

THE BEACON

AL-ANON MONTHLY NEWSLETTER * JUNE 2017 * DISTRICT 159

Step Six

Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character. We know that we have character defects and have some idea of the pain and difficulties they have caused us; surely it would be a relief to get rid of them. Step six does not get rid of these defects, it only asks us to become ready. Are we entirely ready? To continue, the answer must be yes. These two words "entirely ready" are not conditional – they are clear and concise in their instruction; we must commit to the action of having God remove our defects of character. [Paths to Recovery pg.65]

Tradition Six

Our Family Groups ought never endorse, finance or lend our name to any outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary spiritual aim. Although a separate entity, we should always co-operate with Alcoholics Anonymous. We do have a special relationship with one outside group: Alcoholics Anonymous. Although we are completely separate and unaffiliated with A.A., we owe a debt of gratitude to the program from which we adopted the Twelve Steps. We cooperate with A.A. in a variety of ways. For example, we might offer our Al-Anon experience, strength, and hope by serving as speakers at special A.A. meetings or conferences. Or we might share convention facilities or joint Al-Anon and A.A. information offices under certain conditions. The point is to graciously support the A.A. program when we can while maintaining our own distinct identity. (How Al-Anon Works for Families & Friends of Alcoholics, pg.114)

Concept Six

The Conference acknowledges the primary administrative responsibility of the Trustees. In Al-Anon, we begin to learn that one person, one committee, or one management position cannot administer all things necessary for a relationship or entity to prosper and grow. It takes the commitment of each individual working together to achieve the desired goal. As we learn to work together, we develop some level of trust in others. Not only do we learn to appreciate the value and skills of those working with us, we also begin to identify those aspects within ourselves. After a while, we can more easily determine what job we can do effectively, and what jobs others can do. (Reaching for Personal Freedom, pg. 145)

Start Thinking About Service



SERVICE

Putting Love Into Action

It takes practice to love unconditionally. An exceptional opportunity to put this way of relating into effect is by volunteering to help an Al-Anon group through service work. Every contribution has value for the group and enables us to grow as individuals. From putting away chairs after a meeting to representing the group at the local, District or Area level, Al-Anon provides a wide range of opportunities to practice giving unconditionally. Perhaps we will speak at a meeting or become the group's Secretary. We can make the coffee, set out the Al-Anon literature, or read the Suggested Welcome at the start of the meeting. We can serve by reaching out to welcome a newcomer. Another form of service is to submit our thoughts and experiences to the Literature Service at the Al-Anon World Service Office. Such contributions are essential to the creation of new, up -to-date, relevant literature. Sponsorship is another superb and rewarding form of service.

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2017 Florida South Area 10 Election Schedule

August Group Meetings: Group members need to elect their Panel 58 GR's to attend the September District Meeting.

September 13th District Meeting – Newly elected GR's will elect Panel 58 District Level Officers: DR, Alt DR, AISL, Alt AISL, District Secretary & Treasurer. [Information Services Service Positions will be ratified at the November/ December [TBD] District Meeting.

October 6-8 - Area Fall Election Assembly

New Panel 58 GR's must be present to vote in new Area Panel of Officers & Coordinators; Current Panel DR & GR's attend as well.

District Representative (DR) The DR represents the District at Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meetings as a voting member and at the Area Assemblies as a non-voting member. In addition to attending the Area level meetings each year of the panel, the DR sets the agenda and chairs the monthly District meetings and serves as a resource and information source for the Groups. The DR also disseminates the Area Delegate Conference information to the Group Representatives (GR's). The term of service shall be three years and coincide with the three year term of the Florida South Area 10 Panel. **Requirements:** Must have served a full three year panel as Group Representative (GR) of the same Group in District 159 by the end of the current panel. Willingness and ability to make the commitment. **Restrictions:** The DR may NOT be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Alternate District Representative (Alt DR) The Alt DR fills in for the DR if the DR is unable to attend Area Assemblies and AWSC meetings. The Alt DR attends District/Information Services meetings and chairs such meetings when the DR is unable to attend. The term of service shall be three years and coincide with the three year term of the Florida South Area 10 Panel. In the event that the DR is unable and/or unwilling to complete their term, the Alt DR would assume the duties of the DR and complete that Panel as the DR. The District would determine if the Alt DR Service Position would need to be filled for the remainder of that Panel. **Requirements:** Must have served a full three year panel as GR of the same Group in District 159 by the end of the current panel. Willingness and ability to make the commitment. **Restrictions:** The Alt DR may NOT be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous

Al-Anon Information Service Liaison (AISL) The AISL represents the District's Information Services as a voting member at the AWSC and attends the Assembly meetings as a non-voting member each year; coordinates the reports of the District Information Service (IS) chairpersons and facilitates the IS segment of the District meetings. The term of service shall be three years and coincide with the three year term of the Florida South Area 10 Panel. **Requirements:** Must have served a full three year panel as GR of the same Group in District 159 by the end of the current panel. Willingness and ability to make the commitment. **Restrictions:** The AISL may NOT be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Alternate Al-Anon Information Service Liaison (Alt AISL) The Alt AISL fills in for the AISL if the AISL is unable to attend Area Assemblies and AWSC meetings. The Alt AISL attends District/Information Services meetings and facilitates the Information Service segment of such meetings when the AISL is unable to attend. The term of service shall be three years and coincide with the three year term of the Florida South Area 10 Panel. In the event that the AISL is unable and/or unwilling to complete their term, the Alt AISL

would assume the duties of the AISL and complete that Panel as the AISL. The District would determine if the Alt AISL Service Position would need to be filled for the remainder of that Panel.

Requirements: Must have served a full three year panel as GR of the same Group in District 159 by the end of the current panel. Willingness and ability to make the commitment. **Restrictions:** The Alt AISL may NOT be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

District Secretary The District Secretary takes and reads the minutes at the District/Information Services meetings and is responsible for any correspondence that needs to be sent out on behalf of the District. The term of service shall be three years and coincide with the three year term of the Florida South Area 10 Panel. **Requirements:** Any active Al-Anon member can serve as District Secretary. Willingness and ability to make the commitment.

Restrictions: None

District Treasurer The District Treasurer keeps and disburses the money as determined by the District. The District Treasurer also submits regular financial reports to the District and pays the District's expenses. The District Treasurer maintains projected and current budget for the District's approval. The term of service shall be three years and coincide with the three year term of the Florida South Area 10 Panel. **Requirements:** Any active Al-Anon member can serve as District Treasurer. Willingness and ability to make the commitment.

Restrictions: None

Literature Distribution Center (LDC) Chairperson/Co-Chairperson

The LDC provides Al-Anon Groups with local access of Al-Anon books, pamphlets, booklets, kits, posters, films and other Al-Anon material. The LDC purchases literature (at a discounted rate) from the WSO. The difference between the cost of material purchased and the income from sales is used for operating expenses and inventory. The excess will be given to the District to support Al-Anon Services including Public Outreach. The LDC Chairperson will provide periodic financial reports to the District. There is no maximum term of service for the Chairperson or Co-Chairperson for the LDC. **Requirements:** Any active Al-Anon member can serve as LDC Chair. Willingness and ability to make the commitment.

Restrictions: None

Group Representative (GR) The GR represents the Al-Anon group from which they are elected at District /Information Services meetings and Area Assemblies and reports back to the group; votes on behalf of the group; familiarizes themselves with the current copy of the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual; keeps members informed about information from the District, Area, and World Service Organization. Encourages election of an Alternate Group Representative (Alt GR) and keeps the Alt GR informed if unable to attend District and Area Assembly meetings; encourages group contributions to our service arms in keeping with Tradition Seven.

Requirements: Any active Al-Anon member with a willingness to represent the Group at District/Information Services meetings and Area Assemblies in order to carry the message of Al-Anon's group conscience. A GR should have a basic knowledge of Al-Anon Traditions and Concepts of Service and how they are applied in our Groups. **Restrictions:** The GR may Not be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous

Alternate Group Representative (Alt GR) The Alt GR represents the Al-Anon group from which they are elected at District/Information Services meetings if the GR is unable to attend. In the event that the GR is unable and/or unwilling to complete their term, the Alt GR would assume the duties of the GR. Another Alt GR may then be elected. **Requirements:** Any active Al-Anon member with a willingness to represent the group at District meetings and Area Assemblies in order to carry the message of Al-Anon's group conscience. An Alt GR should have a basic knowledge of Al-Anon Traditions and Concepts of Service and how they are applied in our Groups. **Restrictions:** The Alt GR may Not be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous