

<http://www.ncwsa.org/scvafg/>

## Fall Special Event "Participation is the Key to Harmony"

Saturday, September 22nd, 2007  
Time: 2 to 9 pm, Trinity Presbyterian  
Church, 3151 Union Avenue, S.J.

Speakers:

John C. Al-Anon,  
Ashlei – Alateen,  
Claire H. – AA

Panel of Speakers - Al-Anon and  
Alateen

Potluck Dinner -- Bring your favorite  
main, side dish or dessert to share.  
Donation Drawing – Gift Baskets  
Space is limited, don't miss out and  
pre-register!

Suggested Pre-Registration Donation:  
\$10.00 per person (Postmark by 9/15)

Suggested Donation @ the Door:  
\$12.00 per person

For more information, contact Lisa  
M. at 408-316-8246,  
[lisamm@mybluelight.com](mailto:lisamm@mybluelight.com) or  
Jennifer G. at 408-431-0970,  
[purplejig@sbcglobal.net](mailto:purplejig@sbcglobal.net)  
SCV Web site under events

<http://www.ncwsa.org/scvafg/flyer/s/>

**2007 Northern California World  
Service Area (NCWSA) Assembly  
Institution Coordinator Report  
14 – 16 September 2007  
Red Lion Hotel, Sacramento, CA**

I have conducted a short survey of Institution Coordinators and work in hospitals and institutions in Northern California. I am sad to report that there are not enough Institutions Coordinators in the whole of Northern California and that work in hospitals and institutions is sadly lacking. Please remember that meetings in recovery homes are under the umbrella of institutions work. I serve as a member of the State of California Correctional Facilities 12

Step Advisory Board where I have learned that we do not have meetings in any of the state prisons nor juvenile facilities. As many of you know, the budget crunch in the state budget has forced the prisons to parole many inmates back into our community. If these parolees are being sent back to the same situation from which they came, how can they be expected to stay out of trouble and stay out of the prison system? The recidivism rate among parolees is very high. AA, CA, NA, and the other anonymous programs are doing their best to offer support to parolees who are in prison and to inform them of the support they can receive when they return to their communities. However, the families of these parolees also need support and assistance. We know that alcoholism is a family disease. As members of the Al-Anon fellowship, we can offer support to these families. As far as I know, we have one meeting every second and fourth Thursday in the Elmwood Women's Correctional Facility in Santa Clara County and a meeting every Tuesday in the Juvenile Hall in Santa Clara County. We do have meetings in various Kaiser recovery centers, including Progress House for men in Colma, Progress House for women in Camino, Thunder Road in Oakland, Summit Medical Center in Oakland, and the Esplanade House in Chico. Attraction, not promotion is our tradition, and we cannot attract if families do not know about Al-Anon.

I encourage each member of our northern California Al-Anon fellowship to take steps to provide Al-Anon information to families of parolees. If you have not obtained security clearance to visit prisons, you can volunteer to visit recovery homes. Also, your group can offer support by supplying literature to

prisons and recovery homes. To contribute literature to these places, you may contact Friends Outside, or you may contact me. I expect to have security clearance to at least visit every prison in Northern California. Most of the correctional facilities are in remote places, for example, Pelican Bay is located in the far northern region of California. Chowchilla Women's Facility has been asking for an Al-Anon meeting; we need more volunteers in order to respond to this request. I need further security clearance to conduct Al-Anon meetings in the correctional facilities. We can leave literature in the visitor centers if we cannot receive clearance to conduct meetings. I will be talking to officials at various prisons to request permission to conduct family meetings, at least.

Many parolees are being released and assigned to live in a recovery home. I encourage you to learn where recovery homes are located in your district. Then find out whether you and a few volunteers can visit a particular recovery home to conduct an Al-Anon meeting. If you want to give back what you have received from Al-Anon, consider helping out in whatever way you can. We need Institution Coordinators for the various districts. Group Representatives are encouraged to take an active role in helping to spread the message to others as indicated in our 12<sup>th</sup> step. Pray that He will give you the knowledge of His will for you and the power to carry that out. If I can visit the Elmwood Correctional Facility on Thursday evenings, sometimes by myself, to carry the message to as many as 30 - 40 women, so can you! As I write this report, I need to prepare to visit Juvenile Hall, where usually 20 – 35 young people come to

## Summer 2007

hear our message. We are not there to teach; we are there to plant the seeds.

Louise M.

### COORDINATOR NEWS

As you are all aware, from the last Intergroup Meeting this is the time of year we are in search of Coordinators and Co-coordinators to take service as of January. We do have a few people out in search of. . . . I would VERY much like to appeal to each of the present coordinators to either send a suggested successor or even ask someone yourselves. The goal is to have a list of names by the October meeting. Voting takes place in the December meeting. If you wish to place your name, the name of someone you have spoken to, or someone you would like us to speak to, about a position, on the ballot in December please let either Chris A.C. or myself know as soon as possible.

Thank you for your thoughts in this area.

Mark B.

### Upcoming Al-Anon Events

14 – 16 September 2007: **2007 Northern California World Service Area (NCWSA) Assembly**, Red Lion Hotel, Sacramento, CA. For more information, contact Louise M. at 408-266-4200, [lkmore@earthlink.net](mailto:lkmore@earthlink.net)

28 - 30 September 2007: **21<sup>st</sup> Gold Country Roundup**, Theme: **“Half measures availed us nothing.”** Amador County Fairgrounds, Plymouth, CA. For more information, go to <http://www.goldcountryroundup.com>

5 - 7 October 2007: **“Stepping Toward Recovery”** District 18 Day in Al-Anon (NCCAA with Al-Anon participation), Modesto Center Plaza, 1000 K Street at 9th Street. For more information, contact Bonnie M. at 209-996-5282, or Deed W. at 209-577-4565, or Debbie O. at 209-988-

## SCVAFG Intergroup Newsletter

0357. A flier will be posted at <http://www.ncwsa/d18>

5 – 7 October 2007: Northern California Al-Anon Family Groups presents an **Alateen Sponsors Getaway** at Westminster Woods, Occidental, CA. (For current certified Alateen sponsors.) For more information, contact the Alateen Coordinator, Chris M. at 831-685-1434

6 October 2007: **“Rebuilding Your Life with the Tools of Recovery”** District 15 Day In Al-Anon 2007, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1600 Bancroft Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577, Featured speaker: Tom W. from Oakland. For more information, contact the Chair, Carmen T. at 510-481-8840 or the Publicity Coordinator, Arlene O. at 510-719-7410.

13 October 2007: **“Recovery Gives You Wings”** District 17, 12:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Centerville Presbyterian Church, 4360 Central Avenue, Fremont, CA 94536. For more information, contact Martie at 510-585-7061.

12 – 14 October 2007: **The Spirit of San Francisco 15<sup>th</sup> Annual AA Convention with Al-Anon Participation**, Holiday Inn Golden Gateway, 1500 Van Ness (at California). Featured speakers: Art B. (Al-Anon) and Clancy (AA). For more information, go to <http://www.spirit-sf.org/convention2007.htm>

26 October 2007: **District 20 Al-Anon/Alateen Open Speakers Meeting**, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Immanuel Lutheran Church, 14103 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070. Guest Speakers: John L. (Al-Anon) and Alma R. (Al-Anon).

3 November 2007: **“Free to Be – You and Me”** -- Discovery Group’s First Annual Al-Anon Event, A Gala Speaker Meeting from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Advent Lutheran Church,

16879 Murphy Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA. Pre-registration (\$3) to Speaker Meeting, P. O. Box 570, San Martin, CA 95046. At the door: \$5 suggested donation.

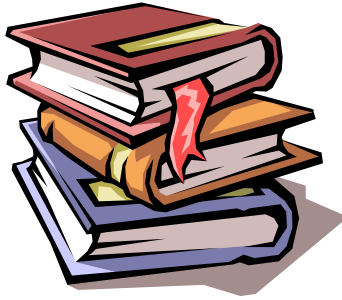
25 – 27 April 2008: **Northern California Alcoholics Anonymous Hospitals and Institutions Conference with Al-Anon Participation**, Sheraton Gateway Hotel, and 600 Airport Boulevard, Burlingame, CA. Speakers: Willie from Southern California, Cathy and Mike C. from Oregon. For more information, contact Louise M. at 408-266-4200, [lkmore@earthlink.net](mailto:lkmore@earthlink.net)

### Unity Day 2007 Milpitas Community Center Sunday, 26 August

After many months of planning, the vision of Unity Day 2007 was manifested. The AA Committee and I as the Al-Anon liaison are extremely pleased with the attendance, the program, the food, and the wonderful spirit of cooperation. A total of 562 people, including 49 Al-Anon members, registered for Unity Day 2007. This year Al-Anon had two sessions. The first session was held from 10:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and was led by Lisa M. and a group of panelists. The panelists included Dan, who spoke about Juvenile Hall, Kayla F., who spoke about Alateen, Erin E., who serves as Intergroup Facilities Coordinator, and Chris A. C. The second session was a noontime meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. that featured Linda D., who spoke about institutions work. Robin took care of the literature table in the main speakers room. Many thanks to all who spoke and to all who provided volunteer service. I am happy to announce that AA has asked us to return next year. I hope that more Al-Anon members will participate in Unity Day next year.

Louise M.,  
Al-Anon liaison

**INTERGROUP BOOKSTORE**



Located at the Campbell Community Center, the SCVAFG Bookstore has literature and directories, as well as pamphlets in English and Spanish. Volunteering for the bookstore is a unique and FLEXIBLE way to participate in Al-Anon service!

You may work as little as one shift per month. Training takes about 25-45 minutes. Call Erin E. to train: 408-859-9278.

Current store hours:

Mon.	5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Tues	4:30 PM to 7:00 PM
Wed.	9:30 AM to 11:30 AM
Thurs.	12:00 PM to 2:00 PM
Sat.	9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Note: Office is closed on holidays.

The Bookstore/Intergroup Office is located at the Campbell Community Center:

1 West Campbell Ave., Rm Q82  
Campbell, CA 95008  
408-379-9375  
(corner of Campbell Ave. and Winchester Blvd.)

**Before making a trip to the bookstore, please call to verify that it is open.**

**ALATEEN FUNDRAISER:  
Bring out your Bottles & Cans !**



Water and soda bottles, that is. Recycle for SCV Alateen Scholarships—what a great Cause!

This fundraiser is open to Districts 20, 21, and 22. Bring your plastic bottles or aluminum cans to the SCV Intergroup Office, or to your meeting's Intergroup

Representative, or call Jay R., Alateen Safety Coordinator, at 408-296-2474, or contact him at [jgvr@earthlink.net](mailto:jgvr@earthlink.net)

**Sponsors Needed**

We are looking for sponsors for:

- Friday Younger Alateen Meeting (7-12) at Willowvale Church, Meridian and Curtner, 8:15-9:30 pm.
- Sunday, Los Altos Alateens United Methodist Church 7:30 pm
- Friday Bilingual Alateen Mtg, 1621 Gold Street, Alviso, 7:00 pm.

Here are the requirements: You must be over 21 years old, have 2 years in Al-Anon, and be attending regular weekly meetings. You must be free of any felonies or child abuse charges, and you will be fingerprinted.

The following qualifications are strongly suggested for the well being of the teens and kids:

- Be willing to commit to two years, at least twice a month, one day at a time. Consistency helps the kids to feel safe enough to share honestly.
- You should not be a parent of one of the children you are sponsoring; this gets in the way of their freedom to share.

Please contact Jay R., Alateen Safety Coordinator, at 408-296-2474, or contact him at [jgvr@earthlink.net](mailto:jgvr@earthlink.net) for paperwork.

Please remember that *"Alcoholism is a family disease"* with each member of the family needing recovery from the *"ism"* not *"wasim"*. Incredible healing happens through attending meetings, reading literature, doing all the 12 steps in order, participating at all events, and having a personal sponsor.

Jay R.

**Useful Al-Anon Websites**

The Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. website can be found at: <http://www.al-anon.org>

The Al-Anon and Alateen website supported by the Northern California World Service Area (NCWSA) of AFG,

Inc., can be found at: <http://www.ncwsa.org>

The Santa Clara Valley Al-Anon Intergroup website can be found at: <http://www.ncwsa.org/scvafg>

Information about Al-Anon meetings at locations around the world can be found at: <http://www.al-anon.org/meetings/meeting.html>

Information about online Al-Anon meetings can be found at: <http://www.ola-is.org/>

Excerpts from the Al-Anon monthly magazine, "The Forum," can be found at: <http://www.al-anon.org/forum.html>

Excerpts from the Alateen magazine, "Alateen Talk," can be found at: <http://www.al-anon.org/pdf/alateentalk.pdf>

Literature can be purchased directly from Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters at: <http://www.al-anon.org/publications.html>

A subscription for "The Forum" magazine can be purchased online at: <http://www.al-anon.org/forum.html>

Assistance for professionals in the field of alcoholism can be found at: <http://www.alanon.org/professionals.html>

Information concerning Alcoholics Anonymous can be found at: <http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org>



**Note from the Editor:**

I wish to make amends to you all for the long delay in getting this Newsletter out.

Andy W.