

Western NY AIS

Our Alateen Coordinator continues to make progress with communicating about Alateen in our area. Outreach to schools has been a priority with letters to counselors about Alateen presence in the area. We have 4 groups now and are struggling to maintain attendance. Our Alateens are fully self-supporting through fundraising and will be in charge of games at our annual AIS picnic in July.

Our Public Outreach person has been working closely with Pat H. at the area level to get the word out about Al-Anon. He has contacted county courts to provide information. He has also contacted our DR's to make sure they are printing and distributing the new Al-Anon public outreach posters in our area. Pat has been great to help make sure we getting out there.

The local hospital has invited us to come out once a month to share with the families and patients at its drug and alcohol program. We have a regular opportunity to share with families about Al-Anon. We are providing literature and pamphlets at this meeting.

Literature continues to flow regularly out to the groups in our districts. Our literature coordinator highlights a piece of literature at our monthly AIS meeting so we can take it back to our groups to keep the flow of information and support going.

As of June 2015 we will have open positions for treasurer, schedules and alternate chair. My goal as chair is to have those positions fill so there is no lapse in service. It seems to be getting more challenging to get members to know the value of service. We are optimistic that our Higher Power has the right person lined up for us!

In July we will hold our annual AIS picnic. This is our celebration of the groups and members who keep Al-Anon going. We provide hotdogs and everyone brings a dish to share. In the past we have had upwards of 50 people attend. This year the Alateens will be coordinating the games so it's a great opportunity for people to come out and hang out with friends and get to know how Al-Anon works outside the walls of our meeting.

In October 2014 we introduced a pass the pumpkin AIS fundraiser where a pumpkins basket/bag was passed in meetings for individual contributions to support AIS. A letter of intent along with the pumpkin bag was mailed to each group in our area. We raised 754.62. Personal thank you notes were mailed to each group who identified themselves with their contribution. The fundraiser was wonderfully accepted and we discussed doing an April Bunny basket but we unable to get it out this year.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve – our group is excited to continue to support our local area and above!

In Service,

Kelli W.
WNY AIS Chair