

Rhode Island Al-Anon Family Groups (RI AFG)
WINTER ASSEMBLY ~ December 5, 2015
Jamestown Senior Center, Jamestown
Hosted by District 3

VOTING MEMBERS (GROUP REPRESENTATIVES and PROXIES)

Barbara H, Charles W, Clint W, Dan F, Dean H, Francoise D, Heather M, Jane A, Joe M, Joshua M, Joy C, Kate M, Kathy Y, Linda S, Lorie G, Mark C, Sandra M, Shalla S, Steve C, Susan H, Tami K, Traci B, Walter B

AREA OFFICER/COORDINATOR ATTENDEES

Ann-Marie C, AA Liaison; Barbara H, Literature Coordinator; David G, Area Chair; Dean H, Website Coordinator; Deb E, Area Secretary; Denise A, *Forum* Coordinator; Denise C, Group Records Coordinator; Heather M, Public Outreach Coordinator; Mark C, District 1 Representative; Megan B, Alateen Coordinator; Phyllis H, Area Delegate; Shawn J, Office Coordinator; Steve C, Email Coordinator; Tami K, Area Treasurer

OPENING

Moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer; reading of the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts; roll call/introductions.

June 6, 2015 Assembly minutes reviewed and accepted.

AREA BUSINESS

- Date of Next Assembly (hosted by District 2): April 30 (back-up of May 7; TBD by Assembly Committee); Assembly expressed wish to have Fall Assembly in October; date will be selected at Spring Assembly
- Open service positions for 2016 reviewed (election of new service members to take place after lunch)
- Distribution and review of 2016 budget documents (discussion and motion for approval after lunch)

DISTRICTS AND DISTRICT FUNCTIONING

Bud S, guest speaker and outgoing Delegate from Vermont, spoke about his experience in serving at a district level. He described things districts can do to build healthy, active districts:

- Get contact names of group representatives and current mailing addresses (CMAs) for each group
- Contact each group and set a date and place for a district meeting (suggests having a district meeting before a regular meeting, so program is available afterwards and people get a chance to visit new meetings)
- Use food to attract people
- Set a loose agenda and have something to do or talk about over the course of the year (plan events, workshops, spiritual days, fundraisers)
- Send out reminders
- Share your enthusiasm and make it fun
- Set a date for the next meeting
- Try to get someone to commit to serving as a district rep, even if temporarily

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Active, working district service structures increase communication and grow service among members.

Attendees then broke out into groups to discuss: (1) What are the benefits of having an active, vibrant district? and (2) What can we do to make these benefits happen in our districts? Then the larger group convened to talk about what came up.

Results of the discussion will be typed up and distributed to groups at a later date.

LUNCH BREAKOUT

Participants met with their districts to elect new District Representatives (all districts) and form a Committee to plan the next Assembly (District 2).

ASSEMBLY ACTION ITEMS

- 2016 Budget was presented; Q&A and discussion followed; budget passed.
- Nominations and Elections for Open Service Positions:
 - Area Secretary—Shala
 - Email Coordinator—Dennis
 - Office Coordinator—Shawn
 - Alateen Process Person—Joy
 - District 1 Representative—Mark; Shawn, alternate
 - District 2 Representative—Kate
 - District 3 Representative—Tracy
- ***The following positions remain vacant:***
 - Alternate Delegate
 - Archives Coordinator
 - *Lifelines* Coordinator
 - Workshop Coordinator

AREA OFFICERS AND COORDINATORS REPORTS

- Area Chair (David G)—Our Area now accepts 1-time memorial contributions by family of deceased members (this decision was made at the last Assembly); our Area meets every 6 weeks, and we will set dates for the next year so people can plan ahead
- Delegate (Phyllis H)—new Alateen meeting starting in December for students at Coventry High School; World Service Office is accepting applications for members of the Executive Committee for Real Property Management; there is a Delegate's Corner page on the Area website (www.riafg.org) with all of Phyllis' news and notes from the World Service Conference and World Service Office; she looks forward to bringing our voice and vote to the next Conference
- Literature Coordinator (Barbara H)—provides Literature expense information in every Area World Service Committee Meeting minutes, just check the www.riafg.org website; the balance in the Literature Account currently is \$159; she plans to send out more literature news and notes in the coming year

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- Alateen Coordinator (Megan B)—there are around 4 school and 3 non-school groups running currently, with 4 or 5 new meetings in the pipeline; we have a bunch of new sponsors coming on board; always need new sponsors; RI Alateen has a new website (www.rialateen.org), which should be up and running soon
- Office Coordinator (Shawn J)—office is currently open 4 days a week; the office takes 20-30 calls during office hours per month (additional calls outside of office hours are answered remotely by volunteers); if you've been in Al-Anon at least a year and have served in your home group, office volunteering is a great next step; the more volunteers we have, the more hours the office is open; anyone interested can contact Shawn
- Website Coordinator (Dean H)—can send meeting announcements to be posted on the website, via email or in writing; just send it on to Dean at the webmaster e-mail address listed on the website
- Group Records Coordinator (Denise C)—there are 47 active groups in RI; 28 have Group Representatives (GRs); 23 of those groups were represented at the Assembly today, 14 by GRs and 9 by proxies; 8 of the represented groups are from District 1, 10 are from District 2, 5 are from District 3
- *Forum* Coordinator (Denise A)—every group gets a free copy of the *Forum* each month; if your group doesn't get one, please check that your contact information is accurate and filed with World Service; encourage your group members to write for the *Forum*; only 45 individual members in RI subscribe to the *Forum*
- Public Outreach Coordinator (Heather M)—among other projects, she's been helping to set up a library of Al-Anon materials in the office of a family court judge; she's putting together a literature kit for groups; if you have old literature, she can supply labels to put in them and members can "forget" the literature in public places; this is a group effort, it's all our responsibility; think of what tiny step you can take to spread the word

CLOSING

Motion to adjourn. So carried.

Closed with the Serenity Prayer and Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb E.

Area Secretary