

THE GROUP SCOOP



THE PORTLAND, OR. AL-ANON INFORMATION SERVICES NEWSLETTER

Service Traditions

Tradition Six

Our Family Groups ought never endorse, finance, or lend our name to any outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary spiritual aim. Although a separate entity, we should always co-operate with Alcoholics Anonymous.

Service Work

When we get involved in service work, we are not performing some good deed; we are taking a positive action that has an immediate effect upon us - our growth, our well-being, and our recovery.

•How has service enriched your recovery?

Share your story with the Group Scoop;
thegroupscooppdx@gmail.com.

Service Sponsorship

In addition to a regular most of us can benefit by working with a Service Sponsor. A Service Sponsor can help us study the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Service and prepare, and guide us through, the expansion of our service. You can seek a Service Sponsor as an addition to your Al-Anon support, recovery, and serenity team.



Be a Paid AIS Special Worker

Tradition 8 states: Al-Anon Twelfth Step work should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers. Well, the Portland Al-Anon Information Service Center (AIS) is looking for a new special worker for a paid job-share position. This position would be for 16 hours/week between 9 am-5 pm Monday and Tuesday at the AIS office. A requirement for the position is that the applicant must be an active member of Al-Anon for a minimum of one year. Per the AIS Bylaws, applicants cannot also be a member of AA and if the applicant accepts the position, they would no longer be able to hold any position beyond the group level. This position handles the majority of the financial tasks of Accounts Payable & Receivable for the 501(c)3. The position also includes standard administrative duties such as selling/invoicing literature, answering phones/emails, and assisting customers. Additional skills include multitasking, data entry, composition of documents & business letters, knowledge of Al-Anon literature, and ability to work well with the public and other members. Starting wage \$18 DOE with review after 6 months. Training will be made available for all elements of the job.

According to Tradition Eight, a member's personal knowledge of Al-Anon is of value in an office, but they are paid for office work only. Please email ais@al-anonportlandoregon.org with any questions and/or submit a resume, attention Board Chair.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

AIS needs volunteers who'd be available to fill in for a few hours during times when our special workers need to be out of the office. Volunteers don't have to be able to answer every question, and they can always tell a caller they're a volunteer and will pass on a message to the office staff who will be back in the office on such and such a day.

Very little training is necessary but we ask that prospective volunteers spend a couple of hours with office staff for a short orientation which explains procedures and how to write up literature sales. Some volunteers bring an iPad to access our website for meeting information or do so on their phones, and those who work virtually and can spare a few hours to help occasionally can bring a laptop and work from the office where there is wi-fi.

Without volunteers to help, our office will be forced to close on days when the regular staff are not available. This doesn't happen often but until this situation is resolved we suggest that you call before coming to the office to be sure someone is there.



WHAT'S GOING ON?

"Hillsboro Friday Night in person meetings are up and running! We came back to our original physical location on March 1st. We're currently averaging around 6 or 7 people and getting a few newcomers. Our address for the meeting is the UCC/Congregational Church, 494 East Main Street and 5th avenue in Hillsboro, 97123. The meeting is from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. every Friday night. We lock the doors at 7:15 p.m. . The meeting is down the stairs and to the left. Hoping to see you soon for a great in-person meeting! For questions, contact: Cheryl F. or the AIS office

NEWCOMERS MEETING:

It's called Beginning Now AFG and is listed on AIS, Oregon Area, and WSO websites. The 45- minute meeting has a script for leaders to follow, emphasizing simple recovery tools each week, and includes time for newcomers to ask questions. Leaders arrive and set up at 5:15pm. The meeting starts at 5:30pm and closes at 6:15pm. It's a great, simple way to share our experience, strength, and hope for people often in the greatest need. If this sounds like a service opportunity that fits you we would love to have you join us in this rewarding work. Please reach out using our contact info below.

Ward M, coordinator; ward.mann@gmail.com

Meladee M, District 9 Representative; meladee.m@comcast.net



The Oregon Alateen Conference (OAC) organizing committee will be holding bake sales at the OB's AA Speaker Meetings and the Rule 62 AA Speaker Meetings from April-July to raise funds for their upcoming conference on August 2nd-4th. All Al-anon members are invited to attend the bake sales and/or provide baked goods. If you or your group wish to provide baked goods please bring them to the meetings 30 minutes early. More details on the time and location of the speaker meetings are provided below. Direct donations for OAC can also be sent to OAC PO Box 12, Tualatin, OR 97062 or through Venmo at @OAC-Donation. Feel free to reach out to OregonAlateen@gmail.com with any questions and we hope to see you all there!

OB's Speaker Meeting
7-8pm, 1st Saturday of the Month
Eastridge Church
14100 SE Sunnyside Road

Clackamas, OR 97015

Rule 62 Speaker Meeting
7-8pm, 3rd Saturday of the Month
Lynchwood Church of God
3818 SE 174th Ave
Portland, OR 97236



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING GROUP STATUS.

Temporary electronic groups began operating during Covid:

The deadline to make changes is **June 1, 2024**

If your group was in person in the past, your group has a group ID number.

Have a group business meeting to decide your format moving forward.

If you are going to be either in person or hybrid submit updated info to WSO or Area Group

Records Coordinator (AGRC) Meredith: Meredith D AGRC, 541-410-6549, meredithd394@gmail.com

If you want to be fully electronic:

Electronic meetings that were formerly part of a hybrid group

If your group has decided to become permanently electronic, you do not have a group ID number.

Contact AGRC Meredith to get registered and get a new group ID number.

If your group is thinking of becoming permanently electronic:

Have a group business meeting to decide what type of group you're going to have moving forward. ***Hybrid, in-person, or permanently electronic.***

If you want to be permanently electronic, which District do you wish to be in?

Your in-person District with hybrid business meetings,

the New Electronic District 18 or,

the Global Electronic Area (GEA.)

Contact AGRC Meredith to proceed with registration.

Please be sure to update AIS of your group changes as well as working with

Oregon Area and WSO.

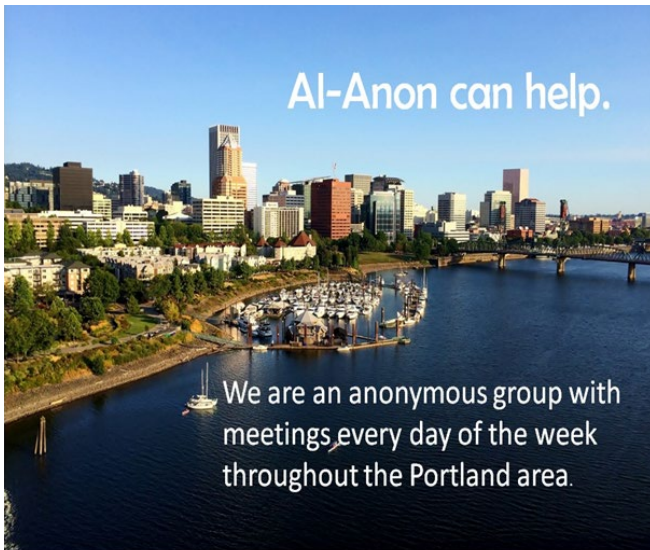
Any questions: contact Meredith D AGRC, 541-410-6549 meredithd394@gmail.com

Barb B. AIS Liaison , barbbservice@gmail.com



What Services Do the Portland AIS Provide to the Groups It Serves?

- Provides a central place where Al-Anon literature and other Al-Anon material can be kept safe and available to groups, members, and interested individuals.
- Receives inquiries and directs them to the appropriate group.
- Publishes a local meeting directory.
- Collaborates with the Area Group Records Coordinator to keep meeting information up-to-date.
- Channels local Alateen and Public Outreach inquiries to committee chairs.
- Distributes the AIS newsletter (The Group Scoop) containing local activities and articles written by members for the groups it serves.
- Holds bimonthly meetings six times a year attended by Information Service Representatives (ISRs) from the groups it serves. AIS activity reports are made and discussions held on matters relating to the AIS and the groups.
- Maintains an AIS Web site. www.al-anonportlandoregon.org



Office Information-

Open Tuesday-Thursday

9:00AM-5:00PM

Spanish Information:

503-916-9913

Monday to Friday

9:00AM-5:00PM

www.al-anonportlandoregon.org

The above is a portion of what your AIS is providing for the groups and members it serves. If you are interested in learning more or volunteering at the AIS office please email ais@al-anonportlandoregon.org

This newsletter is for you. Thank you for submitting sharing and other articles that help others. Wave M.

Share your Experience, Strength, and Hope-

Write about one of those topics or anything else related to your Al-Anon/Alateen journey and send it to thegroupscooppdx@gmail.com.

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Al-Anon's Three Legacies encompass Recovery through the STEPS, Unity through the TRADITIONS, and Service through the CONCEPTS. Adopted almost word for word from Alcoholics Anonymous, the Twelve Steps of Al-Anon are the Steps followed by each of us along this very personal path to recovery.

<https://marinal-anon.org/new-to-al-anon/the-three-legacies>

SUPPORT OUR AIS OFFICE **

Are you a party planner?

Do you plan your family's reunions or the block party in your neighborhood? Even if you're not the planner, maybe you like to attend these events? Regardless, the fundraiser committee is a perfectly FUN way for you to be of service!!

This service position requires only a few months commitment: a couple of zoom meetings a month with new Al-Anon friends, a few emails and phone calls and presto, the committee is hosting a fundraiser event to support the AIS office.

The committee doesn't need to start from scratch, an organizational binder with notes from the last 10 years of fundraisers is available, there is a known venue & format to the event, including a Monthly Accomplishment Calendar, choose a theme & speakers and the committee is ½ finished. The committee organizes the event & delegates tasks, Al-Anon is full of volunteers who want to step forward to help!

The committee can create an event based on former AIS fundraisers, or create something new, it's all up to you.

Please, YOU are invited to use your skill set to organize the next AIS fundraiser!! You don't do it alone. Thank you for considering this service opportunity!!

To volunteer or inquire, contact Deanna or Cheryl G through the AIS office, ais@al-anonportlandoregon.org



-Course Gourmet Italian Feast for 10

Any of you that attended the 2023 AIS Fundraiser might remember the Six-Course Gourmet Italian Feast for 10 that was being offered by a few of our members as a fundraiser item. I was fortunate enough to be able to take part in this feast and want to share how creative and tasty this Silent Sign-Up was. At the Fundraiser there was a sheet with the date of the feast, and you paid a flat rate per person on a first come, first served basis.

The 10 spots were full before our first speaker began. Next came the meal! The presentation was delightful and welcoming, there was a mix of members from meetings across the metro area. We were offered an assortment of appetizers during the social gathering, followed by course after lovely course at the sit-down portion of the meal.

The food was amazing and many of us requested recipes afterwards. Not only was this a fantastic evening, fabulous food, new friends, but this feast idea brought in a whopping \$825 donation to the AIS via the fundraiser. Thank you to Beth, Maria, Betsy and, Denise for this outside the box donation idea and implementation. I hope this idea spreads because it seemed like the chefs all enjoyed themselves and I know the guests were all full and pleased with the entire evening.

Submitted by a previous attendee

