

DISTRICT ONE !

Let me introduce myself, my name is Cecilia, and I'm the newly elected District Rep of North Idaho's District One. We are very excited about reconnecting with Idaho and this was demonstrated at our First District One meeting on January 26th. I had the privilege of being a part of this process.

For me, the process began even before I moved to this great state of Idaho three years ago. About a month and a half before moving to Idaho, my sponsor was asked to be the speaker at the Fall Idaho Area Assembly. I thought this was great to attend my first Area Assembly even before I move to my new home. This is where I connected with many wonderful Idaho Al-Anon members including Ruth, our Idaho delegate. Some where during the Saturday lunch, I was bragging that, I was attending my first Area Assembly even before moving here; this is when my sponsor told me that north Idaho participates with Washington. I was very confused, because I didn't know, that district lines crossed state lines, but I accepted what I heard, and thought to myself, I will learn more when I moved to our new home and attend meetings.

When I moved to the Coeur d'Alene area, I asked about our district meetings. I was told "our district" meets in Spokane. I looked forward to attending the district meetings. And after attending "our district" meetings, for about 2 ½ years, I noticed the district was only referred to Washington and not the Idaho/Washington district. Most all of the events were Washington events. I thought this is strange, if the boundaries were redrawn, and this is "our district", it should be named as such.

Then in May, I started the Northwest Serenity meeting in Hayden Lake. I registered the meeting with WSO, "our district", our literature center and submitted it to the newsletter, and for the meeting directory. I heard from WSO first, that the Northwest Serenity meeting was in an un-represented district in Idaho District 1, and Idaho Area 13. Then I was contacted by Washington District Rep, and was told, I needed to write a letter asking permission to participate with the Washington District Two, and the Washington Area Assembly 59. Then I knew, this wasn't "our district", it was a district that we were allow to participate with. I contacted our Idaho delegate, Ruth and started the process to communicate with the north Idaho members, and groups to let them know, we have choices. Ruth mailed letters to all the north Idaho district one groups, asking that a group conscious be taken; all of the groups conscious were for north Idaho groups to be represented by our north Idaho district one. So then, we called our first north Idaho district one meeting on January 26th. A few of us got together for brunch at the Coeur d'Alene Inn to meet with Ruth, our Idaho delegate, who flew up to be at our first district one meeting. After

brunch, we met at the Kootenai Medical Center for our district meeting. We had 24 Al-Anon members in attendance, 9 of our 11-registered meetings were represented at the district meeting. At break, the hospital had made a delicious carrot cake with the state of Idaho and the Al-Anon symbol drawn on it with the words "Service, Unity and Recovery" across the top. We had so many donated Al-Anon Forums, service manuals, and Al-Anon books, that everyone in attendance was a winner. We made an official vote to represent our north Idaho district one groups in our own Idaho district one, and reconnect with our own Idaho Area Assembly. We elected the following district one officers and coordinators.

District Rep	Cecilia, from Hayden Lake
Alternate	Lori, from Coeur d'Alene
Treasurer	Marleigh, from Sandpoint
Secretary	Shelley, from Sandpoint
Public Outreach	Debby, from Kingston
Alateen	Anastazia, from Hayden
Archives	Barbara, from Coeur d'Alene

We voted for roving monthly meetings the last Sunday of the month until we are established, and then we will meet every other month. Our next district one meeting will be on Sunday, February 23 at 2:00 in beautiful Sandpoint, Idaho.

I am reminded of the story about the Al-Anon who approached God and said; God is this all Al-Anon has to offer? God said, yes, if that is all your willing to give.

I was so pleased to see that north Idaho is willing to give more to our north Idaho groups and our north Idaho district.

Thank you for allowing me to participate in my own recovery,
Cecilia