



Recovery Through the Steps
Unity Through the Traditions
Service Through the Concepts

Inside This Issue

Topic: Meet Me At The Fair

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Northern Hi Lights

Al-Anon News from New York North Area Immediate Past Delegate

Dear NYN Friends,

Summer is here, which means the New York State Fair. It runs from Wednesday, August 23rd through Monday, September 4th. New York North will have a booth at the fair this year, as we have for the past two years.

This has been a great public outreach project for the Area. We have been able to make contact with over 2,000 in the past two years. Who knows what seeds we have been able to sow within those who may be suffering from the affects of the disease of alcoholism.

In order to continue to reach out we need you! The booth is manned each day of the fair from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM. We are there to provide written materials, answer questions and just provide a smile to those walking by.

The Area will provide your ticket into the fair. All we ask is that you sign up for a 3 hour shift during one day at the fair. The shifts are from 10:00-1:00, 1:00-4:00, 4:00-7:00 and 7:00-10:00. There are two people per shift at the booth. It could be fun for you and friend, or sponsor, to sign up together. (Cont. page 2)

Mission Statement

Northern Hi Lights is the monthly publication (10 issues) of the New York North AFG Assembly Area. It is intended both as a member outreach tool and to keep the Area informed of all Service related projects and activities at the District, AIS, and Area levels in between Assemblies. Content of each issue will include Service Reports from the Delegate, Officers and Coordinators of the Area; and pertinent Service topics from the World Service Office. Reports from Districts, Information Services and Alateen Sponsors will be included as space allows. A topic of the month may be chosen by the editor as a focus for reports. **Northern Hi Lights** is not copyrighted. It is not conference approved literature.

Submissions: Email by the 15th of the month prior, to: newsletter@nynafg.com

When submitting reports, keep in mind that all quotes from Conference Approved Literature (CAL) must have prior written permission from WSO (see pgs. 106-107 in your 2014 Service Manual). **Announcements should be submitted at least 6 weeks before event.**

Subscriptions: Suggested donation of \$10/year when possible (see back page): All Al-Anon members are encouraged to subscribe (**electronically if possible**) to receive an individual copy. A copy will automatically be sent to each Group Representative on record with the Group Records Coordinator, unless we have instructions for a specific Group Mailing Address.

For more information visit the following websites:

New York North: www.nynafg.com

WSO: www.al-anon.alateen.org

(*Immediate Past Delegate* continued from page 1) It is easy to sign up. Visit the NYN website, www.nynafg.com. On that first page you will see "New York State Fair Booth Information", click on this link. It will take you to a page that should answer all your questions about the booth. At the bottom of that page is a link to Signup.com. Click on this link and you will be at the website to sign up for a shift or two at the fair. You just need to pick your day, and shift.

Please provide all information asked for, including your mailing address. This is needed to mail you your fair ticket. (Your contact info is only available at the backend, so people visiting the site won't see it) I will be mailing tickets a week or two before you are scheduled to work.

If something comes up and you need to change your day or time, you can do so easily. Just visit the website as you did to sign up. Please try to sign up by August 1st so your ticket gets mailed to you in a timely fashion.

We need your participation to make this a success. Please take a minute to sign up and be part of this great public outreach project. If you have any questions you can contact me at jpd@nynafg.com. I want to thank all who will be taking part this year. Gratefully in Service,

Ruth S.

Area Chairperson

Hello NYN,

It's time to start planning for the August AWSC meeting on Saturday, August 19, 2017 at the NSEA

Building, 201 South Main St, N. Syracuse, NY 13212. We will be planning the agenda for the Fall Election Assembly, where we will elect new officers and coordinators for Panel 58, which begins January 1, 2018. After the election, the outgoing officers and coordinators will meet with you to pass along their notes and experience, strength and hope. Please consider standing for a position. The growth opportunities are beyond expectations.

Another item on our AWSC agenda will be the revote regarding going to small claims court in Buffalo to reclaim the missing NYNAC funds. Because the vote count and number of voting members at the Spring Assembly didn't match, we will be holding another vote in the Fall. Please let your group representatives know about this situation so they come to the Assembly well-informed.

I'm sure Nancy has stressed in her article, but I want to reiterate, that it is important to register early for the Fall Assembly, as rooms will probably not be available after the cutoff because of the other events going on in the area that weekend.

I like to set goals for myself so that I can accomplish my hopes and dreams in a timely manner. I especially like to check them off my list! My future AI-Anon goals, one day at a time, will be to attend meetings (my sanity insurance), share my experience strength and hope (future of AI-Anon insurance) and to sponsor others into service (officer and coordinator insurance). I expect that I will do that until I am no longer able to participate in meetings. Maybe I'll appoint someone else to check that off my list!
Happy Summer!

Susan A.

Public Outreach Coordinator

Hi Everyone and Happy Summer,

A few things to remember:

- The NY State Fair, our largest outreach event, is 8/23-9/4/2017. Sign up with a friend by going to our NYN website, nynafg.com
- Al-Anon is now on Twitter in Spanish and French. Please remind members to protect their anonymity on social media by not making comments or using screen names that would reveal their Al-Anon membership. Members are invited to follow and retweet and “like” our tweets (posts).
- September is National Recovery Month.
- At our Spring Assembly I showed our recent Public Service Announcements (PSA’s).. After showing them, a male member asked, “Where are the men?” The principal characters in these PSA’s are both females. I decided to write to WSO to get more information and to share this question. I heard back from Patrick Q., Associate Director of Public Outreach/Media. Patrick pointed out that in the one PSA there are three adults in the meeting scene, and one is an actor who plays the part of an Al-Anon man. In the Alateen spot there are five actors in the meeting scene and two of them are males. One plays an Alateen boy, and the other plays an Al-Anon man as a co-sponsor of the Alateen group. Patrick wondered if the real question is, “Is a man ever the principal character in the PSA’s?” His answer was yes. He went on to say, “The most recent was a New York man who played the father of a young man with a

drinking problem. This spot first appeared two years ago and before that, a man played the husband of an alcoholic. These PSA’s are still being shown in some areas.”

I hope this is helpful information and I am grateful for the question. I will see many of you at our next AWSC meeting on August 19th in Syracuse. Together we can make a difference.

Pat H. (po@nynafg.com)

Alternate Delegate

Hello NYN,

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Diane and her family as her husband is in the hospital after suffering a stroke.

I offered to pass along the following information for her:

It’s time to start thinking about the **Al-Anon International Convention 2018!** It will be held on July 6-8, 2018 in Baltimore, Maryland. Now is the best time to start planning your budget to attend. Plan on registering early for the lowest registration price.

Diane also wanted to let you know that she, Pam A., Connie D., Nancy H., and Cerise (D 10) are working on a committee to revise the *Northern Hi Lights* newsletter to see what can be done to make it a more effective communication tool.

Gwenne R.

Treasurer's Report

Hello, NYN Family!!

I hope everyone enjoyed the Spring Assembly in Cheektowaga as much as I did! What a great job the Convention Planning Committee did! Thank you!!

The following donations were received during the month of May. Thank you for continuing to support our Area!!

<u>Gr Name</u>	<u>Gr #</u>	<u>Amt</u>
Christ the King	10328	11.99
Save Our Sanity	62001	75.00
Chittenango	9677	15.00
Tuesday	66230	20.00
Dryden Fri	UNK	10.00
Changing What I Can	27835	25.00
Progress Not Perf	30606210	50.00
TASK	9640	25.00
Courage	48141	5.00
Mattydale	66548	20.00
Assembly 7 th Trad	n/a	182.90
RETURN Seed \$\$	n/a	1000.00
St Mary's Thursday	9729	50.00
UNK	9710	60.00

There were NO paid subscriptions to *Northern Hi Lights (NHL)*.

The following expenses have been paid since the last newsletter:

Susan A	187.72
Ruth S	236.43
Walter S	84.28
Leslie C	103.67
Lynda S	186.85
Kevin M	59.85
Diane C	141.86
John O	9.00

Current Balances are as follows:

Regular Checking	\$16,729.30
Reserve Checking	9,750.20
Sage Ruddy Mutual Fund	2,955.40

The topic for this month's newsletter is "Meet Me at The Fair." I would absolutely LOVE to come see the AI-Anon Family Group Exhibit at the Fair, and volunteer for a shift.... But the reality of living 5 hours away would make for a veeeeeeerrrry loooooong day!! I just want everyone to know that they are in my thoughts as they fill those slots to volunteer for a shift!! And to all the people who visit the AFG Exhibit, I hope they can see AI-Anon in action and hear something they need to hear while they are at the Exhibit. I have no doubt their Higher Power will see to that!! Looking forward to seeing some of you at the AWSC meeting in August, and many more at the Fall Election Assembly in September! Have a GREAT (and safe!!) summer!! Hugs,

Linda A.

SENDING DONATIONS
To New York North
 Donations should be sent by check or money order. **DO NOT SEND CASH!!**
 Make payable to: NYN Area Assembly
 PO Box 398, Morrisonville, NY 12962
 Add group's registered name and group's ID Number (VERY Important)

Archives Coordinator

Hey NYN members,

My time as Archives Coordinator will be up this year. I would like to share some things the Archives Coordinator does.

- Store the NYN archives (27 banker boxes, one metal shelf that holds 15 boxes, not all boxes are completely full).
- Prepare display of Archives materials for the Fall and Spring assemblies.
- Determine appropriate items to be kept in the Archives.
- Organize and pare them down as best one can.
- Answer any questions members may have (I got 3 to 4 emails requesting information)
- Write monthly article for the *Northern Hi Lights* (hardest part for me).

Looking forward, several Archives Coordinators from around the country are looking into or have started to digitize their archives (getting rid of keeping boxes). I think this is something the next Archives Coordinator could look into. But as with any service position, you do it your way the best you can, and you don't do it alone. I did it differently than the person before me, and the next person will also do it differently. I had help from the previous coordinator, and members from my district. To me, service is a huge part of my recovery, and I'm glad to give back to Al-Anon. Feel free to contact me if you have any question.

I hope you think about standing for one of the service positions at NYN. Service has done so much for my recovery (practicing the Traditions and the principles in all my affairs) and lets me give back to a program that has given so much to me.

The New York State Fair is coming up at the end of August. I have volunteered at the NYN AFG booth for the last 2 years. Talk about a rewarding experience. My first year, a young man came up to the booth and just stood outside of it, looking like he wasn't sure what to do. I went up and just started talking to him. Shared what Al-Anon was

about and how it helped me and got him a schedule for his area. That made the whole day and NYN being at the fair, well worth it. Last year, we had a young girl (7ish) come into the both alone, looking at the literature. She said she knew a little bit about it from her school. We let her know that at any time she could call the 800 Al-Anon number and someone would be there to help. WOW. If only one person I talked with or gave a schedule to, makes it to a meeting, it was worth my time driving out there (I'm in Albany) and spending the day there. This is an excellent outreach opportunity and is VERY EASY. I just sit in the both, say "Hi" to people when they come in, and answer any questions, another way I can give back to a program that has given me back my serenity and sanity. I urge you to sign up to volunteer. *"When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen always be there, and let it begin with me."* (Never mind all the wonderful food at the fair, deep fried everything!)

Yours in Service,

Kevin M.

Alateen Coordinator

I am happy to report that the Alateen Recertification Process is complete. On behalf of Mary Beth G. and myself, I would like to thank everyone for their support and cooperation. We had only 30 AMIAS's respond to our first request, so we sent a second notice. In order to meet the WSO deadline we recertified these individuals, but if a response is not received by July15 they will be inactivated. Also, I have Alateen Groups who did not send in the Group Record Update form they received from World Service. If you have not sent in your form please do so now; it is the responsibility of the AMIAS registered as the Current Mailing Address for the group to complete this form, and return it to my attention.

On June 10th I conducted a conference call with the NYN Alateen Guideline Update Committee. We completed 90% of the NYNAC guidelines. As per

our discussion, I am conducting an inquiry with other area Alateen coordinators to determine how they handle the rooming of transgender teens at conferences and conventions. It appears that this topic is being discussed in most areas across the country. I am going to suggest that we consider speaking with an attorney who is knowledgeable about the laws in New York State. The committee is planning to meet face-to-face later in July.

I hope that everyone has a fun, safe and healthy summer. Take care, and see you in September.
Love in service,

Walt S.

Convention Coordinator

Hello NYN,

There is a Big Opportunity awaiting that special District that steps up and says, “**Yes, we can host the 2019 Spring Assembly/Convention. So what are the steps?**” you say.

After thinking it over, check the **NYNAFG.com home page** and click on **Area Information and Forms**. Halfway down the screen, click on **NYN Area Convention Guidelines**. There are nine pages on how to Host an Assembly/Convention.

After discussing with your district, and everyone says, ‘**let’s go for it!**’ contact me and at the August AWSC meeting we will surely approve of taking your motion to 2017 September Fall Assembly/Convention for a positive YES vote.

When approved, the first step is to secure a hotel. If you have a couple of members available this summer, they could look at what hotels there are in your district, and check them out. Not to minimize it, but the only cost would be their time.

Yes, it is a big job, but it really can be fun, and for me always a great learning experience and a time to bond with my district members.

And of course, all of NYNAFG members who spent May 19-21 in The Millennium Hotel in Buffalo area are saying “Thank you, thank you” to District 12. Awesome!!

2017 Fall Assembly (flyer in newsletter & on WEB) hosts say to make your hotel reservations ASAP. (Big activity in Syracuse that weekend.)

When we get to be one of the ‘elderly,’ we definitely take it **One Day at a Time**, but that’s what my sponsor told me many years ago, and it works, so I guess that’s what I’ll keep doing. Just about the best suggestion I have ever been given.
Love in service,

Nancy H.

Newsletter Editor

Hello NYN,

Here’s hoping you are interested in being the next editor of *Northern Hi Lights*. It has been quite a journey, and one I’m grateful I didn’t have to take alone. When things didn’t go well, I could fall back on my proofreaders and my ‘techie’, Pat H. If asked, I’ll also be willing to help out the newcomer, and when I can’t, I know who can. (my helpers)

When I made mistakes, like needing to send out a second newsletter because of my errors, there was just acceptance, not criticism. Perfection is a myth, and Al-Anon is a safe place to take risks and grow in the program.

I’ve heard lots of people say they are ‘grateful members’, and I hope to see them manning our booth at the NY State Fair this year. I’m so grateful, I may be there twice, if needed. It would be a pleasure, since I am continually grateful, and still need this program.

John O.

Al-Anon Acronyms

AAPP –Area Alateen Process Person
AFG – Al-Anon Family Groups
AIS – Al-Anon Information Service
AMIAS – Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service
AWSC – Area World Service Committee (made up of officers, coordinators, and district representatives of an area, such as ours, New York North)
CAL- Conference Approved Literature
CMA – Current Mailing Address
DR – District Representative
GR – Group Representative
KBDM – Knowledge-Based Decision Making
LDC – Literature Distribution Center (local)
Legacy – The Al-Anon legacies are the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts
NERD – Northeast Region Delegates
Northern Hi Lights – NYN Newsletter
NYN – New York North Area
NYNAC– New York North Alateen Conference
PO/CPC – Public Outreach / Cooperating with the Professional Community
RSS – Regional Service Seminar

TEAM – Together Empowering Al-Anon Members

WSO – World Service Office

WSC – World Service Conference

PSA's- Public Service Announcements

Group Records Coordinator

Hello NYN,

Thank you all for correcting some of the information that has been preventing groups from getting current information. It helps so much to have the correct information available to people looking for meetings or other needed information. Please keep up the good work and maybe all our files will be correct when it is time for the newly elected Group Records person to take the reins.

Our topic is meet me at the Fair. Well this one I will have to leave in my Higher Power's hands. If an opportunity to attend the Fair and work the booth presents itself, I will know I am supposed to be there and I will go. I work midnight to 8AM so that excludes a lot of possibilities. We will have to see what happens.

Love in Service

Lynda S.



JOIN THE FUN

VOLUNTEER AT THE NYN BOOTH AT THE NY STATE FAIR

August 23rd through September 4th

Visit nynafg.com

Click on the NY State Fair Booth Information

Sign up for your spot at the Fair

Great Public Outreach for Al-Anon in New York

2017 NEW YORK NORTH AREA FALL ELECTION ASSEMBLY
Celebrating 50 Years of the New York North Area
September 22, 23, and 24, 2017
Comfort Inn and Suites, 6701 Buckley Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212
"Celebrating 50 Years of Al-Anon in New York North"
HOSTED BY DISTRICTS 3 & 18

FRIDAY 9/22

Registration 3:00 pm –9:00 pm
 Committee Meetings (7:00 pm)
 NYN Birthday Meeting (7:00 pm)
 50 Years of NYN (8:30 pm)

SATURDAY 9/23

Registration 7:00 am – 3:00 pm
 A.W.S.C. Meeting (8:00 am)
 New G.R. Meeting (8:30 am)
 Assembly Morning Session (9:15 am)
 Lunch Break (Noon)
 Election Assembly (1:00 pm)
 Banquet & Gag Gifts (6:00 pm)
 Main Al-Anon Speaker (7:30 pm)
 Musical Chairs Gratitude Meeting (8:30 pm)

SUNDAY 9/24

Alateen Interest Meeting (8:00am)
 Spiritual Panel (9:30 am)

HOTEL RESERVATIONS - NYN AFG 2017 FALL ELECTION ASSEMBLY

ROOM RESERVATION DEADLINE: August 31, 2017

CALL TO RESERVE A ROOM ON YOUR CREDIT CARD: 315-457-4000 or 1 800-4CHOICE
www.syrhotel.com or e-mail CIS@Tramzhotels.com **TELL THE HOTEL YOU ARE WITH THE NEW YORK NORTH AREA ASSEMBLY TO GET THE CONVENTION ROOM RATE. ROOM RATE WILL BE \$89.00 (plus \$11.57 tax = \$100.57) FOR SINGLE, DOUBLE, TRIPLE, OR QUAD OCCUPANCY, PER NIGHT. SUITES WILL BE \$109.00 plus tax per night. ROOM RESERVATION REQUIRED FOR FREE CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST. ROOM RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY August 31, 2017.** Check in: 3:00pm / Check out: 11:00 am. Make your checks payable and mail to: Comfort Inn and Suites, 6701 Buckley Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212

Directions:

From NYS Thruway I-90, take exit 36 and travel south on I-81 to first exit, 7th North street. (Exit 25) Take a right at the light at the end of the exit then and another right at the light at Buckley Road. Hotel is about ¼ mile down on the left.

2017 NEW YORK NORTH FALL ELECTION ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____ AL-ANON REGISTRATION (\$18/\$20 at Door): _____

ADDRESS: _____ ALATEEN REGISTRATION (Free): _____ *

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE #: _____

SATURDAY BUFFET (\$29): _____

(Please Pre-Register)(Entrees include London Broil, Herb Roasted Chicken, & Eggplant Parmesan (Gluten Free)

E-mail Address: _____

HOSPITALITY ROOM DONATION: _____

MAIL TO:

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

2017 NYN Fall Assembly

Is this your first Al-Anon Assembly? _____

P.O. Box 2183

Are you a New GR? _____

Syracuse, NY 13220

Are you a New DR? _____

Are you willing to volunteer to help out at the Assembly

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: 2017 NYN FALL ASSEMBLY. MEAL AND ASSEMBLY PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS September 9, 2017. * ALATEENS MUST HAVE ADULT SUPERVISION AND NOTARIZED PARENTAL PERMISSION SLIPS AND MEDICAL RELEASE FORMS. YOU CAN ALSO REGISTER FOR THE ASSEMBLY AT THE DOOR, HOWEVER MEAL REGISTRATIONS ARE NOT ALWAYS AVAILABLE.

Do you know whom to contact with an Al-Anon issue?
 Unless this is a personal subscription, this copy belongs to your group.
 Please share it with them, and make each issue available at your meeting.
 To insure anonymity, tear off this part before leaving it with your group.

<u>Delegate</u> Diane C. delegate@nynafg.com	<u>AlternateDelegate</u> Gwenne R. altdelegate@nynafg.com	<u>Immed.PastDelegate</u> Ruth S. ipd@nynafg.com	<u>Chairperson</u> Susan A. chairperson@nynafg.com
<u>Treasurer</u> Linda A. treasurer@nynafg.com	<u>Alateen</u> Walt S. alateen@nynafg.com	<u>Secretary</u> Pam A. secretary@nynafg.com	<u>Convention</u> Nancy H. convention@nynafg.com
<u>GroupRecords</u> Lynda S. records@nynafg.com	<u>Literature</u> Gwenne R. lit@nynafg.com	<u>NYNAC</u> Leslie C. nynac@nynafg.com	<u>PublicOutreach</u> Pat H. po@nynafg.com
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<u>Panel 40 Past Delegate</u> Anne F. Delegate40@nynafg.com <u>Panel 16&19 Past Del.</u> Maxine B. <u>Panel 13 Past Delegate</u> Ruth F.	<u>Panel 37 Past Delegate</u> LaVaughn R. Delegate37@nynafg.com <u>Panel 34 Past Delegate</u> Sherry B.	<u>Panel 31 Past Delegate</u> Arlene M. (Deceased) <u>Panel 28 Past Delegate</u> Mary G.	<u>Panel 25 Past Delegate</u> Marcia J. <u>Panel 22 Past Delegate</u> William S. <u>Panel 4 Past Delegate</u> Helen S.

PLEASE PASS THIS NEWSLETTER ON TO OTHERS IN YOUR GROUP



Northern HiLights Subscription Form

While there is no specified charge for *NHL* subscriptions, in keeping with the Seventh Tradition of being fully self-supporting, **a donation of \$10 per year is suggested**, when possible, to help the Area pay for production costs. **Make checks payable and mail to:** NYN Area Assembly, PO Box 398, Morrisonville, NY 12962

All AI-Anon members are encouraged to subscribe to the *Northern HiLights* electronically; just e-mail your request with your name to: records@nynafg.com

If you need a hard copy, please check type of subscription: () group or () individual; () renewal or () new

Name _____

Title (GR, Sponsor, Individual, DR, etc.) _____ E-Mail Address _____

Address _____ Phone () _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

If Group Subscription, Group Name _____

WSO# _____ District# _____

If sent to address other than above, please include that name and address, WSO#, in writing on another piece of paper.

Mail address changes and updates to: Group Records, 68 Boulderwood Drive, Queensbury, NY 12804, or Email:

records@nynafg.com

Northern Hi Lights
68 Boulderwood Drive
Queensbury, NY