



SHARINGS

District 3, Greater Jacksonville, Florida

jaxafg.org

March 2017 – Panel 55

MEETING NEWS

For the most current meeting information, visit jaxafg.org and click on "Find a Jacksonville Area Meeting."

■ NEW GROUP MEETING

Wednesday Winners AFG meets on Wednesday night at 6 pm, 400 Penman Road., Jacksonville Beach. This group was formerly known as Circle of Hope AFG.

■ SPEAKER MEETING

Arlington Tuesday Night AFG, which meets Tuesday night at 8 pm at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 5538 Atlantic Blvd., now holds a Speaker Meeting on the fifth Tuesday of each month. The next speaker meeting will be held May 30.

■ SPEAKER/POTLUCK LUNCH MEETING

Serenity Seekers AFG, which meets on Wednesday at noon at the New Covenant Ministries, 2360 St. John's Bluff Rd., Jacksonville, will hold a Speaker Meeting and Potluck Lunch on March 29. Please bring a dish to share.



FROM THE EDITOR to GROUP REPRESENTATIVES:

SHARINGS is a great tool for communicating meeting changes, speaker meetings, potluck meetings, etc. Email your meeting news to newslettereditor@jaxafg.org.



Al-Anon Family Groups can help.

CALL

904-350-0600

or visit jaxafg.org
al-anon.org

LOOK FOR AL-ANON PSA ON DIGITAL BILLBOARDS

The digital billboard company Clearly Jacksonville has approved an Al-Anon Public Service Announcement (PSA) to show on their digital billboards during the months of March and September this year. The billboards are scheduled to appear at the following locations starting March 6 and September 4 and run for four weeks:

- Philips Hwy. and Baymeadows Rd.
- I-295 and Blanding Blvd.
- I-295 and Philips Hwy.

If you see the PSA on these billboards (or any others in the area), please take a picture, if possible, and notify Mark at aisl3@afgarea9.org.

ALATEEN MEETINGS

Tuesday, 8 pm

St. Giles Presbyterian Church
116 Foxridge Rd., Orange Park

Wednesday, 8 pm

San Marco Clubhouse
1423 San Marco Blvd., Jax.

FUN DAY! DID YOU ATTEND FUN DAY ON MARCH 11TH?

Did you attend the Fun Day and Creative Writing Workshop held on March 11th? Let others know in "Sharings" how much you enjoyed your experience. Email your submission (approx. 150 – 200 words) to newslettereditor@jaxafg.org.

IT'S FUN TO MEET AT THE...



All Group Representatives and Al-Anon members are encouraged to attend our next District Business Meeting, scheduled for Saturday, April 8, 9:30 am to noon, at the Brooks Family YMCA, 10423 Centurion Pkwy N, Jacksonville, FL 32256. Come to learn more about the North Florida Area's upcoming TEAM Event and May Assembly (see page 4 for dates and location), working your program through service opportunities available throughout our District, and how Al-Anon works at the District and Area levels. We hope this new meeting location will make

it easier for all to attend. Free childcare will be available in the YMCA's Kid Zone during the meeting. Please contact Mark F. at aisl3@afgarea9.org by noon on Monday, April 3, if you will need childcare. Attendees who are not members of the YMCA will need to sign a waiver form at the Member Services desk prior to attending the meeting.

Hope to see you there!

~ Mark F.
AISL, District 3
aisl3@afgarea9.org

IT'S NOT TOO SOON TO START PLANNING!

Al-Anon/Alateen Sixth International Convention, Baltimore, MD

July 5 – 8, 2018

Al-Anon International Conventions are a great way to celebrate recovery, meet old friends, and make new ones. An International Convention is where members from Canada, the U.S., and many other countries gather together to speak the same language—the language of the heart. Visit www.al-anon.org



AIAnon_WSO NOW REACHING OUT ON INSTAGRAM!

The WSO has launched the official Al-Anon Family Groups Instagram account. Would you consider joining us in this Public Outreach effort? Become a "follower." By liking and sharing AIAnon_WSO Instagram posts, you can help carry the Al-Anon message of hope to many people, including young adults, affected by someone else's drinking that may not have heard about the support that Al-Anon offers. Find us on Instagram by searching for "AIAnon_WSO," or by clicking on the AIAnon_WSO Instagram icon located on the WSO Public Outreach website, www.al-anon.org.

Please remember to protect your anonymity on social media by not making comments that would reveal your Al-Anon membership.



NORTH FLORIDA AREA CONVENTION

**AUGUST 25–27, 2017
TAMPA, FL**

SAVE THE DATES!

Visit www.afgarea9.org/convention2017.html for more information!

TELEPHONE ANSWERING SERVICE NEEDS YOU!

The Telephone Answering Service (TAS) is composed of volunteers who take telephone calls and answer messages from people seeking information about the Al-Anon program, as well as where and when to find a meeting in District 3.



Our volunteers share their experience, strength, and hope with families who are suffering from the disease of alcoholism. This service is available 24/7.

Would you like to help? The TAS needs a volunteer to serve on Tuesdays, from 8 am to 1 pm. Training is provided. All that's needed is a cell phone and the willingness to serve.

If you are interested, please contact Tom at tas@jaxafg.org.

MAILING ADDRESSES FOR DONATIONS

CLIP AND SAVE this section! It contains the new mailing addresses for donations:

District 3 Mailing Address:

Al-Anon District 3
PO Box 16513
Jacksonville, FL 32245

NEW } ADDRESS

North Florida Area Donations:

NFA AFG
9200 NW 39th Ave., Suite 130-51
Gainesville, FL 32606

District 3 Donations:

District 3 AFG
PO Box 16513
Jacksonville, FL 32245

World Service Office Donations:

AFG, Inc.
1600 Corporate Landing Pkwy.
Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617

AL-ANON MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 61ST FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION, JULY 27– 30, 2017, JACKSONVILLE

An exciting program is being planned for Al-Anon members at the AA State Convention, being held in Jacksonville, at the Hyatt Regency, July 27 – 30, 2017. "Love in Action" is the theme for the AA convention. The convention schedule will include workshops, meetings, and a speaker — especially for Al-Anon members. For more information and to register, visit floridastateconvention.com.

Volunteers from District 3 are needed for the event. If you would like to volunteer to assist, please contact Freddie S. at webmaster@jaxafg.org or Roxanne A. at ldc@jaxafg.org.

Personal Sharings

"I heard about Al-Anon from a friend, whose husband starting going to AA. I phoned the local number for Al-Anon and got a nice lady who shared some meeting information with me. I went to my first meeting, which had over 30 members, and the numbers intimidated me. So I tried another meeting, which had about 15 members in a smaller room. This became my regular weekly meeting, but I eventually went back to the larger meeting and stayed.

I just wanted the members to tell me how to get my loved one to stop drinking. They replied, "Keep coming back!" They were very kind to me, and to my amazement, were smiling and laughing. I was terminally serious. I

wanted what they had, so I kept coming back. I just knew there were some magic words that I could say to get my loved one to stop drinking. I guess the members would tell me those magic words after I went to more than one or two meetings. I thought I had to prove that I was really serious about getting my loved one to stop drinking, and not just someone who was auditing the "Al-Anon classes."

I didn't tell my husband that I was going to Al-Anon because I didn't want to hear his blah-blah-blah. After going out the same night at the same time for about a month, my husband became suspicious about where I was going, so I confessed that I was going to Al-Anon, because I thought his drinking was out of control. The magic happened! He stopped drinking, and I stopped going to Al-Anon...

for about a month, when his drinking started again. I got myself right back to that same small meeting, and was ready then to hear what they were truly saying — not what I thought they were saying. The members welcomed me with lots of smiles and hugs.

Today I give back what was freely given to me by doing Twelfth Step work and serving on my local Al-Anon Telephone Answering Service — the same service that I called all those years ago. I can share my experience, strength, and hope with family members in pain looking for Al-Anon meetings and offer them some help and hope.

~ Anonymous

NORTH FLORIDA SPRING ASSEMBLY

Friday, May 5 – Saturday, May 6, 2017
Altamonte Springs, Florida

District Representatives, AISLs (AI-Anon Information Service Liaisons), and Group Representatives attend. Groups are encouraged to send a Group Representative or a Group Contact. All AI-Anon members are welcome to attend.

RESERVATION INFORMATION:

To make reservations, call the Hilton at 407-830-1985, Group name NFA AFG, or go online to: http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/A/ALTAHHF-NFA5-20170503/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG The special rate is available through April 14.

TEAM 2017 EVENT

Saturday, May 6 – Sunday, May 7, 2017
Altamonte Springs, Florida

TEAM Events are an opportunity for AI-Anon and Alateen members to learn more about service and our program.

A TEAM event is designed to energize members' spiritual quests, activate their creativity, and expand understanding of our worldwide fellowship!

The theme of this year's event is "The Umbrella of the Serenity Prayer: Putting the Serenity Prayer to Work in Service."

RESERVATION INFORMATION:

To make reservations, call the Hilton at 407-830-1985, Group name NFA AFG, Group Code NFA 5, or go online to: http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/A/ALTAHHF-NFA5-20170503/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG The special rate is available through April 14.

Registration is \$20 and is available online at www.afgarea9.org at "TEAM 2017" or send your check payable to NFA AFG, Inc. to Team Event, PO Box 1511, Largo, FL 33779-1511. Write TEAM EVENT on memo line. Please register by April 21.

Meal tickets for both events available in advance online at afgarea9.org

DISTRICT 3 CALENDAR

Sunday, April 2, 2017.....	District 3 Steering Committee Meeting
Saturday, April 8, 2017	District Business Meeting* Brooks YMCA (See page 2 for details.)
Friday, April 14, 2017	Hotel Registration Deadline for Assembly/TEAM Event* (More information at left.)
Friday, May 5 – Saturday, May 6, 2017	North Florida Spring Assembly* (More information at left.)
Saturday, May 6 – Sunday, May 7, 2017	TEAM 2017 Event* TEAM: Together Empowering AI-Anon Members (More information at left.)

Please note: District Business Meetings and Workshops are held at Arlington United Methodist Church at 1400 University Blvd. North, Jacksonville, FL 32211, in Wesley Hall (except where noted). District Business Meetings begin at 9:30 am with doors opening at 9 am. Meetings end at noon. Start times for events such as Workshops and Fun Days may vary. Please check fliers or jaxafg.org for event times.

*All AI-Anon members are invited to this event.



Babysitting services are available at all District Business Meetings and Fun Day events.

DISTRICT 3 TRUSTED SERVANTS

<h1 style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">PANEL 55</h1> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">JANUARY 1, 2015 – DECEMBER 31, 2017</p>	Gage M. District Representative.....	dr@jaxafg.org
	VACANT..... Alternate District Rep.....	adr@jaxafg.org
	Mark F. AISL.....	aisl@jaxafg.org
	VACANT..... Alternate AISL	altaisl@jaxafg.org
	Susan H. District Treasurer	treasurer@jaxafg.org
	Curt S. Secretary.....	secretary@jaxafg.org
	Beth H. Alateen.....	alateen@jaxafg.org
	VACANT..... AA Liaison/Spanish Liaison....	aal@jaxafg.org
	VACANT..... Historian.....	historian@jaxafg.org
	Carolyn I. Archives	archives@jaxafg.org
	Julia & Florence... Area Raffle	raffle@jaxafg.org
	Toni C. Group Records	records@jaxafg.org
	Roxanne A. LDC/Literature.....	ldc@jaxafg.org
	Charlene S. New Group Rep. Greeter	greeter@jaxafg.org
	Risa G. Newsletter Editor	newslettereditor@jaxafg.org
	Destinee G. Speaker Keeper	speakerkeeper@jaxafg.org
	Tom H. Telephone Answering Svc.....	tas@jaxafg.org
	Freddie S. Webmaster	webmaster@jaxafg.org
	Jessica B. Where & When	ww@jaxafg.org
	Lisa..... Institutions	institutions1@jaxafg.org
VACANT..... Public Information/Media	pi@jaxafg.org	
Dany A. Co-op w/Prof. Community.....	cpc@jaxafg.org	

Interested in serving in one of the vacant positions on Panel 55 or simply wish to learn more about the positions available? Contact the District Representative at dr@jaxafg.org.