Al-Anon Monthly Newsletter for sharing our program's experience, strength, hope

THE BEACON

District 159 / Panel 52 Issue XIX June 2014



The Three Legacies
STEPS-TRADITIONS-CONCEPTS
Employing the new workbook:
Searching for Personal FreedomLiving the Legacies

SAINT LEO CHURCH, corner of Bonita Beach Road and US 41 JUAN DIEGO CENTER - 28290 Beaumont Rd., Bonita Springs

Alateen Meetings

- Footprints of Alateen
 Tuesday, 7:30 pm
 St. John's the Evangelist Church
 Parish Life Center
 625 111th Ave N, Naples
- New Life Alateen Meeting Thursday, 4:00 pm, Hensel Room Wesley United Methodist Church 350 S Barfield, Marco Island Local Info: 239-389-1635

Step Six

Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Are the small, temporary pleasures I get from my defects of character worth the price I am paying to keep them? If not, I may be entirely ready to let some of them go today.

Courage to Change, Page 160

Heard it at a meeting...

- Issues are like tissues they keep popping up!
- When I don't work my program, my program doesn't work.

THINK:

- ♦ T Thank
- ♦ H Heavens
- I − I
- ♦ N Now
- ♦ K Know

Mini-Meditation - 3 Breaths

- Be Here ...
- Let Go ...
- Now What ...

Important Dates to Note

- Florida South Spring Assembly
 June 6-8, Ft Lauderdale
- The next <u>Information Services</u> meeting is Tuesday, <u>July 8th</u>th
 7:00 pm, St. Peter's Ministry
- The next <u>District Meeting</u> is Saturday, *July 12th* 11:30 am 24-Hour Club
- ◆ Florida South Summer AWSC Meeting August 1 – 3, Ft Lauderdale
- 25th Annual Florida South Bridges to Serenity Convention, Coral Springs August 22 – 24
- Florida South Fall Election Assembly,
 Oct 24 26, Ft Lauderdale

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.

I come to Al-Anon to receive the spiritual benefit of meetings, principles, and fellowship. I wish to do my part to see that we are not diverted from our primary aim.

Courage to Change, Page 231



25th Annual AFG Florida South Area 10 Convention With A.A. Participation

AUGUST 22 - 24, 2014

Registration Forms Available On-Line: www.southfloridaal-anon.org

Our Convention Decorations Committee has provided our Districts with their 2014 Wish List. If you have any of these items you'd like to donate, please contact jpla159@yahoo.com or jpla159@yahoo.com or jpla159@gmail.com by June 20th to arrange for pickup at an up-coming

meeting .

Kite String – white
Hot glue sticks
Pipe Cleaners – yellow, black, white, and any other color!
Spray Paint – cans of black, blue, green, brown, yellow
Fish Tank pepples – green, blue
Glass stones – green, blue
White Modeling clay
Silk Flowers
Wire – heavy guage
Wire hangers
Butterflies – size one would get in a flower bouquet
Bees - size one would get in a flower bouquet
Ply wood – 16-18 inch circles
Old Forum Magazines

Miniature Stuff!

Doll house furniture Match box or smaller sized cars Silk Flowers Books Food / Vegetables / Fruits Any thing small!

25 - 12 inch x 1/2 inch pieces of wood

Concept Six

The Conference acknowledges the primary administrative responsibility of the Trustees.

To fulfill this position of piloting the fellowship, providing efficient and balanced leadership, the Trustees must be chosen, from among the members, for their Al-Anon experience and sound judgment. Their great responsibility requires a large grant of authority with which to discharge it.

The Concepts: Al-Anon's best kept secret? Page 15

Public Information Unhappy House Business Card Project

Are you troubled by someone's drinking? Help & Hope are just a phone call away

Al-Anon Family Groups 239-263-5907

www.southfloridaal-anon.org

Thrift Shop Shoppers Unite!

There are 38 Thrift Shops within the District 159 area and our Public Information committee is looking for Thrift Shop Shoppers who'd be willing to deliver our Unhappy House Business Cards to area Thrift Shops along with copies of Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism [AFA]

Business Card Holders & AFA's can be picked up at the Information Service and/or District Meetings. Or, contact ispublicinformation@gmail.com for additional information.

Participation is the key to harmony!!
Thanks for your participation today



Many thanks go out to our District Group Records
Chair, who works meticulously to keep our Where & When
Lists up to date. Note a change this month – she's added the
Zip Code to the meeting address in an effort to work with those trying to find a meeting using GPS.

Nice Job!

Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters Inc. 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway Virginia Beach VA 23454-5617

May 12, 2014

To: Al-Anon Family Groups Reprint Permission Office

Please accept the following as my amends for poor judgment and regrettable behavior. This article will appear in our next newsletter.

Sincerely,

Area 10, District 159
Newsletter Chair

I had let a basketful of Resentments rule my life

When I took over the helm of our District's Newsletter, I was so excited. I had all sorts of ideas buzzing around in my head and couldn't wait to dig in and get started. Oh yes, The Guidelines. I need to run through the Guidelines; it's important to do Everything Right, especially in Al-Anon. Oh! What do you mean I can use only CAL? What about all the great poems and excerpts I'd collected through the years from different books and other sources. Darn, well ok... Hey, wait a minute! You're telling me that I can only use CAL. Now you're telling me that I have to Ask For Permission to use the CAL? What the heck is that? Nobody tells me what I can and cannot do! This is So Stupid. I'm not gunna... Oh alright! I'll just footnote them; that'll be good enough for now... I'll figure out how to do all that other stuff tomorrow... And so, just like Miss Scarlet, I'd decided to think about it another day and went on my merry way. I'd received so many accolades... What a great job! You've helped me so much! It was easy to ignore the rules for just one more month...

Fast-forward a little more than a year... a program friend called me, all upset, because I'd been using excerpts from CAL literature but I wasn't including the "used by permission . . ." by-line. Well, geeze, how can I use the used-by-permission by-line when I never did apply to the WSO for permission to use the excerpts in the first place? Anger hit during the phone call with shame and guilt and confusion not too far behind. The fog cleared. What the heck ? You knew you were supposed to ask for permission. Whether you like it or not, that's The Rule. Yes, even your beloved Al-Anon has some Rules.

Well, thanks to my beloved Al-Anon, I had a program that helped me sort this issue out. First, I didn't blow up at my friend; the old me would have lambasted her and never looked back. In Al-Anon I've learned that even the minority voice is important. Besides, she was right and I'd been terribly wrong. Second, I turned to my Higher Power knowing He'd brought this situation to the light for me to examine some old resentments and character defects; it was up to me to work with Him to clear them so that they were no longer running the show. And third, I talked with my Sponsor. What should I do? Do I need to tell everyone what I'd done? How bad I'd been? Her response? Hey, this is a program where we all make mistakes; just don't do it again. That's it? No beating myself up? No getting mad at me? No having to make it up to the entire fellowship over and over again? Just, don't do it again? Huh, how amazing is that! And so, my precious program friends, I've submitted the paperwork to WSO to get permission to reprint CAL excerpts and we'll all move forward from