

Greetings Area 9 from District 3, Jacksonville!

We are working hard to get things ready for Convention in a few weeks. Hopefully, you have registered and made your hotel reservation as well. It should be a great weekend for all.

July 9th the Convention Committee hosted a District Fun Day which was well attended. There were several speakers and people worked on crafts to sell at the Boutique during the convention. Rather than a Raffle, we had a silent auction. People donated their no longer needed items for the auction. It was set up with a bid sheet with each item so that attendees could bid what they were willing to pay for the item. We raised \$78 for the District with the silent auction which was higher than previous Fun Day Raffle sales.

Our District started a second Alateen Group at the end of July. The new meeting is being held in a central location at the same time as a AA meeting. The first couple meetings had no attendees, but there were two teens at the third meeting. We are hopeful that as the word gets out about the meeting, more will attend.

District 3 has focused outreach efforts on connecting with Institutions and medical professionals this summer.

At our June District meeting, a member, Lisa L, volunteered to take on the role of Outreach to Institutions Chair. This position has been vacant for several months. Despite the vacancy, our District has been supporting meetings in two treatment centers. Lisa will be coordinating member and group support for these two centers. One center currently has a meeting once every three weeks for friends and family of their clients. They are hoping to move that to a weekly meeting that would be open to the public. The other is already has a weekly meeting that is open to the public. Feedback received from a recent meeting at one of the centers was as follows:

“Unanimously, the family members found the meeting very useful, and they enjoyed it. One couple who had been discouraged after trying one Al-anon meeting in their home town, told me that your meeting was by far a much more beneficial experience for them, and that they would be looking into other groups in their area when they returned home.”

It is nice to know that our message is getting through to people who need to hear it.

Our Outreach to Professionals chair, Dany A., organized support for an Al-Anon booth at the Clinical Overview of the Recovery Experience (C.O.R.E.) Conference, which was held July 10 – 13 at the Ritz-Carlton on Amelia Island. More than 500 medical professionals were attending. Members distributed copies of the 2016 Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism, the Al-Anon prescription notepads created by the WSO, and other materials. We have participated in the event for the past three years.

The Area PO Chair shared the report from WSO which shows that two radio stations in Jacksonville have played the PSAs from WSO. One station has played it 78 times and the other 17 times. Members have been asked to send them thank you notes for playing the PSA. We are also reaching out to other local TV and radio stations to see if they will play a PSA.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at AWSC,

Gage M – DR

Mark F – AISL