



# ALAGRAM ~ Spring 2017

NJ Area Assembly Newsletter

**New Jersey Assembly Meeting Saturday, June 3, 2017**

New Group Representatives Meet at 9 AM

Morning Refreshments & Fellowship 9:30 AM

Assembly Meeting - 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.*

**Morning Refreshments Provided by District #19**  
*Monmouth Southwest*

**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](http://www.nj-al-anon.org)

## **Help Wanted**

The NJ Area Assembly is looking for Al-Anon members who want to be connected with people who have experienced recovery at another level. We are searching for members who want to continue to build self-confidence, self-esteem, and trust and gain a greater understanding of how to apply Al-Anon's spiritual principles. Are you this member? Are you ready to experience *growth and recovery* through *service*? Please consider stepping up for one of our vacant officer positions:

### **Recording Secretary**

The Recording Secretary is responsible for taking the minutes at the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) and Assembly Meetings, transcribing them and then submitting them for approval to AWSC and Assembly. Term of service ends 12/31/18.

### **Corresponding Secretary**

The Corresponding Secretary is the Groups Records Coordinator and is the link between the World Service

Office and the NJ Assembly. This position comes with a computer, a printer, and an extremely detailed manual. The previous Corresponding Secretaries will help with any questions. The Corresponding Secretary has access to update WSO's Group Records and shares information on New, Inactive and Changes in Group information with NJAIS, SJIS, Spanish Intergroup and Assembly's webmaster. The Assembly database is in Access, but is very user friendly. Term of service ends 12/31/17.

## *Highlights from the March Assembly*

**Chairperson:** Rich M. indicated that the theme for the March 4, 2017 meeting is **Warranty 2: "That no conference member shall be placed in unqualified authority over other members."** Rich also announced that the Recording Secretary had to step down and asked if anyone present would step up to the position. Carol Ann from Freehold agreed to take the minutes for the March 2017 Assembly. Rich welcomed Audrey G. as the new treasurer and indicated that she has been added to the Wells Fargo Bank accounts.

**Delegate:** Ann Z. noted that the 2017 World Service Conference (WSC) would be held April 24 through April 28<sup>th</sup> in Virginia Beach, VA. Ann heard comments from members regarding the prayer that is included in the Just for Today Wallet Card (M-10) and Bookmark (M-12) as well as in How Al-Anon Works for Families and Friends of Alcoholics (B-22, B-23). Ann will provide feedback to the WSC based on the comments from members at the March Assembly meeting.

**Alternate Delegate:** Donna S.-The Ask-It Basket and Seventh Tradition basket were passed around. Paid Forum subscriptions for New Jersey have increased.

Please continue to encourage your groups and members to subscribe to the Forum. The last of the 2017 calendars were sold at the AWSC meeting in February.

**Recording Secretary:** Minutes from the November 2016 Assembly were read by members during the break and approved. Carol Ann from Freehold agreed to take the minutes for the March meeting as the Recording Secretary position remains unfilled.

**Corresponding Secretary/Group Records Coordinator:** Millie H. continues to act as a Corresponding Secretary/Groups Records Coordinator as this position has not been filled. Millie provided a list of groups that are in No Mail Status and those groups with Bounced e-mail addresses. Groups are encouraged to create an e-mail account and register that e-mail address with WSO as this is WSO's preferred method of contacting groups and distributing information.

**Treasurer:** The Account Balances as of 12/31/16:

Checking Account: \$ 6,368.39

Savings Account: \$16,590.18

Total: \$22,958.57

#### **COORDINATORS REPORTS**

**Alagram:** Donna S. prepared and mailed the Winter 2017 edition of the *Alagram* and each group should have received a copy via its Current Mailing Address (CMA). *Alagrams* are posted to Assembly's website [www.nj-al-anon.org](http://www.nj-al-anon.org).

**Alateen:** Sue C. reported that AMIAS training sessions were held in 2016 and that four to six sessions are being planned for 2017. There are a number of AMIAS on the list that have not certified within the last year. Members requiring recertification will be notified via phone or email and will be given the deadline of July 1 to recertify.

**Literature:** Kathy B. announced that a new workbook, meant to accompany the "Paths to Recovery" will be available in 2017 and will cost \$10. Kathy also asked for photos and dates for the 2018 Assembly Calendar.

**Public Outreach:** Karen P. indicated that there was a table at the 2016 Teachers Convention in Atlantic City. Public Outreach events were also held in February at the Association of Student Assistance Professionals of NJ, and in March at the Manchester High School. Other scheduled events include The New Jersey Prevention Network 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Addiction

Conference and the National Associates of Social Works. Please reach out to Karen P. if you have an upcoming event and she will have literature for you to bring.

**Website:** Angela reported that she is working on the Al-Anon Meetings tab by inserting a key or glossary of what the meeting codes mean and to define open/closed meetings. Anniversary, Day of Sharing, Workshop, and Convention event information received will be added to the calendar. Angela notes that it is our policy not to publish personal names, phone numbers, addresses or email addresses because it breaks anonymity.

**Ample Reserve Presentation** -The Ample Reserve Task Force presented its recommendation on how and when the Assembly's Ample Reserve will be determined. Group Representatives voted to approve the recommendation made by the Task Force.

#### *June Assembly Agenda Highlights*

In addition to updates from the NJ Area 36 Assembly Officers and Coordinators, there will be presentations and discussions on the following topics:

**World Service Conference** - Ann Z., the NJ Delegate attended the 2017 World Service Conference (WSC) in Virginia Beach April 24 through April 28, 2017. The 2017 World Service Conference Theme was "*Our Members: Our Hope for the Future*". Ann will share information from the WSC.

**2016 Financial Audit** - The Audit Committee will present the 2016 Financial Audit results. The Financial Audit will also include the 2017 Ample Reserve which was determined in accordance with the policy and procedure that was approved at the March 2017 Assembly Meeting. The Group Representatives will be asked to vote on this matter. This is your opportunity for your group's voice to be heard.

**2018 Assembly Calendar** - Kathy B., the literature coordinator is putting together the 2018 Assembly Calendar. Please provide any dates you want included on the calendar. Photos are also needed. Please be reminded that the photo must not show full face or be copy written. JPEG files are the best. Please provide your email address and/or phone number when submitting photos.