

2022 ** APRIL Bulletin **

AFG of Mass / Literature Distribution Center

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Mon - Fri 9am-4pm

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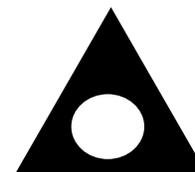


Literature Distribution Center

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Directions to Westborough office: From Mass Turnpike and Rt 495 Mass Pike exit 11 A to 495 North. Then take Exit 23 B which is Rt. 9 West go 1.3 miles to Rt. 30 West and circle under Rt 9. Go 1.3 miles to 57 East Main St (Downtown Crossing) on your left. It is across from CVS. Enter the lobby under the clock tower – office is at left of elevator. Alternate route from Rt 9: If heading east, turn right on to Lyman St. or, if heading west, turn left on to Lyman St. At end of Lyman St, turn right on to Rt 30 which is East Main St [How to visit office during Covid-19.](#)

NOTE: **Our MA meeting list and events are listed on our website alanonMA.org.**

Group and individual member donations to MA Al-Anon and Alateen can be made online at alanonMA.org/contribute/

Other helpful links can be found on the World Service Website: Al-Anon.org

Be sure this bulletin is available for all members to review at each meeting.

Area World Service Committee meetings for all District Reps, Coordinators, Area officers & interested members. Have your *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*, Area 25 documents i.e.: By Laws etc & minutes from the last meeting, etc

Meeting dates: 2022 4/3, 6/5, 9/11, 11/6, 12/4 from 1-4pm – held virtually

Information will be emailed to AWSC the week before meeting and will include Zoom information. All members welcome. Please call the Area Office at (508) 366-0556 – Mon-Fri (9am to 4pm) if you would like to attend meeting and do not have zoom information

May 21, 2022 Area 25 Spring Assembly – Pending confirmation at AWSC, if changed an email will be sent to all cma's & gr's ASAP. Assembly from 8-4pm... come hear Area Delegate, Jane P. give her report of the 2022 World Service Conference. There will be other items discussed and voted on. Please plan on attending.

From you Area Chair - Paul

From your Area Chair - Looking ahead is always a chancy activity. But as I think about the future of Al-Anon, I can't help but believe that the organization in Massachusetts and elsewhere is going to look different as it emerges from this pandemic than it looked before COVID-19. I think the most obvious ways will be how we get together. Although many meetings may decide, in their autonomy, to return to an "in-person only" format, I foresee Zoom (or some variant) remaining a part of many gatherings. The advantages of virtual meetings – for those who live at a distance from actual meeting places (even in other parts of the country) but still have come to love their new "home", for those with disabilities (temporary or permanent) who would otherwise be unable to participate, and for those who, on any given day, just don't have the time to drive to a specific location but do have the time to Zoom-in for an hour or so – for all these members (and some I probably haven't thought of), I can foresee some form of hybrid meetings being utilized by many groups (although, time may prove me wrong).

The implications of what I've just said are hard to forecast. At the Assembly in May, the GRs will be asked to decide on a number of recommendations being presented by our Electronic Meetings Thought Force. Although these will relate to whether to incorporate virtual-only meetings into our Area 25 service structure and related questions, the answers will probably set the stage for dealing with the new hybrid environment that I foresee.

In addition to the methods by which we meet there is a whole galaxy of questions about who will be at our meetings and how we can inform them about us, how we can be welcoming and inclusive, and how we can address the troubling demographic trends that has been evident in Al-Anon over many of the past years. But, those are topics for another month.

Yours in service, Paul G.

From your Area Treasurer - Our traditions remind us that we are part of a greater whole — the family of Al-Anon. We are part of a worldwide fellowship. *Al-Anon's Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions* (B-8, pg. 115) reminds us of the responsibilities that are part of tradition seven: "There are no dues or fees but, as part of a greater whole,

each group takes responsibility for supporting local, national, and worldwide Al-Anon services. Each group is free to decide how much it can afford to contribute to each of these activities.” When your group makes a donation to our Area, it is practicing tradition seven. If your group has excess funds, one suggestion is that it distribute them to the WSO (30%), the Area (60%) and the district (10%). How does your group support the worldwide fellowship of Al-Anon?
Your trusted servant, Wendy M.

From your 2022 Convention Chair – Dear Fellowship, thank you to the committee members, volunteers and fellowship for the support and love of the program that made this a great convention. There were 546 participants who made fellowship come alive in meetings, meals and even a dance. Our collective higher power brought us together for a reason, please bring this energy back to your meetings, and share your love in service, outreach and support for our fellowship.
Your very grateful Convention General Chair, Liz F.

From your Public Information Coordinator - One of the most important things I’ve learned in Al-Anon is that I don’t need to go it alone. Have you reached out to newcomers in the past? Do you have ideas for doing things in a traditional or new way? I’d like to hear from you! Please email me at Outreach@alanonma.org. Together we can make it.
Let it begin with me. Lisa R.

From your AAPP (Area Alateen Process Person) It’s re-certification TIME!! Applications went out in early March and are due back to the area office Friday, April 8th. If you did not receive a re-certification packet, please call me at the area office (508-366-0556) ASAP. A big thanks to all those AMIAS (and interested members) that attended the AMIAS workshop at the convention. A requirement to re-certify is an annual AMIAS workshop. If you have not met this requirement please plan on attending the next workshop that will be held virtually at the Spring Assembly on Saturday, May 21 at 2pm. More details to follow in May bulletin.

Yours in service, Marion D.

From your Website Coordinator- What’s New: Click the “GET INVOLVED” button on the announcement bar for service opportunities – Ranging from filling in a WSO membership survey to participating in a committee, there is something for everyone. To add service opportunities to the website, please fill out this form <https://alanonma.org/service-opportunities-and-news-form/>

Coming Soon: The Website Committee is working on a new home page that should be coming out soon featuring Area News.

Here are some helpful links:

- **For meeting list changes** click on the meeting at <https://alanonma.org/meetings/>, then click “request a change to this listing” to make the changes with the approval of your group. Although the office is receiving an email when you submit a meeting change request on the website, they would appreciate an additional email sent to afgofma@aol.com when a group is being disbanded, or there is a time or location change.
- **To add group or district on the calendar** <https://alanonma.org/events/>, go to <https://alanonma.org/add-event/>. Events are typically uploaded once a week to the website calendar. Our office manager also receives this information for the bulletin.
- **Purchase literature** to support MA Al-Anon/Alateen at <https://alanonma.org/literature-store/>
- **Make group or individual contributions** at <https://alanonma.org/contribute/>

Website feedback and ideas are always welcome.

Many thanks to our very creative Website Committee. Come join us!

In service, Terry S., Website Coordinator website@alanonma.org

Special Notices

Help Al-Anon Evolve! Join the Technology Thought Force

We have formed a Thought Force with the goal of defining the "purpose, responsibilities, and structure for an Area Technology Committee." Over the last two+ years, Al-Anon in Massachusetts has faced many technology-related issues, from improving our website to accurately list our rapidly evolving electronic meetings and creating an online bookstore to running service meetings online and taking donations electronically. Technology is a tool that can support our growth - but in what ways and how best to apply it? We need more members to sit on this dynamic and exciting thought force and help us determine the best ways to leverage technology toward a stronger, more robust Al-Anon program in our state. To join, call the Area office at 508-366-0556, who will connect you with Technology Thought Force Chair Linda W.

April 2022 Events

Events and login information can be viewed on our website's Calendar of Events at

<https://alanonma.org/events/> to add your group or district event to our website calendar go to alanonMA.org/add-event/

Mon 18 Westboro – Westboro office closed

Thu 21 Lancaster – “Better Late Than Never AFG”, College Church, 337 (Rt 70) Main St., In person & Virtual attendance is welcome via FreeConferenceCall.com (605) 475-4865 access code: 631072#. Starts at 7pm, speakers at 7:30pm 59th Anniversary

Tue 26 Waltham – “Hope for Today AFG” Christ Church, 750 Main Street – Group Inventory (In person)

Fri 29 – Sun 1- Vermont – Vermont Al-Anon/Alateen Convention, The Equinox Resort & Spa, Manchester, VT 05091. Details can be found at <https://VermontAlanonAlateen.org/Convention>. Reg fee is \$25.

Upcoming events

May 21, 2022 Area 25 Spring Assembly – Pending confirmation at AWSC, if changed will send email to cma's & gr's 8-4pm... will hear Delegate, Jane P. give her report of the 2022 World Service Conference

May 30 Westboro – Westboro office closed

Aug 12-14 Saco, ME– 30th Maine Area Convention, Ferry Beach Park, Saco, Maine. Details can be found at <https://afgmaineconvention.org/www.ferrybeach.org>. More convention details soon!

Thought for the month

"Beginning today, right this minute, I will be good to myself. I will not allow myself to drown in the whirlpool of distressed thinking about alcoholism and its results. Confidence and hope will immunize me."
ODAT (B-6) pg. 91

New Meetings & Meetings that have changed location/time/status as of 3/31/22 (COVID 19 safety precautions in place)

Sun	New	Boston	OD	10:00am The Franklin, 11 E. Newton St, at green awning ring buzzer (starts 4/10)
Sun	Change	Taunton	OD	7:00pm Bristol-Plymouth Regional Tech. School (used to meet at 7:30pm)
Mon	Change	Cambridge	CD	7:00pm Christ Church, Zero Garden St. (used to be at Harvard Observatory)
Tue	Change	Rockport	OD	7:00pm First Congregational Church of Rockport, UCC, 12 School St. 1 st floor, straight ahead at entrance
Wed	Change	Feeding Hills	OD	6:30pm Sacred Heart Parish Center, 1061 Springfield St –used to meet on Thursdays (as of 4/13)
Wed	Disband	Littleton ac	OD	7:30pm First Unitarian Church
Sat	Disband	Fall River	CS	10:30am Peer 2 Peer Recovery
Sat	Change	Milton	OD ac	10:30am St Michael's Church, 112 Randolph Ave. (used to meet at Beth Israel)
Sat	Change	Watertown	OS	10:30am Belmont-Watertown United Methodist Church, 421 Common St – now in BELMONT

Next District meeting for all Group Reps, Alt Group Reps and interested members

To add your District Meeting to the website calendar, go to alanonMA.org/add-event/
 this will be included in the monthly bulletin if received by the 15th of the prior month.
 Area and District Service meetings can be found on the Website Calendar at <https://alanonma.org/events/>

District	Date	Time	Virtual Login information
1	Apr 5	7:00pm	Meeting on Zoom Meeting ID: 929 1977 6597 Passcode: 123456 Dial In: 929-205-6099
2	Apr 24	12:15pm	Meeting Hybrid – in person and online – Osterville Family Library, 42 Wianno Ave., upstairs. Meeting on Zoom Meeting ID: 897 4316 5439 Passcode: ODAT Dial In: 1-929-205-6099
4	Apr 10	8:00am	Please reach out to area office for DR contact information
7	Apr 24	5:00pm	Meeting on Zoom Meeting ID: 885 7717 4634 Passcode: 033263 Dial In: 929-205-6099
9	April 6	7:30pm	Meeting on Zoom Meeting ID: 815 9007 7089 Passcode: S3neritY Dial In: 301-715-8592
11	Apr 11	7:00pm	Meeting on Zoom Meeting ID: 858 4771 5883 Passcode: 993645 Dial In: 301-715-8592
13	Apr 9	9:00am	Meeting on Zoom Meeting ID: 862 663 266 Passcode: 1951 Dial In: 1-929-205-6099
15	Apr 5	7:00pm	Meeting on Zoom Meeting ID: 820 9087 4634 Passcode: DRmeeting
17	Apr 4	7:00pm	Meeting on Zoom Meeting ID: 987 7092 1691 Passcode: 123456
18	Apr 20	7:00pm	Meeting on Zoom Meeting ID: 899 3130 6938 Passcode: 175283 Dial In: 1-646-558-8656
19	Apr 4	7:00pm	Meeting on Zoom Meeting ID: 843 0289 8253 Passcode: bE7wfe Dial In: 1-929-205-6099
21	Apr 12	6:45pm	Meeting on Zoom Meeting ID: 898 1522 1786 Passcode: 123456 Dial In: 1-646-558-8658

MA AL-ANON TRIVIA

DO YOU KNOW WHICH IS THE OLDEST ACTIVE AL-ANON GROUP IN MASSACHUSETTS?
 IS IT:

- NANTUCKET AFG - (wso id#6310) SUN 11:00AM - NANTUCKET _____
- WEDNESDAY AFG - (wso id #6266) WED 6:45PM -LOWELL _____
- WINCHESTER BACK TO BASICS AFG - (wso#6487) FRI 7:30PM - WINCHESTER _____

AIS/LDC News from your Area office in Westboro

- △ Our AIS/LDC office is OPEN. (Mon-Fri 9:00-4:00pm) Employees have been fully vaccinated.
- △ When purchasing literature for your group on the MA website alanonma.org, please include either Group # or town, time and location under " ORDER NOTES (optional)" - find at bottom
- △ Currently *How Al-Anon Works* (B-32), *Al-Anon's Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions* (B-8) and *As We Understood* (B-11) are on backorder from WSO, along with some other CAL. WSO is working closely with their suppliers to replenish their literature as soon as possible. However, the printing industry is facing many challenges, including paper shortages, staffing issues and shipping delays. We continue to thank you for your patience through these challenging times.
- △ The updated *2022-2024 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* (P-24/27) is available for download on WSO website at <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/service-manual/>. Printed version will be available later this year.