



ALAGRAM ~ Winter 2021

NJ Area Assembly Newsletter

Due to COVID-19, March 2021 Assembly will be held virtually via ZOOM

Saturday, March 6, 2021 10AM-2PM EST

Meeting ID: **890 2945 9528** Password: **854452** Direct Link: [Click here](#)

GRs: Reach out to your District Rep to learn how to use Zoom for virtual meeting.

Online Meeting and Helpful Zoom Tips

3 ways to participate:

- Full computer/smartphone with video & audio
- Computer video with phone audio
- Phone audio only

Etiquette for Virtual Assembly Meeting:

- This is an Al-Anon meeting – please treat it that way.
- Mute your mic when not speaking.
 - If you have a comment use the Chat window. Or if using only a computer/ smartphone – text moderator at 973-248-7101. You may also use “Raise Hand” feature.
 - Wait for the moderator to call on you, unmute yourself and then comment. Maximum of 2 minutes.
 - Inform moderator when you are done & mute your self.

Video:

- Depending on whether you are using a laptop, tablet or smartphone, you will see speaker view (only the speaker) or gallery view (all attendees).

Video (continued):

- Stop your video if you are moving or eating.

To Help with Audio:

- Turn off TV and all other Wi-Fi devices while using Zoom
- Stop video, if needed
- If necessary, you can use a second device for your audio; once you log in/call in on your second device, click on “leave computer audio” to disable it.

Individual choices:

- Change your name to First name, Last name Initial, position in Assembly. If multiple positions, **list GR first.**
- Stop or play video
- Leave meeting - this will end your session

Voting:

- Question will be called by the Chairperson and poll taken live at the same time.
- If you are using phone for audio only, then either:
 - Text moderator at 973-248-7101

Highlights from the November 2020 Assembly

Chairperson: Ann Marie Z. updated the group that she had to turn down proposal from News 12 New Jersey to air Al-Anon PSAs per concern from WSO about setting precedence for other Areas. She also wrote the charge for Thought Force on Redistricting, Task Force on LinkedIn Campaign for Public Outreach & Task Force to Develop a Coordinated Mission with Religious Organizations.

Delegate: Donna S. reported that she attended a launch party for Al-Anon Family Groups Mobile App now available for download in App stores. The App lists registered Electronic meetings not connected to an Area. Step by step instructions for the Mobile App are available on the member's resource tab of al-anon.org website. She also reported on highlights of the Chair of Board

(COB) including that contributions for July 2020 were overwhelming; Theme for virtual 2021 WSC is “Moving Forward with Unity, Courage and Perseverance” in Tarrytown, NY from 4/12-4/16.

Alternate Delegate: Katie O. provided an analysis of The Forum subscriptions in NJ. She encouraged everyone to subscribe to “The Forum” available as a hardcopy as well as electronic version at www.al-anon.org.

Treasurer's Report: Audrey reported:

Total Income	\$8,092.85
- Group donations (budgeted \$12,405)	\$ 7,346.87
- Other Income	\$ 156.50
Expenses	\$9,147.38
Net Income (as of 8/31/20)	-\$1,054.53

Looking for electronic meetings during COVID-19 quarantine. Visit nj-al-anon.org/al-anon-meetings/ for a list of NJ Groups that are meeting electronically.

Corresponding Secretary: Angela reported that as of 10/28 NJ Group Records show 291 active groups with 327 active meetings, 12 Alateen meetings, 18 Spanish groups & 3 Polish groups. However, due to COVID-19, 71 meetings are reported as suspended while 114 groups are meeting electronically. Jennifer B was voted into this position effective 1/1/2021.

COORDINATOR REPORTS

Alagram: Kalpana K. reported that the 2020 Winter Alagram was mailed to 302 area family groups on 10/16. In addition, due to COVID-19, it was emailed to available CMA addresses. It is also posted on the [Assembly website](#) for downloading & printing.

Archives: Mike reported that he continues digitizing paper archives. He has received 2 longtime member history forms. He asked members to send him longtime member & group histories. He can be contacted via the website for requests to display archives at anniversaries & special Al-Anon events.

Literature: Lori-jo reviewed the Did You Know piece on the difference between a Face-to-Face meeting temporarily electronic and an Electronic meeting.

Public Outreach: Karen P. reported that due to COVID-19 the hotline has been very busy including calls from professionals.

Website: Martha L. reported that she has been updating the temporary meeting list. She has been shoring up security on the website & reported on her efforts to get G-Suite for Non-Profits account for our Area.

JALCON: First virtual JALCON was held on 10/17/2020 with a record of ~ 200 attendees. The event provided many learnings to be implemented for 2021.

NJ AREA DISTRICTS HIGHLIGHTS

District 2: Has only virtual meetings at this time. The district has set an ample reserve and provided a rehab facility with AFA.

District 3: District meeting held virtually on 9/18. Meetings are mostly virtual but in-person too while some are hybrid meetings. Phillipsburg Alateen meeting reopened in-person on Wed 4:30PM.

District 4: All 4 meetings are virtual. District meetings suspended during summer but meeting in Nov & Dec 2020.

District 11 & 14: District meeting held virtually on 10/25. Most meetings are virtual while a few are suspended. There are 2 new in-person meetings in Roselle Park.

District 20/21: District meeting on 10/19. Most meetings virtual, one is hybrid. New in-person meeting on Friday 7:30PM in Yardville, NJ. Newcomers are directed to online resources. Hosted virtual Unity Fellowship day on 10/10 with great attendance. District needs to discuss insurance requested by one of the churches that hosts 2 in-person meetings.

DID YOU KNOW?

The difference between a Face-to-Face meeting temporarily electronic and an Electronic meeting?

Face to Face Meeting

- Part of Area structure – NJ is Area 36
- Have a physical location
- Groups have a GR
- GRs have a vote at Assembly
- Meeting via temporary electronic platforms
- Meetings found on website under “[Find an Al-Anon Meeting](#)”

Electronic Meeting

- Not part of the Area structure
- Area worldwide
- Meetings do not have a GR
- Voice is represented at the WSO through direct links to WSO
- Meetings found on website under [Electronic Meetings](#)

Mail is still going out – are you getting it? You may want to consider updating the CMA for your group to ensure you are not missing communications from WSO, Area, and Information Services.

Group Changes can be made by going to: <https://al-anon.org/for-members/group-resources/group-records/>
Temporary changes can be made by going to: <https://form.jotform.com/201006291804141>

As groups return to face-to-face meetings, the temporary electronic meeting information will be removed online. If a group decides to use an electronic platform while also meeting face-to-face, the group’s conscience should reflect the spiritual principles of the Twelve Traditions.

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