of area visitors are welcome!

- Monterey Bay Area Round Up (MBAR) is an AA conference with Al-Anon participation held in Monterey over Labor Day week-end. Highlights included excellent participation in the gift basket raffle, with 13 Al-Anon groups donating baskets (including one from an Alateen group). The panel discussion on Saturday included a participant who has been in Al-Anon for 59 years! Throughout the week-end there were Al-Anon marathon meetings and an area set up for their use and they sold bracelets with the slogans as a fund raiser.
- District 24 has 2 very healthy meetings on Thursday evenings, one for men and one for women. The Men's Stag group in Monterey is 9 years old and continues to be the only men's AFG in the County. More than 20 men regularly attend this group. This is a birthday meeting as well as a step/tradition study meeting. Some members meet for dinner before each meeting. Many members have commented that this meeting helped them to open up and begin working the Al-Anon program and to actually become comfortable at, and benefit from, co-ed meetings.

District 26: Alameda & Contra Costa Counties

District 26 has 3 group meetings in the City of Albany (one just for men), 12 group meetings in Berkeley (2 just for women, 1 gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender, 2 for adult children), 2 groups (1 of them for adult children) in El Cerrito, 3 groups in El Sobrante (one is for adult children), 1 group in Hercules, and 4 groups in Richmond (2 Spanish). We lost our Spanish speaking Alateen group after asking the sponsors to fill out paperwork, and one adult child meeting has disbanded. Group issues have included how to plan and run a business meeting, how to keep mail coming to the meeting, how to improve attendance and recruit leadership, appropriate rotation of leadership, and finding reliable and affordable meeting places. With four registered Alateen sponsors and three in the process, we hope to resume Alateen in October, Saturday, 7-8 pm at Kaiser Richmond.

We resolved conflict about publishing addresses of the whole district "board" by creating a contact list with a default mailing address of the district PO Box, and the e-mail or phone of each officer and coordinator as well as a brief description of what a member would contact them about. Group representatives did not want their information circulated, so the Group Records coordinator (DRs, if you don't have one for your district, you are working way too hard) keeps a confidential file of addresses for mailings. Our district trusted servants list serve saves postage and helps us communicate between the groups. Out Alternate District Representative, Madeleine B. has kept our meeting list up to date and posted immediately to the web site as changes occur. The phone volunteers return calls or send schedules, although many newcomers get schedules off the area web site.

The problem we have had recruiting for the five jobs that were vacated due to moves and life changes led us to look at the length of term commitment. We've revised some of the terms to "recommit in November", changed some current "Coordinator" positions to rotating chairmanships of committees (Alateen, events, public information) for future recruitment. After discussion about the terms "secretary" and chairman" and how they are defined in the Service Manual, some groups have found someone to agree to receive the group's mail long term and bring it to the GR or chairman of the group as appropriate. We are working together to find ways to make our district meetings more inviting, including a search for another meeting place, and morale building surprises at the meetings.

High points of our year include starting off with a celebration on January 12, with singing, speakers, crafts, food and an auction. We invited Vicki to speak right after she returned from Conference, which energized those who were able to participate in discussion with her. We held a picnic early in June with speakers, games, food, etc. We celebrated tow years of monthly

district speaker meetings (First Saturday of each month, Kaiser Hospital, Richmond from 6:30 PM-8 PM) and are continuing that custom. An event is being planned again for New Year's Day, probably 10 am 2 pm. Look for announcements on the ncwsa.org web sit.

COORDINATOR REPORTS:

GROUP RECORDS: Chris gave the report

It's been a busy summer I continue to update the database from all registrations received from GRs, DRs & WSO. In addition I have continued to update the database for all the Alateen groups that have completed the new safety guidelines. Those groups which are active but have not completed the safety requirements have not been deleted from the database but show as inactive for now. I also provided the following:

- Provided the Districts with an updated listing of groups for the committee meeting reflecting changes received to date
- Received updates from Districts & Groups and made changes to the database
- Updated the 12 Stepper subscription file for all new subscriptions received. Mailed payments to the financial assistant for processing.
- Created labels in July for the Summer 12 Stepper issue
- Received & reviewed mailings from the WSO and updated Area database as needed
- Created reports for some Coordinators for the committee meeting or upon request
- Provided the DRs with the Group Records Coordinator job description
- Did you know?
 - there are 696 active groups registered with the area, including 56 Alateen; 22 Institutions; 37 Spanish meetings, 17 men's; 14 women's & 24 Adult Children meetings. It appears we grew a little in each category.
 - Each group is entitled to a group binder full of useful information from WSO on how to run an Al-Anon or Alateen meeting.
 - If your group didn't receive a binder from WSO when you registered, you may purchase one from WSO for \$9.00
 - Each currently registered group will receive a new service manual free.

The job was a lot more than I anticipated, but it was a good lesson in First Things First & How Important Is It? The job has lots of endless opportunities to do some work. I updated what was presented to me and got the basics done and left the reconciling to the DRs & GRs. I want to thank everyone for your patience and understanding Thanks again for the opportunity to serve & grow. SERVICE - The Bridge to Recovery Chris M., Group Records Coordinator

FACILITY COORDINATOR: Tomi gave the report

The new assembly bid forms are in the updates that you got from the Bylaws & Insurance Coordinator. Everything you need to know is on that form. It's been so many changes and so much growing. One thing that I wanted to talk to you about is a corporate credit card. In working with hotels they are requiring a credit card instead of a cash deposit. I'd like for you to consider applying for a corporate credit card. Having a credit card shouldn't be a job requirement for the Facility Coordinator or the Treasurer.

Motion 0509.05: that we obtain a credit card for NCWSA to be used at the discretion of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee to determine the procedures. Passed

Discussion:

- that the EC be in charge of the use and procedures.
- Could a debit card be used?

- Cash flow might be a problem with using an ATM.
- American Express Small Business card could give you miles.

PI/CPC COORDINATOR: Tom gave the report

I want all of the District PI coordinators to stand up, I want all of the DRs to stand up. I want all of those who have been in contact with outside agencies, hospitals, jails, etc. This is more of my committee.

Dear AFG family, This year I have been contacted by WSO several times when they have heard from someone in Northern California who wants something from local program members. I then passed this request on to DRs who have assured that the interested parties were contacted. I participated in a few meetings on wheels (Guideline G22 found at our members' page <http://www.al-anon.alateen.org/members/>) in San Francisco with a Kaiser program for the relatives of people in rehab. I visited the District 25 District Meeting and helped them understand what public outreach is all about. S-39 The District Game Plan has an excellent explanation with a map of a typical community highlighting a few dozen places to get the word out to those still suffering with the family disease of alcoholism.

I am a coordinator and a grateful member of our fellowship. Public Outreach or 12th step work only happens when members find an outlet for their gratitude by spreading the word to others who have not yet found recovery from this deadly disease. For ideas see www.ncwsa.org press "Service" then "Outreach" and find oodles of ideas and information.

Let it begin with us! When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help,

Let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen be there and let it begin with us.

Love in Service, Tom K. Northern California World Service Area, Public Information & Cooperating with the Professional Community (PI/CPC) Coordinator

ALTERNATE DELEGATE: Sandi gave the report

This is the final year of this panel and it has been very busy, but a great learning experience. Since the last Assembly we instituted the new Alateen Safety Guidelines and I certified all Alateen Sponsors in Northern California. In June, I renewed those certifications in line with WSO's requirements; it appears that all future renewals will take place in June of each year. I also attended a couple of Alateen Safety Requirements Committee Meetings in Danville.

In October I was honored to speak at the District 8 Fall Fundraiser. In March, I attended the Southwest Regional Delegates Meeting in Tucson, Arizona. Thanks to all of you for sending me. It is truly a great experience to meet and learn from all Delegates and Past Delegates in our Region. In November 2004 I attended NoCAC and later assisted the Treasurer with the audit of the NoCAC financial records.

In April, I attended our Convention in Monterey and then had the privilege to return to District 24 to do an Alateen Safety Sponsorship Workshop. I also enjoyed the annual Hospitals & Institutions Conference in Galt that month.

In June, I participated in an Alateen Workshop for District 10 in Roseville. In addition, I was asked to make a presentation to District 15 in San Leandro on the sponsor renewal process and new motions to be presented at Assembly on Alateen Safety.

I prepared, and the Budget Committee review, the 2006 Budget which was presented to the February & May NCWSC who approved the version you will be voting on at this Assembly. I'd like to thank all of you for making this part of my job easier. It was such a relief and blessing to have the last two years' budgets approved in about 15 minutes.

In addition, the Budget Committee met at my home to perform the Audit of the 2004 NCWSA financial records. I'm happy to report that there were no unusual items and that we found the 2005 financial records free from error.

Last weekend, I was luck to be able to attend the Southwest Regional Service Seminar. What a wonderful learning experience on Al-Anon and Alateen service, as well as a gift to be able to meet and visit with members from the World Service Office (WSO).

I think this sums up most of my activities since our last Assembly, and want to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to serve Al-Anon & Alateen.

With love in Al-Anon and Alateen Service, Sandi C. Alternate Delegate & Area Alateen Safety Administrator.

BUDGET: Sandi presented the budget.

Discussion on the budget:

- Since there is no SWRSS in 2008, do we need to send the officers to the SWRSS in 2006 or 2007? Does it need to be in the 2006 budget?
 - 2006 Regional Service Seminars currently schedule: March 3-5 in White Plains, SC in Irving Texas in the summer, fall in Moose Jaw Saskatewon
 - Is there a benefit to all officers going together?
 - Is there a benefit to waiting till the 2nd year to go? 2007 in the NW?

Motion 0509.06: to approve the budget and thank you. Motion Passed.

Break

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion 0509.07: that our Delegate ask WSC to change our guidelines so that Al-Anons who are also AA members may be in service beyond the group level. Motion tabled

John suggested that this be placed on the agenda for the 2006 Assembly and we take the issue back to the groups this year and discuss it.

COORDINATOR REPORTS:

ALATEEN COORDINATOR: Pleas gave the report

It's been a wonderful interesting blessed panel which is coming to an end. I'm really going to miss it. If you've never had the experience you should give it a try. I had an opportunity to attend the second bash and I won a basket. It was wonderful. I haven't done much, I've attended a couple of things. What's coming up for me is a speaking engagement coming up in October 15 and at a fund raiser holiday bash, 12/2. I'm still active and busy, it's coming up for me to step down and do something else. I'd like to thank those in the program who "have my back". Sandi C. has been a joy and an angel for me this year. I grew in this program as an Alateen member myself. I also serve on the hospitality committee on the 2006 convention, and the co-chair of the Westminster Woods committee. Serving also on the Alateen Safety Committee has given me an opportunity to grow and step out and say when I agree and disagree.

Break into the Action Committee Groups.

Motion 0509.08: in order to increase Alateen participation on the Safety Committee, I move that the Alateen Chairpersons of: NoCAC; the NCWSA Convention; Growing Together Weekend, WCAC or their alternate or Co-Chair be members of the Safety Committee Along with the Alateen Liaison. Motion Withdrawn.

The Alateen Safety Committee is an ad hoc committee of the chairperson and will expire 12/31/05. If the Alateen Safety Committee continues, the new chairperson will reconstitute a Committee and may take this motion under advisement.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 7: Sacramento County

The GRs introduced themselves. I started this term as DR and I did that with the promise that Jeri & I would do it as a team. District 7 is in Sacramento boarded by the American River on the south, Fair Oaks north, West Sacramento to the east. The quarterly speaker meetings and they're going well, We had a coordinator that was really good at keeping things going, but he moved. The next meeting, "A Harvest of Recovery" is October 29. We'll be at the Good Shepard Church. We have all of our Alateen sponsors in compliance with the new directive. We have two Alateen groups that will be sending teens to NoCAC. At our August meeting we elected all the positions for the next term. Kathy H. is the new DR. Diane J. is the Alternate DR, Alicia O. is the Secretary, and Jeuneta S. is the treasurer. No Coordinator positions have been filled. Roylyne M., Alternate District Representative

District 10: Placer, Sacramento and Nevada Counties

District 10 puts the "fun" in dysfunctional. Hello everybody from District 10. We represent much of Placer County from Auburn to Roseville. We have meetings in the Grass Valley area which is in Nevada County, and meetings in Folsom, which is in Sacramento County.

Many of our Group Representatives come to District 10 meetings each month, and I want to thank them for their wonderful service. We have solved problems, discussed different ways to do things, and have tackled many other issues this year. At least every other month we discuss a problem that a group or number of groups is having. I am very proud of the way that the group representatives have come together to help each other.

We had a FUNdraiser this March. We had donation drawings for baskets that were full of goodies. Each group that participated brought a basket that was filled with things representing a different theme. We had wonderful speakers, and great food. It helps to have a hard working committee to put this on for us. Thanks to you all.

We are fortunate to have Randi N. as our Alateen Coordinator. She also represents Alateen for Districts 6-10 at Intergroup. Randi has worked very hard with our kids. She and the Alateens put on a Sponsor Training Workshop last June. There was a discussion session, and we were treated to a short Alateen meeting. Thanks, to all who let us experience this.

I would like to introduce you to our next district Representative, who will take over in January. Her name is Claudia M. Good luck Claudia. May you also be blessed with great people to work with.

We have every position filled for the next panel except for the positions of Secretary and Institutions Coordinator. I know that these positions will be filled, because we have so many people willing to do service.

It has been a great three years as the District Representative for District 10. I will miss all of you on the Committee. I enjoyed serving as the district representative. I was fortunate enough to serve on the Executive Committee as well as my other duties. Thanks to all. The GRs introduced themselves.

Love in Service, Linda J. DR, District 10

District 22: Santa Clara County

Three years have certainly gone by fast! Our District extends from South San Jose, Los Gatos to Morgan Hill, Gilroy. To think that I am giving my last report as DR. We have a total

of 17 Al-Anon meetings, one Alateen, and one pre-teen meeting. We started this year with a successful Day in Service on January 29, 2005 with Mary Jane T at the helm. It was a very successful Day with a great panel and Carl S as our main speaker. Our next Day in Service will be held January 21, 2006 to be held at the Joint Venture Church in San Jose. The theme is "Pages of Recovery" emphasizing our Al-Anon and Alateen Twelve Step Literature. Our speaker will be Vicki H and we will have a panel, a workshop session, donation drawing, and lunch of chili, soup, cornbread, etc.

D-22 helped out our Friday Night Willow Vale with a bake sale/potluck dinner in August. Also in August our Sunday Afternoon Recovery in Action hosted its third annual ice cream social. We had home made ice cream, store bought ice cream and bars, and cookies.

Hope many of you will join us next January 21st. We made sure it was a not a football weekend.

Respectfully submitted, Louise Morimoto District 22 DR

COORDINATOR REPORTS:

ARCHIVES COORDINATOR: Edie D. read the report

Dear Members, Primarily I was not good for doing your Archives as was evidenced by attendance, enthusiasm and commitment in the past three years. Taking service positions is the individuals expression of love for the group. It then brings out many wonderful, personnel qualities as work proceeds throughout the three year term. This is growth in the program that we all can benefit from. With that said I can, however, give you a report.

And on that note the Archives needs an office with people, not one person in the home. Be sure to elect an alternate who follows in the shoes of the Chairperson to maintain much needed continuity. Create an interested group of coffee drinkers and thinkers and paper pushers who can develop a retention and storage system so that the important things are not swamped under by the minutiae. They can give the coordinator and alternate lots of deserved aid but a consensus is needed in this activity. The previous two coordinators did a great job of organizing our Area Archives and I hope there is a central, urban group available to continue this but develop a tradition we can be proud of.

Thanks with love in the Program, Bruce H., from Yuba City/District 003

12 STEP EDITOR: Harlan delivered the report

I have one last issue to put out. Everyone, please email me your report so I can get it out before the end of the year. Otherwise, the publishers all go on vacation. I think I've got all the reports so I can start working on it when I get home.

There's a blue (display) board that comes with the Stepper that goes to the convention at your expense. It's been a great experience for me. I hope the next person can do as well or better than I did. Respectfully Submitted, Harlan

The Delegate showed the PSAs.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 9: El Dorado and Amador Counties

An Institutions Meeting was started by Joan W. in May 2004 at Progress House (a men's inpatient recovery facility) in Coloma. It is a meeting that is held during the family program on the first Saturday of the month. In fact, their Director spoke at H&I this year about the work being done there!

Our PI/CPC coordinator, Julene C., has been making sure our County Libraries have copies of Conference Approved Literature (CAL). She has also distributed 150 copies of the

special edition Forum, along with 120 letters, meeting schedules and Fact Sheet for Professional, to professional in our communities.

Our District started two new meetings – one in Cameron Park and one in Pollock Pines, plus a newcomers meeting in Placerville, since the beginning of my term as DR. All three meetings are well attended and have been a great source of recovery for many people. Many of our meetings have many more men coming also. Some of our meetings have lending libraries, with speaker tapes and books.

Our funds are up, due to our successful fundraisers in recent years, and we are able to do much more in the way of outreach, and donations to AIS, NCWSC and WSO.

Pollock Pines voted to hold one meeting a month by candlelight, and it has been so successful that every meeting is by candlelight now!

District 9 hosted the NCWSC Committee Meeting on May 13 -14 @ Jackson Rancheria.

District Representatives for Friends of Lois (Cameron Park) and Adult Children Courage (South Lake Tahoe) have resigned.

Jackie (DR) is willing to take on the position of District Certifier for Alateen Sponsor. Sadly, we still do not have any Alateen meetings in our District. It was suggested that we make announcements at our meetings to try to get an Alateen Coordinator for District 9.

All GR's were asked to please check the NCWSA website to see if their meeting information is current. www.ncwsa.org.

Jackie reminded everyone that October 2005 is Election Assembly year.

Facilities: we are going to look into purchasing our own microphone equipment.

Our January 22 Fundraiser was a very successful event! We had over 80 people there! We collected \$436. in registrations/donations, we collected \$500 from the silent auction; total gross collected was \$936. Our total expenses were \$147.55, therefore, our net income from fundraiser was \$778.45. Everyone really did a fantastic job of organizing and carrying out their parts and I think everyone who came had a wonderful day. We had a male speaker and a female speaker again this year. Both speakers were great!

We checked the WSO Group listing and corrected as necessary.

Calendar of events for in our Area for 2005 was distributed.

We set dates and locations for the remainder of the District Meetings in 2005.

July fundraiser: July 16th First Baptist Church in Pollock Pines (Pollock Pines, Jackson, Pine Grove and So. Lake Tahoe groups). We profited over \$600.

I served in the capacity of Intergroup Liaison for 2005, as no one has stepped forward, and it is important for each District to be represented. (It is the Alternate DR's responsibility, however, Barbara lives too far from Sacramento to attend the monthly meetings during the week, so I have volunteered).

Our District will also pay for Service Manuals for our new District Officers.

Our January and July Fundraisers was very successful events! We had speakers, lunch and a silent auction. Our net income from the January fundraiser was over \$700.00, and the July fundraiser netted over \$600.00. Everyone really did a fantastic job of organizing and carrying out their parts and I think everyone who came had a wonderful day.

Thursday So. Lake Tahoe Courage to Change – Adult Children and Friday Night AFG So. Lake Tahoe meetings have voted to move to District 4 of Nevada starting January 2006. They will support District 9 for the rest of 2005. This was done to encourage members to do service.

Our District Secretary resigned and I have been doing the minutes since the Spring.

We voted to have two ads in the Mountain Democrat, so we can add locations, times, etc. for our meetings in El Dorado County.

We voted to purchase and wear matching T-shirts to both Assemblies, with a picture of South Lake Tahoe and "District 9" on them – as a tribute to our losing So Lake Tahoe to District 4 Nevada in 2006 – we will dearly miss their presence in our District.

We had our District Elections at our August District meeting, by using written ballots tallied by the Alternate District Rep.

Positions for 2006-2008 are as follows:

- District Representative –Joan
- Alternate District Representative – Stefanie
- Treasurer – Pam
- Secretary – Cindy
- PI/CPC – Julene
- Alateen Safety Coordinator – Jackie
- Institutions – open
- Alateen Coordinator – open
- Intergroup Liaison – Stefanie (&Joan)

"9, 9, we're Divine, we're so fine in District 9, Assembly, Assembly" Love in service, Jackie B.

District 6-10 Intergroup: Solano, Napa, Yolo, Sacramento, El Dorado, Amador, Placer & Nevada Counties

I have had a great time with this position. I have had the opportunity to use my program and grow.

This year's greatest challenge was one where we as an Intergroup used our Steps and Traditions as well as our Slogans and other tools such as Principals above Personalities! That is always a fun one! I really love that one because it makes me a stronger person.

Our district 6-10 Al-Anon/Alateen birthday celebration was a success. We had approximately 80 people registered. Our speakers were Art B. and James was our AA speaker. The evening brought in a total of about \$1,030.00.

It took a while to get someone to commit to the treasurers position and when we finally did we got two!! Thank you Bob and Cynde for your service work!

Our Alateen Coordinator, Randi has been doing an awesome job. She's got lots of energy and ideal! She put together an Alateen workshop and had a pretty great turnout!

Teri, our Institutions Coordinator, has been steadily working with others getting meetings in local jails, prisons as well as recovery houses! Thank you, Teri, for your love and devotion to this program.

Our involvement with the Spring Fling was enjoyable. This year we received \$1300. This next years Spring Fling which will be held in February and this is the first time they have asked that an Alateen speak! One of our district 6's very own sweetheart Alateen will be the Speaker! That would be Ari from Vacaville. The Al-Anon speaker will be some guy from the Stockton area... his name is Pleas. I've heard he's an interesting fellow!!!

Our Share & Care Editor Claudia, has been doing an awesome job with out newsletter. She has done a great job getting the Share & Care out each month for us! Thanks Claudia.

We will be holding our elections at our November meeting. Anyone from Districts 6-10 who would like to get involved with this level of service work we would love to have you! It's a great way to work your program as well! I love the old saying "Many hands make light work!" We meet every 2nd Wednesday of each month at the People Reaching Out Building, 5299 Auburn Blvd. in Sacramento. This is on the corner of Auburn Blvd. and Hemlock, from 7:30-9:30 pm

I would like to thank all of you at this time from this Intergroup for all your love and support, as well as your patience, which I have received during my time as Intergroup Chairperson. So, with this all said, May the love and Peace of this program always be with you One Day at a Time!

Love in Service, Jane D., Intergroup Chair

The 7th tradition was \$256.85 - I'd like to thank Johanna and her committee for the great Assembly.

ASK-IT BASKET:

Marilyn: A few or a number of suggestions for increasing membership at our meetings?

Ans: hold a beginners meeting; have a newcomer greeter; publicize in local newspapers; participate in public outreach activities, like health fairs, speaking at schools, speak to Pastor of church - ask for meeting information to be added to the church bulletin

Art: If a group is starting a lending library what kind of information could be available?

Ans: A lending library is a good way to help members become familiar with the Al-Anon program. 1. Conference Approved Literature (CAL) is an excellent source of material. 2. Tapes of Al-Anon/Alateen speakers provide personal stories and are acceptable as "Personal Stories" on page 36 of the Service Manual. 3. AA books and other books may imply endorsement and dilute the emphasis on the Al-Anon program as well as creating an appearance of affiliation. See page 98 of the Service Manual.

Marilyn: Are the "If your home is unhappy" bookmarks printed in Spanish?

Ans: Yes, both Spanish & French

Art: Does Dual Membership only mean AA, or does it apply to other 12 Step programs? Why?

Ans: Page 67-68 of Service Manual doesn't say anything about other 12 Step programs.

Marilyn: Al-Anon is a spiritual path, open to anyone of any religious persuasion. Although it was started by mostly Protestant Christians, the membership has expanded to include many religious traditions. Many people have a higher power who they address as She. The steps & traditions refer to God many times as He, Him, or His. Has there been a motion at WSC to change all the He, Him & His words to God, God's or Higher Power? I heard that a motion on gender language was not passed. What is the history of this movement to change to gender neutral wording?

Ans: There have been motions to change the steps, etc at the WSC which did not pass. The procedure to change is in the Conference Charter on page 144 of the Service Manual, which requires approval of 3/4 of the Al-Anon groups.

Art: Individuals & Groups have voted to change the words of the 12 Steps to gender neutral, claiming "group autonomy" as the principle support the changes. Besides reciting the policy that the legacies not be changed without 3/4 written vote of all groups, what's a concerned member to do?

Ans: Changing the steps is not autonomous to the groups as it effects AA & Al-Anon as a whole.

Vicki: Why are phone meetings not registered with WSO? We'd like to have phone meetings registered with the WSO.

Ans: This is not currently answerable via the Service Manual. I happen to know that the Group Services committee has discussed this. The reason they won't register phone meetings is because there's a monetary requirement to register for a phone meeting. Could I pass this on to the next Delegate for chosen agenda topics? Ans: Yes

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 17: Alameda County

I'd like to thank Vicki and the Committee for their support. They have truly shown me dedication, support, love and principles above personalities. It has been a true gift to have been a part of service at the District level.

Well it has been a growing and challenging 3 years. I want to thank my district, especially the Group Reps, for showing me how to serve and how to be a leader. I don't know about most of you, but this was not in my plan. My Higher Power sure has a sense of humor. It has been so great meeting everyone and sharing service with you. The Group Reps have been wonderful support when needed and showed what service is all about. I'm excited to announce the next DR is Joe G. We have a new Alternate DR.

We now have 8 Al-Anon meetings, 2 beginners, 1 Alateen, 1 Pre-Teen, & 1 birthday speaker meeting and Intergroup once a month. Our district helps District 15 with the phone hot lines. We plan to do a workshop in the near future to explain what the service is, regarding the phone line.

I want to make an amends to my district for not having someone proof read my reports. The report in the 12 Stepper is incorrect. Our Day in Al-Anon is November 5, 2005 at Prince of Peace Church. The theme is Recovery Gives You Wings!!! Our Day in Al-Anon is our big fundraiser of the year. The district works so well together putting this day together and it is so much fun. Come join us for a great day. There's a flyer in your bin and on the back table. Progress not perfection!!!

We have changed our birthday meetings to Saturday evening, pot luck at 5:30 pm. This meeting is held at Cedar Neighborhood Church in Newark. Our district has decided to have each meeting sponsor the birthday meeting on a rotation basis, so they each get to sponsor a birthday meeting. This is really working out well and we are getting different speakers from all over. It has been a great change in our district. An Alateen has stepped up with an Alateen sponsor as co-birthday coordinators. Come join us and see how it works.

We've been working on our Outreach Projects. The PI coordinator and the Alateens plan to get together and go to the schools in the area. If other districts have other ideas we'd love to hear from them. Our meetings are listed in the newspaper, not always up to date or correct, but they are listed. We bought 400 copies of the Forum, as part of our PI. For the first time we helped sponsor a person to go to the SWRSS.

District 12: San Francisco County

The District gave their District holler and all the GRs introduced themselves. I am a day late a dollar short. My, my where has the time gone? The time has gone so fast that I feel I've served only half of it, wait, I have served only half of it; our previous DR resigned mid-term.

District 12 includes all meetings within the San Francisco city limits and 1 meeting in Daly City. Currently, we have 38 groups, including a Spanish-speaking meeting. We have many book study and speaker-discussion meetings, as well as an 11th-Step meditation group. Many of our meetings have a special focus for example parents, or adult children or lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders. Our newest beginners meetings at the Kaiser Chemical Dependency facility is well attended and has a core group of dedicated beginners.

We've discontinued our Alateen meetings until we can get our sponsors certified. This has not really hurt our meetings much, since Alateen attendance was down to 0 anyway. We are negotiating with the folks at the Job Core on Treasure Island to bring Alateen and Al-Anon there. We are planning on visiting the Job Corps classrooms with the 20 questions, hoping to make the residents aware of the recovery available through Alateen and Al-Anon.

Now that we have directors & officers insurance more people are willing to volunteer for district positions. Our administrative committee did the necessary research to purchase the D&O insurance. They are also doing the prep work for our bylaws revision and one member found a pro bono attorney to assist in this process. They are working on a donation envelope, similar to the WSO's birthday envelope, to make sending district donations much easier.

Our district meetings continue to be lively and well attended. I have a great time asking the group to answer a focus question when we do the around-the-meeting introductions. This month we each shared about how our groups welcome newcomers. Last month, I asked them to discuss how their groups apply Tradition 4 - the stumped looks on their faces when they first heard the question was priceless. This is a wonderful group of dedicated trusted servants. Hopefully many of them will stick around for another term and continue to keep our district moving forward.

We are really excited about our upcoming Day in Al-Anon on Saturday, October 15th. We've selected a more central location at Mission Dolores, hoping to attract some of the members who don't normally attend our special day. We'll be offering the same 3 workshops twice, so everyone has a chance to attend at least two. Our lunchtime speaker is Pleas, the Area Alateen Coordinator. After lunch, we'll be hosting a sponsorship workshop where all the participants will have a chance to practice asking someone to be their sponsor. We hope to see you all there, we have orange flyers. Respectfully submitted, Patti M., District 12 DR

District 14: Contra Costa County

[District 14 hosted the 2005 Assembly, Gene introduced part of the crew that made the week-end possible. The decorations were done with very little money by Yvonne and her crew.]

Hello everyone, my name is Gene and I am the DR for District 14. We cover central and eastern Contra Costa County including San Ramon, Alamo, Danville, Walnut Creek, Lafayette, Orinda, Moraga, Pleasant Hill Martinez, Concord, Antioch, Pittsburg, Oakley, Brentwood, and Discovery Bay. We have 45 Al-Anon meetings weekly including 5 Spanish speaking, 1 womens and 1 mens meeting. We have 3 Alateen meetings including one for younger Alateens. In addition, we have four weekly telephone meetings accessible to Al-Anons from all over the world. This was organized by Eleanor who has done a wonderful job of making this one more excellent method for otherwise indisposed members to gain access to recovery.

We have several other efforts to keep our members coming back. Our very successful Speaker Meeting draws between 80 and 120 people every 4th Saturday. We set up a special fund to bring in one speaker a year from outside the district. Yvonne and Maureen continue to do a wonderful job of keeping the Speaker Meeting focused on recovery and making it a welcoming experience for all. The decorations you see today were done with a very limited budget by Maureen and her crew and typify the added effort she makes at our Speaker Meetings.

We will have an afternoon in Al-anon sponsored by the 10:30 AM Alamo Meeting complete with workshops and speakers. This will be on October 8 between 11:30 and 5 PM at the San Ramon Valley Methodist Church at 902 Danville Blvd. in Alamo. This is a prelude to a full day program set to start in 2007 and will include workshops and speakers.

Carolyn M with able assistance from Doris and Shirley keep our very active and effective Literature Depot running smoothly. This depot is critical to funding all of our programs. Be sure and look over the literature display here at the Assembly.

Carolyn S. has worked hard to keep in touch with meeting particularly in the eastern area of the District. This has stimulated additional GR participation from this area and contributed to a more unified feeling among members. In addition, she has worked hard to assist the new Spanish speaking members to organize and participate in District Meetings.

I want to thank Johanna, our Treasurer; Bill our Secretary; and Carolyn S. our Alternate DR for all the fine efforts they have made to make our District of benefit to all our members.

Our Alateen program has had some ups and downs. We have had success with implementing the new teen safety program under Carla's care. All sponsors have been retained from last year. We lost 2 meetings due to lack of teen participation and lack of a coordinated outreach effort to the communities they serve. One workshop was organized to stimulate interest in both sponsoring and doing more outreach by Paula, our Alateen Coordinator.

The Public Outreach program had a change of leadership a few months ago and Nina has stepped forward to add her efforts to those already underway. The first change is to provide a meeting list with a new cover design. This design will make it more noticeable and appealing to those who see it and are not familiar with our program. This is part of an expanding outreach effort to place our materials in public places. We retained the original meeting list for internal use.

Our hotline is ably operated by Anna. Between 30-50 calls per month come in from those seeking information about our program. Information packets go out to those professionals who call in and schedules are sent to individual prospective members.

Meeting lists are handled by Pam and she has assisted in the creation of the new meeting list format for outreach efforts.

We were fortunate to be able to send 4 members to the recent RSS in Hawaii.

We are in the process of incorporating and have recently completed the Bylaws. The next step is to vote them in and file the incorporation papers. We have a small group looking into how we can get group insurance for those groups facing changed rules from churches,

We recently moved our District Meeting to better quarters and reduced our costs by eliminating insurance for the District Meeting.

Our next District Meeting will have our Delegate Vicki H. as a speaker. She will be speaking on her experiences in doing service in Al-Anon. We will then hold our DR election. In November, we will elect all other officer and coordinator positions.

I want to thank all of the District 14 Al-Anon members who volunteered to set up the Assembly this year. They were very ably led by Yvonne and I would like to ask all of them present to stand so you can properly embarrass them with your applause! Yvonne, Ally, Kristine, Johanna, Carolyn M., Carla, Patricia, Maureen, Suzie – please stand and be recognized!!

Gene H. DR, District 14

District 8: Sacramento County

District 8 is located in the cities of Galt, Rancho Cordova and Sacramento. There are 28 meetings in District 8. We have 2 men's meetings, a number of Al-Anon Adult Children meetings, 2 Spanish-speaking meetings & 1 Alateen meeting.

We hosted Soup, etc., our District 8 Day in Al-Anon in January, we had 8 Adult Child speakers and we had record attendance. District 8 was also instrumental in the Intergroup Al0Anon Birthday Party Celebration. We arranged for speakers for the event; Art B., from San Jose, and James W. (AA) from Fair Oaks.

District 8 was the host district for this year's H & I Conference held in Galt. We were responsible for the Al-Anon participation in this year AA sponsored Conference. Attendance & participation by Al-Anon at this conference was outstanding. Joan W., our coordinator, did a great job of orchestrating all the cooperation necessary for the success of the Al-Anon part of this event.

Until this year, District 8 has problems with our treasury. In January, Suzanne B. stepped up to fill the position left vacant when Judi R. had to resign for personal reasons. We finally have an organizational not-for-profit checking account, which has greatly simplified keeping track of our 7th Tradition contributions.

This is my third and final year of my term as District 8 Representative. I have also come to the end of my term as NCWSA Executive Committee member. I have grown from serving in these two capacities.

There is one more District 8 event coming up in October. This will be an evening of recovery at Grace Lutheran Church, in Rancho Cordova. We will have Al--Anon and AA speakers, snacks, desserts, donation drawing and as always, great fellowship will people in recovery. This all happens on Saturday, October 15, 6-9 pm

I would like to say something about service. I have been in service at some level ever since I came to Al-Anon. It has been the Path to Recovery for me. It always worked that I would do the service, and think about it later. I try never to say no when the opportunity presents itself. So, that's my story and I'm sticking to it. Bob J.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

It's been a year! I think I've finally figured out what the job is, so now I know when I'm messing up. I'm having quite a lot of feelings about the end of the panel. There's part of me that's jumping up and down with joy, and a large part of me that's feeling sad. I'll really miss the support, the acceptance and the unconditional love I've received in this room. I won't miss the bins in my house or the trips to the post office. It's been my great good joy to be of service to you all these past three years.

I've attended all the committee meetings, the Assemblies, taken minutes, mailed the minutes and agendas, and updated the NCWSC Membership Roster. I prepared the information for the Assembly edition and had a great afternoon with John S. and Tom K. putting together the GR packets.

Thanks to all who have given me encouragement in the halls and in the rooms and in your conversations. I couldn't have done it without you. Respectfully Submitted, Edie D.,

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 18: Stanislaus, Merced, Mariposa Counties

The GRs introduced themselves. District 18 is in the Central Valley and made up of three counties. They are: Stanislaus, Merced and Mariposa. We also have Groups from other counties attending our District meetings they are in San Joaquin, Calaveras and Tuolumne. We have meetings 7 days a week. There are 47 meetings a week in District 18, which 6 of them are Alateen meetings. We have 23 Al-Anon groups, 2 of them being Spanish-speaking and 5 Alateen groups. We have a computer operated answering service in both English and Spanish. District 18 web site is www.ncwsa.org/d18. All positions of the committee are filled at this time and we meet on the first Sunday of every month at 1 pm at Doctors Hospital Conference Center. District 18 has an Alateen Sponsor's Meeting that meets after the district meeting. Last but not least District 18 has 5 Institutions meetings, 1 of which is in Juvenile Hall. There is a lot of recovery and spreading the message of Al-Anon/Alateen in District 18. We have great fellowship and loads of fun doing it. When you have time come and visit us.

Wow, two years, nine months have passed since I stated my three year term as DR, that means I have three more months left but who's counting? I want to thank the GRs of District 18 for the opportunity they gave me to serve as their DR. Serving as DR was a wonderful trip down the road of my recovery. Attending NCWSA, NCWSC, Budget meetings and DR meetings was a help on my road of recovery. I enjoyed meeting with the DRs of Northern California. It was fun and I learned a lot. The time to rotate out of office is almost here - the incoming DR from District 18 is Bonnie M. She is the good looking lady with the big smile - if you see her say hello.

On a personal note my wife Bobbie and I will be moving in the near future to Osage Beach MO. We have bought a home on Lake of the Ozarks. We still have ties in Modesto and from time to time we will be back in Northern California. If you are at the Lake of the Ozarks, look us up. Thanks again for all the fellowship and love given to us. Tom L., DR District 18

District 20: Santa Clara County

It seems impossible that this is the last year for most of us. Three years, one-day-at-a-time. Just when it started to get fun it's almost about over! This panel has done a great job. You rock! I finally understand and appreciate what SCV AFG Intergroup does for all the districts in Santa Clara Valley, a very big thank you to them. They make service at district level so easy. I can't say enough about my GRs. I give all the credit to them.

We have 25 groups in District 20 ranging from Los Altos, Sunnyvale, Cupertino, Santa Clara, Mountain View to Saratoga. 3 are Alateen meetings and 1 Spanish-speaking meeting.

The big event we have 5 speaker meetings. In August our own delegate spoke along with her husband. They did a great job. I have flyers for all of you for our October 28th meeting, Father Tom will be the speaker. That meeting will be held in Los Altos as we expect a large crowd. Parking is limited so if you plan to come, car pool please.

We have our district meetings on Wednesday and voted to donate \$1,000 to sponsor 5 Alateens and 5 Alateen Sponsors in double rooms to NoCAC.

I am happy to report I have a replacement that stepped up to the plate at our last district meeting, Annette. She has been with the district for all 3 years and I'm happy to pass the hat to her. On a personal note, this has been a great way to grow in all areas of life. I can never give back what is so freely given. Al-Anon brought out my sense of humor as you can see! I'm grateful.

Respectfully Submitted, Terri M.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SPANISH INTERGROUP: Julietta

My name is Julieta D, a member of Al-Anon. I come from San Jose, CA. My home Group is "Sendero De Luz," located in Alviso, CA. I am the liaison of the Hispanic intergroup of Northern CA. I am here today to represent the 39 Spanish speaking Al-Anon groups.

- In this assembly, 11 GRs are present. From these 11 groups, nine are first timers.
- The committee of Public Information is working very hard by going to schools, clinics, rehabilitation centers to pass on the information on the purpose of Al-Anon. By going to these places, Concord, CA opened their very first Al-Anon group.
- We also put an ad in a Spanish magazine called "TV Novelas" This magazine ad runs from Santa Clara County to San Mateo County to San Francisco. As a result of the posting of this ad, we received 20 to 30 calls a month. Each area has its contact person.
- Lastly, there will be a State of CA Hispanic Al-Anon & Alateen Convention held in Foster City, CA. It will be located in Crown Plaza on October 21st, 22nd, 23rd. As a liaison, I keep reminding the GRs to update the Al-Anon groups with all the correct up-to-date information for WSO, District and their areas.

Love and service, Julieta Dominguez

CHAIRPERSON: John gave the report.

I'd like to thank you very much for letting me serve. It's really kind of exciting, and there's some sadness there as well. I do service and what I learn I get to take into the world and that gives me even better gifts. Because of this service position I put myself out there for a management position at work and now I supervise. I also thank you for the trip to the SWRDM in Tucson in March, the 2006 SWRDM will be in Oakland next March. And also you sent me to Hawaii, to the SWRSS. They did an impressive job! The first workshop was on and the second was on anonymity, not invisibility. I'd also like to thank the officers for the job they've done. Especially Sandi, who did a great job as the Alateen Safety Coordinator, and Edie, and Carol, we all know what a wonderful job she's done as Treasurer. Thank you! John S.

Delegate's Notes: Vicki put the Delegate Reports on the chairs. I do want you to **remember** the **March 4th leave hope project**. Start now getting information to your groups. There is a 50 sheet tablet the size of a prescription pad. For those of you who knew, a couple of committee meetings ago we had some brainstorming about splitting the state of California into more regions. The discussion is that possibly California should be 3 areas. I have gotten a call from the Policy committee requesting our notes. They are going to review the issue at their next meeting.

We closed with a round of applause for John and the Serenity Prayer at 3:38 pm.