



# COMMUNICATOR



## PANEL 50'S LAST TERM

Here we are in the final year of our term as Panel 50. There is much to celebrate and much that can be accomplished in the coming months. Every year I choose a word for the year and this year it was a little slow in coming, but when it came it felt so right and the word is "joy". My goal in service this year and in every area of life is to approach it with joy and hold it lightly in a way that allows my Higher Power to make adjustments and changes as we go along and helps me to enjoy the ride.

This will be a busy year at the 2012 World Service Conference (WSC) to be held on April 15-19, 2012 in Stamford, CT with the theme of "Our Spiritual Journey: We Get As We Give". Mail can be sent to:  
Bette Rueda (Hold for WSC 4/15-4/19, 2012)  
Stamford Marriott Hotel & Spa  
243 Tresser Boulevard  
Stamford, CT 06901

Please plan to have your cards arrive after April 11. Remember to put my name and address in the return address section of the envelope if mail delivery is delayed.

Third year delegates will give a three minute talk that will be published in the Conference Summary and have a conference trainee. I'm already in communication with my trainee who is the new delegate from Florida South and am looking forward to meeting her in person.

Because of the potential impact on Al-Anon as a whole, how we distribute literature, and how the Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) office and literature depots operate, the delegates were polled by the World Service Office (WSO) in late 2011 regarding how much chosen agenda item time we were willing to give up on the agenda to discuss the impact of electronic literature on discussion of Distribution Centers (LDC); the WSO; and the English, French, and Spanish structures outside of the WSC structure. The delegates voted to hold three hours of discussion of this topic in lieu of discussing chosen agenda items at this year's WSC.

The following thought and task forces will be dissolved at end of the 2012 WSC:

- Task Force to Develop Presentations that Will Help to Strengthen the Communications Between the AIS, Areas, and Districts
- Task Force to Develop a Presentation for Areas on How to Reach Out to Minority Groups
- Thought Force on Members Involved in Service Work Who Are Unable to Effectively Fulfill the Responsibility of the Position
- Thought Force on How to Utilize the *Service Manual*
- Thought Force on How Changes to the Environment Outside of Al-Anon May Affect Our Meetings and the Fellowship as a Whole

My 2011 thought force on members involved in service work who are unable to effectively fulfill the responsibility of the position worked throughout the year and I volunteered to prepare the slide presentation for the WSC. Everyone on the thought force participated actively and after review and approval by the Executive Committee, we believe we have come up with some ideas that will be beneficial to the fellowship and contribute to more support for members involved in service work.

The following thought and task forces are beginning their work now:

- Task Force: Piece with Criteria to Help Service Arms Identify Service Jobs for Dual Members
- Task Force: Tool Kit on Service and Personal Growth
- Task Force: Workshop on Importance of Conference Approved Literature (CAL) in Meetings
- Thought Force: Strategies to Strengthen Personal Connections
- Thought Force: Use of Computers at WSC

I have been asked to chair the thought force on use of computers at WSC and I know it will be another good experience to work with others throughout the U.S. and Canada as we look at the benefits and disadvantages of use of electronic media at the WSC.

In grateful service,  
Bette R.

**NEXT COMMUNICATOR DEADLINE FOR JUNE ISSUE IS JUNE 2, 2012**

District Representatives are invited to send written reports to the *Communicator* by June 2, 2012

## **WHEN YOU GET BUSY, YOU GET BETTER**

As you read the sharings in this edition I hope you will consider being an Oregon Area Coordinator, Chairperson or Delegate. All these positions will be decided at the 2012 Oregon Area November Assembly. Ask your group representative what the job description is for any of the positions!

Purrs!

Lisa B.

Communicator Coordinator/Editor

PS. 7 down, 2 to go!

**RECOVERY  
THROUGH THE STEPS**

**UNITY  
THROUGH THE TRADITIONS**

**SERVICE  
THROUGH THE CONCEPTS**

## **TREASURER UPDATE**

As I start my last year of as your Oregon Area treasurer, I just want to say thanks for allowing me this privilege to serve the fellowship in this position. I have learned a lot about the Area financials and myself.

A quick look at where we are financially in the Oregon Area: Balance forward from 2011 is \$11,747.23. Donations from groups have been steady this month [41 groups] with income of \$1962.64. Expenses have only been for the web site – domain name and site fee – for a total of \$84.66. This leaves a bank balance of \$13,625.21.

Thanks to all groups who have donated to the Oregon Area. I continue to remind all groups to please put three items **on your check**....I know I am starting to nag...[it is working]:

1. YOUR GROUP NAME [LISTED AS REGISTERED WITH WSO]
2. YOUR GROUP ID#
3. YOUR DISTRICT NUMBER [WHERE YOUR GROUP IS LOCATED]

Thanks again!

Bunny G.,

Area Treasurer 2010-2012, Panel 50

## **WANT TO SHARE?**

Having the privilege of being your **AREA LITERATURE COORDINATOR**, I have received communications from the World Service Office (WSO) about our potential new piece of literature on intimacy, including sexual intimacy, in alcoholic relationships. Like so many topics in the disease of alcoholism, it is my opinion that this very human topic goes underserved. Now is our chance; thank you, Higher Power and WSO Literature Committee! We Al-Anon/Alateen members are being asked to write our experience, strength and hope about sexual intimacy for possible use in this piece. What an opportunity! We can gain so much from writing, and others still suffering might be helped. I feel very grateful to have this communication avenue open to me, personally, and to share this opportunity with members through district representatives (DRs) and group representatives (GRs) area-wide is a gift. **I LOVE MY JOB!!** Please look for your sharing sheets available at meetings, or from your GR or DR, and please join me in using them.

Love in grateful service,

Norma P.

## HAVE FORUM, WILL TRAVEL!

For those of you who haven't seen the latest copy of *The Forum*, or are not familiar with what kinds of articles can be found there, the February 2012 issue *The Forum* is just out, and it's GREAT!

Can I tell you about it?

The first page is the "Instant Meeting" page, with three short sharings from members about their experience with Step 2. Reading this sharing of the month page can start a step meeting very nicely.

The Table of Contents tells us at a quick peek whether there are any sharings from Oregon members. Unfortunately, World Service Office (WSO) hasn't yet published all the sharings we submitted from the 2011 Oregon Area November Assembly, but stay tuned to your *Forums* to see our Oregon folks published.

Articles this February focus on topics as varied as fear of failure, letting go of expectations, shame, resistance to change, how a mother faced and worked through her reactions to her teenage daughter's disease, developing courage to share a personal story in *The Forum*, three short sharings from members on our wonderful piece of literature - "As We Understood. . .", and a male Al-Anon

member shares about feeling alone in meetings and what happened to him.

On page 10 is an announcement regarding the 2012 World Service Conference, where it will be held, when, and the address for sending cards and notes of support to our Delegate to be received during the Conference.

The section called "Inside Al-Anon" each month contains articles written by WSO staff members. Topics in February are welcoming teens to regular Al-Anon meetings, handling disruptive members and a WSO staff member's story about her first Al-Anon meeting.

In the last few pages are sharings from members on the Step, Tradition, and Concept of the Month which are great to read in meetings and to use for meeting topics.

*The Forum* is a great tool to enhance our programs, with many somethings for everyone! Check out this month's *Forum*, coming to a meeting or a mailbox of yours.

And . . . if your District would like to sponsor a *Forum* writing workshop, please let me know – Have *Forum*, will travel!

Love in service,  
Paula J.

## ARCHIVAL POSSIBILITIES

Greetings from your Archives Coordinator! The last two years have gone fast. One of the many perks of being a coordinator was attending the "Fifteenth Annual National Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Archives Workshop". It was hosted in Helena, Montana in September 2011. This was the first year with Al-Anon participation. On a personal note: this was also my first airplane ride which turned out to be very exciting.

I put together a power point presentation of the archives "Then and Now" and shared it at the November 2011 Assembly. FYI: The archives were established in 1983 as "Early Beginnings" from a donation of a family member whose mother (a member) passed on.

I wanted to update you of the progress we are making regarding accessibility of the archives. Last year around this time I submitted an article to the Communicator. My goals were to collect enough group histories to be 35% of the total number of groups, find out if scanning was feasible and desirable, what to retain, and whether to split the archives position into 2 separate parts. My favorite saying is "Progress not Perfection": At this time we have started scanning the archives, there are 65

group histories completed with 216 groups in the Oregon Area (I am not good at percentages but I think this is around 30%), a more comprehensive view of what to keep and what to purge has developed. The question of whether to split the archives position is in the works.

During the remainder of my term I will continue to work on my goal of collecting group histories and in addition scanning them as they come in. Guidelines for retention of the archives will be established. A scanner has been donated and there is monies to buy one if this does not work out. Splitting or not to split remains the big question. A pro and con of whether to split would be advantageous. ANY VOLUNTEERS?

I am enjoying my time as an Oregon Area Archives Coordinator. I will continue to collect, catalog and preserve items that I receive. Please email me your questions at [redijodi@live.com](mailto:redijodi@live.com). You may send group histories to: 1075 Birchwood Dr., Oregon City, Oregon 97045.

Your trusted servant,  
Jodie P.

## **PLANS FOR INFORMING THE PUBLIC**

There's only a year left of my position as Public Information Coordinator. What a wonderful two years this has been! I would like to thank all of you for your support in moving towards a new way of public outreach. Our program teaches us to have the courage to change the things we can and we did! We did not just send out literature hoping someone would read it but moved into the twenty-first century using digital media to deliver our message directly in front of the audience we wanted to reach.

The Public Outreach Action Committee, during the 2012 Oregon Area March Assembly, will be asked to develop a plan to continue showing our Public Service Announcement (PSA) in movie theaters around the state. Many of you have told me how when you were younger and the alcoholic was acting out, you would seek refuge by going to a movie. This validated the idea movie theaters would be a good venue to reach the young adult audience. We still have a few districts where the PSA has not been shown and we want to encourage participation and develop ways this can happen in individual districts or jointly with the Area. Our voice has been heard beyond the Oregon Area. I have been contacted by at least five other areas wanting to know how to start their own PSA in movie theaters campaigns. Good job, Oregon Area, in carrying the message of recovery!

Another plan to get our message to the younger audience is to buy banner ads on the online version of college newspapers. We believe this is a great way to engage the general college-aged audience. The plan is to run the banner ads at the three state colleges and as many of the community colleges as we can.

The Public Information (PI) budget was decreased for 2012 yet there is still much work to be done. The PI committee is here to invite and challenge the District Representatives (DRs) to take the PSA campaign directly to their district. There are many ways to fund raise to help with the cost and it can be a lot of fun. Of course, as PI Coordinator, I will be glad to help in any way I can. If you have any questions or suggestions, please email me through the Oregon Area website contact page.

With love in service,  
Joanne C.  
Public Information Coordinator

## **WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

I am excited going into 2012 and hopeful that we see numbers increase at our meetings. That would mean that there are more suffering family members finding help and support from the wonderful program of Al-Anon. On February 2, 2012, I attended a mental health breakfast at Linfield College in McMinnville and supplied the 2012 "Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism" magazines to every mental health professional in Yamhill County. I also got to speak about what Al-Anon has done for me. I think sometimes that professionals see Al-Anon as "a cheap alternative to counseling" and feel competitive rather than cooperative. I see both counseling and Al-Anon as a help to one another, synergistic actually. I know it has been for me.

I'm hoping that more members doing public information work in their districts will become inspired and get the message out in their counties. It might be good to form a committee or task force to enlist help from more members; begin talking to counselors, college mental health professionals, high school counselors, etc. Maybe your county hosts a similar event to the one I attended and you could reach more people at one time. Also, please take the brochures to your doctors offices to leave in the waiting areas, to the schools and to hospital lobbies (E.R., too!). Be sure to include a contact number! The more members, the stronger the program and the more wisdom and gratitude we have to share. Looking forward to seeing you all at the Oregon Area Assembly in March.

In loving service,  
Cheryl H.- Coordinating with the Professional Community (CPC) Coordinator

## **AIS LIAISON REPORT**

### **Al-Anon Information Service (AIS)—cooperating with District 6**

AIS held its annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on September 23, 2011, with Oregon Delegate Bette R. as the speaker. It raised over \$600 with 71 dinners sold. The next morning AIS and District 6 cosponsored the Delegate's Report, boosting attendance to 30+ with the addition of "Discovering Our Spiritual Self in All Our Affairs" workshops.

In November, AIS developed the "What's in the Box" campaign to create awareness in the district of our upcoming rotation of leadership election. A team designed attractive gift-wrapped boxes full of ideas about the gifts of service: Friends, Self Esteem, Recovery as well as descriptions of AIS service positions. Group representatives (GR) presented the boxes at their meetings. The results were significantly increased member participation!

The Annual Holiday Auction, co-hosted with District 6 and held on December 3, was a huge success raising \$6,000 and lots of fun! Al-Anon Family Groups (AFG) donated themed gift baskets and individuals provided items for both the regular and silent auctions. This year, a week's stay at a tropical resort vacation home was auctioned TWICE and accounted for nearly half of the proceeds. Creativity, love, and gratitude for Al-Anon abounded.

Our Newsletter is up and running again and includes both AIS and District 6 information.

### **AIS—cooperating with Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)**

AIS has invited AA to send a liaison to attend our monthly business meetings as we do theirs. We coordinate Al-Anon speakers at their monthly Emerald Valley Intergroup (EVI) Speaker meetings and donate a "How Al-Anon Works" book, which is raffled. We are constructing an annual calendar of Health Fair events in the district with the participation of AA and exchanging information on other public outreach opportunities, such as in schools, which strengthens our ability to carry the Al-Anon message.

### **AIS Literature Depot**

Literature sales, through our own literature outlet, consistently reaches \$12,000 annually. There is a considerable amount of support from members through financial contributions (\$3,000+) and a strong volunteer base to manage and run the Literature Depot. We currently host four regular meetings and one Alateen meeting weekly, plus the monthly AIS and District 6 business meetings. A new guidelines policy has been developed to allow use of the Literature Depot for special Al-Anon events and for members of Al-Anon.

### **Public Outreach**

The newly appointed Cooperating with the Professional Community (CPC) coordinator is contacting local doctors' offices through the nursing staff and providing outreach literature and literature stands. Members are encouraged to participate in this outreach effort. AIS recently hosted booths at two local health fairs - Royal Caribbean Cruises and Oregon Research Institute.

Respectfully,  
Shannon O., AIS Liaison, Eugene

## **GROUP RECORDS INFORMATION**

As I have reported previously, the World Service Office (WSO) has a new release which is working extremely well. I am not able to send by e-mail all details of each group in a district. Previously, I made copies for you and put it in your boxes.

The main information I need for a change is a group number and the change. If it has to do with the schedule on the web, I will forward to Barbara, our dear webmaster. It is just fine with both of us if you choose to send this information to both of us – the more checks and balances we have, the better.

Hope all of you have a great New Year. I am excited about my personal growth as well as that of the Oregon Area.

In loving service,  
Helen M., Area Group Records Coordinator

## **PROGRESS, NOT PERFECTION**

Here comes the March Assembly!! Last year at the March assembly, I was elected to the position of Website Coordinator. I was willing to do the job and I knew that my Higher Power would be right there with me. So here it is, almost a year later. I have done a whole bunch of learning and realize I will always be learning this position. I can often be my own worst critic and sometimes feel the weight of the Oregon Area's web presence on my still-learning shoulders. Those are the times that I am reminded that the position is there for me to do to the best of my ability. God wants me to be willing and do my homework so that I may then become 'capable'. God is not expecting perfection...and I need not as well.

I have had many opportunities over the last several months to learn (rather, to practice) being patient. I know He has not started me on this journey to leave me stranded. I need only know that the website is progress, not perfection. So I continue to be willing and continue to learn and am still confident that the Area will have a brand new website before the end of this panel. Thank YOU for letting me serve.

In gratitude,  
Barbara L., Website Coordinator

## **Seventh Tradition Addresses for 2010 – 2012**

Please remember to put the following on each check sent to the Area, District and WSO:

**GROUP NAME AS LISTED ON WSO PRINTOUT, GROUP WSO NUMBER, DISTRICT NUMBER**

TIP\*\* If you don't already have this info printed on your checks, please consider including this on your checks the next time you have checks printed. It makes it easier for your Group Treasurer and the receiving parties to keep all records straight.

The following table is our Links of Service in Oregon. It has been sized to be cut out and kept in your checkbook.

<b>District Donations</b>	<b>Oregon Area Donations</b>	<b>WSO Donations</b>
District _____ AFG  Mail to:	Make checks payable to: <b>Oregon Area AFG</b>  Mail to: Bunny Grimes 1872 Alcan Drive Medford, OR 97504	Make checks payable to: <b>AFG, Inc</b>  Mail to: AFG, Inc 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617

## ALL ABOUT ALATEEN

It has been a little over a year since I was given the privilege to accept this position as your Oregon Area Alateen Coordinator. I have been blessed in so many ways. Sitting here trying to think of where to start and I have so much to share with you all. I don't think I'm supposed to write a book but I think I could write one about our Alateens and sponsors. Here is my experience, strength and hope. I was able to attend the Portland Alateen Round up last April and it was awesome. Keep your eye out for this year's flier! I went to the Washington Area Alateen Conference (WAAC) in July with a group of Oregon Alateens and sponsors. These kids rocked my world with their recovery and how they work this program. Because of this awesome experience, some of the Oregon Alateens had a business meeting in their home group and voted to start an Oregon Alateen Conference Committee that is now composed of six Alateens and four sponsors. I get to be on this committee and the Alateens just voted to have the OAC (Oregon Alateen Conference) at the Molalla Retreat Center the weekend of August 10, 2012. Look for our flier! I just got the date confirmed as I am writing this. It is just such exciting times!

OAC is the Oregon Alateen Conference, pronounced "OAK" It is a weekend full of topic leaders, workshops with topics, sharing meetings and additional fun. (like the Al-Anon State Speakers Meeting) The greatest difference is that OAC will follow the Oregon Area Alateen Safety Guidelines (posted on the Oregon Area Alanon web site). OAC is organized by a committee of Alateens with a Chair, Co-Chair, and Secretary, etc. Alateen sponsors are for guidance but have no voice in voting. This is for Alateens and organized by Alateens with sponsor guidance. Why do they want or need an OAC? The Alateens love and need their recovery in this program just as much we do. This is a safe place to share their hearts and discover they are very much not alone. Plus, the Alateens find a lot of ways to use the tools of the program through their sharings. They get to be their true self for a whole weekend. Pretty powerful stuff. I hope I clarified the OAC. If not, you're welcome to contact me anytime.

These kids have been active in some long OAC committee meetings working to get the details of this conference together. I am impressed with their willingness and dedication. A real boost for them was to receive the support from the Oregon Area at this last November's Assembly. The Oregon Area voted OAC to be included in the budget with accessible funds. The Alateens were very pumped with all the enthusiasm and support they received from you all that day. I am not sure if the Alateen had a breath between sentences in my car on the way home. This makes my heart smile. Thank you for all the support! These words I write cannot relay the

gratitude for all the love, enthusiasm and support that was shared with the Alateens and sponsors at that assembly and afterwards.

The Alateens intend on being self supporting but this is a new adventure with unknowns. The Alateens are our Oregon Area trailblazers for the first Oregon Alateen Conference. The Alateens have been fundraising which has also been a great outreach project. Many meeting schedules and literature are given out and questions answered by the Alateens about what Alateen has done for them. We have had Alateens who knew little about OAC that showed up to help fundraise and left so excited to be a part of this project. All Alateens are welcome to take part in this project and/or start fundraising for their group of Alateens to attend OAC. I know the Alateens are at times in awe with the generosity and the encouragement they receive to succeed with their mission for Oregon Alateens recovery. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) has been wonderful with the Alateens by asking them to speak at meetings and have supported their fundraisers with so much enthusiasm. I can only imagine you will be seeing a lot more of the Alateens. I've been privileged to see the Alateens grow personally, as speakers and in their program. This has been amazing to be part of the journey.

Earlier this year I was invited to go to a couple of colleges and school districts to share about the Al-Anon/Alateen program. I also got to hold a couple Alateen sponsor workshops and I always learn new information from our sponsors. I also get to respond to emails about where, how and what is Alateen. My strength is that my higher power is showing me abundance, growth, and hope with the smiling hearts of you all and our Alateens in this process of recovery.

I know there is a great need for more Alateen meetings in Oregon. I look forward to seeing how many more Alateen meetings get started this year. My hope is that the districts that don't have an Alateen meeting will have Alateen in their vision for their district. This has been such a rewarding service and I have met amazing Alateen sponsors and members of Al-Anon. My hope is that all Alateen sponsors feel loved, appreciated and supported. Alateen sponsorship is a service commitment that not all can do or want to, but we all can encourage the Alateens and the sponsors in your own way. My hope is to see more opportunities for recovery for our kids and anyone who still suffers from the effects from this disease.

I am so grateful to serve Oregon as your Alateen Coordinator but I get so much back I feel privileged. Thank you, Oregon Alanon/Alateen, you rock!

Carolyn H.

## Happiness

Abbey, OR

I think that happiness means that you enjoy your life. Not everyone can always be happy. In fact, a lot of people are not. For a while in my life I struggled to find my happiness. For some reason, my friends and my family were not enough. That's where Alateen helped. After every meeting, I have a wonderful feeling because I can relate to other members. I have a special connection that not everyone has.

The main alcoholic in my life no longer drinks. But that does not mean that alcoholism does not reoccur in my life. Alcoholism took my aunt, it makes my cousins do horrible things, and it makes my uncle angry and unreasonable. Alcoholism takes them away from me and I am left powerless. Alcoholism has taken much away from me, but I won't allow it to take my happiness.



photo: Abbey H.

## Favorite Slogan

Morgan, OR

My favorite slogan is "One Day at a Time." It helps me through the day because when I get in my head and follow my will instead of my Higher Power, I tend to get really stressed out about my future. When I remember "One Day at a Time," I remember that I can only work on today. I can't live in yesterday and I definitely cannot work on tomorrow.

## Sound Familiar?

*A recent conversation as members set up the meeting:*

"Hi!" "Great to see you!" "Who's chairing tonight?" "Oh, she isn't here; will you chair?" "Oh, sure, I will!" "We'd better get those little chairs off the tables and set up!" "Do you think we'll have a full house tonight?" "It's pretty stormy out there!" "Boy, you can say that again; I just about washed away!" "Speaking of washing away, this public outreach project is just knocking my socks off!" "What a great thing!" "Speaking to junior high health classes?" "Who would have thought?" "They asked us to come share about Al-Anon and Alateen and was it ever great!" "The students had many questions and especially loved the Alateens who came and talked!" "They learned so much about alcoholism that their teacher has asked us back for next semester, and we got a call from the High School, too!" "We are very grateful and love those health students to pieces; thank you, HP."

Norma P.,  
Group Representative, West Linn Al-Anon Family Group

## FROM SURVIVAL TO RECOVERY - YES; PROMISES, NO

A member asks:

*"Sometimes a passage in From Survival to Recovery is used as 'the Al-Anon promises'.*

*Even though Al-Anon does not have promises, members persist in using this and drawing comfort from it. Could Al-Anon have Conference Approved promises in the way AA does?"*

This is a common question and many members refer to that particular passage (*From Survival to Recovery*, pg. 269-270) as "The Promises", even while saying "I know Al-Anon doesn't have promises." In Al-Anon's newest book, *Many Voices, One Journey*, we find that the World Service Office (WSO) and the World Service Conference (WSC) have given the question considerable thought over the years.

"In July 1977, the WSO Literature Committee reviewed a piece submitted by a member. It was based on a passage known by some as "A.A. promises," from the book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The Committee responded, "No." It was "not in agreement with the contents of material sent in."

MVOJ pg. 198

"At a workshop, members of the 1989 World Service Conference discussed whether Al-Anon should adapt A.A.'s 'Promises,' as Al-Anon had done with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions:

*The majority opinion was that in Al-Anon we do not make promises; rather we offer our experience, strength, and hope. Adapting the 'Promises' could be in violation of our Eleventh Tradition. Some members felt strongly in favor of using the 'Promises,' pointing out there is nothing specific in them to A.A. except the copyright."*

MVOJ pg. 265

(Tradition 11 says, in part, "Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; ...")

At its October 1995 meeting, the WSO Policy Committee discussed a request to reproduce a passage from the book *From Survival to Recovery* (B-21), as 12 numbered 'gifts' or 'promises' of Al-Anon. The Literature Committee

had previously denied the request, as it had done for previous requests (as far back as 1977) to either adopt A.A.'s 'promises' or create ones specifically for Al-Anon. The Committee reasoned that in Al-Anon we don't make promises; we share experience, strength and hope. A conference workshop discussion from 1989 affirmed these earlier decisions, but now the matter came before the Policy Committee. Committee members commented:

- The concern is that we will give this passage the same importance as the Steps and Traditions if we do so.
- Any reproduction of text should be exactly as printed in the book, without numbering.
- This passage is a good CPC [Cooperating with Professionals Community] tool to let professionals know the benefits of Al-Anon, but it doesn't need to be labeled or numbered.
- A.A. 'promises' are not endorsed by A.A. – they are also just a passage from the book.

"The consensus of the Policy Committee was that the World Service Office should not reproduce the passage as a separate salable item, or grant permission for members to reprint the excerpt. It also agreed that Al-Anon does not have 'promises' and that the WSO should not promote the passage as 'promises' or 'gifts.'"

MVOJ pg. 304-305

As far back as 1977 and over the ensuing 35 years our trusted servants at the World Service Office and the World Service Conference have given this prayerful consideration and determined that Al-Anon does not have promises. Let's support the decision of the collective group consciences. The passage in question certainly offers comfort and hope to those who practice the Al-Anon program, but we urge members to refer to this passage as a quote from the book *From Survival to Recovery* and to remember that we don't promise anything.

End note: The Oregon Area Group Services Action Committee has asked group representatives to create a "Voice Box" so members can submit questions about our fellowship. This is one of the questions submitted.

Rita B.,  
Oregon Area Chairperson

Oregon Area Al-Anon/Alateen Contributions for the Year 2011					
District No-Name	Amount	District No-Name	Amount	District No-Name	Amount
01-There Is Hope AFG 42518	\$40.00	07-Jacksonville Just For Today 62296	\$98.48	11-Gresham Daytimers AFG 31583	\$91.65
02-Happy Hour AFG 24535	\$20.00	07-Live & Let Live AFG 37945	\$94.00	11-Keep It Simple 30548079	\$80.00
02-Wednesday Ones AFG 41038	\$100.00	07-Monday Night Sharing AFG 43026	\$90.00	11-Morning Glory AFG 11893	\$15.00
03-Attitude of Gratitude 11846	\$60.00	07-Moving On AFG 49209	\$45.00	11-Mt. Tabor AFG 11894	\$79.00
03-Cove Keep Coming Back 54183	\$50.00	07-New Beginnings AFG 11859	\$102.00	11-New Beginnings AFG 11906	\$98.00
03-Monday Lunch Bunch AFG 31608	\$20.00	07-New Hope AFG 11821	\$96.47	11-Recovery in Progress 29338	\$30.00
03-Saturday Morning AFG 66918	\$15.00	07-Reaching Out AFG 11822	\$20.00	11-Sunday Serenity 41909	\$16.60
04-Al-Anon Ongoing AFG 11795	\$150.00	07-Saturday Morning AFG 42668	\$60.00	12-1Step@A Time Adult Child 32717	\$100.00
04-Brown Bag Lunch 33362	\$125.00	07-Sunday Night AFG-Phoenix 45557	\$87.50	12-Come To Believe 49011	\$88.05
04-Courage to Change 503138	\$370.00	07-Wednesday Noon 49615	\$100.00	12-Faith & Freedom 49768	\$465.00
04-Discovering Choices 526350	\$26.40	08-Florence Acceptance 11814	\$88.00	12-Hood River AFG 54566	\$15.00
04-Recovery AFG #11930	\$55.83	08-Next Step AFG 66131	\$30.00	12-Melrose AFG 11891	\$91.00
04-Santiam AFG 25888	\$20.00	08-Saturday Serenity AFG 502822	\$45.00	12-NO MAD 11897	\$25.00
04-Tuesday Noon Serenity 501367	\$35.00	08-Siuslaw AFG 63982	\$72.00	12-Progress AFG 11899	\$101.43
04-Women's Tuesday Night 502013	\$25.00	09-Clatskanie Monday Nite 31210	\$20.00	12-Rainbow Recovery 61804	\$50.00
05-Bend Friday Night AFG 11776	\$71.00	09-Early Morning Meditation 63650	\$67.50	12-Serenity Seekers 28716	\$37.50
05-Brown Baggers 30849	\$101.00	09-Mock's Crest AFG 11892	\$11.00	13-Chrysalis AFG 40790	\$100.00
05-Central Oregon- Redmond AFG 11915	\$90.70	09-Monday Night Live 11919	\$60.00	14-Paths to Recovery 62957	\$30.00
05-Happy Our AFG 53846	\$200.00	09-Northwest at Noon 39585	\$398.61	15-Tuesday Brown Baggers 24708	\$108.00
05-Living in the Solution 501838	\$50.00	09-Overlook AFG 11887	\$90.04	16-Albany Care and Share 11763	\$100.00
05-Sunday Surrender AFG 30512301	\$15.50	09-Primarily Parents Too 36979	\$269.58	16-Corvallis AFG 11792	\$100.00
05-Wednesday Noon AFG 11778	\$206.72	09-Solution and Serenity AFG 503278	\$28.43	16-Lebanon AFG 30903	\$100.00
05-Women's Writing Discussion 503105	\$35.00	09-St. Helens Mon Nite Live 11919	\$90.00	16-Parkside Al-Anon 62224	\$37.50
06-Courage to Change 53584	\$75.00	09-Steps to Serenity 64905	\$95.60	16-Sweet Home AFG 37158	\$50.00
06-Friday Noon Literature 66558	\$206.00	09-We Care AFG 11910	\$30.00	17-Courage to Change Alateen	\$25.00
06-Gifted With Life 30507034	\$90.00	09-Weekend Survivors 48901	\$52.91	17-Discovering Choices 30549992	\$44.00
06-Monday Noon AFG 11801	\$175.75	10- Adult Sons & Daughters 32015	\$54.45	17-How It Works Recovery 30552760	\$50.00
06-Recovering with Literature 30556858	\$60.00	10-Aloha Monday Night AFG 11765	\$85.46	17-Hugs AFG 43501	\$199.72
06-River Road Recovery 504139	\$40.00	10-Beaverton Hearts 11775	\$30.39	17-Molalla AFG 11866	\$10.00
06-Saturday Morning 1st Step 51041	\$65.00	10-Friday Nooners 30521018	\$20.00	17-Mt. Pleasant AFG 11875	\$56.00
06-Springfield Discussion 11938	\$90.00	10-From Survival to Recovery 62429	\$45.00	17-Serenity Trails AFG 61467	\$70.00
06-Steps To Change 66587	\$62.00	10-Hillsboro Friday Nite 49255	\$190.00	17-Set Free AFG 27850	\$140.00
06-Sunday New Beginnings 30975	\$40.00	10-Just For Me AFG 11950	\$36.72	17-Stepping Up AFG 26317	\$100.00
06-Sunrise AFG 63985	\$30.00	10-Lake Oswego Al-Anon 23916	\$334.00	17-Valor Para Caqmbiar 30530534	\$10.00
06-Wed Night Recovery 38809	\$50.00	10-Let Go Too 500983	\$80.00	17-Wednesday Night Hope 501380	\$50.00
06-Wed Noon Discussion 11808	\$20.00	10-Love and Service 30512807	\$93.96	17-West Linn AFG 39839	\$56.59
06-Wednesday Night Serenity 11809	\$45.00	10-Love Gifts & Gratitudes 54638	\$100.00	District 01	\$100.00
07-3 A's AFG 65299	\$153.21	10-New Me AFG 28974	\$100.00	District 05	\$686.69
07-Applegate Hour 30535385	\$44.00	10-Nimbus AFG 30519685	\$234.00	District 06	\$100.00
07-Ashland Friday Night 23912	\$45.00	10-North Plain Tues AFG 30528508	\$86.85	Total	\$11,999.83
07-Caring Friends AFG 63899	\$100.00	10-Parents Aren't Perfect 52018	\$212.00		
07-Friday Night Book Study 64202	\$60.00	10-Safe Haven AFG 53207	\$117.65		
07-Friends Of Lois 30509652	\$45.00	10-Serenidad en accion 30571543	\$5.00	Please remember to put Group Name, WSO	
07-Happy Hour AFG 46857	\$71.00	10-Tigard Monday Night 11945	\$206.25	group number and District number on check.	
07-How It Works 502376	\$108.40	10-Valley AFG 11909	\$104.00	Mail all contributions to:	
07-It's About Me AFG 503137	\$147.50	10-Westside Newcomers 46981	\$176.24	Oregon Area AFG	
07-It's About Me AFG 503137	\$147.50	11-Courage To Change 61088	\$34.00	1872 Alcan Drive, Medford, OR 97504	

## Oregon Area Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups

### Financial Reports for 2011

#### Expenses

##### Delegate Fund

WSO ETF	\$1,966.00
Extra Day	\$237.29
Delegate Meeting	\$779.35
Delegate Travel	\$242.17
Delegate Miscellaneous	\$280.19

##### Working Fund Expense

Archive Rent	\$693.00
Area Travel Funds [ATF]	\$1,582.88
Communicator	\$1,163.36
SSM Advance	\$1,500.00
Assembly/AWSC Rent	\$1,787.60
Insurance	\$738.00

##### Assembly Allowance/M meal/Lodging

Officers	\$1,139.72
Audit/Budget	\$323.53
Coordinators	\$1,285.87
Past Delegates	\$654.56

##### Officers Expenses

Alternate Delegate	\$16.90
Chairperson	\$69.35
Secretary	\$182.31
Treasurer	\$211.09

##### Assembly Expenses

Assembly Workshops	\$16.04
Business Services A.C.	\$7.00
Membership Outreach A.C.	\$92.00
Fellowship Communication A.C.	\$16.29
Public Outreach	\$4,956.00
Audit Budget Extra Day + Exp	\$54.02

##### Coordinators

Alateen	\$207.37
Archives Workshop	\$617.08
Forum	\$10.98
Group Records	\$73.43
Public Information	\$8.40
Web Master	\$68.50

##### Delegate Meeting

Past Delegates	\$793.86
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##### Other

Alateen Sponsor Workshop	\$198.26
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**Total Expenses** \$21,972.40

#### Revenue

Group Contributions	\$11,999.83
Assembly Registrations	\$2,091.00
State Speaker Meeting	\$6,037.68
Advances	\$1,500.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>\$21,628.51</u>

#### Oregon Area Al-Anon Bank Accounts

<b>Balance Forward 01/01/2011</b>	<b>\$12,091.12</b>
Deposits for 2011	\$21,628.51
Disbursements for 2011	-\$21,972.40
<b>Balance as of 12/31/2011</b>	<u><b>\$11,747.23</b></u>

#### **2011 SSM - District 7 Host**

##### **Revenue From Districts/Groups to SSM**

Groups Contributions	\$4,145.39
District 1	\$75.00
District 5	\$750.00
District 6	\$700.00
District 7	\$909.60
District 10	\$200.00
District 11	\$290.81
District 17	\$780.59
<b>Total Revenue Group/Distrs.</b>	<u><b>\$7,851.39</b></u>

The group contributions were from 71 groups, and averaged \$58.38 per group.

The COMMUNICATOR  
c/o 1225 Eugene St.  
Hood River, OR 97031

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## UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

OREGON AREA ASSEMBLY	SPRINGFIELD, OR	MARCH 16 - 18
STATE SPEAKERS MEETING	ASTORIA, OR	MAY 18 - 20
OREGON AREA ASSEMBLY	BEND, OR	JULY 20 - 22