

Lifelines – Rhode Island

Your Monthly Newsletter
March 2013 Edition



*The next AWSC meeting
will be 4/20, 10 AM –
12PM at the Rolfe St
Office in Cranston*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Delegate's Corner
- 2 RI AA Convention with
AI-Anon Participation
- 3 Messages from AWSC
- 4 MA and CT Conventions
- 5 Current Open Positions
- 6 Calendar

DELEGATES CORNER

The New Year starts a lot of activity for the delegate. Each delegate submits a proposed agenda item to WSO, for possible floor discussion at the upcoming conference. My submitted item for Rhode Island was presented in last month's Lifelines.

This month each delegate is assigned to certain thought or task force groups for the annual Conference in Virginia Beach, Virginia, April 13 through April 19. I have been assigned to a Thought Force: Create Strategies on the Importance of a Home Group. In addition, each delegate submits for sharing one Area Success and one Area Concern. Each area's success and concern are printed and distributed to other delegates, and also summarized by each delegate in a short oral presentation.

The two Conference Agenda Items selected for general floor discussion are:

1. *How can we get districts, without DRs and few GRs, to become re-involved in participating in Assemblies and AWSC? How do we reach out to registered groups who do not attend Area events;*
2. *Improving the retention of newcomers and experienced AI-Anon members.*

I will be attending March 8-10 the Northeast Regional Delegates Conference. This year the conference is in Mansfield, Mass. This allows all Regional Delegates to meet, and share items of mutual interest. Friday night will also have an area success and concern presented by each delegate, similar to that at WSC. In addition this year, all New England Areas will be sharing budget and officer contact information in an effort to share experience, strength and hope and allow RI trusted servants the option to incorporate "best practices" from other areas. The Northeast Regional Trustee (a current member of the World Service Board of Directors) provides a detailed report of World Service Office events and upcoming activities. Additionally, it provides attending areas the opportunity to speak to the Trustee regarding area news.

*David G.:Panel 52, RI Delegate
February 2013*

**38th Rhode Island AA Convention
With Al-Anon Participation
March 22, 23, 24, 2013**

Friday 3pm Registration opens

Convention Website <http://www.rhodeisland-aa.org>

Hi everyone,

The AA Convention with Al-Anon participation is fast approaching. If you are planning to attend and want to purchase one of the meals it is recommended that you get your registration in soon, the meal reservations are filling up quickly, especially Saturday night dinner.

If you are going to the convention and would be willing to chair a meeting please let me know.

I can be reached by phone - 647-9931 or email - barb6485@aol.com

Thank you for your help. LIS, Barbara H. - AA Liaison

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 : There will also be an Al-Anon Literature table at the
 : Convention. If you plan to attend, stop by and say hello
 : and maybe volunteer to help at the table for an hour
 : on Friday or Saturday. If you don't plan to attend, but
 : are still willing to help, Deb could use help loading up
 : the books at the Rolfe Street office on the Friday
 : afternoon and unloading on the Sunday. Contact Deb at
 : Deb.Anon@yahoo.com for details.
 :



Tuesday Morning Cranston/Warwick Daytime Al-Anon could use support - Please come and participate.

The Monday night Greenville meeting is in need of support. The time is 6:30pm to 8pm. at St. Thomas Episcopal Church corner of route 44 and route 116 Greenville, RI.

Thank you

Is There an Empty Chair at Your Meeting?

Encourage your group to participate in Twelfth Step work. You can as groups have a service project such as leaving meetings lists, pamphlets or other Public Outreach tools at Universities, Counselors or other professional offices and waiting rooms.

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2013 is the Public Outreach Magazine. Its purpose is to be left for others. Look in your group box and if you have copies, hand them out. They cost less than one dollar each and can be ordered from the RI Area Office.

Dear RI AFG,

This past month was a difficult one for our area, we have lost a few dedicated trusted servants to serious health issues as well as other personal issues. We sincerely appreciate their time and dedication to our area as volunteers. When we lose the talents of area officers and coordinators, it affects the dynamics of the entire area. Similar to a group, that is missing a GR, or treasurer, secretary or even someone who holds the key to a building, it affects our common welfare and unity. During the month of March in honor of one of our founders Lois W (March 4th is her birthday), let's spend the time helping each other and asking ourselves if we could be of service in some way to our fellowship, and support our primary mission of helping families and friends of alcoholics. I have heard in the past that some groups celebrate Lois's birthday with special events, perhaps this is something your group could do and be of service to RI Al-Anon/Alateen Family groups. Opportunities are always published in our newsletter. Maybe it's your time to step into service? How are you part of the solution? With much appreciation for our program, Barbara M. Area Chair

Did you know that many groups in Rhode Island currently do not have a Group Representative? The GR receives information from their District Representative, as well as from other area-level trusted servants via the announcements list, and shares that information with their individual groups. As the voice for their group, the GR attends the RIAFG Assembly meetings to vote on area issues. Together, the GRs are the voice of RI Al-Anon.

To insure our delegate feels our love and support, you can send him a card while he is at the World Service Conference.

David Green, Delegate (Hold for WSC April14-18, 2013)
Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront
5700 Atlantic Ave.
Virginia Beach, VA 23451.

Please, of course, put return name and address as RI AFG, 106 Rolfe St, Cranston, RI 02910 (in case it arrives after the conference it will be returned to him at the area office).

*37th Annual Massachusetts
Al-Anon/Alateen Convention
With AA Participation*

“Journey to Freedom”

April 5-7, 2013

*We're SO excited, it's a beautiful, newly renovated hotel
and sure to be a wonderful weekend of recovery!!*

Sheraton Framingham Hotel
1657 Worcester Road
Framingham, MA 01701
Reservations: 508-879-7200

For more information go to: <http://www.ma-al-anon-alateen.org/convention.html>

**36th Annual Connecticut Al-Anon Convention
with AA Participation
Stepping Stones to Serenity
March 15 - 17, 2013**

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Route 372, Cromwell, CT

For more information go to:

[http://www.ctalanon.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=25:
2013-afg-convention-page&catid=2:uncategorised](http://www.ctalanon.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=25:2013-afg-convention-page&catid=2:uncategorised)

CURRENT OPEN POSITIONS:

Office Coordinator: - The Office Coordinator ensures that our Area Office on Rolfe Street runs smoothly, making sure it is fully stocked with office supplies and coordinating the volunteers who man office hours, answering the phones, following up on messages, and filling literature orders. The Office Coordinator attends the AWSC meetings as a voting member.

Archives Coordinator - Enjoy scrap booking? The Archives Coordinator preserves the experience, history, and memorabilia of the RIAFG. The Coordinator may head up an Archives Committee, which would be responsible for researching the history of Al-Anon in RI. Our archive materials are currently at the Area office. They need to be organized, dated, catalogued, and preserved using archival methods (e.g., acid free paper, boxes). The Archives Coordinator attends the AWSC meetings as a voting member.

Public Outreach Coordinator - The Public Outreach Coordinator informs the general public through the media, professionals, facilities, and organizations about who we are, what we do, and how to get in touch with us. Our goal is to attract to our program those whose lives are or have been affected by someone else's drinking, so that those who need our program can find the help and hope we offer. We also strive for name recognition and credibility as a community resource. The Public Outreach Coordinator serves as a communication link between the WSO and the Area, making presentations or holding workshops at events in the Area and the general community; distributing service projects and information from the WSO to Area Assemblies, Districts, and Groups; encouraging the Area, Districts, and GRs to carry project ideas and information to the groups; and continually educating the fellowship about the need to attract those who are still suffering to our program. The Public Outreach Coordinator attends the AWSC meetings as a voting member.

Forum Coordinator - The *Forum* Coordinator encourages groups and members to submit sharings to the *Forum* magazine and to subscribe. The Coordinator carries Al-Anon's message of recovery as it is printed in the *Forum* to the GRs, who are the *Forum* Representatives at the group level. This coordinator's duties include, but are not limited to, being available to GRs and DRs for assistance in conducting workshops or outreach activities. Coordinators can ask Area World Service Committee members to assist by subscribing to and sharing the value of the *Forum* as they conduct their service activities. They may also bring sharing sheets, blank order forms, and copies of the *Forum* to workshops, assemblies, etc. Display boards may also be made to use at these events. The *Forum* Coordinator attends the AWSC meetings as a voting member.

District Representatives for District 2, 5 - The DR is usually any incoming, outgoing, or active past Group Representative who is willing to represent the district at Area World Service Committee meetings and Area Assembly. The DR conveys information to the GRs from the Area World Service Committee, listens to group concerns, and takes any questions or concerns to the Area World Service Committee meetings. The DRs attend the AWSC meetings as voting members.

Workshop Committee Chair - The Workshop Committee Chair heads the Workshop Committee, which plans our annual Fall Workshop. The purpose of the workshop is to allow members to participate in giving back to the program (Participation Is the Key to Harmony) while enjoying a day of recovery. All proceeds help the Area as a whole, which allows us to be self supporting. Duties include chairing periodic committee meetings and securing volunteers who take on responsibilities for registration, decorating, hospitality, master of ceremonies, speakers, treasury, meetings, food, craft table, Alateen participation, AA participation, Literature table, and Public Outreach table. This committee chair also troubleshoots and supports these tasks as necessary.

RI Al-Anon/Alateen Events

MAR

15, 16, 17 - Connecticut AFG Convention with AA Participation - see page 4 for more information.

22 - Essential Steps & Traditions Study Group 7th Anniversary, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., Fireplace Room, Kingston Congregational Church, 2610 Kingstown Rd. (Rte. 138), Kingston (enter thru kitchen from back lot). AA and AFG speakers. No food or drinks allowed - will provide complimentary bottled water. Note this is a fragrance-free meeting.

22, 23, 24 - AA RI Convention with Al-Anon participation - see page 2 for more information.

27 - Wednesday Nights in Cumberland is having a 25th Anniversary from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30pm at the Four Corner Community Chapel, 200 Angell Rd, Cumberland, RI 02864 Please Contact Anne Marie C for more information. amcardosi@gmail.com

APR

5, 6, 7 - Massachusetts Al-Anon Convention with AA Participation - see page 4 for more information.

20 - Area World Service Committee meeting, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., 106 Rolfe St, Cranston.

JUNE

15 - Area Assembly, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., West Greenwich Community Center, 274 Victory Hwy (route 102), approximately 3 miles from I-95 (exit 5B). As the voice and vote for the individual Al-Anon groups, all GRs are encouraged to attend. All Al-Anon members are welcome to attend (but do not have a vote at the assembly).

21, 22, 23 - 37th AA Serenity by the Sea Ocean State Young People's Conference (OSYPC) with Al-Anon Participation

"Young-means you still have some growing to do" • June 21, 22, & 23

Salve Regina University • Newport, RI Come for the weekend or come for the day: meetings, fellowship, recreation!

Meeting update: Thursday 9:30 AM HR CL Portsmouth at St Mary's Episcopal Parish Hall, 324 E Main Rd/RT 138 - AFG's 12;12;12 Study Group

Lifelines e-subscription: Email to: RI_Al-Anon@hotmail.com (type "Mailing List" in the subject line) or email lin2169@hotmail.com

Web: www.riafg.org

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

Editor: Linda S. at lin2169@hotmail.com or 401-855-6009 (it's safe to leave a message).