

Lifelines – Rhode Island

Your Monthly Newsletter
Mar 2012 Edition

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*The next AWSC
Committee meeting will
be April 14 at the Rolfe
St Office from 10 AM –
12 Noon*

NEEDED: We have 5
Districts in RI and
only two have DRs.
Please consider
joining in service.

AWSC Meeting Notes

Taken from the meeting notes of Suzanne H., Area Secretary

Area Chair, Barbara M. opened the meeting with a moment of silence, the serenity prayer and reading of the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service and General Warranties of the Conference.

Reports:

1. **Area Treasurer, Nancy S.** presented to the Committee members copies of the RI Area Al-Anon Budget for 2012 as well as the End of Year 2011 Report that had been prepared by Betsy, the former treasurer. It was the general consensus that a monthly report showing expenses and balances be prepared by Nancy S. and submitted to the Committee.
2. **Denise G., Area Delegate**, reviewed some of the highlights of her projected attendance at the World Service Conference being held in Stamford, CT from April 15 through April 19, 2012. The

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2012 World Service Conference

Delegates and other trusted servants will meet in Stamford, Connecticut; April 15-19 for Al-Anon's 52nd Annual World Service Conference.

Trusted servants at the Conference enjoy receiving mail from members and groups in their Areas. Send cards and notes of support to:

TBD/ RI Delegate (Hold for WSC 4/15-4/19, 2012)

Stamford Marriott Hotel & Spa

243 Tresser Blvd.; Stamford, CT 06901

Please have your cards arrive after April 11. Return address should be

TBD c/o Rhode Island Al-Anon/Alateen Office 106 Rolfe Street, Cranston, RI 02910

Notice:

Volunteers are needed to assist at the Al-Anon Literature table at the AA Convention, March 23-25. If you are planning to attend the Convention, please consider donating an hour or two of your time to the literature table. Any help would be most welcome! Contact Deb E. for more information (deb.anon@yahoo.com).

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conference this year is entitled **“Our Spiritual Journey - we get as we give”**. Areas to be introduced to delegates will include the following:

Task Force Thought Force Committees - Opportunity to Serve

1. Selection At Large Trustee
2. Approve Literature (CAL)
3. PO: Institutions, Inform, Professional
4. Task: Service for Dual Members
5. Task: Tool Kit for Service & Personal Growth
6. Task: Importance of CAL in Meetings
7. Thought: Strategies to Strengthen Personal Connections
8. Thought: Computers @ WSC

Mention was made that of the five districts in RIAFG only Districts 1 and 4 presently have District Representatives in place.

District 4 Representative, Phyllis H. noted her district is large and contains nine communities. One of her goals is to start meetings in the two towns without a current meeting.

Alateen Coordinator, Rose B. noted that one of her goals is to have necessary BCIs (background checks) completed. She indicated she would like all on the AWSC list to have BCIs performed in order for them to be available should the need arise for their services for Alateen group functions.

Literature Coordinator, Deb E. reported that at this time banking transfer listing her as the responsible person for funds remains to be pursued. Carol is handling literature orders for now. She indicated an inventory will be done and she will be updating the literature form. She plans on placing either a box or an envelope in the literature section of the office for placement of questions/suggestions.

Website Coordinator, Ashley B. informed the members she is in the process of updating the website.

AA Liaison, Barbara H. reported she is looking to bridge differences and support AA recovery as well as Al-Anon recovery processes as part of her service function.

Lifelines Editor, Linda F is seeking *Lifeline* articles for publication from AWSC members, family group members as well as from someone from AA able to express in writing how Al-Anon is viewed by AA.

Group Records Coordinator, Denise C. reported she is up and running, however, she is seeking information on any changes for Group Representatives.

Area Chair, Barbara M. noted she would like to see Family Groups take over the Assembly Planning. She suggested getting it out to the District Representatives. David G. and Phyllis H. are to research Assembly Planning as it will need to be addressed by a family group in RI, and are to get back to the Committee.

Please Note: The RI Area office is only used for Al-Anon Family groups in accordance with Tradition 3 and Tradition 6.

Call for Sharings for New Book on Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships

Alcoholism is an illness that warps and seriously damages our ability to form and maintain intimate relationships. In recovery, we find many ways to connect to others, and learn to replace fear of intimacy with a healthy set of boundaries.

The World Service Conference Literature Committee is seeking sharings from Al-Anon/Alateen members for possible use in a new piece of literature on intimacy in general, including sexual intimacy, in alcoholic relationships. We hope this piece can reflect the wide variety of experiences our members have faced regarding intimacy, in many different types of relationships.

Intimacy takes many forms, including emotional, physical, and spiritual. Sharings do not need to be limited to sexual intimacy. However, we do want this piece to cover issues around sexual intimacy more thoroughly than any other previous Al-Anon literature, without being either too vague or too explicit and offensive.

Please consider submitting a share about your struggles as well as your successes with intimacy. You can mail, fax, or e-mail your completed sharing to:

Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.

1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach VA 23454-5617

Attn: Intimacy

Fax: 757-563-1655 • e-mail: wso@al-anon.org (Please put “Intimacy” in the subject line)

If printed, your sharing will remain anonymous. However, In order for the Committee to acknowledge receipt of your sharing, please include your name or pseudonym and postal or e-mail address. If you wish anonymity among WSO staff, consider creating a new e-mail address that is not in the WSO database and does not include your name.

If your sharing is not used for the piece, it will be forwarded to the Forum Editorial Advisory Committee for their review and possible publication in The Forum. You will be notified by letter and a complimentary issue of The Forum if it is printed.

For more information, and to print out a copy of the sharing sheet with questions to get you thinking, go to the RI Al-Anon Family Groups Web site (www.riafg.org).

Al-Anon Web Sites

- ▲ Your local, Area 49 web site
<http://www.riafg.org>
- ▲ The Al-Anon Members' Web site
<http://www.al-anon.alateen.org/members>
- ▲ Podcasts <http://al-anonfamilygroups.org/Podcasts/FirstSteps/>
- ▲ Online meetings and outreach
<http://www.ola-is.org>
- ▲ Public Al-Anon/Alateen site
<http://www.al-anon.alateen.org>

EFFECTIVE 2/23/2012, we were notified that our current area delegate resigned. At the AWSC meeting 2/25/2012, we discussed alternate options. In the near future, we will release information on who will represent our area at the World Service Conference 4/15 to 4/19, 2012.
Barbara M - Area Chair

RI Al-Anon/ Alateen Events

March

Forever Hope Anniversary and Lois W.'s Birthday
Sunday, **March 4, 10:00am**
West Greenwich Town Hall
280 Victory Highway, Route 102, West Greenwich, RI

Rhode Island AA Convention with Al-Anon Participation
Friday - Sunday, **March 23 - 25, 2012**
The Hyatt Regency, Goat Island, Newport

The theme for this year's Convention is "**Soaring in Sobriety.**" There will be speakers, workshops, and lots of fellowship. This event sells out quickly, so register early.

Connecticut AFG Convention
Friday - Sunday, **March 30 - April 1, 2012**
Crowne Plaza Hotel, 100 Berlin Rd.
Cromwell, CT 06416

Join our neighbors in Connecticut for their 35th annual Convention. This year's theme is "Hand in Hand We Can." There will be speakers, workshops, and lots of fellowship. Registration form is on our website.

Keep It Simple - Saturdays (KISS)
1st Anniversary Celebration
When: Saturday, **March 31st** from Noon-1:30p
Where: Butler Hospital, 345 Blackstone Boulevard, Providence
2nd floor in Ray Conference Center (Follow signs to Ray Conf. Center near back of hospital campus)

RI Al-Anon Family Groups Area Office/Literature Distribution Center (LDC)
106 Rolfe Street, Cranston, RI 02910

Hours: Please call the office

Phone/Fax: 401-781-0044

E-mail: RI_Al-Anon@hotmail.com

Lifelines e-subscription: Email to: RI_Al-Anon@hotmail.com (type "Mailing List" in the subject line)

Web: www.riafg.org

An area newsletter is a vital link in keeping groups and members informed. The purposes of Lifelines are to: encourage attendance at service events; communicate local, area, and Al-Anon Information Service news; and attract Al-Anon members into service.

If you are interested in serving on the *Lifelines* Committee, please call the office at the number listed above. If you would like more information about the tasks and time commitment involved, you may contact Linda F. at lin2169@cox.net or 401-855-6009 (it's safe to leave a message).