



ALAGRAM – Winter 2014

Your Area Assembly Newsletter

New Jersey Assembly Meeting Saturday, March 1st

10 AM to 4 PM

Middlesex County Fire Academy
1001 Fire Academy Drive
Sayreville, NJ 08872

All Group Representatives, District Representatives, Officers, Coordinators and Liaisons are asked to please attend and all Al-Anon members are welcome.

**Buffet 9:30AM by District 2: Morris County
Bring Your Own Brown Bag Lunch**

Please read our *Alagram* newsletter at your group meeting. Members may also view the *Alagram* on our website:

www.nj-al-anon.org

November Assembly Highlights

Alternate Delegate, Ann Marie Z. called the meeting to order. The reciting of the Serenity Prayer was followed by reading the Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts of Service and the General Warranties of the Conference. There were 35 voting members present.

Chairperson: Paul G. participated in a Group Inventory Meeting held by the Whiting group. Kate O. will be taking over the responsibility of answering emails to nj-al-anon.org, Assembly's website.

Delegate: Rich M. asked members to submit ideas to be agenda items for the next World Service Conference. Groups or members may acquire a written copy of the World Service Conference Summary by going to www.al-anon.org and typing in their password *i.e.* their group's name followed by afg.

Alternate Delegate: Anne Z. thanked Spanish Intergroup for providing the buffet. The 2014 Calendars are \$6 each or \$5 each for two or more. The address for South Jersey Informational Services is www.southjerseyal-anon.org. The address is wrong on the 2014 Calendar.

Treasurer: Angela V. reported:

Balance Sheet as of 10/15/2013

Assembly Checking Account

Opening 1/1/13 Check Balance \$7,355.41

Income thru 10/15/13 9,241.78
Expenses thru 10/15/13 (9,931.56)
2012 expenses (112.89)

Ending Check 10/15/13 Balance \$6,552.74

Assembly Savings Account

Opening Savings 1/1/13 Balance \$16,557.01

Interest Earned thru 10/15/13 6.19

End Savings 10/15/13 Balance \$16,563.20

10/15/13 TOTAL \$23,115.94

Recording Secretary: Katie O. posted the June Assembly minutes to the AWSC website in July.

Corresponding Secretary: Millie H. reported Keyport group had its first meeting. Sparta now has a Reaching for Personal Freedom book study meeting. If groups have not filed Update Form G-12 yet, it can be downloaded from the al-anon.org website, filled out and sent to the World Service Office.

Alagram: Katie O. mailed out the Autumn 2013 *Alagram* the second week of October. Comment: Our group reads the *Alagram* at our business meeting.

Alateen: Sandy B. reported there is work being done on a new handbook for members considering having AMIAS (Al-Anon Members In Alateen Service) training in their districts. A minimum of ten prospective AMIAS trainees are required before a training session can be scheduled in a district.

Archives: Christina M. reported there is a need to start acquiring the individual group histories again.

Literature: The Coordinator position is vacant. The first audio book How Al-Anon Works for Families & Friends of Alcoholics is available.
Public Outreach: Coordinator position is vacant. Members will be going to the NJ Teachers Convention to hand out literature.

Website: Kalpana K. reported the new website is up and running. The first page users pull up is the contact page. Encourage members to use Assembly's website, nj-al-anon.org.

DISCUSSION FROM CONFERENCE:
MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY FAMILY MEMBERS IN VIEW OF TRADITION 5.

LIAISONS

Jal-Con: Lois reported the convention made an \$800 profit. The next convention will be July 25-27, 2014. Some groups support the convention by paying for one of its members to attend.

North Jersey Information Services (NJIS):

Sue M. reported the Informational Service Representative (ISR) meetings' new format is business first then the meeting opens up to the group representatives.

South Jersey Information Services (SJIS):

Sheila B. reported the seven trustee positions are filled. SJIS is trying to recruit a member to be its South Jersey Alateen Coordinator. The new system for phone calls is to have calls answered by trustees on a rotating basis.

Spanish Intergroup: Mirta S. reported the Latino Convention will be at the Newark Marriott Hotel on 4th of July weekend.

NJ Area Assembly Inc.
518-7 Old Post Road, Box #355
Edison, NJ 08817-4683

Old Business:

Bylaws: The proposed bylaws are posted on Assembly's website www.nj-al-anon.org. At the March Assembly the proposed bylaws will be voted on as a whole.

Trustee/WSO Employee Visit: The visit is tabled because of lack of interest.

Election In Absentia: Assembly officers are also AWSC members and AWSC members may not stand for election *in absentia*.

NEW BUSINESS:

2014 Budget: The 2014 Budget as written was unanimously approved by Assembly.

Picnic: The annual picnic is a great day of fellowship. Usually one of the districts sponsors the picnic.

BREAKOUT SESSION: DISTRICT MEETING

Ask It Basket: Q# 1. Does a member have to be a Group Rep (GR) in the same district that s/he wants to be a District Rep (DR) in? **A:** The Service Manual only says a member must be a GR before being a DR. **Q# 2.** What do groups keep as an ample reserve? How many months' rent? **A:** See the Service Manual pgs. 92-94 and pgs. 208-210. Our group makes donations to the service arms once our reserve goes over \$100 but each group is autonomous. **Q# 3.** Is there such a thing as a "grand sponsor"? **A:** No. **Q# 4.** Can GRs wear a different colored name tag at Assembly? **A:** Even if name tags were color coordinated the voting process won't be more efficient. Voting members forget to sign in and out.