9th year

July 20, 1981

4th issue

Newsletter by and for Idaho Al-Anon Family Groups \$3.00 per year, due January 1st Published-Jan., March, May, July, Sept. and Nov. Editor: Beverly P

Boise, ID 83704

YOUR AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE:

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ALTERNATE....Calleen S
CHAIRMAN....Susan T
SECRETARY....Ladora H
TREASURER....Jean S
ALATEEN....Beth D
PUBLIC INFO...John W
INSTITUTIONS..Kay S
LITERATURE...Lodema S
NEWSLETTER...Beverly P

Boise, ID 83702

Inkom, ID 83245
Twin Falls, ID 83301
Boise, ID 83709
Boise, ID 83705
Idaho Falls, ID 83401
Boise, ID 83705
Boise, ID 83704
Wendell, ID 83355
Boise, ID, 83704

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FROM OUR DELEGATE:

An Al-Anon group can only be as strong as it's members.

It takes a continuous working and practicing the twelve steps of recovery, for ourselves, to gain strength and growth in the Al-Anon program.

A part of that growth is Carrying the Message to Others. The newcomer is vital to the group. Without newcomers we would forget from where we came from. We would become complacent about serenity and sobriety. We need the newcomer and they need strong Al-Anon members to share their program with them. They need to be welcomed and loved. They need time to talk and ask questions or just to Listen and Learn. Or they need time to cry and learn how to laugh at themselves. They need those who listen, those who share, and those who give them hope. It is a special spiritual experience to watch these new people grow and become aware of themselves and change their attitudes about their well being.

Good groups can be maintained by using only Conference-Approved Literature in meetings. There are so many topics that can be used from the eight hard-back books and the many pamphlets, whether the problem stems from a drinking spouse, parent, child or friend. Use of outside literature dilutes the Al-Anon program and confuses the newcomers. Conference-Approved Literature reflects Al-Anon AS IT IS in Principle and Practice.

A workable knowledge of the twelve traditions by group members, aids unity and recovery for all. When groups are dominated by one member, dispersal of group funds questioned, or too much time taken on the spouses inventory, a good study of the traditions are in order for the group. A group inventory is wise now and then, because members may feel free to express an opinion on

continued.....

paper rather than before the group. Every one has the right to express an opinion, there are no Bosses in Al-Anon, we are all Equal.

Three things important to Al-Anon groups and members are:
Step One for personal recovery: We admitted we were powerless over alcohol,
and our lives had become unmanageable.
Tradition One for group unity: Our common welfare should come first; perso

progress for the greatest number depends upon unity.

Concept One for group, district, area and worldwide service: The ultimate responsibility and authority for Al-Anon World Services belongs to the Al-Anon groups.

Kathy 5.
*** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ***

Twenty-two of the seventy-five registered groups in the Idaho Area have contributed to WSO so far this year. Total contributions \$340.00.

My expenses to attend the World Service Conference in April were as follows: Hotel (5 nights), banquet, 5 lunches, \$430.00, paid by the Idaho Area. WSO paid my travel (\$586.00), taxi to and from air terminals (\$54.00) and \$25.00 a day expense(\$125.00) or a total of \$765.00. WSO needs you.

WHAT DOES THE WORLD SERVICE OFFICE DO?

(a) acts as the clearing house, worldwide, for inquiries from those who need help or want information about Al-Anon and Alateen.

(b) registers new groups and provides them with literature, information and helo.

(c) advises the Delegate of the formation or disbanding of groups in his/her

(d) maintains group data and publishes and distributes annually its confidential World Directory of Al-Anon and Alateen groups and lone members.

(e) guides Al-Anon's public information efforts worldwide.(f) prepares and distributes Conference Approved Literature.

(g) publishes and distributes Al-Anon periodicals to individuals and groups throughout the world.

(h) gives an annual report of its activities and those of the World Service Conference in a Conference Summary.

(i) carries the Al-Anon message to institutions and encourages the formation of Institution groups to help families of inmates and patients.

(j) cooperates with AA's General Service Office, also located in New York City in all matters affecting both fellowships.

(k) is responsible for services to Al-Anon groups all over the world (17,434 groups.)

(1) guides overseas countries in developing their structures and establishing General Service Offices.

(m) maintains correspondence with it's worldwide membership.

(n) supervises the translation of Al-Anon literature into foreign languages and the legal aspects of it's distribution.

(o) reports it's activities quarterly to the Board of Trustees and annually to the World Service Conference.

(read pages 8-11 in your World Service Handbook)

There is no such thing as sacrifice. There is opportunity to serve and he who does not take advantage of it, robs only himself.

Alate

Alateen- - - Have you hugged your Al-Anon today?

Alateen- - -

Have you hugged your AA today?



Let's Take a

GROUP INVENTORY

Al-Anon/Alateen

This questionnaire, signed or unsigned, may be returned to the secretary at the next meeting, for use in a series of open discussions on these important points.

Members may answer these questions with a Yes or No, or make whatever comments they wish. Make your answers frank, even if it hurts a little.

Your View of the Group

Are our meetings interesting and helpful?

Do we concentrate sufficiently on the program's ideas, purposes, results?

Do we encourage everyone to take part in the discussions?

Do we use Conference-Approved Literature?

Do we make good use of our literature, books and The FORUM for themes and subjects of meetings?

Do we stick to the subject of the meeting without wandering off on personal tangents?

Do we discuss the alcoholic and his shortcomings?

Are we forming into cliques and being indifferent to other group members?

Do we give newcomers sufficient individual briefing?

Does every newcomer to our group have a sponsor?

Do we try to make the fellowship known to people outside who need its help?

Your Part in the Group

- Do I make it a point to welcome new members, talk with them, offer my phone number?
- Do I interrupt speakers, or another member who is speaking?
- Do I listen carefully to the speakers, the chairman and other group members?
- Do I really take part in meetings, or do I merely sit and listen?
- Do I ever carry on a conversation while somebody is speaking?
- Do I volunteer for, or willingly accept, a group office: secretary, chairman, program chairman, treasurer, group representative, refreshment hostess?
- Am I tolerant and understanding when urgent family commitments compel some members to limit their services to the group?
- Do I help out at meetings, setting up, clearing tables and doing dishes?
- When I have attended meetings for several months, am I willing to accept assignments to speak at other group meetings?

Do I criticize others in the group, or gossip about them?

Is it difficult for me to realize that my point of view may not always be right? Can I accept disagreement good-naturedly?

Do I offer ideas for the improvement of the group, to make the meetings more helpful?

Do I realize the rich benefits, for me, of becoming sponsor to a newcomer?

Do I ever, EVER permit myself to give advice on another person's problems?

Do I ever, EVER repeat anything personal I have heard at meetings, or from another member?

Do I use telephone therapy to help myself and another -- not just for complaints and gossip?

Do I put pressure on the group to accept my ideas because I have been in the fellowship a long time?

Do I read some Al-Anon/Alateen literature every day, use the Twelve Steps, the serenity prayer and the slogans to help solve my daily problems?

Compiled and distributed by AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP HEADQUARTERS, INC. P.O. Box 182, Madison Square Station

Rev. 7/78

G-8 S-3 Available at the SA Literature Center

I was really surprised when I found out at the World Service Conference that in the whole Area of Idaho, only 134 Al-Anon members subscribe to the FORUM (our meeting on paper).

At the Spring Assembly I ask Calleen S. (Alternate Delegate) to do some campaigning or something to stimulate a wider interest in the FORUM. Then I wrote to WSO asking them to help Calleen in this project. Here is the answer from the FORUM Editor.

Dear Kathy,

I have waited awhile to respond to your letter, but now I have some really helpful news. We are submitting to the Executive Committee a Project Approval to send a packet of material to all the Group Representatives. I will be writing to Calleen to give her this information and tell her how much we appreciate her interest and help.

With love, Hildegard FORUM Editor

ALATEENS need LOVE

ALATEENS need SPONSORS



Registration for the U.S. Northwest Regional Service Seminar must be mailed to the World Service Office by August 6, 1981.

The Seminar is being held September 4-6 at Rapid City, South Dakato in the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge.

Each registered group should have received two registration forms, but if you need more I do have more. I do hope we have a good turnout from Idaho.

Sessions will run from Friday evening through noon Sunday.

Rates are \$30.00 per night for singles, \$38.00 for double occupancy.

A package deal for meals is being worked out and information will be sent to you when you register.

AA members are welcome, although there is no program planned for them. They are free to observe all Al-Anon sessions and space will be provided for AA meetings, if desired.

In the Idaho Area we are many miles apart. It takes hours to travel from one end of the state to the other, and it is expensive to fly.

We need UNITY for the common welfare of all in Al-Anon. We need to communicate. A good source of communication is this NEWSLETTER.

All Coordinators should have something to contribute once every two months. Every Area officer must have a report of some sort. Each District Representative surely could send something in about their District meetings, and every Group has something to share with others.

It only takes a few moments to write a sentence or a paragraph and send it in. The NEWSLETTER is a medium for all of us, not just an outlet for a few.

Kathy S.

AREA CONTRIBUTION REPORT

Thursday Morning - Boise	\$45.00
Rigby Al-Anon	40.00
Blackfoot Tranquility	6.00
Friday Nite Grapevine - Boise	10.00
North Side Al-Anon - Gooding	32.00
Wednesday Nite - Boise	63.00
Thursday Serenity - Pocatello	5.00
Caldwell	10.00
Al-Anon Family Group - Idaho Falls	25.00
Hailey	15.00
Shoshone Al-Anon	10.00
Bantello - Pocatello	5.00
	\$266.00

Area contributions for 1981 are really down from 1980 and if Boise is an example, attendance is up.

I have not set up a specific amount to be donated but feel if we all contributed according to the percentage recommended by World Service Office it would be great. They suggest per "The Seventh Tradition" pamphlet, that after basic group expenses the balance be proportioned as follows; 50%---Intergroup (local information or Central Office), 25%---Area and 25% to World Service Office. I feel that if you use 50% for all local expense, Group Rep., Intergroup and District, 25% Area and 25% World Service it would be great. As an example if you received an average of \$10.00 per week it would be used as follows:

(50%) \$5.00 - local x 52 weeks = \$260.00 per year (25%) 2.50 - Area x 52 weeks = 130.00 per year

(25%) 2.50 - World Service x 52 weeks = 130.00 per year

This is only an example, but I feel a good basis. I hope this does not throughly confuse you.

Thanks for contributions in the past.

STATE AL-ANON LITERATURE CENTER 1524 Vista Ave., P.O.Box 2524 Boise, Idaho 83701 Financial Statement

April 1, 1981-June 30, 1981

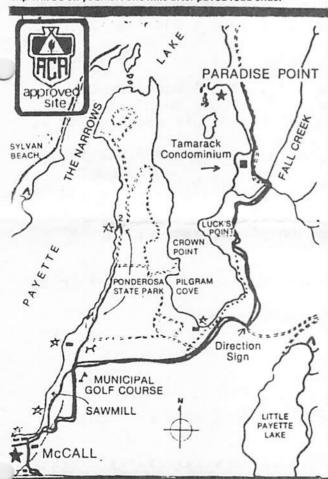
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**Due to adjustment to Inventory for June/81

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT, WE REALLY DO APPRECIATE THE BUSINESS AND ALSO THE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT ARE ENCLUDED FOR POSTAGE IN SOME OF THE ORDERS, AS YOU CAN SEE POSTAGE AND RENT ARE OUR BIGGEST EXPENSES. ****** SALES TAX OF 3% HAS TO BE CHARGED ALSO ON ALL INSTATE ORDERS. ** OUT OF STATE ORDERS ARE EXEMPT. AS OUR VOLUMNE INCREASES OUR OVERHEAD % SHOULD GET BETTER. WE ARE TRYING TO KEEP OUR BACK ORDERS TO A MINIMUM AND WE ARE STARTING TO BUILD OUR INVENTORY THANKS AGAIN TO EVERYONE FOR THEIR PATIENCE AND HELP, CANDY S. **TREASURER** UP.



o through McCall toward Sawmill (at edge of lake) turn right east) at Hotel. Proceed to Municipal Golf Course N.E. of town, urn right (east) at Golf Course (you'll see yellow blinking arning light at the Intersection). Continue eastward until road arns north)you'll see the Episcopal Camp direction sign where irection of road changes). You will pass Tamarach ondominiums on your left. Paved road ends here. Entrance to amp will be on your left one mile after paved road ends.



SORRY - NO PETS ALLOWED

EALTH REQULATIONS MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO ALLOW ANY PETS AT THESE AMP FACILITIES. THESE REQULATIONS WILL SE STRICTLY ENFORCED SO LEASE COOPERATE AND LEAVE ALL PETS AT HOME.

(A) (Y) (P () () () ()

AUGUST 21, 22 + 23, 81

\$27.50 For Adults For Weekend

Includes: All Meals - Cabin Central shower - restrooms recreation Hall - beach - water Fronts

NO COOKING PERMITTED IN RV'S OR CAMPERS THERE IS SPACE FOR CAMPERS - NO HOOKUPS

BOATS

CHILDREN'S RATES 2 Days

Free up to the age of 2 years From 2-5, \$13.00; from 6-11, \$19.00; Over age 11, Adult Rates.

CHARGES PER MEAL (if not staying in cabins)

Morning - \$1.75 Noon - \$2.75

Evening - \$4.00

WE NEED TO KNOW HOW MANY ARE GOING BY AUGUST 10, 1981

CONTACT DOC S

Boise, Idaho 83706 MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO DISTRICT III AA FOR RESERVATIONS

District #1 held a Workshop for all groups in the District, Saturday, June 6th, in Coeur d' Alene. Kathy S. from Boise gave us a report on the World Service Conference that was really interesting.

We made some progress toward electing a District Representative but would like to get the participation of more of the groups in our area.

Also, we are going to check into becoming a part of a Washington District because it would be closer to us then we are to Southern Idaho.

> Thanks. Sharon R. Monday Night Al-Anon Sandpoint, Idaho

On July 15th District #3 held their meeting.

Wes T. from AA spoke about the Spring Assembly to be held in Boise, May 14 thru 16, 1982.

Joanne J. is chairman for the Al-Anon's participation at the Assembly. Marge C. is co-chairman. Pam A. was voted coordinator to attend all AA meetings concerning the Assembly, and bring the information back to Al-Anon.

John W. held a workshop on CPC (Cooperating with the Professional

Community). There was a lot of discussion on the subject.

For the groups that have not donated money to the District, PLEASE HELP!!

DISTRICT #3 MEETINGS

Boise----Sunday----8PM----Grapevine Club, 1518 Fort St.

Monday----12noon-St.Paul's Luthern Ch., 401 N. 14th St.

8PM----First Congregational Ch., 23rd & Woodlawn St. 8PM----Grapevine Club, 1518 Fort St.

Tuesday---12noon-First United Presbyterian Ch., 9th & State St.

8PM----Grapevine Club, 1518 Fort St.

Wednesday-8PM----First Congregational Ch., 23rd & Woodlawn St.

Thursday--10AM---First Congregational Ch., 23rd & Woodlawn St.

8PM----Open Podium Meeting, side door off parking lot at 1524 Vista Ave.

Friday----12noon-First United Presbyterian Ch., 9th & State St.

8PM----Grapevine Club, 1518 Fort St. 8PM----Anderson Center, 1st & Bannock St.

Eagle----Friday----8PM----Catholic parish hall

Emmett----Monday----8PM----Walter Knox Memorial Hospital, 1202 E. Locust

Kuna-----Monday----8PM----Senior Citizen Hall

Meridian--Thursday--8PM----old Roxie Theatre Building behind Western Auto on Idaho St.

McCall----Friday----8PM----Congregational Ch., 1st & Park St.

Mt. Home--Monday----Episcopal Ch.

ALATEEN MEETINGS

Boise----Monday----BPM----First Congregational Ch., 23rd & Woodlawn St.

Emmett----Friday----8PM----Walter Knox Memorial Hospital, 1202 E. Locust

Kuna----Tuesday---8PM----111 Franklin St.

A road without obstacles probably doesn't lead anywhere

The task ahead of us is never as great'as the Power that is with us

DISTRICT #7 MEETINGS

- Caldwell, ID----Wednesday----8PM----Kalley Medical Center, Room 201 (corner of Caldwell Memorial Hospital)
- Nampa, ID-----Monday-----8PM----Center for Employment Training Bldg.
 278 Nampa/Caldwell Blvd. (on left by Red
 Steer Drive In)

Payette, ID----Tuesday----8:30PM-St. James Episcopal Ch., 110 N. 10th Thursday----7:30PM-St. James Episcopal Ch., 110 N. 10th Saturday----1:00PM-630 N. 7th

ALATEEN MEETINGS

Payette, ID----Tuesday-----7:30PM-St. James Episcopal Ch., 110 N. 10th

INTERGROUP MEETINGS

The Idaho Falls-Rigby Intergroup held their first Podium Meeting July 1st. The film "Soft is the Heart of a Child" was shown. Questions from the pamphlet "How Can I Help My Children" were typed on pages and given as handouts.

An open discussion was held by nearly 50 in attendance. It was all well

received and a teacher showed great response.

More discussion followed after which cookies, coffee and punch were served. Friday Night Group is doing the P.I. work to inform lawyers in the city about

Al-Anon. They have completed the same project with the doctors.

Intergroup will be placing Spanish speaking literature and notices to Ayudas (This is an organization to help migrant workers. Ayudas means HELP in English).

Twila H. Idaho Falls-Rigby Intergroup

Boise Intergroup met June 11th and July 9th. Helen 5. reported 64 calls from the second Thursday in May to June 11th and 61 calls to July 9th.

The following questions were brought up at the May Intergroup meeting: How do you become a member of a group? What is the function of a member of a group? Is service being pushed too soon to a newcomer, this perhaps being one of the reasons that newcomers are not making a committment to a certain group, and remain a "floater". It was suggested each person take these questions to their group and discuss belonging to a group and maybe take a group inventory.

There has been discussion about setting aside money from the Podium meeting to start a fund for a Central Office in the future.

The Literature Center has really picked up business. A bookcase is needed for the Center.

ATTENTION ALATEENS!!!!!

WSO needs your help! Are you anxious for your own Alateen "One Day at a Time" book? Please read the following example of a page from your New ODAT from WSO.

First Step: How can I apply this Step to myself if I don't drink alcohol——how can I be powerless? This Step means I have no control over alcohol, the alcoholic, how much they drink or what alcohol does to the person who drinks. In other words, I cannot control another person's life. I do, however, have to admit that my life is unmanageable when I don't try as hard in school, if I don't keep my room as clean as I should, if I say things I don't really mean or if I don't bring friends home because of the drinking. When I have let the situation take over my life, I no longer have control. Acceptance of this Step can be the beginning of my being in control of my life again, that continued.......

is, if I really want it. "Help me want it".

WSO needs you to share your experiences, ideas and views to complete this book. Could be a beautiful project for a group or individuals--- give it a try.

Through visitation of groups it has come to light the Traditions aren't being used---this has caused feelings and misunderstanding. The First Tradition is a good place to start---if read, discussed and applied the unity and strength will bond the common welfare and the group will grow and Survive.

How is P.I. going? There's lots of teens and young adults out there hurting. When school starts check your school libraries to see if there are bulletin boards. There are new small posters (M-22s, M-23s and M-24s) good

eye catchers in a library.

On hope you are attending District and Intergroup meetings. You are part of Al-Anon and Are Very Much needed. You are a link in the future and

progress.

Rigby invited an Alateen and past Sponsor to chair one of their meetings. The whole meeting was conducted as an Alateen meeting. It was a rewarding experience for both programs.

Have a Happy Summer but KEEP COMING BACK!!!

Beth D.

Love, Christiam

These are letters from two members of the Idaho Falls Pre-teen group. We are also sending members' letters to the FORUM.

Dear Readers,

My name is Christiam and I'm a member of a Pre-teen group in Idaho. I've gone to the meetings for over a year now. I'm writing because I want more people to know about it. Frankly it's great! I have had a great time at the meetings. P.S. Get a group started now!

As told to a sponsor.

Hi my name is Erin. I have been coming to Pre-teen for one month. I am five years old. I have met alot of new friends. At one of our meetings, one of the kids made a maze--a drunk looking for the AA meeting house. It was lots of fun following the maze to the end. It is like the alcoholic wandering confused looking for "something".

Now that my Dad is in the program he doesn't yell at me alot for the little things that I do wrong. He also buys me things and spends more time with me.

ALATEENSALATEEN

ALATEENS and SPONSORS

There will be a meeting for all Atateens and all Alateen Sponsors on Wednesday, July 29, at 7:30 PM. This meeting will be held to choose the Alateen chairman for the Spring Assembly in Boise May 1982.

YOU will be needed to help plan the Alateen program for both the Fall

Assembly and the District 3 McCall Campout.

Meeting place is 2020 Westgate Dr. (street turns N. off Fairview by

Westcate Mall). For information

Alateens plan on going to the campout in McCall----August 21, 22, and 23
Ask your Sponsor or an Al-Anon to take a car e responsible for your group. Make reservations through Ooc 5 . Rate over 11 is \$27.50.

The Alateen picnic in June was represented by Boise and Kuna. There was

a good meeting of sharing by all.

Lou K.

GROUP NEWS

Our group has been up and down. We had a family of three coming regularly, but they are moving in August. One night out of five people we had three men. Our meetings have been running from two to five with a general average of three.

We now meet in the old courthouse in Hailey.

Yours, Bob S. Wood River Valley Group

The Nyssa Friday Nite A.F.G. has lost an Al-Anon member, Bertha P. She passed away last April. We'll always remember her with Al-Anon Love.

June 6, 1981, Al-Anon's new District #7 held its first District meeting. District #3 Representative Joanne J. and Irene E. District #3 Sec./Treas. shared the meeting with many helpful tips as to organizing our new District. However, it was voted upon and decided to postpone elections for District #7 officers due to the absence of available G.R.s to hold District positions. We are entering this as a plea to all District #7 Groups to discuss and further consider those available to hold District office positions. We all need eligible and willing Al-Anon leadership.

Thank you, Your Nyssa Friday Nite Friends

There is a Al-Anon Group meeting at Vale, Oregon on Sunday night at the Episcopal Church.

Helpful Monday Night Group at the Grapevine is alive and well, come and visit our group. If you have not yet made a decision as to which group you would like to call your "home group", please make a visit with our group hefore you make a decision.

Ladora H..G.R.

Work downtown? Bring your lunch and share your Al-Anon growth with this FABULOUS group, the Tuesday Noon A.F.G. at the First United Presbyterian Ch. 9th and State.

Are you looking for a group to be "in service" with? This group is functioning with a Chairperson that is willing to turn over group literature, ashtrays, funds to a Secretary and a Group Representative. Carrying case is included.

Ladora H., Chairperson

A puzzling question how can one get the entire group to participate in the business discussions precisely?

What do you look for in a sponsor?

?

? One answer was. In looking for a sponsor I found several people that I ? ?could talk to easy and chose the one that could talk to me when I needed them.?

ASK-IT-BASKET----Regional Service Seminar---Banff, Alberta---Oct. 24-26 1980

Q. Is it okay to put the initials A.F.G. on an envelope? A. That does not violate anonymity. That's fine.

- A. That does not violate anonymity. That's fine.

 Q. I would like ideas to raise money that will be used for literature or to send a DR or GR to Assembly?
- A. There are suggestions for raising money in the Policy Digest.
- Q. How can group unity be encouraged among the members?
- A. It is by sharing at meetings; by remembering our primary purpose and tak-

Baise 83204





Telpful Monday Thypit a. J. y. Bay 3524 Baisi Ilaho 83701