

Literature Coordinator Report to Louisiana AFG Assembly
August 2020

The following are excerpts of the Literature Coordinators' Digest from AFG Connects. These items may be of general interest to the Assembly, especially the updates from July 6.

April 20

In response to a question asking if the Newcomers Packet was available in a digital version for Zoom meeting newcomers, the WSO replied:

The WSO does not produce an electronic version of the Newcomer Packet. Rather, a special vanity URL has been created and provided to the Electronic Meeting CMAs to share with their meetings and members. Whenever a newcomer attends an electronic meeting for their very first Al-Anon meeting, they will be provided with the URL. The newcomer will be asked to enter an email address and an electronic welcome email is generated to that member. It is not an electronic copy of the pamphlets included in the Packet. Instead, it provides a warm introduction to the newcomer and links to numerous resources tailored for newcomers that are found on the Al-Anon website, al-anon.org. The email is also in the process of being translated into Spanish and French. Prior to this being created, there was no information to provide a newcomer to Al-Anon attending an electronic meeting.

Again, the URL is only provided to the CMAs (members who serves as the current mailing address) for the electronic meetings. Here are some resources that are available on al-anon.org to share with newcomers to the temporary electronic meetings:

- Sample chapters of CAL: al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/...
- Free downloadable options: al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/...
- Slogans page: al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/...
- Member Blog: al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/member-blog which is also available for use for any Al-Anon meeting.
- *The Forum* magazine excerpts: "[The Forum](http://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/...)" Magazine Stories
- The 2020 *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* magazine: al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/...

Please feel free to share this information through your links of service.

May 14

In response to a question asking whether buying books from outside vendors benefits AFG, the WSO replied:

As far as what Area Literature Coordinators can report to your Areas, please remind your Area groups and members that:

- Purchasing eBooks and other electronic literature through the outside entities listed with links on our online store supports Al-Anon Family Groups.
- Purchasing printed literature through the WSO or your local LDC supports Al-Anon Family Groups, including local Al-Anon services.
- Purchasing new printed literature through outside entities has a very high markup to support the outside entities.
- Purchasing used printed literature through outside entities may save you money, but it supports the outside entities.

Groups and members all have a choice- they can support local Al-Anon services and the Al-Anon fellowship or they can support outside entities. We remain obedient to the unenforceable, but when groups and members are aware, many will choose to help Al-Anon be self-supporting.

July 6

A general update provided by the WSO Literature Chair:

Here's the latest update of literature news. Please feel free to pass this info on at Assemblies and via e-mail to District Representatives, Information Services/Intergroups, Website Coordinators, and Newsletter Editors. Establishing an e-mail list of these members/service arms makes it easy to forward this information.

NEW DAILY READER (working title): Many thanks for getting out the word about our last call for sharings for this project. We had many responses and now have plenty of sharings to choose from, so we are no longer accepting additional sharings. We will gladly accept sharings for *The Forum* and *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism*.

Members Blog: Please encourage members to read and write on the Member Blog at al-anon.org/member-blog. Each month there are new topics added, so today we have choices! You can also share about the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service too!

"CAL Corner" Topics: This department is featured each month in *The Forum* magazine. It contains members' sharings on how a particular piece of our literature has enhanced their recovery. July's articles are about *As We Understood...* (B-11). August's focus is on celebrating the 50th anniversary of *Three Views of Al-Anon* (P-15), and September's will be on *Hope for Today* (B-27).

Sharings needed for "CAL Corner": We always need more sharings about how CAL has helped members with their recovery. Please urge members to write about *Opening Our Hearts*, *Transforming Our Losses* (B-29), *Courage to Be Me* (B-23), *Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships* (B-33), and *Reaching for Personal Freedom* (P-93). Please see the writing guideline for "CAL Corner" in the Guidelines & Procedures folder under the "Library" folders in the Literature Coordinator community of AFG Connects or at:
al-anon.org/pdf/CALcornerSharingRevised%202018.pdf.

Writing about CAL for Area Newsletters: Please use your Area newsletter to share how local members are spreading the word about CAL or to publish their reviews of various CAL.

I do have one question for the Assembly. When I hear of time-sensitive issues such as requests for members to submit their stories by a certain deadline, how can I share that information within members between Assembly meetings?

Please contact me if there are any specific questions you would like me to ask the WSO Literature staff.

Thank you for your service!

Ann B.
email: lafayetteann@gmail.com
cell: 337-852-3669