





News-O-Gram--Summer 2012
(SIAFG) Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups
Hope and Help for Families of Alcoholics

Area Assembly & Area World Service Committee Meeting
June 9th and 10th, 2012
Memorial Medical Center
701 N 1st Street--Springfield

Saturday, June 9th--1:00PM
Area World Service Committee Meeting


Sunday, June 10th --9:00 AM
Area Assembly
 Registration begins @ 8:00 AM

 **Delegate's Report/Cindy B**
Cindy is busy at the World Service Conference and will give her report at the Assembly.

 **2012 Illinois State AFG Convention report--- Kathy H. Chair**
 Flyers/registration forms are available for the convention to be held Sept 28-30 at the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Normal, IL. The next CPC will meet May 14, 2012 at 5:30pm at the Marriott in Normal.




Area Chairperson/Alberta Woodside
Our sympathy goes out to Alberta and her family. Her sister passed recently after an accident.


 **Ways and Means Coordinator/ Kathy H & Ruthanne A**
Ways and Means:

All totes have been sold. A big 'thank you' to the Northern Area for buying all the remaining totes. Ruthanne and I are exploring ideas for the next fundraiser. We are interested in items that we don't have to order a large amt. in

order to get the cheapest price. We do have medallions for sale. The next fund raiser at Area Assembly in June will be a bake sale.

 **Group Records Coordinator/Mary S**
 SIAFG (Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups) adopted the policy that ALL group record changes will go through the Southern Illinois Area and NOT WSO. The SIAFG Group Records Secretary has access to WSO records and can change all meeting, GR and CMA (Current Mailing Address) information. He/She can also register new meetings and mark a meeting as inactive. To facilitate this process please use the E-mail address siafggrprec@gmail.com. This address will remain the same as new people fill this position. Use this e-mail to ask for my address for mailing. Please IGNORE directions from WSO to send them this information. Some areas are still using WSO. Meeting registration forms are on the Al-Anon website. www.al-anon.alateen.org Only print the first page. The second page is an envelope for WSO.

Thank you to all who have helped update the records.

 **Treasurer / Rowena A**
 Thank you again for all the groups who have been faithful in giving to SIAFG. We need to stay committed to making our Area as fluent as possible. We are working at developing a much needed reserve fund. I will share more about that as we get the details nailed down. Thank you again.

First Term Giving 2012

DISTRICT	GROUP NAME
11	Mt Zion Born Free
11	Sunday Night Steppers
11	Beginners Al-anon
12	Blues Buster AFG
12	Savoy Parents of Alcoholics
14	Powerless Rangers
17	Carbondale Weds. Noon Group
18	Monday Night Serenity Group
18	Hopeful Serenity Seekers
18	Alton Wednesday Night Sunshine Group
18	New Life Al-Anon Granite City
18	Bethalto Wed. Morning
18	Highland AFG
18	Monday Morning open Door
19	Wednesday Butterfly Al-Anon
19	H.O.W. Al-Anon
10A	Wednesday Morning Glories
10A	A New Beginning AFG
10A	Monday Morning Al-Anon Group
10B	District 10B
10B	Tuesday Fellowship
10B	Monday am AFG



DISTRICT REPORTS



District 14 / Lyri M

It's time for our annual recertification of Alateen Sponsors. Your District Representatives were given a list of active Sponsors and revised paperwork to be filled out, signed by the District Representative, then returned to me no later than **June 10th**.

At our last Area Assembly, our Group Representatives voted to make some changes to the "Alateen Sponsor Candidate Profile" form, which is filled out by both prospective and recertifying Alateen Sponsors. The form now includes full legal name and date of birth. This is to make it easier and more accurate to perform the required background check at the Area level. All information on these forms is kept confidential and inactive forms are shredded after three years.

Thank you to all the Alateen Sponsors in our area who provide such a vital service to the young people affected by the devastating disease of alcoholism. Anyone interested in becoming an Alateen Sponsor can contact their District Representative, myslef, or our Alateen Coordinator, Dottie Y.



District 10B / Kathy H. DR

Serenity Day was held 2/25/12. It was a fun day.

Our next district mtg. is April 17 at 5:30pm at our new location Advocate Bromenn Medical Bldg. Suite 3300 in Normal, IL.



District 18 / MaryBeth S

Hi everyone in Southern Illinois AFGs. Good things keep coming from our World Service Office; they amaze me at their dedication to our groups. We now have those E-Communities that our Delegate has been telling us about.

District Representatives can exchange info via the e-communities, so if group(s) has questions, please let me know and if it's not in our Service Manual or any past World Service Conference Summaries, I'll be more than happy to get you the answers you need. If you ever have any situation(s) within your group(s), I'll do all I can to help you. Questions don't just have to be from Group Representatives, anyone in the group(s) may contact me if you (they) have questions.

District #18 held our 60th Birthday Party late, which put our Fall Festival Late and it became the "Holiday Festival", we had a profit of approx \$160.00. That money is being put to use by providing local libraries within our District of Al-Anon Books. March 20th, 2012 was the Collinsville Middle School's health Fair and all went well. My sincere thanks go to Joyce N., Wilma, Sandy, Bryan, Monica, and Jackie. Thanks also go to Peg B. for getting me much of the materials for the 100 packets that were made up for just the middle school staff. I'm going to order more info and get it to other principals, school nurses, and counselors for the rest of Unit #10s Schools. The position of Literature for district will be open in September. Talk to members in your group to see if anyone is interested. Joyce's last order will be sent in August

WE ARE IN NEED OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE WILLING TO SERVE AS ALATEEN SPONSORS. JUST GO TO THE WSO WEBSITE, DOWNLOAD THE FORMS, FILL THEM OUT AND PROVIDE THEM TO YOUR DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE BEFORE JUNE 1ST

DISTRICT #18 WILL BE HAVING OUR 61ST BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION ON May 20th, 2012 at the First Christian Church, 310 S. Main St., Edwardsville, IL. Flier to be e-mailed to all groups as well as a list of items still needed and area where help is needed. WE ARE ALSO HAVING A WORKSHOP ON SPONSORSHIP AND AN AL-ANON SPEAKER SPEAKING ON THE HISTORY OF AL-ANON.

**COMING SOON
TO AN AL-ANON LOCATION NEAR YOU !!!!!**

**Put a little "Spring"
in your STEPS**

**April 21, 2012
1-4 PM
120 N 3rd
Belleville, IL**

Bloom in Normal

2012 Illinois State AFG Convention

September 28th - 30th, 2012

Marriott Hotel & Convention Center
201 Broadway Street Normal, IL 61761



Reserve your room by calling 1-888-236-2427

- * Must mention "Illinois State AFG Convention" in order to receive the discounted rate
- * \$104 plus tax per room, up to 4 people per room
- * Adjacent parking \$6 per day, overnight guests free
- * Rooms must be reserved by September 7, 2012

Registration form and check must be mailed by August 24, 2012. See fees listed below.

All Alateens will provide a copy of a signed, notarized parental permission/medical care form as part of their registration process. Alateens must bring the original signed, notarized forms to the convention.

For more information contact:

- o Kathy H. at 309-828-9682
- o Shaun H. at 309-726-1381

No refunds after 9/10/12. Refund request must be submitted by mail to:
2012 IL State AFG Convention, PO Box 737, Normal, IL 61761

Friday:

- * 4 pm: Registration Begins
- * 7 pm: Al-Anon speaker - Shaun H, Hudson, IL
AA speaker -

Saturday:

- * 1 pm: AA speaker - Mike F., Bloomington, IL
- * 3pm: Alateen speaker -
- * 6:30 pm: Banquet Buffet
- * 8 pm: Al-Anon speaker - Larcine G.
Los Angeles, CA
Alateen speaker -

Sunday:

- * 10 am: Al-Anon speaker - Liz M.
Arlington Heights, IL

Workshops * Breakout Meetings
Hospitality Room * AA Participation
Basket Raffle * Quilt Raffle

Name: _____ \$ _____ Al-Anon & AA Registration.....\$25.00
Address: _____ \$ _____ Walk-in (after September 10 deadline)....\$30.00
Phone: _____ \$ _____ Alateen.....\$10.00
Email: _____ \$ _____ Saturday Night Banquet.....\$35.00
Special Requests: _____ \$ _____ Total Enclosed - Make checks payable to:
2012 IL State AFG Convention

Al-Anon _____ AA _____ Alateen _____

I'd love to volunteer (we will give you a call)

Mail form to: 2012 IL State AFG Convention
PO Box 737, Normal, IL 61761

From your Delegate:

Hi everyone from Stamford, CT. I'm so fortunate that the weather was very cooperative and there were no incidents with my flight, landing at LaGuardia Airport or the shuttle ride to the hotel. I was right where I was supposed to be and right on time. I can't even begin to tell you how awesome it is to be with my fellow delegates from the U.S. and Canada, the executive committee, the trustees and the WSO staff. There are about 100 of us total in attendance, and of the 67 delegates, 22 (including me) are panel 51. Our panel slogan is, "Having Fun, Getting it Done!" And oh my, oh my, I believe we've already been having fun while getting it done – even before this Conference began.

I'll have lots of pictures to share expressing all aspects of the Conference and what goes on. Hopefully I can deliver a message of experience, strength and hope, and portray how service to the AI-Anon program is so vital to growth for our Groups, Districts, Area, and of course, personal growth for all individual members.

As usual the love tokens are incredible. Such imagination! I'm looking forward to sharing them with you and letting you all chose your favorite ones.

One of the requirements for all delegates, every year, is to take our Area successes and concerns and summarize into a short 1 minute presentation. On Sunday, the day before the opening session, I was happy to share our Illinois South Area Highlights. I chose one success and one concern:

Success: At our Area Assembly meeting [these are 3 times a year, on a Sunday from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm] we changed the format of the agenda to include a workshop about an hour to an hour and a half into the meeting. Our alternate Delegate sets the workshop and can either host it herself or have a volunteer host a workshop. The workshops have been on a variety of topics, such as healthy meetings, sponsorship, service opportunities at all levels, etc. The workshops include breakout sessions, open discussions, full or partial audience participation, and a simple survey form at the end. We keep the workshop to about 45 minutes to an hour maximum which keeps boredom to a minimum. We started having workshops about a year ago, and we're having great success. Attendance at the Area Assembly meetings has actually increased and the members look forward to the next one.

Concern/Challenge: Our Southern Illinois Area is struggling with having a successful web site. It was a great "idea" but turned out to be too much for the person who started it. We rotate the service position (webmaster coordinator), but we can't seem to keep anyone in that position long enough to successfully update and maintain our website. We're currently looking at a few options. We can either continue to struggle and try different people in that position until something 'clicks'; close it down and be done with it; have it route to Northern Illinois Area website and they can post items on their site that would pertain to Southern Illinois; or we can combine the North and South and have just one State of Illinois website. We've got a couple of individuals who are working with Northern Illinois and they are currently brainstorming for ideas.

Financial statements, budgets, annual reports, etc. are mostly boring, but knowing where your dollars go, understanding the decisions, and seeing the actions and results are worth it. I'll have a summary in laymen's terms so you all can easily see what the WSO is doing with our donations and what it takes to run the business of AI-Anon at AI-Anon Family Groups Headquarters, Inc.

I have the privilege of being a member of a Thought Force and am already learning so much more about the KBDM process. Amazing how a "doer" (like me) has to take a backseat and just be a "thinker" while participating on the Thought Force. I'm sworn to secrecy about the details of the charge, but I can share with you the KBDM process which I believe is the way of our future. I'll share about this at our Area Assembly in June.

I was also asked by the WSC to take roll on the bus for our visit to Stepping Stones. Like I'm going to leave someone behind; if anyone stays behind, it would have been me! Oh the visit -what an absolute awesome experience. Words cannot express the emotions, the love, and the gratification that Lois & Bill's journey has led this program to where it is today. They say pictures are worth 1000 words, but the pictures just simply cannot say enough.

So much to share! See you in June!

LIS,
Cathy Blakey

CORRECTION: The next planning committee meeting for the 2012 Illinois State AFG Convention will be at the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Normal IL on May 17th (not the 14th)

Let Your Voice Be Heard!



Annual Delegate's Report to the Area Assembly

An Interactive Workshop
Open to All Al-Anon members

WHEN: ~10am, Sunday, June 10th, 2012

WHERE: *Memorial Medical Center*
701 North 1st St., Springfield, IL

Workshop is FREE with \$3 Assembly Registration!

Be in the Know! Get Connected!

Let Your Voice Be Heard!