District 13, FLN Area 9, Panel 55 Spring Assembly Report May 5-6, 2017

We have had a busy start to 2017 down here on the Sun Coast of Florida. In February, the Friday "Let's Go 4th Stepping Together" group hosted a very successful Tea & Card Party. There were over 1000 hand made cards for sale for all occasions, including Al-Anon inspired; thank you Linda L for your inspiration, generosity and creativity. This is a really FUN fundraiser for our District which includes food, fellowship, baskets and a speaker.

Our next event was our annual Gratitude Dinner in March. Everyone who was able to attend had a thoroughly wonderful time. It was a sell out with gorgeous decorations(all of which were taken home by attendees). Of course there was great food (this is Al-Anon after all), raffles, hand-made cards, CAL(thanks to Amy our LDC in District 12) and two great speakers: Herb W spoke about Alateen sponsorship and our Area Archivist, Michael D, shared his story. Both were very moving and left us inspired and hopeful. Our countdown totaled 1040 years of recovery with two of our members having 51 and 50 years! We are rich in wisdom in our District and are grateful for it. Sadly, two of our long time members passed during this quarter; their presence in the rooms always touched us and left us feeling loved and more hopeful.

We made some changes at our last District meeting. First, we closed our storage unit rental due to the theft of our Public Outreach banners. We will no longer store event items and important items will be stored in member houses. Second, we voted to replace the PO banners. The TEAM event was reviewed and the membership voted to pay for the DR and AISL to attend this event. There was a very good discussion at the close with questions and issues regarding groups. These touched on dominance, conflict, finances and elections(service rotation). There will be a follow up to this discussion at our next District Meeting in May.

Several of us participated in an AMIAS training held at a members' home in District 12 in March. As a result of this Charon made Doris M an official trainer for District 13. There will be another training held on April 20th in District 13 and we are expecting some members who will be receiving their first training, on their way to becoming certified AMIAS. Once we have more sponsors available we can reach out to other schools to see if we can have meetings there for the school year beginning in August 2017.

Our Love Gifts will be in the mail on time for Wendy to share at WSC. We look forward to hearing about the discussion and decisions made at this largest group conscience for Al-Anon.

See you all at Assembly and TEAM! Doris M, DR & Terry Anne A, AISL