

District 8 Report - Assembly May 2016

I start this report with loads of gratitude as our financial status is now in a good place thanks to all our members, groups, our first treasurer, our interim treasurer and now our new treasurer. We have decreased the cost of our phone service, rent, and are working on finding a less expensive storage unit. The Serenity Messenger and our Where & When are back in print.

Our Public Outreach CPC is working with the Salvation Army and some of our members to give them a women's al-anon mtg that they requested. She has also sent out the AFA's on her mailing list in January and our 2016 AFA's have arrived.. We have a new Public Information chair. We are looking for a volunteer for Institution's chair as that chair just stood down. Our Bus Benches have been renewed for another year.

The Recovery Weekend at the Bethany Center was a success held in April and they are on the calendar for next spring. District 8 is chairing the Alateen Conference in Lake Placid Fla on July 29th - 31st. We have been doing great with the Change for Change project that the groups all over north Fla are taking part in to help raise money for the Alateens weekend - it is amazing how that little bit of change in your pocket or purse is adding up! The whole area is helping out - thank you.

Our DR is sponsoring Neighborhood Seminars to be located in a library of the area of Hillsborough County where it is taking place with the idea of covering north, south, east and west areas of the county. The North seminar will take place on June 11 at 3pm at the Jimmy Keel Library on Bearss Ave and the topic is: How Can We Keep Our Group Healthy.

We continue to carry on our 6th tradition by taking part in the AA Fall Roundup in Tampa the last weekend in August. We are looking forward to the Alanon Convention in Sept at beautiful Daytona Beach - helping with the workshops and providing an AMIAS to be of service.

Our Alateen Chair is doing great - the number of AMIAS's has doubled over the last year and a half, we now have 13. Eight more have completed training but need background checks and four more are waiting for a training class. Joe's Club in Riverview is working on starting an Alateen group. Plant High School is waiting for a sponsor to step into service. Our teens are participating in fundraising events for the Alateen conference in July.

Our annual Picnic was held at Amberly Pk in north Tampa in April with a huge cake celebrating Al-anon's 65th birthday. It was a beautiful day, lots of good food and fun had by all. Other events, Speakers Marathon & Holiday party have been chosen by a group with details to be determined. District 8 is providing 2 GIP's for the May Assembly to provide the ticket raffle for baskets.

There has been discussion in our District regarding the promotion of AA events over our AI-Anon events. We have asked the groups to bring back their thoughts on this subject to District to see if a task/thought force needs to be formed for a Knowledge Based Decision at our next District Meeting.

See you all at Assembly next week, Jody S. AISL & Diane M. DR