



ALAGRAM ~ Spring 2015

Your Area Assembly Newsletter

New Jersey Assembly Meeting Saturday, June 6, 2015

10 AM to 3 PM

Middlesex County Fire Academy

1001 Fire Academy Drive

Sayreville, NJ 08872

All Group Representatives (GRs), District Representatives (DRs), Officers, Coordinators and Service Arms Liaisons are asked to please attend and all Al-Anon members are welcome.

Buffet at 9:30 by District #27-
Atlantic Co. /Cape May Co.

New Group Reps (GRs) Meet at 9: AM
All Members Please Bring Your Own
Brown Bag Lunch

TO STAY INFORMED, PLEASE READ OUR
ALAGRAM AT YOUR GROUP'S WEEKLY
MEETING OR BUSINESS MEETING. YOU
MAY ALSO VIEW IT AT OUR WEBSITE:
www.nj-al-anon.org

March Assembly Highlights

Chairperson: Paul G. reported the new Policy Handbook is a draft. He's been holding conference calls. He asked "how are we doing"?

Delegate: Rich M. thanked the Group Representatives (GRs) and District Representatives (DRs) for their service. The theme for this year's World Service Conference (WSC) is *Living Our Spiritual Principles: Expanding Our Vision*.

Alternate Delegate: Ann Z. reported there were only 150 Assembly Calendars printed for 2015 because calendar sales were down the last few years. She's continually trying to increase subscriptions to *The Forum*.

Treasurer: Angela V.

Assembly's Balance Sheet is as follows:

Open Checkbook Balance 1-1-15 \$6,686.42

Income	2,205.99
Expenses	-2,334.92
End Check Balance 2-26-15	\$6,557.49

Open Savings Balance 1-1-15	\$16,573.58
Interest Earned	.70
End Savings Balance 2-26-15	\$16,574.28

TOTAL \$23,131.77

Recording Secretary: Katie O. The minutes from the November Assembly were posted to the Al-Anon World Service Committee (AWSC) website in January. Once approved by members at Assembly, the minutes are posted to Assembly's website: nj-al-anon.org. To view go to Assembly's website > About Us Tab/Page > scroll down page to Minutes of 2014 Assembly Meetings > click link by date for Assembly minutes you want to view.

Corresponding Secretary: Millie H. reported World Service Office (WSO) has six NJ groups on the "No Mail Status" list and seven NJ groups that are on the "Bounced E-Mail Status" list. Groups can use the Al-Anon Registration/Group Records Change Form, WSO Form GR-1 to register. Form GR-1 requests a group email address. WSO is asking all meeting groups to have an email address. A complete list of all NJ meeting changes will be available at the June Assembly.

THOUGHT FORCE USING TECHNOLOGY: Kalpana K. did the presentation. A discussion followed debating anonymity and some of the social media sites e.g. YouTube and Facebook.

COORDINATORS REPORTS

Alagram: Katie O. asked and an overwhelming number of members responded that their group received the hard copy of the winter edition of the *Alagram*. It is posted to Assembly's website, nj-al-anon.org, where all members, potential members and the public have access.

Alateen: Sandy B. reported there was an Al-Anon Member Involved In Alateen Service (AMIAS) training in Beachwood, NJ. The Alateen Area Processing Person is a big help. Comment: Getting the kids to come to an Alateen meetings is challenging because they have so many competing activities.

Archives: Christina M. brought the displays to Assembly. One goal is to have the displays going around the State of New Jersey.

Literature: Susan H.'s report was posted to the AWSC website.

Public Outreach: Karen T. reported there are 45 Al-Anon posters in 26 train stations. Smaller versions of the Al-Anon train posters are available for groups to purchase for either \$1 or \$2. The smaller posters can be hung on community bulletin boards at libraries, shopping centers, schools, churches etc. The local group's meeting information can be added to the bottom of the smaller posters. Public Outreach has been contacted numerous times and asked to provide a member to speak about Al-Anon.

Website: Kalpana K. reported there is a goal to make Assembly's website (nj-al-anon.org) responsive on mobile devices. Members can send a flyer/announcement for posting to Assembly's website via www.nj-al-anon.org/contact-us/.

DISTRICT REPORTS

District #2 Morris County: Pam C. reported they have gone to the heads of the student counseling centers at the colleges in District #2 to inform them about Al-Anon.

District #4 Passaic County/North Morris: Robin C. reported there is an effort to combine District #4 and District #6 Bergen County South. District #4 is in the process of contacting 800 organizations and providing them with Al-Anon information. They've had an overwhelming positive response back.

SERVICE ARMS LIAISONS REPORTS

Jal-Con: Leslie H. reported this year's convention theme is *40 Years of Love*. The convention is July 24th—26th at the Sheraton Edison Hotel. The early bird pricing deadline is June 15th. Jal-Con is asking NJ group meetings to donate a gift basket for the raffle.

North Jersey Information Services (NJIS): Mike G. reported the Informational Service Representatives (ISRs) meeting was moved up a day because of venue availability.

South Jersey Informational Services (SJIS): Marie B. reported donations and literature sales have been good. SJIS is in the process of upgrading its computer, hardware and software. The Fall Luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, September 26th. There is a desperate need for a member to work the literature table.

Spanish Intergroup (SIG): Mirta S. reported the new email address is:

intergroupolatinonj@gmail.com. SIG hosted the first international convention for Spanish speaking members called First Iberoamericana Convention. Members from many states and South American countries attended. The convention was translated into English, Portuguese and French.

DISCUSSION AREA HIGHLIGHTS:

Rich M. will be describing at the *2015 World Service Conference* (WSC) the following activities from New Jersey: the NJ Transit Train Poster Project, Liability Insurance to cover all meetings held in NJ, Revision of the NJ Assembly Policy Manual, the various NJ Assembly Thought Forces and Task Forces, the 40th Anniversary of Jal-Con, the first Latino Al-Anon/Alateen Convention and the Picnic.

TASK FORCE USING "WHEN I GOT BUSY I GOT BETTER":

Paul G. led the discussion for Sue H. The goal of the task force is to encourage members to do service. A guideline entitled *Carrying the Message* was put together for groups to use as a six meeting series. The meetings implement the principles from *When I Got Busy I Got Better* and other Conference Approved Literature (CAL).

OLD BUSINESS:

Policy Manual Revision: Rich M. stated the old Policy Manual is still on Assembly's website and so is the new Policy Manual. Comment: The two policy manuals are on the website in order to allow members to compare the two and make comments.

Election Clarity: Paul G. will hold an informative discussion to define the elections.

NEW BUSINESS

Minutes of Assembly November 7, 2015:

Approved. Will be posted to Assembly's website.

Assembly Inventory: Paul G. analyzed the members' responses from the Inventory (questionnaire) he had given to them at the November Assembly. There were 48 submitted responses.

Picnic: District #16 *Monmouth County Northwest* is planning to host the picnic on August 16th.

Ask It Basket: Question #1: Is there a list of online discussion meetings? Answer: Go to WSO's website www.al-anon.org > Find an Electronic Meeting.

Katie O., Editor *Alagram*

ATTENTION: LOCAL GROUP MEETINGS YOUR RESPONSE IS URGENTLY NEEDED

Area Assembly is gathering information regarding liability insurance needs and requirements at the group level. It is important for as many Al-Anon Groups as possible to respond, regardless of whether the insurance issue has directly affected their Group. Specifically we would like to know the following:

1. Group meeting location and time and contact information.
2. Has your group been asked to provide proof of liability insurance? (If yes continue.)
3. When asked to provide proof of liability insurance for a meeting

location what communication if any followed and was it helpful?

4. Has a Group obtained its own liability insurance policy?
5. Is a Group using an insurance policy not its own and the Group does not directly maintain the policy?
6. Did the inability to provide proof of liability insurance cause a meeting to change location?
7. How did moving because of an inability to provide proof of liability insurance affect the meeting, both short term and long term?
8. Did a meeting have to close because it could not provide proof of liability insurance and could not find any available locations?

Contact: Paul G.
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