



Southern Illinois Al-Anon Family Groups
News-O-Gram
Winter/Spring 2020

Area Assembly (SIAFG) Meeting

Saturday, March 7, 2020 – **9:00am**

Registration at 8:30am

Area World Service Committee (SIAWSC) Meeting

Saturday, March 7, 2020 – **After completion of Area Assembly meeting**

Both meetings are held at:

Memorial Medical Center
Room D229
701 North First Street
Springfield, IL 62781

Directions to meeting rooms

Park in Doctor's lot (no parking in the ER/OB GYN spots) other spaces are okay. Take the elevators on the north side to first floor. Get off and walk through walkway into hospital. As you are coming in will see the Garden elevators. Take Garden elevator up to 2nd floor. Get off, turn right and go into the north D section which is SIU offices. Rooms D229 on the right.

OFFICER, COORDINATOR, DISTRICT

Most current (11/18/2019) update of the SIAWSC Members (2019-2020) list is at end of this News-O-Gram. Following find the reports that were submitted for publication in this *News-O-Gram*. Reports given at November 2, 2019 Area Assembly can be found in the minutes from that meeting.

OFFICER REPORTS

Chairperson (Interim) – Cathy B.

From your interim Chairperson:

Important Announcement!!

Our SIAFG *still* has an officer position open, which needs to be filled ASAP. Please search your hearts, talk to your fellow Al-Anon members, your district representative, your past district representative, your service sponsor, your past delegates. We need to fill this position for the 3-year (Jan. 2020-Dec. 2022) term it requires.

I challenge you to take the leap and try a new service role. I can guarantee this opportunity will strengthen your program, as well as enhance your sense of fellowship, willingness, patience, and compassion. Service is the third legacy of our program, and without it, our program will weaken and eventually pass. PLEASE don't let this happen!! There are many who have gone before and will be available to mentor and offer guidance. I promise you cannot fail, but rather you will be growing stronger in your program and your relationship with your higher power.

I've captured the position description below: Please read it, and think about the opportunity before you.

Chairperson – Elected position, and should have leadership and organizational abilities, serving rather than dictating. This person also should be either a current DR, or past DR. He/she must NOT also be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). It is essential to be able to plan an agenda, and conduct meetings in an orderly manner. Communication and cooperation with others is the key to success. The Chairperson shall conduct all SIAWSC and Area Assembly meetings, allow the Delegate to present his/her report of the WSC proceedings and decisions, and ask the Recording Secretary to send meeting notices. He/she shall conduct an annual Assembly inventory [should be done at least once every three years]. The Chairperson will call for vote, the election of officers at the election meeting [see Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, pages 150-151, 'At the Assembly Level' – The Election Assembly]. The Chairperson shall appoint all coordinators, and appoint another DR to fill the office temporarily if any officer other than the Delegate resigns before the end of his/her term. He/she may also call for an emergency meeting to discuss urgent Area matters if necessary. The Chairperson shall attend the WSC only when the Delegate and the Alternate Delegate are not available to attend. The Chairperson must sign the contract for the Illinois State Al-Anon AFG Convention when being held in Southern Illinois Area. And, the Chairperson shall bring to, and display at all meetings the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and 12 Concepts (banners).

Love in service,

Cathy B.
Interim Chairperson

Treasurer – Carol W.

**Southern Illinois Area Treasurer's Report
January 2020**

Hello, I hope everyone had wonderful holidays and looking forward to a new year and decade. The table below shows district and group donations from September–December 2019. When sending a donation, please use the contribution form that I return with your donation receipt. The donation form is also available on SIAFG website and is listed below, after the contribution table. In order to keep complete records, I need to know **Group Name, District Number, and WSO ID number**. In addition, it helps if you print the name and address of the person sending the donation, because I cannot always read the signatures. The below donations were given to Area's general fund.

On behalf of our Area Assembly, I thank you for your contributions. It is because of your support we can continue to carry the message to others. I look forward to seeing all of you at the next Area Assembly in March.

Yours in Recovery,



Carol W., Area Treasurer

District or Group Name	District Number	Group Number	District or Group Name	District Number	Group Number
Alton Mon. E. 12th Street	18	3451	Monday Hilltop AFG	20	4020
Beginners AFG	11	3703	Monday Morning AFG	20	24161
CMA Friday Morning AFG	20	30790	Rise & Shine AFG	12	30669824
CMA Hope AFG	20	35525	Saturday Morning Serenity Seeker	10	25455
Edwardsville Fundamentals of Recovery	18	30584718	Stepping Stones AFG	17	30673249
Effingham Al-Anon Family Group	13	3741	Sunday Night Steppers	11	40272
Friday Night Happy Hour	10	61535	The Monday Night Serenity Group	18	26501
H.O.W. Al-Anon Family Group	19	004104	Thursday Morning Meeting	12	30512054
Happiness Is	19	4811	Thursday Night Group	18	30528380
Hopeful Serenity Seekers Adult Children AFG	18	34856	Tuesday Night Serenity Seekers	11	3701
Keep It Simple	19	48115	Wednesday Morning Glories	20	4022
Monday AM	10	3493	Your Cause		

Treasurer (cont)

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS AREA CONTRIBUTION FORM

PLEASE PRINT

Group Name _____

Group ID# _____

Contact Person _____

District _____

Street Address _____

Amount _____

City and State _____

Check # _____

Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

Send to: Carol Wielgus

Please Make Check or

1000 Bethel Mine Road

Money Order to:

Caseyville, IL 62232

SIAFG

(618) 304-4672

COORDINATOR REPORTS

Alateen Coordinator – Becky R.

Alateen Coordinator Report:

This past August I was very excited to get 4 new AMIAS (Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service) certified and trained in District 10, Bloomington, IL. We now have 6 AMIAS trained and helping to keep the Bloomington Alateen group up and running!

In other exciting news, I was pleased to connect with and train District 15 in Quincy Alateen group in order to get them up and running. This past September 21 I attended their Gratitude Workshop in Quincy and presented a short intro to Alateen. Then after the morning workshop was done the certified AMIAS stayed and we had our Alateen AMIAS (Alanon Members Involved in Alateen Service) training. We had 5 AMIAS and one interested Alanon member in the training. An excellent discussion commenced and they are very enthusiastic to get Alateen up and running in the Quincy area. We finished with the group working and scheduling to organize their first meeting. It's so rewarding to see interest in Alateen springing up in districts!!!

I'm currently reaching out to Alateen District Coordinators to arrange training or information sessions. I am happy to come to any district and give a presentation to attract new AMIAS to Alateen or implement AMIAS training. All I need is a place and promotion, I bring the materials and training to you. Just contact me or send me some dates and I can work my schedule to see what we might figure out. Thanks!!

Becky Ropp
Alateen Coordinator
Cell: 217-369-8164
rropp@growmark.com

Archives Coordinator – Fern T.

It is important to share various Archive Material to the Area Assembly. She read The Resolution of Gratitude which was presented to AA on the occasion of Al-Anon's 50th Anniversary, April 28, 2001. She also displayed the 3-Ring Binder, "Al-Anon's Hope Begins With Me, Happy 50th Birthday!" 41st World Service Conference, April 23-27, 2001, Ramada Plaza Resort Hotel, Virginia Beach, VA (Placed in Archives from Debbie Helm, World Service Delegate, Panel 39, Area 16, NC Region.)

A folder of the Master Index showing all of archive material that is filed was displayed. Also, each box has an individual folder showing an index of material filed in that is filed in that particular box. The folder for Box 6 was shown as a sample.

Would appreciate any group, who hasn't written a Group History, please try to complete one. If you need a Group History Checklist, which is a helpful outline to use, please call me at 618-571-1772 or if you have any questions, I'll help you in any way I can.

Thank you very much for all of your help.
Fern Turpin
Southern Illinois Area Archivist
618-571-1772

Convention Coordinator – Cathy B.

2020 IL State AFG Convention Update: Our state convention, hosted by SIAFG, will be on Friday, October 16 – Sunday, October 18, 2020 at the Crown Plaza Hotel, 3000 S. Dirksen Pkwy, Springfield, IL 62703. Contract is signed, sealed & delivered! Janese H. and Debbie M. are co-chairs for the convention, and they have been busy filling all of the committee chair positions. They are on a roll and lining up speakers, and are asking WSO for someone to come and speak on the Concepts of Service on Saturday. Theme of the convention is: Willingness: Key to 2020 Vision. The Alateen program will only be one-day, Saturday (only). Hospitality room will be open all weekend long. The committee recently met on Sunday, January 26, 2020. They are still looking for a Quilt Chairperson, and if this position isn't filled soon, then the committee will need to look at other fundraising options. Also, looking for a Registration co-chair to work with Darlene, a Volunteer Chair, and also Fundraising Chair (optional). They will not have 'Save the Date' Flyers to distribute, but will have convention announcement flyers available within the near future. It will be posted on the website, so watch for details on the convention website: <https://ilstateafgconv.org/>. Susan B. and Kyra N. are still working on updating the event registration tab and hope to make it easier to pay for registration & banquet; and possibly your hotel reservation online. More details will be available so stay tuned! Next planning meetings are set for the last Sunday of each month at 4:00 pm, in Conference Room B149 at Memorial Medical in Springfield. Anyone is welcome to attend. Always looking for volunteers, so if you're interested in helping, or if you have questions or ideas, please come and join the discussions. Please feel free to contact Janese or Debbie by email. Janese email: jahenson92@att.net or Debbie email: debbiemccoy67@comcast.net

News-O-Gram Coordinator – Jan T.

Thanks to all who sent information for inclusion in this Winter/Spring 2020 *News-O-Gram*.

SIAFG needs a new *News-O-Gram* editor.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your *News-O-Gram* editor the past few years. This will be my last publication. If needed, I will be available to mentor our new editor.

What does the *News-O-Gram* (Newsletter) Editor Do??? –

Plays an important role in putting together a key source of information, unity, and harmony for a District, Area, Group, and all members of SIAFG. The specific content criteria is determined by a group conscience of the service arm, which can also help clarify specific purposes such as encourage attendance at service events, communicating the news, and attract AI-Anon members into service. You will develop a production timeline and publication deadline and ask for any reports, flyers, and articles, to be submitted within the timeline. Be creative and generate enthusiasm and sustain interest in the contents by giving the newsletter an attractive, professional design, using an easy to read font and variety of graphics. You will also issue (or cause to be issued) the *News-O-Gram* six weeks prior to SIAFG Assembly meetings.

Please think about serving the Area by becoming our *News-O-Gram* editor. If you are interested please let Interim Chairperson (Cathy Blakey) know.

Jan Tucker,
SIAFG Past Delegate – janimtucker@gmail.com - 309-208-5897

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 12 – Cathy B. (DR)

The district held their last meeting on Saturday, September 14, 2019. There were 13 members in attendance, of which only 5 GR's from 16 active groups. So, still struggling to get GR's to attend district meetings. Good news is we do have a full slate of officers & coordinators, and the district will continue to move forward to rebuild and become more active at Area.

We are still working on contacting each of the groups to obtain updated contact information and getting closer to having each group properly identified. Most are complete, and hoping to finish by year end. The goal is to complete the list, and find better ways to engage all GR's in all district matters.

We are also trying to establish the channels of communication between members/groups/district/area. We're looking at ways to stream-line information, while protecting anonymity, yet provide open lines of communication for sharing group events, concerns, and other district matters.

Public Outreach will be ramping up and our coordinator is looking at several opportunities to help make our district more visible to those looking for help. She is very motivated and has great ideas. Now it's just a matter of getting the GR's to our district meetings to help put these ideas into motion.

Our district has agreed to start meeting every two months (for now) in order to be more productive with projects. Having only three meetings a year wasn't going to accomplish much. We also agreed to continue rotating the location of our district meetings and meet at the various group locations, either before or after their regular Al-Anon meeting. Now we just need to increase attendance.

The next district meeting will be Thursday, November 14, 2019 at 6:30 pm in Champaign.

District 14 – Katie G. (DR)

We have been doing more with Public Outreach.

- We have a new Coordinator for our Gateway Rehabilitation Center presentations.
- The AIS in St. Louis is directing opportunities on Illinois side of the river to our district.
- This included having an information table at a workshop on mental health at the Shrine. We had 8 members in shifts at the event August 23rd.
- The GR's will be voting on a new Public Outreach Coordinator at our meeting November 17th.

We had a district fellowship picnic in September with 24 adults and 9 kids participating. It was strictly fellowship with burgers and dogs provided, members bringing sides. We had an attendance raffle, games and karaoke.

Our Sunday morning meeting decided to move locations from the 623 Club in Belleville to St. Elizabeth's Hospital in O'Fallon, IL to allow for handicap access.

One other group is considering moving for the same reason.

Submitted by Katie G. DR

District 18 – JoEllyn P. (DR)

- District 18 donated two scholarships to 2 Al-Anon members to attend the Illinois State Convention in Schaumburg. One member who attended said she enjoyed it and plans to go to the next Southern Area Convention in 2020. The other member volunteered for service work while at the convention, which he stated helped his growth in Al-Anon and he encouraged others to do the same when attending conventions.
- Copies of “Help and Hope” Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism were provided to group representatives to take back to their groups for outreach.
- We have a new AMIAS in our district.
- The district had a Picnic, Potluck, & Speaker Meeting on September 28th attended by Al-Anon, Alateen and AA members. In addition to the Al-Anon speaker an Alateen member shared. There were yard games and there are preliminary plans for the event for next year.
- Public outreach provided was at Community Engagement Network, Partners for a Drug Free Community, Rockin for Recovery Event, and Senior Services Plus.

District 20 – Mary P. (DR)

District 20 has filled all officer positions and most of the coordinator positions for 2020. The Public Relations Coordinator has a rigorous plan set up to spread the word of Al-Anon. The District Rep has started her monthly newsletters. District 20 is excited about the prospects in this new year.

2020 SIAFG Meetings: March 7th, July 11th, and November 7th at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield.

Upcoming Events –

2020 Illinois State AFG Convention

October 16-18, 2020

Crown Plaza Hotel; 3000 S, Dirksen Pkwy; Springfield, IL 62703

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OPEN FOR 2020

Public Outreach Coordinator

OPEN FOR 2020

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Open spot

District Representatives**District 10-District Rep.**

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District 12-District Rep.

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District 20-District Rep.

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Past Delegates (*deceased)

Marty Swisher, Panel 9
(1969-1971)

*MaryBeth Huebner, Panel 12
(1972-1974)

*Martin Dotson

Marian Evansco (Becker),
Panel 15 (1975-1977)
80 Echo Drive
Collinsville, IL 62234

Edna Crain, Panel 18 (1978-1980)

Marian Barker, Panel 21
(1981-1983)

*Betty French, Panel 24
(1984-1986)

Paralea Russell, Panel 27
(1987-1989)
248 Hickory
Edwardsville, IL 62024
618-656-1636
paralea@sbcglobal.net

Jan Tucker, Panel 30 (1990-1992)
105 Susan Ct.
East Peoria, IL 61611
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janimtucker@gmail.com

*Norma Clayton, Panel 33
(1993-1995)

Juanita Chaney, Panel 36
(1996-1998)
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Decatur, IL 62521
217-865-2174

Debbie Helm, Panel 39
(1999-2001)
1344 N. Gulick Ave.
Decatur, IL 62526
217-864-3713

*Pat Rettig, Panel 42 (2002-2004)

*Betsy Crang, Panel 45
(2005-2007)

*Marcy Myers, Panel 48
(2008-2010)

Cathy Blakey, Panel 51
(2011-2013)
P.O. Box 1038
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cathy.blakey@yahoo.com

Lyri Merrill, Panel 54 (2014-2016)
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Tim Elliott, Panel 55 (2016-2019)
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