

Serenity Sentinel

FALL 2021

Volume: Panel 61

See inside for
what's New in
MIAFG's Archives



Issue: #3

DONATION ADDRESS

Seventh Tradition donations, meaning all contributions from individual members, groups, districts, and AIS offices should be sent to:

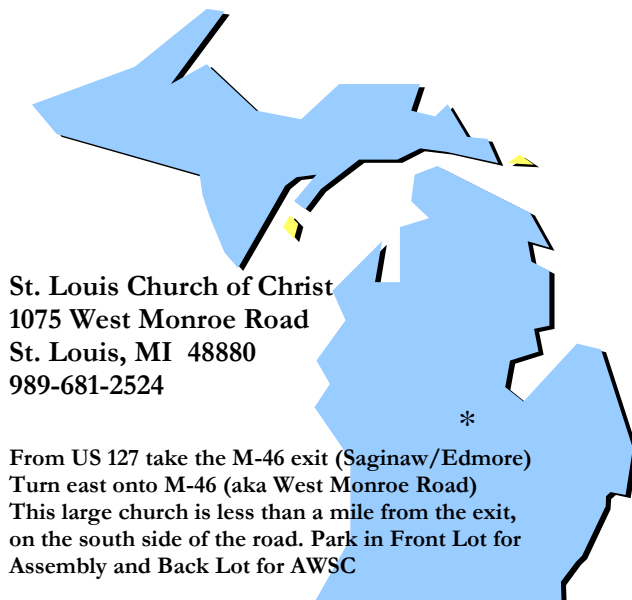
MICHIGAN AFG, INC.
PO BOX 980174
YPSILANTI, MI 48198-0174
or PayPal Option at www.miafg.org

The *Serenity Sentinel*, a quarterly publication, is the voice of the Michigan (Area 27) Assembly. The newsletter is now available electronically to all MIAFG members via www.miafg.org. Paper copies are available to members who wish to subscribe.

To receive notification when a new *Serenity Sentinel* is available or to direct any comments or questions regarding the newsletter, please email the Editor at miafgnewsletter@gmail.com.

MIAFG AWSC and Assembly Location Directions

Check www.miafg.org to confirm if meetings are in person or virtual!



St. Louis Church of Christ
1075 West Monroe Road
St. Louis, MI 48880
989-681-2524

From US 127 take the M-46 exit (Saginaw/Edmore)
Turn east onto M-46 (aka West Monroe Road)
This large church is less than a mile from the exit,
on the south side of the road. Park in Front Lot for
Assembly and Back Lot for AWSC

9AM Registration Opens * 9:40AM New Rep Orientation
10AM Assembly/Meeting Begins

Serenity Sentinel Subscriptions

Individual paper subscriptions are available for **\$4.00** per year. To receive this Michigan AFG quarterly publication, please complete this form and send with your check or money order (currently \$4.00 per subscription) made payable to Michigan AFG, Inc., to:

Serenity Sentinel
c/o Michigan AFG, Inc.
PO Box 980174
Ypsilanti, MI 48198-0174

Name _____

Address _____

Apt # _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Order gift subscriptions for your program friends! Please list additional subscription information on a separate page.

Schedule of Events

- October 1 – **Michigan AA 68th State Convention**
October 3 Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire, MI
<https://www.wmaa34.org/michigan-2021>
- October 7 **Group Rep Orientation (6:30 p.m.)**
Virtual via Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85991967914>
Meeting ID: 859 9196 7914 (no password; waiting room will be used)
- October 9 **Fall Assembly (9 a.m.)**
Virtual via Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84592672514>
Meeting ID: 845 9267 2514 (no password; waiting room will be used)
- October 23 **Road Trip! You and Your Board
Connect (cancelled)**
- November 13 **AWSC**
Virtual via Zoom
- May 14, 2022 **50th Annual MIAFG State Convention**
Bay City, MI
- June 29 – **Al-Anon International Convention**
July 2, 2023 *Albuquerque, NM*

Send Al-Anon event information to miafgnewsletter@gmail.com.

Letter from the Editor

Take What You Like...

At the August 14 AWSC (Area World Service Committee) meeting, Ross F, our Alternate Delegate, proposed three sites for consideration for the 2023 State Convention. After many questions, much deliberation, and several rounds of voting (to achieve substantial unanimity), the Doubletree by Hilton in Bay City was chosen as the location for the one-day event. (The Doubletree is the site of the 2022 State Convention as well. See Page 10 for information about this May 14 hybrid event.)

As I heard about the pros and cons of each of the sites, I was once again reminded how challenging it can be to make plans, especially during these times. How our final decision will all pan out is of particular interest to me as I agreed to chair the 2023 Convention planning committee. I am looking forward to discovering who will volunteer (ahem) to join me in service on this future event.

There is also an opportunity for service work on *past* events. As noted on Page 8, MIAFG and our Archives Coordinator Kate A would like to put together an Archives Committee to provide direction on MIAFG's archives. Kate has done a tremendous job of reviewing and sorting material (and sharing some of her finds in *Archives Corner*), but she has determined that the policies and overall direction regarding this vast collection require the consideration of and recommendation by more than one individual.

Whether you decide to work on a future event like the 2023 Convention (ahem – no pressure) or archives to help with understanding and preserving MIAFG's past, you'll be of great service to Al-Anon and its grateful members.

Yours in Service,
Wendy S

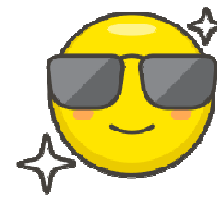
...and Leave the Rest

Save the date for the 50th MIAFG State Convention and Special Dinner in Bay City on May 14, 2022. See Pages 10 - 12 for details and registration information.



Did you know...?

Did you know that archives are cool? Those who are not familiar with archives may think that a collection of old papers and notebooks is a lifeless, humdrum clutter of irrelevant documents. In fact, archives are a vibrant collection of the loving work and lives of the many members of our family groups. In short, archives are cool!



Top Ten Plus Reasons Archives are Cool

1. You can travel through time and space, linking the generations of the family groups.
2. You get to handle historical documents.
3. The archives tells the story of MIAFG in diary form.
4. The archives is a clearinghouse of memories and joy.
5. You get to share in experience, strength and hope from all over Michigan for over 60 years, from people you can't meet in person.
6. The archives shows the wide variety of people who make up Al-Anon.
7. The archives is testament to the wide variety of activities engaged in by Al-Anon members.
8. You get to learn things you would not know until you can see it, read it, touch it.
9. The archives gives a 3-dimensional aspect to the life of the program by seeing the ways in which MIAFG conducts business and activities.
10. The archives is a repository of the love and service given to MIAFG by those who have gone before us.
11. The archives respects all ages, beliefs, abilities and backgrounds.
12. You can witness first-hand how MIAFG has adapted, changed, grown, and stayed current over the years.
13. The archives demonstrates the countless ways Al-Anon carries the message of welcome and comfort to families of alcoholics.

Is your group meeting virtually?

Help members and newcomers find your meeting by completing the Temporary Al-Anon Electronic Meeting Change online form that is available during the Pandemic.

<https://form.jotform.com/201006291804141>

These *temporary* electronic meetings are set up at the same time and day of the face-to-face meetings. This temporary information will be updated in your Group meeting listing on the WSO meeting search.

1935: Lois W throws a shoe at Bill W and says, "Damn Your Old Meetings!"

If you are curious and would like to learn more about the MIAFG Archives, contact Kate A at miafgarchives@gmail.com.

August 14, 2021 AWSC Reports

DELEGATE

It's been a difficult summer for my family. We lost my mother-in-law on June 18 and my father on June 29. As many of you know, I was blessed to have five weeks with my parents in Canada during this life change, and I now have a new appreciation for life and loss. Thank you for reaching out to me via text, emails, and phone calls. My Higher Power was working through you all. Thank you!!!

I've been reading *Many Voices, One Journey*, and I've found it surprising that Anne S repeatedly used the saying "Keep coming back" in 1934 (pg. 9). My home group still uses this saying. I'm grateful today that we keep coming back!!!!

World Service Office (WSO) has an electronic communication service called *AFG Connects* that sorts and delivers postings by topic and relevance. This service is available to most Trusted Servants who hold an Area Service Position. The electronic meeting thread has been active with a lot of confusion but not with a lot of new information "yet." One of the new acronyms I heard at World Service Conference (WSC) and have had the opportunity to use, especially when dealing with issues relating to electronic meetings, is "TTT" (Things Take Time). When I receive updates from WSO, I will pass them along to you ASAP.

New Electronic Area – Talking with other Delegates during the COB (Chairman of the Board of Trustees) Meeting August 7, it was apparent that we all have questions and some confusion regarding the New Electronic Area Policy. To help with our Electronic Area Policy frustration, a Delegate shared this Acronym:

PAUSE:

Postpone
Action
Until
Solution
Emerges



We have the policy; now we need to work on the procedures. WSO is working on how to move forward.

When researching PEM (Permanent Electronic Meeting) registration on the WSO website, I found the following quote in our CAL Literature, S-60 *Fact Sheet for Electronic Meetings*, <https://al-anon.org/pdf/S60.pdf>

“Human companionship and warmth cannot be totally replaced by electronic meetings; an important element to our recovery is to stop isolating ourselves.”

I needed this quote. I have now attended a few F2F (face to face) meetings. The moment I walked into the room I felt the love and unity I had been missing over the last 17 months.

Groups joining MIAFG Guideline Task Force is the working title for the committee that will be drafting a guideline for MIAFG uses. We have six members on this task force and are waiting for some guidance from WSO and other Areas before we start meeting.

I attended (virtually) WSO's Chairman of the Board Meeting on August 7.

WSO Finance as of June 2021:

	YTD Actuals	YTD Original Budget	Total Original Budget	Revised Budget
Literature Sales	\$918,415	\$831,585	\$1,924,400	\$1,993,000
Contributions	\$1,261,535	\$1,373,092	\$2,882,110	\$2,543,535
Other Income	\$330,771	\$292,500	\$585,000	\$563,600
Total Revenue	\$2,510,721	\$2,497,177	\$5,391,510	\$5,100,135
Total Expenses	\$2,493,674	\$2,732,645	\$5,465,290	\$5,333,888
Net Increase/(Decrease)	\$17,047	\$(235,468)	\$(73,780)	\$(233,753)

Revenue (income) consists mainly of literature sales and contributions. Other revenue includes magazine sales and investment gains or losses.

Literature orders were higher in the first half of the year than expected, and we see some LDCs reopening and/or reordering literature. A global paper shortage impacted the availability of Al-Anon's Best Sellers. Gratefully, the literature is now all back in stock.

The largest categories of expenses consist of WSO Staff salaries and benefits, PSAs (public service announcements), technology, and postage. WSO continues to monitor all expenses and reduce them wherever possible.

The Net Decrease in the Revised Budget is equal to one month's contributions or 15 days of WSO's expenses.

Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect

When: Saturday, October 23, 2021

Where: The Westin Cleveland Downtown (Cleveland, OH)

Why: To meet and interact with the members of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee

Editor's Note: After reviewing current CDC Guidelines for organizations planning large events and considering impacts on both the Road Trip! experience and safety of members, volunteers, and staff, the Board of Trustees elected to postpone this activity

Embracing Hope,

Kristine G

Delegate, Panel 61, Area 27

1939: Families and friends of alcoholics attend AA meetings with the alcoholic.

August 14, 2021 AWSC Reports (continued)

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

We did have a turn of events, so to speak, in finding venues for our 2023 Al-Anon/Alateen State Convention. In my report for the 03/13/21 AWSC meeting I stated we would not be able to research facilities as most were closed due to COVID-19. That did change; a lot of places have reopened in some form or fashion, so we were able to gather some cost and availability data to discuss at this meeting. We also learned some things about the impact of now having a one-day Convention versus the three-day Conventions.

I did attend the NCRDM virtual meeting on March 20 as promised. It is always interesting to me to hear the experience, strength, and hope of those members who have 'been there, done that.'

Know that I am a terrible typist! With the Alternate Delegate position comes the responsibility of conducting Orientation meetings for new Group Representatives prior to each Spring and Fall Assembly and for new District Representatives prior to each AWSC meeting. That means updating the respective Orientation booklets. If Kate A, our Area Archive Coordinator hadn't volunteered to help I don't believe I would have them done yet. Thank you, Kate!

The 2021 State Al-Anon/Alateen Convention, as you well know, was virtual (via Zoom) this year. I participated in a small part and want to thank all who were involved to make it the success it was.

I continue to move forward in my learning from the Experience, Strength and Hope of others, as a member of Panel 61, as a member of this fellowship in general. The biggest thing since my last report is the often-heard phrase "don't worry, we've got your back." The more I'm involved, the more I understand.

Yours in Service,
Ross F
Alternate Delegate, Panel 61, Area 27

1951: The Al-Anon Family Groups name is chosen.

SECRETARY

I hope this newsletter sees everyone doing well as life slowly comes back to normal. Meetings are beginning to open their doors while keeping hybrid options available for members who, for whatever reason, are not yet ready to attend in-person. My home group is one such meeting. After much discussion at Group Conscience, we chose to utilize an Anker portable conference speakerphone which enables all on Zoom to hear every word without difficulty. As a result, our meeting feels like home for those physically present as well as those attending via Zoom.

Recently, I had arthroscopic surgery on my left shoulder after many weeks of unsuccessful physical therapy for a frozen shoulder. Now, I'm back in physical therapy; however, this time it's working! A little orthopedic surgery fixed what a January tumble coming off the people-mover at the airport broke.

While at a meeting this morning, I heard the following to describe our slogans, "Heavenly little prayers." What a lovely way to describe our slogans! They are little prayers to help guide us to our Higher Power, especially in times of difficulty and/or struggle. Heavenly, indeed.

Choosing Joy!
Theresa S
Secretary, Panel 61, Area 27

TREASURER

Our account balances, based on bank statements, as of July 30, 2021 are:

Checking	\$ 40,029.71
Prudent Reserve	\$ 16,742.94
Convention	\$ 3,818.63
Total	\$ 60,591.28

Our total income for 2021 to date is **\$9,429.12** and our expenses to date are **\$963.76**. This leaves us with **net income of \$8,465.36** to date. As we are in our second year with impacts due to COVID-19 our comparison against 2020 is a bit closer. Our income is slightly lower than this time last year (9.8%), but our expenses are also lower (25.7%). For now, our Net Income is higher (25.7%)

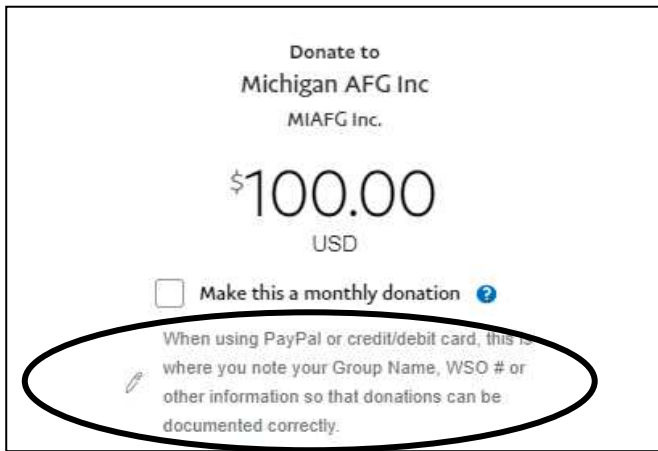
Our major expenses this year have been the two editions of the *Serenity Sentinel*, filing of our 2020 Federal Taxes, technical software and equipment, and our new Coordinators have had some start-up expenses.

Thank you for all the Group and individual donations through July 30, 2021 which total **\$9,031.78**, plus additional donations of **\$310** from the State Convention and **\$24** in newsletter subscriptions. Please carefully check over the separate group donations report and inform me of any discrepancies. Remind your groups to include their WSO number, Meeting Location Zip Code and Group Name on their check, as this ensures correct documentation. We continue to accept PayPal donations via our website (www.miafg.org). Please use the Note area to indicate group information.

Snail mail for MIAFG donations and *Serenity Sentinel* Subscriptions should be sent to:

**MIAFG Inc.
PO Box 980174
Ypsilanti, MI 48198-0174**

August 14, 2021 AWSC Reports (continued)



2020 Financial Review

The 2020 Financial Review was completed by Bev S, Past Delegate Panel 40.

MIAFG 2022 Proposed Budget

The proposed budget for 2022 was presented to Area World Service Committee (AWSC) and a motion was passed to send the proposed budget to Fall Assembly for approval by the Group Reps. Here is a summary of what was presented to AWSC.

The budget creation starts with the 2021 approved budget as the base. Changes are made by reviewing the actuals from 2021 and any new information provided. The Budget Committee reviews the proposal and makes final recommendations prior to the August AWSC. AWSC reviews the budget and motions to pass on to Fall Assembly for voting by the GRs.

We average a budget of \$22,000 over the past few years. 2020 and 2021 have been impacted by COVID-19 and our actual income and expenses have been lower. We don't know what 2022 will bring, but we have budgeted for a normal type year.

Changes made to our Expenses:

1. Tax Preparation and Liability Insurance is increased from \$650 to \$1,000. We started paying for liability insurance in late 2020 but it was not in our budget.
2. eCommerce is increased from \$50 to \$100. This is due to increased use of PayPal for donations. MIAFG covers the fee charged so the group or individual gets credit for the complete amount.
3. WSC Equalized Expenses for our Delegate to attend the conference in April was increased from \$2,200 to \$3,082. The conference in 2022 will be in New York, which tends to be more expensive, and \$700 has been added to handle translators for French and Spanish. The Equalized Amount and the Full Amount are determined by WSO.

4. Added a new line item for Membership Outreach Misc/Other of \$500. One potential use could be to give a donation to WSO. Currently, our annual donation to WSO is based on our convention's profit. Over the past few years, there has been no profit, therefore no donation.
5. Reduce the line item for a WSO Guest to attend Assembly from \$400 to \$0. This is not planned for 2022 and usually happens once during a 3-year Panel.

Changes made to our Income:

1. State Convention Seed Money is moved out to include 2024 and zero out 2021.
2. To balance the budget, donations line item is increased to \$22,932.

Budget for 2021 is \$23,360. Budget for 2022 is \$24,742. Increase of \$1,382.

Thank you to all our members for keeping MIAFG alive and healthy so we all can continue to carry the Al-Anon message during these unusual times.

Grateful for this program and MIAFG members.

Renee F
Treasurer, Panel 61, Area 27

ALATEEN PROCESS PERSON

Well, it has certainly been a crazy year! I am hoping that things start to settle down.

On June 21, 2021, I received an email from WSO letting me know that the AMAIS (Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service) recertification for MIAFG was completed.

MIAFG currently has:
45 certified AMAIS
Lost 19 AMAIS due to not recertification

Those AMAIS's not recertified can no longer interact with Alateen in ANY manner.

I am currently mailing the certified AMAIS's an ID card with their AMAIS number on it.

Anyone interested to become an AMAIS please contact me at miafgaapp@gmail.com.

Please keep Alateen Coordinator Julie E and me informed of any changes to Alateen meetings so that we can keep the group records up to date with MIAFG and WSO.

Sandy C
AAPP, Panel 61, Area 27

August 14, 2021 AWSC Reports (continued)

ALATEEN COORDINATOR

Currently, we are lacking a state rep, planning for an in-person KOMIAC in '22, and basically just trying to survive! Push for participation would be useful. I am trying to get teens together for Fall or Spring Lock-in but it's all pending with the venue and their policy regarding COVID-19.

Jules E

Alateen Coordinator, Panel 61, Area 27

1957: The first Alateen group is registered.

NEWSLETTER

Putting out Issues #1 and #2 of Panel 61's *Serenity Sentinel* has been a valuable learning experience. I have developed an even greater appreciation for the work done by my predecessors and, as I review and proof the Panel 61 reports for the newsletter, I feel a sense of gratitude for the level of enthusiasm and commitment shown by Area 27's Trusted Servants.

I have not changed the overall look of the newsletter, keeping the two-column format and font that have worked well for the previous Panels, but I plan to continue to introduce new elements like the *Letter from the Editor*, *Spotlight on...* and *Classified Ads*. Kate A's *Archives Corner* has been a great addition; I expect her column to be something that readers will look for when they receive each new issue.

I appreciate suggestions and contributions (CAL reviews, shares, etc.) for future issues. The more input I receive from others, the more confident I will feel about the newsletter's usefulness.

Yours in Service,

Wendy S

Newsletter Editor, Panel 61, Area 27

ARCHIVES

Work in the archives is moving along. I am sorting all the loose and miscellaneous documents that were stored randomly in folders. This has resulted in the following topics for further organizing: 1) WSO, 2) Regional, 3) MIAFG, 4) MIAFG Committees, 5) AWSC, 6) Assembly, 7) Conventions, 8) Alateen, 9) Treasury, 10) Archives, 11) Groups & Districts, and 12) question mark items. The question mark items include documents that can't be organized as to topic, year or another identifier.

This sorting process will take several more months. At that point, volunteers would be useful to help with the busy work of organizing each topic by date.

In July I received an inquiry about information in the archives. An Al-Anon member organizing a conference was looking for the name of a speaker she had heard at our 2008 convention. I was able to identify the speaker from the folder of 2008 convention documents and put the two people in touch with each other. It was gratifying to see the archives being used for research that would help provide the voice of experience, strength, and hope to our fellowship.

As our 2022 convention celebrates MIAFG's 50th anniversary, I have started noodling on ideas for a display at the convention to highlight our five decades in Michigan.

There is still much work to be done in the archives. I hope that an Archives Committee of 3-7 volunteers can be formed to assist with this work. DRs of districts that have their own archives would be very helpful. Other Al-Anon members knowledgeable about the principles of the program are also asked to volunteer. The primary purpose of the committee is to help decide policy.

The parameters for archives committee members are:

- Knowledgeable about the principles of the program
- At least one member with Alateen experience
- 2-3 hours per quarter of time investment for policy discussion – in person or via Zoom meetings
- Some email exchanges

Additionally, there will be a need for volunteers to assist with processing work, e.g., labeling, filing, removing staples, scanning *The Forum* for Michigan entries, etc. This can be done by volunteers from our home groups.

I continue to learn about the depth and richness of our Michigan area groups and the tenacity of the early members to establish our program for the very important work of Tradition 5. I'm sure I will uncover more gems as I continue to mine our history.

In joyful service and with gratitude to my HP for finding me a really cool job,

Kate A

Archives Coordinator, Panel 61, Area 27

Let it Begin with Me...

Share your experience, strength and hope in the *Serenity Sentinel*. Email your share to miafgnewsletter@gmail.com and indicate if your first name and last initial should be used or if you wish for it to be signed "Anonymous."

Please note that if your share is published, it will be available on the Internet and will be shared with Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.

All submissions become the property of MIAFG and/or Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc., and may be used in whole or in part to develop Al-Anon/Alateen material. (Electronic submission constitutes your agreement).

August 14, 2021 AWSC Reports (continued)

1961: First Al-Anon World Service Conference (WSC) is held on a trial basis.

LITERATURE/FORUM COORDINATOR

The summer has been buzzing with *The Forum* and Literature News!

Forum: Encourages the membership to purchase subscriptions of The Forum.

- **Findings:** According to the July and August sales reports for Michigan, there wasn't a big change in Group Subscriptions/Copies, but Other Subscriptions/Copies (including individual subscriptions) and Total Subscriptions/Copies have increased.
- **Goals:** To increase the Total *Forum* subscriptions by 10 percent by the end of 2021, we need approximately 45 *Forum* subscriptions. That's about one (1) new subscription per district. We can do this!
- **Action Plan:** Thanks to all District Reps, area LDC Coordinators, and AISs for increasing awareness of *The Forum* and encouraging subscriptions.

Other Forum News (from C. Cowan, Magazine Editor) – Highlights:

- The July issue featured *The Forum's* newly revised and approved Statement of Purpose (on page 1). Changes in the language were displayed at AWSC.
- *The Forum* Editorial Advisory Committee (FEAC) voted to open *The Instant Meeting* section of *The Forum* to additional topics (i.e., detachment, slogans, sponsorship, grief, etc.). Previously, this section focused on the Step that corresponded to the month and featured member sharings followed by two or three thought-provoking questions. Since the WSO receives fewer submissions on the Legacies, this gives more options to choose from for *The Instant Meeting*. The first issue where *The Instant Meeting* will be topic-based will be July's issue with "Finding a Higher Power."
- Writing Workshop Guidelines: These guidelines, which are available for use in writing meetings and workshops, can be found in the MIAFG Google Drive.

Literature: Encourages local AFG to explore CAL literature.

- "Old Business" – At the June Assembly, a question was asked about the percentage of hard copy sales compared to electronic forms. Here's the breakdown:
 - Total literature sales for 2020 was \$2,317,008.
 - **Hard copy** sales comprised \$2,128,192 or ~92% of the total literature sales.
 - **Electronic** forms comprised \$188,816 or ~8% of the total literature sales.

- The Electronic *Welcome, Newcomer!* (eK-10) is Here! Cost: \$1.40 from listed eBook vendors at <https://ecom.al-anon.org/EN/ItemDetail?iProductCode=EK10>. The booklet is \$1.99 per copy on Apple Books.
- Share your Experience, Strength, and Hope in WRITING:
 - **Members Blog:** Have you read or written a sharing for the Member Blog? Have you encouraged other members to do so? Here are upcoming topics:
 - August: "How have you used technology to aid your Al-Anon recovery?"
 - September: "How do I stay motivated in my recovery journey?"
 - **"CAL Corner" Topics:** This monthly feature in *The Forum* contains members' sharings on how a certain CAL has enhanced their recovery.
 - August: *Hope & Understanding for Parents & Grandparents* (P-94)
 - September: 40th anniversary of *Al-Anon's Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions* (B-8)
 - October: *Living Today in Alateen* (B-26)
 - **Writing about CAL for Area Newsletters:** Use your Area newsletter to share how local members are spreading the word about CAL or to publish their reviews of various CAL. Submit these to: miafgnewsletter@gmail.com.

Just for Tonight Alateen Bookmark

From AFG Connects:

The World Service Office is currently accepting sharings from Alateen members for a new ***Just for Tonight*** Alateen Bookmark, which was given conceptual approval by the 2021 World Service Conference. Please encourage all Alateen members to submit sharings for this project by December 31, 2021.

Alateen members can find the writing guide and/or submit sharings online at al-anon.org/sharing.

They can also email sharings to wso@al-anon.org (with "Alateen Just for Tonight" in the subject line), or mail to AFG, Inc., 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617, Attn: "Alateen ***Just for Tonight.***"

August 14, 2021 AWSC Reports (continued)

Other CAL Information:

- CAL revisions for 2022 were discussed on **AFG Connects**. The release date is Spring 2022 (per Tom C) for following revisions:
 - **Al-Anon/Alateen Groups at Work 2022-2025** (P-24)
 - **Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2022-2025** (P-24/27)
- Request for Permission to Use Conference Approved Literature On-line
 - This is required for **permanent electronic meetings** (not currently required for temporary online meetings)
 - The request form must request permission **annually**.
 - If permission request is approved, the statement **“Licensed to quote CAL”** will be included in their meeting listing.
 - Form will be included in reports folder in the MIAFG Google Drive.
- Local LDCs – I would like to hear any suggestions on how I can best support our area LDCs and AIS.
 - At the March AWSC meeting, I reported there were five (5) area LDCs: Central MI, Detroit Metro, MI Thumb Area, Oakland County, and Washtenaw County
 - I recently communicated with the District 5 Rep and was informed the Washtenaw County LDC is not currently selling literature as they no longer have a store front.
 - Since the last AWSC, I have forwarded WSO Literature and Forum updates to listed area LDCs and AIS. (Note: Grand Rapids does not currently have a LDC per previous Literature & Forum Coordinator) and offered to share information at the AWSC.
- Literature Trivia Questions – Two questions will be displayed at AWSC meeting. The first two (2) responders will win a year subscription to **The Forum**.

**Remember ... There's POWER in the PAGES.
Keep it Simple ... Keep it Al-Anon ... Keep it CAL.
When you buy from your local Literature Distribution Center, you support your local services.**

Yours in Service,
Gloria V
Literature/ *Forum* Coordinator, Panel 61, Area 27

1980: The One Millionth One Day at a Time Daily Reader is printed.

MIAFG (Area 27) News



Help Wanted

The Archives Needs your Help!

We are looking for a few good volunteers!

MIAFG would like to create a committee to help decide policy and address various issues of operating the Archives. This is important work to help MIAFG understand and appreciate our background and maintain important historical documents.

We are looking for 3-7 volunteer Al-Anon members to assist with this work.

You might be an Archives Committee candidate if:

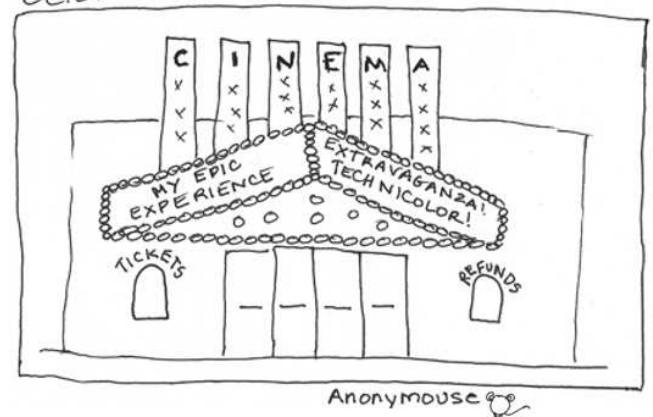
- You love history
- You love books
- You love applying Al-Anon principles to unusual situations
- You love service to MIAFG
- You are a long-time member of Al-Anon
- You are a District Rep or Group Rep whose district or group has an archives
- You have been considering Al-Anon service but haven't dipped your toe in yet
- You wonder what in the world archives are all about



Please help!

At the Area Assembly on October 9, we will ask for volunteers for this Committee. If you have any questions in the meantime or would like more information, please contact Kate A at miafarchives@miafg.com

Before Al-Anon...



MIAFG (Area 27) News

Spotlight On...



Oakland County AIS / LDC

Providing services to Districts 12 and 14, the Oakland County AIS/LDC moved to a new location (Meridian Health Services in Waterford) just prior to COVID-19's arrival. So far, this location has served primarily as storage for literature as all Board and District meetings have been conducted via Zoom rather than in person.

Despite the pandemic, this AIS/LDC has not only survived but has even initiated and tackled some strategies. Kathy J, the AIS Chair until this past August (Paul R is filling the position until the term ends this December), outlined Oakland County's recent accomplishments:

- Rewriting the Policies and Procedures (and getting it approved by the Group Reps)
- Utilizing Google Docs
- Conducting a financial audit
- Distributing *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* at police stations and with literature orders for members to distribute
- Encouraging each group to set up an email to facilitate communication with the office
- Regularly updating a meeting list that can be downloaded from the website (www.oaklandafg.org)
- Serving members through the volunteer efforts of the Literature Coordinator (Doug D), Office Coordinator (Jennifer W), Website Coordinator (Greg) and others

This December, District 12 and 14 Group Reps will elect two new Board members. (Oakland County has staggered three-year terms.) Board members will then assign positions (Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and three Members-at-Large) and appoint Coordinators. While this AIS/LDC currently has some unfilled positions (Newsletter Coordinator and District 14 Rep) and, like everyone else, is trying to rejuvenate Alateen, Oakland County is optimistic about the future. The office has already created a task force to consider additional updates to the Policies and Procedures, and it is hoping to bring back its popular workshop after a two-year hiatus.

To learn more about what the Oakland County AIS/LDC is doing and/or to volunteer, please email info@oaklandafg.org or call 248-706-1020.

**2021: Al-Anon celebrates its 70th
Anniversary.**

PANEL 61'S VISION, GOALS AND MISSION

Panel 61 Board Members and Coordinators developed the below Vision Statement, Board Goals and Mission Statement to guide them during the next three years as Area 27's trusted servants.

Vision Statement

Anyone in Michigan, Area 27, affected by someone else's drinking can find help and recovery in Al-Anon and Alateen

Board Goals

Unity – increase our use of emerging technology to improve communication and transparency (sharing process, content, and information)

Education – provide education and familiarization to Districts as to how Michigan AFG works

Participation – increase participation at our Assemblies, AWSCs, and Conventions

Alateen – support Alateen Coordinator to increase participation.

Mission Statement

To help families and friends affected by someone else's drinking, to connect and support each other by creating an atmosphere of unity, harmony, and spirituality within MIAFG, using our three Legacies in all our affairs.

Serenity Sentinel Recipe Red Hot Apple Cider

A delicious alternative to coffee or tea during this autumn weather. Maybe something to consider for when we meet in person again for Assemblies, AWSC or other large Al-Anon gatherings!



2 Quarts apple cider or apple juice
½ Cup of Red Hot candies

Best made in a large coffee pot but can also be made on the stovetop.

Slowly heat the apple cider and the Red Hots to melt the candies in juice, stirring occasionally to prevent sticking.

Serenity Sentinel Pop Quiz (Page 15) Answers: 1-C, 2-J, 3-A, 4-H, 5-L, 6-E, 7-I, 8-F, 9-D, 10-G, 11-B, 12-K)



Michigan
Al-Anon/Alateen



Michigan Al-Anon/Alateen 50th Annual State Convention ...with AA Participation

You're worth it!

Hybrid Convention Saturday, May 14, 2022

8:45 A.M. – 3:15 P.M.

In-Person	or	Zoom
DoubleTree by Hilton Bay City Riverfront One Wenonah Park Place, Bay City 989-891-6000		You will receive the Zoom ID for this event via email once you register (Using Waiting Room)
Registration for each member before May 1, 2022 Al-Anon, Alateen, AA \$20	After May1, 2022 Registration fee \$25	Registration for each member before May 1, 2022 Al-Anon, Alateen, AA \$20

Registration

Name Address City, State Zip		Circle Al-Anon Alateen AA
Phone Number	()	Circle In-person Zoom
Email		
Lunch	Double Tree by Hilton (plated salad or plated sandwich) see next page	\$20 per person (Includes tax and gratuities)
Lunch Choice	<u>Salad or Sandwich:</u> <u>Side or Dessert :</u>	Send check to: MIAFG / State Convention PO Box 38760 Detroit, MI 48238-9998

For those attending convention in-person, AND choosing to eat lunch at the hotel, please choose one from the lists below. The cost is \$20, which includes taxes and gratuity.

Plated Sandwiches

...include fountain soft drink, or coffee or iced/hot tea, a choice of pasta salad or potato salad, kettle chips, pickle spear, assorted cookies and brownies

Roast Beef (Boursin Mayo, Cheddar, Iceberg Lettuce, Red Onion on a Ciabatta Roll),

Dearborn Ham (Baby Swiss, Russian Mayo, Iceberg Lettuce on a Pretzel Roll)

Smokey Turkey (White Cheddar, Iceberg Lettuce, Tomato, Herb Mayo on a Wheat Wrap)

Deli Chicken Salad (Iceberg Lettuce, Tomato on a Butter Croissant)

Charcuterie (Ham, Salami, Capicola, Provolone, Tomato, Iceberg Lettuce, Banana Pepper, Italian Mayo on Focaccia)

Grilled Zucchini, Squash & Peppers (Provolone, Iceberg Lettuce, Tomato, Italian Mayo on Flatbread)

Plated Salads

...includes fountain drink or coffee or iced/hot tea, roll, butter,

and a dessert strawberry cheesecake or apple pie or Tiramisu, or chocolate mousse cake

Classic Chicken Caesar Salad (Chopped Romaine, Grilled Chicken Breast, Garlic Croutons, Shaved Parmesan, Black Olives, Grape Tomatoes & Creamy Caesar Dressing)

Cobb Salad (Mixed Greens, Smokey Turkey, Bacon, Tomatoes, Avocado, Cheddar Cheese, Egg, Cucumbers, Ranch & Italian)

Michigan Salad (Spring Mix, Grilled Chicken Breast, Dried Cherries, Walnuts, Apples, White Cheddar, Tomatoes with House Vinaigrette)

Asian Chicken (Mixed Greens, Teriyaki Chicken, Tomatoes, Red Onions, Edamame, Almonds, Crispy Rice Noodles, Sweet Sesame Vinaigrette)



- SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022
- 4:30-7:30
- OLD CITY HALL, BAY CITY, MICHIGAN
- DINNER (SELF-SUPPORTING) WITH SPEAKER
- RSVP BY APRIL 30, 2022 BY CONTACTING LAUREEN AT (989) 330-4436

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF RECOVERY MICHIGAN AFG CONVENTIONS

MICHIGAN (AREA 27) CONTACT AND 7TH TRADITION INFORMATION

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
Michigan AFG, Inc.	Contributions: PO Box 980174 Website: www.miafg.org	Ypsilanti, MI 48198-0174		miafctreasurer@gmail.com miafgwebcoordinator@gmail.com
Al-Anon's World Service Office	1600 Corporate Landing Pkwy. Website: www.al-anon.alateen.org	Virginia Beach, VA 23456	757-563-1600 Fax: 757-563-1656	wso@al-anon.org
AFG, Inc.	Members Website: www.al-anon.org/members Meeting Info: 1-888-4ALANON			www.al-anon.info/MeetingSearch
AREA 27 INFORMATION SERVICES / LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION CENTER SERVICE ARMS				
Central Michigan AIS/LDC	Automated Service PO Box 615	Dimondale, MI 48821	517-484-1977	centralmiafgldc@aol.com
Detroit Metro AIS/LDC	Varies 26150 Five Mile Rd. Suite #19	Redford, MI 48239	313-242-0300	info@al-anon-semi.org
Genesee/Lapeer AIS	Automated Service PO Box 454	Linden, MI 48451-0454	810-234-1460	geneseeareais@gmail.com
Grand Rapids AIS	Varies PO Box 1428	Grand Rapids, MI 49501-1428	616-222-0632	info@aisgr.org
			Website www.grafg.org	
SW Michigan AIS/LDC	Answering System	c/o Alano Club, 933 S. Burdick St Kalamazoo, MI 49001	269-993-0589	swmichiganal-anon@gmail.com
			Website www.swmichiganal-anon.org/	
MI Thumb Area AFG Info/LDC	Varies	Mayville, MI 48744	989-912-5478	MIThumbAreaAFG@yahoo.com
Oakland Co. AIS/LDC	Varies PO Box 155	Keego Harbor, MI 48320-0320	248-706-1020	info@oaklandafg.org
District 39 AIS	Answering System PO Box 5132	Traverse City, MI 49696	231-938-7399	alanond39@gmail.com
			Website https://alanon-d39.org/	
Northwestern Michigan AIS	Answering System PO Box 224	Boyne City, MI 49712	231-675-7044	n/a
Washtenaw Co. AIS	Answering System PO Box 1861	Ann Arbor, MI 48106	734-995-4949	AIS@afgDistrict5.org

MICHIGAN TRUSTED SERVANTS 2021-2023 AND OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

POSITION/CONTACT	NAME	E-MAIL	
PANEL 61			
World Service Delegate	Kristine G	miafgdelegate@gmail.com	Membership Outreach
Alternate Delegate	Ross F	miafgalternatedelegate@gmail.com	Membership Outreach
Chairperson	Ann M	missmurph@mindspring.com	Membership Outreach
Secretary	Theresa S	miafgsecretary@gmail.com	Business Services / Finance
Treasurer	Renee F	miafgtreasurer@gmail.com	Business Services / Finance
Tech Coordinator	Denise S	miafgtechcoordinator@gmail.com	Business Services / Finance
Archives	Kate A	miafgarchives@gmail.com	Group Services
Area Records	Laureen C	miafgrecords@gmail.com	Group Services
Alateen Coordinator	Julie "Jules" E	miafgalateen@gmail.com	Alateen
Alateen Process Person	Sandy C	miafgaapp@gmail.com	Alateen
Alateen Representative			Alateen
Alt. Alateen Representative			Alateen
Public Outreach Coordinator	Joy Mc	miafgpublicoutreach@gmail.com	Public Outreach
Web Coordinator	Marie S	miafgwebcoordinator@gmail.com	Public Outreach
Literature / Forum	Gloria V	miafgliterature@gmail.com	Fellowship Communication
Serenity Sentinel	Wendy S	miafgnewsletter@gmail.com	Fellowship Communication

Previous World Service Delegates (Partial List)

2018-2020 (Panel 58)	Ann M	missmurph@mindspring.com	
2015-2017 (Panel 55)	Mike D	Deceased	
2012-2014 (Panel 52)	Liz P	Deceased	
2009-201 (Panel 49)	Debbie K		
2006-2008 (Panel 46)	Mike B	mikesuebarry@yahoo.com	
2003-2005 (Panel 43)	Sue B	suelongdrive@yahoo.com	
2000-2002 (Panel 40)	Bev S	tmle8595@comcast.net	
1997-1999 (Panel 37)	Geri H	gericarlh@aol.com	
1994-1996 (Panel 34)	Michelle L	my1583@yahoo.com	
1994-1996* (Panel 34)	Helen P	Deceased	
1991-1993 (Panel 31)	Bill L	Deceased	
1991-1993* (Panel 31)	Connie C	connysusiec@aol.com	
1988-1990 (Panel 28)	Skeet J	coretajeffreys@gmail.com	
1985-1987 (Panel 25)	Connie B	Deceased	
1982-1984 (Panel 22)	Shirley W	Deceased	
1979-1981 (Panel 29)	Mary J	Deceased	
1976-1978 (Panel 16)	Anne S		

* Alt - served part

Please honor our Traditions and maintain the anonymity of all persons listed on this page.

**A Share from *The Forum*
Celebrating the Gift of Al-Anon Recovery**

I find that recovery from the effects of someone else’s alcoholism, as rewarding as it can be, can also be very hard work. That’s why I think it’s important to regularly acknowledge my accomplishments, focus on my gratitude, and celebrate with other members. I’ve often done this by attending group and District anniversaries, Area conventions, and the Al-Anon International Conventions. Among my favorites, though, are the special events hosted every five years by the World Service Office (WSO) to celebrate the founding of Al-Anon.

I’ve been fortunate to attend all of these Al-Anon anniversary events, beginning with the great big party for Al-Anon’s 50th Anniversary in 2001. At that celebration, representatives from A.A. received a “Resolution of Gratitude” passed by the World Service Conference. Similar events took place in 2006 for Al-Anon’s 55th Anniversary, in 2011 for its 60th, and in 2016 for its 65th. Each one included inspirational talks by Al-Anon speakers, thoughtful recognition of our worldwide structures, and fun countdowns where all attendees were given the opportunity to stand up and be counted for their years in recovery.

This year’s 70th Anniversary event, held on July 10, continued the tradition—with one exciting difference. Because it was held virtually, it was more accessible. This trilingual event, with simultaneous translation in French and Spanish, included several video presentations: a flag parade of all the countries where Al-Anon exists, a virtual tour of the WSO, and a time-in-the-program countdown! For me, the highlights of the day were the two longtime members who fondly shared their memories of our cofounder, Lois W. The event closed with a video presentation reminding us that the next Al-Anon International Convention will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in July of 2023. Another opportunity to celebrate!

If you weren’t able to be among the many members who participated, an audio recording of the Al-Anon speakers will be played periodically in meetings inside the free *Al-Anon Family Groups* Mobile App for the remainder of 2021.

Go to the Mobile App page for more information and celebrate with us the joys of recovery.

*By Tom C, Associate Director—Literature
The Forum, August 2021*

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***Serenity Sentinel* Pop Quiz: Assembly/AWSC Etiquette**

Match the Guideline with the Reason for the Guideline.

Answers on Page 9

1 Starting and stopping on time	A. During discussions, limiting our time at the microphone embodies the spiritual principles of humility and trust
2 Stick to the agenda	B. Our spiritual principles of selflessness and dedication are evident when we do the right thing and are responsible to those we serve
3 Two minutes at the microphone	C. Demonstrates integrity
4 Stay on topic	D. Demonstrates consideration for those around us as we focus on our Assembly/AWSC
5 If someone before you says what you were going to say....sit down	E. Demonstrates mutual respect and creates an atmosphere of harmony
6 No clapping, cheering, or booing when opinions are shared	F. Show discipline and respect for the service commitments of those who have prepared for Conference
7 No side conversations	G. Be respectful and understanding of others
8 No miscellaneous distractions	H. The spiritual principle of simplicity while we stay on topic, will help us reach our primary goal to help families and friends of alcoholics
9 Keeping our cell phones off	I. The spiritual principle of courtesy is shown when we actively listen and form our own conclusions, leaving out reactions, opinions and judgments
10 No perfumes or flowers	J. The spiritual principle of perseverance, while conducting business in the best interest of all Al-Anon, preserves recovery at all levels
11 Keeping an accurate count of members present at Conference is essential during voting	K. By practicing humility, harmony and unity, we can reach our ideals
12 Practice spiritual principles and presume goodwill	L. Spiritual principles: efficient leadership and awareness

Classifieds

Opportunity	Free
District or Group having a special event? Announce it on the MIAFG website. Send details/flyers to miafgwebcoordinator@gmail.com.	Just for Tonight Al-Anon Bookmark to the first 20 individuals who email miafgnewsletter@gmail.com (with mailing) before December 31, 2021.