

AL-ANON News

Second
News Letter

Glad to be back with you for our second State Al-Anon, Al-Ateen News Letter.

It appears that there was some misunderstanding as to the distribution of our last News Letter. That, I hope we can clear up this time. So I hope you will bear with me until we can get some of the wrinkles ironed out.

Boise News: It appears Boise has been busy this last two months. Five Boise groups bought the film for T.V. and have been trying to get the film cut up and the sound taken off to get on radio. They are also planning an open meeting in St. Alphonsus Hospital and will be sending out letters to State, County, and City officials and an ad in the paper inviting anyone interested.

Boise is starting a beginners Al-Anon meeting on Monday nights for a six weeks briefing on what Al-Anon is. Every six weeks it will start over and newcomers are encouraged to attend other Al-Anon meetings to find a home group.

Natty T. has appointed two more co-ordinators to answer letters as to how to start new groups and other interstate correspondence. Barbara M., Boise, as Institutional co-ordinators. Kathy B., Boise, group co-ordinator, is to answer letters as to how to start new groups and other interstate correspondence. Barbara M., Boise, as Institutional co-ordinator will be contacting Institutions and getting Al-Anon into these areas.

Pocatello News: In Pocatello things have been happening. The Thursday Serenity group moved to the Salvation Army building North 4th, back entrance at 8:00 p.m.

The Tuesday night Al-Ateen meeting will be held at the same place at 8:00 p.m. Tuesday night.

The new Tuesday night Al-Anon meeting will also be held at the Salvation Army building.

The Serenity group had a Mother-Daughter Brunch at Ross Park on May 12, for Mother's Day.

Pocatello Al-Ateen had a roller skating party May 31; the Serenity group furnished pizza afterwards.

Pocatello's group meetings are announced weekly in Idaho State Journal and also announced weekly on KSNW radio.

They will have a two part series on Al-Anon and Al-Ateen to be featured in the Idaho State Journal.

The Serenity Group had Jay Atkins from Gate-Way Mental Health speak at a meeting April 19, on roll playing in the alcoholic homes.

On May 10, Larry McCullough was guest speaker at the Serenity group. He spoke on "Self defeating behavior". Mr. McCullough is from I.S.U. These speakers were taped and the tapes are available for loan to any interested groups.

If your group is interested, write to Serenity A. F. G., Box 1366, Pocatello, Idaho 83201.

The Serenity Group is now working on the twelve steps at their meetings. Grit Lo is now the G. R. for the group.

Pocatello has darling posters in their meeting room with animal pictures depicting the elegans on white posters in bright colors. They are Tony Tiger, Gerald Giraffe, Rodney Roadrunner, and Carrie Camel.

Pocatello Serenity Group held a Mystery Supper July 18, 1973 to raise funds for their group and other expenses.

Their menu went as follows:
Yankee's Doodle (macaroni salad), Charlie's Crunch (tuna and chips), End of a Rooster (molded chicken salad), Green Backs (green salad), Cube (sugar), Pow-Pow (bean salad), Satan Delight (cake), Bouncers (peas), Ram's Head (rolls), Stuffed Acrobat (stuffed celery), Delinza (water), Eye Opener (coffee).

It went over amazingly and was a great deal of fun for everyone.

District News: At our District Al-Anon meeting held July 10, 1973 in Pocatello. There were four groups represented from our District. Present were Pocatello, Blackfoot, and Idaho Falls.

It was discussed how best to use the week's time we will have Lois' film. They decided to have a private showing for each group and then to have public showing for professional people and any other interested parties. During the public showing too, perhaps have a hidden panel to answer questions afterwards. Donations will be accepted to argument the expenses. Tentatively, the time will be in October. Some discussion is still in order. It is also time to send in our donations to World Service.

Public Information and how to most effectively present it on a group level was brought out and discussed. Also if it is feasible for one group to help another in getting their public information material to the places where it will be most effective and contacting T.V. and radio stations and the newspaper.

There will be four film strips for T.V. courtesy of the Boise groups for this side of the State in the near future.

Beth D., Public Relations Chairman, suggested that it might be a good time to get committees started to approach the school principles, counselors, nurses, science teachers, etc., to talk to these people and make arrangements to introduce to the health and science classes, some speakers from A. A. and Al-Anon and discuss the problems involved in the alcoholic homes and information on Alcoholism.

It was brought up and discussed that we should consider forming Districts in our State and get our District Rep. in case our G. R. were unable to make it to Area meetings.

It was brought to our attention that according to our by-laws we should seriously consider getting a new Secretary-treasurer as our other officers have enough to do to keep them more than busy. So it should not be let go too long.

Beth D., our Public Information Director, suggested that it would be nice to place Al-Anon and Al-Ateen bulletins in tourist and recreational spots around the state in places like rest rooms, service stations, motels, hotels, travel agencies and airports. They would attract and maybe be of help to tourists and local people alike.

Idaho Falls News: Idaho Falls groups are in the process of replacing bulletins in laundromats and bulletin boards in other businesses. They have proved to be very effective.

The A. A. annual picnic is scheduled to be held **August 5**, at Warm River camping ground and all groups of A. A., Al-Anon and Al-Ateen have been invited to come. Having been able to attend last year, I wouldn't miss a chance to go again.

Idaho Falls group was interviewed for the Post Register and pictures were taken of the group in which their backs were turned and the face of the Chairman was blocked out.

The group conscience agreed before-hand that anyone not wishing to be there was made aware of the time for the interview.

The Post Register will do a follow-up story shortly before Lois' film is to be shown to insure that the public will be aware of the purpose of the film and where and when it will be shown.

It was suggested that the Idaho Falls steering committee meeting be held at a different person's house each month and that members of the group that are interested in the business end of Al-Anon are more than welcome to attend.

Idaho Falls Al-Anons will be mailing out letters and literature to professional people as an introduction to Al-Anon and its purpose before showing Lois' film. There will be follow-up personal contact to encourage them to see the film.

Idaho Falls has started a newcomers group that is growing in leaps and bounds. It is held one hour before the regular meeting and they are encouraged to stay for the regular meeting. The meeting is chaired each month by two of the girls from the regular meeting.

Idaho Falls Al-Anon is planning their annual picnic to be held sometime in August.