Lifelines – Rhode Island

Your Monthly Newsletter
November 2012 Edition

November 3 Assembly
St. Marys Church, East Main Rd, Portsmouth
Registration – 8:30 AM • $5 • Brown Bag Lunch

Approving Area’s Annual Budget • Hear all RI Area coordinator reports • News from WSO
Attend and participate in breakout sessions on Thought Forces • Location for our Late Spring Assembly

GRs or group members appointed by group as their voting voice (non-dual members) vote on assembly motions (Assembly guidelines are on our website).

Assembly participation is encouraged for all!

BOOK BAG RAFFLE
You could win this book bag full of Conference Approved Literature valued at over $100.00!!!
Tickets can be purchased at the Literature table at the Fall Workshop on November 17th. Tickets are $5.00 each. Help support the Literature Distribution Center and the Area.
If your district or group is in need of literature, take a chance!

The next AWSC meeting will be Dec 15th, 10 AM – 12PM at the Rolfe St Office in Cranston

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The Many Ways to Purchase Literature!

Area 49 (Rhode Island) Al-Anon Family Groups
106 Rolfe Street, Cranston, RI 02910
Phone (401) 781-0044
http://www.riafg.org

3 Ways to Purchase Conference Approved Literature and Support Local Services:

1. **Pick it up at the Area Office/Literature Distribution Center (LDC)**—We welcome walk-in customers. Please contact the office for current hours.

2. **Pick it up at an Area Event**—E-mail your order to deb.anon@yahoo.com up to the Thursday before an Assembly, Workshop, or Convention, and you can pick up your order and pay for it at the event.

3. **Have it mailed to your group**—*For a limited time only*, the Area Office will mail literature orders. Download an order form from www.riafg.org and send it with payment to the Area Office. All orders are shipped via Media Mail. Allow a week or so for processing and delivery.

*We will decide whether this service will continue at the Spring 2013 Assembly.*

Notice - for the Assembly e-mail (deb.anon@yahoo.com) your groups next literature order by Thursday, Nov 1st, and your groups order will be available to pick up at our upcoming Assembly. Please note that only service-related literature will be available the day of assembly for purchasing! Order soon!

The office hours vary depending on volunteer hours. The phone message is changed every Sunday to reflect the availability. Please call before going to the office (401-781-0044). We are always in need of more volunteers to keep the doors of the office open.
The Maine 2012 AFG Camp Convention was the very first convention I have had the opportunity to participate in. The best meeting on wheels was the drive to the convention! The laughter, sharing, caring, tears and honesty that came our way the next few days was gravy.

The first evening there was an ice breaker meeting - out of nowhere, bolts of lightning and thunder came and BAM - blackness. Flipping out flashlights, we continued as if nothing happened!

The second day was filled with meetings, workshops, meals and fellowship. We even got a little pool time basking in the mountain sunshine. The day ended with a campfire sing-along.

The final morning we had two powerful speakers. The first reminded me of the song ‘Against All Odds’. The second speaker was our own current Chair - who is sometimes the wind beneath my wings. Her message was powerful on how service has made life worth living even in the hard times.

I am grateful for this opportunity. Linda F

Al-Anon

Web Sites

- Your local, Area 49 web site
  http://www.riafg.org

- The Al-Anon Members’ Web site
  http://www.al-anon.alateen.org/members

- Podcasts http://al-anonfamilygroups.org/Podcasts/FirstSteps/

- Online meetings and outreach
  http://www.ola-is.org

Our Open House was a great opportunity to see the new layout of our literature distribution center, get to know the office and how it works (or not) and meet and greet with members of the World Service Committee. We are grateful for all who attended!
CURRENT OPEN POSITIONS:

Alternate Area Delegate - The Delegate attends the annual Al-Anon/Alateen World Service Conference (our world-wide group conscience) and brings to the Conference our Area’s viewpoint on matters affecting the entire fellowship. The Delegate then returns to the Area with a broader perspective of Al-Anon worldwide. He/she is the bridge of understanding that links the groups in the Area with world Al-Anon/Alateen to help us continue to function in unity. The Delegate is the servant of Al-Anon as a whole.

Archives Coordinator - Enjoy scrap booking? The Archives Coordinator preserves the experience, history, and memorabilia of the RIAFG. The Coordinator may head up an Archives Committee, which would be responsible for researching the history of Al-Anon in RI. Our archive materials are currently at the Area office. They need to be organized, dated, catalogued, and preserved using archival methods (e.g., acid free paper, boxes).

District Representatives for District 2, 5 - The DR is usually any incoming, outgoing, or active past Group Representative who is willing to represent the district at Area World Service Committee meetings and Area Assembly. The DR conveys information to the GRs from the Area World Service Committee, listens to group concerns, and takes any questions or concerns to the Area World Service Committee meetings.

Forum Coordinator - The Forum Coordinator encourages groups and members to submit sharings to the Forum magazine and to subscribe. The Coordinator carries Al-Anon’s message of recovery as it is printed in the Forum to the GRs, who are the Forum Representatives at the group level. This coordinator’s duties include, but are not limited to, being available to GRs and DRs for assistance in conducting workshops or outreach activities. Coordinators can ask Area World Service Committee members to assist by subscribing to and sharing the value of the Forum as they conduct their service activities. Coordinators can keep records of their efforts to pass on to the next coordinator. They may also bring sharing sheets, blank order forms, and copies of the Forum to workshops, assemblies, etc. Display boards may also be made to use at these events.

Group Representatives - Many groups in Rhode Island currently do not have GRs. The GR receives information from their District Representative to share with their individual groups and attends the RIAFG Assembly meetings to vote on area issues. The GRs are the voice of RI Al-Anon.

Service (planting the seed) - Recovery blooms.

The only way the meetings stay alive is by service, we do this by chairing meetings, taking group positions, and taking area positions. The only way to keep what we have is to give it back.
RI Al-Anon/Alateen Events

Area Assembly
Saturday, November 3, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm (registration at 8:30 am)
St. Mary's Church, East Main Rd, Portsmouth

RI Al-Anon Family Groups 2012 Workshop "Lois and Laughter" with AA Participation
Saturday, November 17, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm (Coffee and registration 9:00 am)
Butler Hospital, Ray Conference Center, 345 Blackstone Blvd., Providence

Al-Anon International Convention (with AA participation)
July 5-7, 2013
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ONLY HAPPENS EVERY FIVE YEARS. Vancouver is beautiful. For more information and to register online visit the Convention website http://www.al-anoninternationalconvention.org/. WSO has set aside blocks of hotel rooms, so the conference and hotel registration can both be easily completed at the same time through the website.

Lifelines e-subscription: Email to: RI_Al-Anon@hotmail.com (type “Mailing List” in the subject line) Web: www.riafg.org

An area newsletter is a vital link in keeping groups and members informed. The purposes of Lifelines are to: encourage attendance at service events; communicate local, area, and Al-Anon Information Service news; and attract Al-Anon members into service.

Editor: Linda S. at lin2169@cox.net or 401-855-6009 (it’s safe to leave a message).