

# Secretary – December 3, 2014 Intergroup Meeting

## MINUTES APPROVAL

You should all have a copy of the minutes from the last Intergroup Meeting on October 15, 2014.

Copies of the minutes are available at the back table.

Please review the minutes for accuracy...wait a bit

Would anyone like more time?

Are there any corrections? none

State your name please \_\_\_\_\_

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Will some please make a motion to accept the minutes as presented (or as amended)? State your name please Phil

Second? Judy

All in favor? Ah All Opposed? A

The minutes are accepted as presented (or as amended).

Thank you!

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

As Secretary, it is my responsibility to report a summary of all unfinished business, new Business and any motions that were passed at the November 19, 2014 Service Board Meeting.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Motions:

1. Approved giving Pat H. a gift card valued at \$50 to thank her for her service in the annual audit and the Information Office set-up.
2. Approved the motion to proceed with the development of the Orange Blossom in both print and online versions as soon as possible.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Karen Stern, OC Intergroup Secretary

# Financial Report For November 2014

Fiscal Year July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

<b>INCOME</b>	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	YEAR to DATE July 2014-OCT 2014	PRIOR YEAR TO DATE JULY 2013-NOV 2013
Literature	8250.55	6865.55	43,695.83	46,186.11
Sales Tax	660.05	548.23	3,493.68	3,689.12
Contributions	6918.77	2814.39	25,079.28	23,654.27
Orange Blossom	132.11	116.1	454.01	196.00
Interest M\Q	3.85	3.74	19.03	66.82
fundraising	0	0	-	300.00
Miscellaneous	40.38	36.73	155.39	739.28
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>16,005.71</b>	<b># 10,384.74</b>	<b>72,897.22</b>	<b>74,831.60</b>
 <b>EXPENSES</b>				
Payroll	3,500.66	3314.66	16,945.69	21,284.66
Health Ins.	198.00	198	990.00	1,089.25
Office Expenses	39.41	82.48	1,049.17	574.91
Phone/Internet M\Q	104.68	107.56	561.12	373.91
Literature (Purchased)	7,296.18	5779.05	27,725.31	36,799.75
Literature (Use)	125.55	0	125.55	272.50
Directory	1,300.00	0	2,700.80	960.00
Rent	1,650.64	1650.64	8,253.20	8,124.83
Orange Blossom	280.00	280	1,600.00	710.00
Service Brd Exp	-	0	300.00	0.00
Sales Tax	2,286.00	0	4,401.00	4,313.00
Payroll Taxes M\Q	272.17	247.96	3,749.92	5,016.86
Miscellaneous	145.23	108.74	881.44	1,752.57
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>17,198.52</b>	<b># 11,769.09</b>	<b>69,283.20</b>	<b>81,272.24</b>
<b>CASH FLOW</b>	<b>(1,192.81)</b>	<b># (1,384.35)</b>	<b>\$ 3,614.02</b>	<b>(6,44.64)</b>

<b>MONTHEND SUMMARY</b>		P / (L)
Office COH	100.00	100.00
Service Board COH	50.00	50.00
Checking	50,797.96	50,251.74
Money Market	45,404.93	45,408.67
CD	41,208.27	41,208.27
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>137,561.16</b>	<b># 137,018.68</b>

\* Low contributions

# MEMORANDUM

TO: Intergroup Rep or Alternate  
FROM: Julia, Office Coordinator  
DATE: December 3, 2014  
RE: Orange County Al-Anon Office

Greetings to all:

On December 9th, it will be a year since I am at the office as coordinator and I feel grateful to my Higher Power first of all and also to the volunteers that give time to serve at the office. I have six cards for all of you to sign so together we could recognized our appreciation for their service. As the cards go around sign them and give them back to me. Thank you for your help.

At the office, we are going to start organizing the group records for 2015. It will help us if all the meetings fill out the Group Officer Form and return it to the office before January.

Thank you for your service and cooperation,

*by fax or email*

Hugs,

Julia

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Group ID # \_\_\_\_\_

# ORANGE COUNTY GROUP OFFICER FORM

## MEETING INFORMATION

City \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Day \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Intergroup Rep (IR)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

CITY & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Group Secretary

### Alternate Intergroup Rep

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

CITY & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

### Group Treasurer

### World Service Rep (GR)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CITY & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

### Alternate World Service Rep

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

### Other Group Officers



Al-Anon Family Groups  
Orange County Intergroup  
12391 Lewis, Suite 102  
Garden Grove, CA 92840

December 3, 2014

Chair Report  
Steven Forbes

Wow, what a year. Is it over yet?

It's seems like every month, something, sometimes some things, many things, just kept popping up. And November was no different.

First off, I'd like to welcome Diana M. from district 57 to the board. Diane replaces Patti D, who is moving out of the area and will join Cianna & Irv in the H & I group. We want to thank Patti for serving.

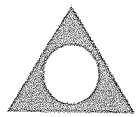
The board also wants to thank Pat H. for her expertise in dealing with a very challenging Audit, as well as her outstanding commitment to service at Central Office over the years. Pat is also moving out of the area.

Once again, I like to offer our apologies about cancelling the fundraiser. Some things just are not meant to be, and this is one of them. We're looking forward to making it up next year with a super fun and well thought out event. But life is in session, and it's time to move forward, and there's lot's to cover, so let's get to it!

As usual, all Service Board Reports will be posted to the OC Al-Anon Information Office Website within a few days after each IR meeting. The website is <http://orangecountyalanon.org>.

Enjoy your evening and happy holidays!

LIS  
Steve F.



**Al-Anon Family Groups**

Orange County Intergroup  
12391 Lewis, Suite 102  
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Dec 3, 2014

## **Service Board and Intergroup Meeting Dates for 2015**

**Service Board:** Meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every other month:  
***Jan 21, Mar 18, May 20, July 15, Sep 16, Nov 18***  
Meetings begin at 7:00 pm.

**Intergroup:** Meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every other month,  
except in December, which meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday.  
***Feb 18, Apr 15, June 17, Aug 19, Oct 21, Dec 2.***  
Meetings begin at 7:30 pm., with new IRs meeting at 7:00 pm.

### **Hours of Operation:**

**Fall hours:** (current)

Monday - Friday from 9:30 to 4:30.

**Remaining Dates in 2014 that Central Office will be closed:**

• Dec 24, 25, 31<sup>st</sup>:

(Thursday - Christmas Eve, Friday - Christmas Day and Thursday - New Year's eve)

**Dates Central Office will be closed in 2015:**

• Jan 1 - Thursday, (New Year's Day)

• May 25 - Monday, (Memorial Day)

• Sep 1<sup>st</sup> - Tuesday, (Labor Day)

• Nov 26,27 - Thursday and Friday, (Thanksgiving Day)

• Dec 24th, 25th and 31<sup>st</sup>

(Thursday - Christmas Eve, Friday - Christmas Day and Thursday - New Year's eve)

### **Contacts:**

**Steven F.** - Chairman (until 6/30/2015)

Phone: 949.3074483 • email: [dezinefreak@gmail.com](mailto:dezinefreak@gmail.com)

**Julie S.** - Chair-Elect (until 6/30/2015, then Chair from 7/1/2015 to 6/30/2016)

Phone: 714 319-7693 • email: [julie.jasmith@gmail.com](mailto:julie.jasmith@gmail.com)

**Julia T.** - Office Coordinator

Phone: 714-748-1113 • Fax: 714-748-7262 • email: [office@orangecountyal-anon.org](mailto:office@orangecountyal-anon.org)

## Taking the Orange Blossom Online

At our last board meeting, we discussed your request to offer the monthly publication of the Orange Blossom in an online format.

Our webmaster Ben gave a presentation on the logistics of how to make it happen.

We agreed that we would go forward with this effort. We do NOT have a roll out date as of yet but we will keep you informed of developments as they occur.

We also agreed that we would offer the online version of the Orange Blossom to all paid subscribers. That means that a subscriber would continue to receive a printed hard copy of the publication as well as access to an online version of the same.

Al-Anon is a non-profit organization and as such has a requirement to produce some form of regular communication with its members.

Whether it is in the form of a printed publication or an online newsletter is not mandated as a requirement to retain our non-profit status. Some districts offer only an online version. Out of respect for those without computer access, we will begin by offering both formats. Sometime in the future, that may change.

There are other questions to be answered, such as, should the online version be printable or read only? If you have suggestions or opinions, please feel free to contact me at the orange blossom editor or write me a note.

More will be revealed. Stay tuned. We are very excited about moving forward. Thanks



# Al-Anon Public Information

## November-December 2014

*Al-Anon and Alateen Groups at Work:* reference pages 14, 40, 60

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### October

1. Sovereign Health Group – Alanon Panel

2. Red Ribbon Fair – Saddleback College on  
the 30<sup>th</sup>

*lower attendance due to being on*

### November

1. Sovereign Health Group – Alanon Panel

*a Thursday.*

*Next year will  
be on Wed.*

### December

1. Sovereign Health Group – Panel 5  
December

Many events end up being last minute. If  
you want to be on a list to do last  
minute service outreach, please contact  
below.

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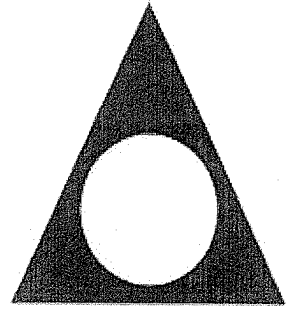
**Contacts: Gwen B. (562) 714-9312 or Ralph B. (213) 400-0431**

Note: Sovereign Health Group has requested an Alanon Panel to be part of their program every month.



# Institutions

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Greetings,

H & I has some exciting news. We would like to welcome Diane M. as the newest member of our Hospitals and Institutions Committee. She comes to us from district 57 and we are pleased that she is joining our team.

We would like to announce that we have a modest quarterly literature budget that is set aside for panels to take in literature. This allowance goes basically unused most quarters and we would love for panel leaders to contact and connect with our committee directly to allow us to support our outreach fellowship. [h\\_i@orangecountyalanon.org](mailto:hi@orangecountyalanon.org)

On H & I we have an on going outreach to panel leaders that we could assist and facilitate with panel volunteers. There are many in our fellowship that have volunteered to share their experience, strength and hope in the institutional setting. If there are any leads or suggestions our committee would love to follow up to see how we could be of service in connecting panels with volunteers.

We are also compiling a calendar of H & I events throughout the year in our districts and the whole Southern California Area. This will be for any members who are interested in attending events and conventions or just simply wanting to learn more about H & I outreach and activities.

Thank You,

Cianna C., Irv C. & Diane M.

H & I Committee  
Orange County Al-Anon Service Board

[H\\_I@orangecountyalanon.org](mailto:H_I@orangecountyalanon.org)

Wednesday, December 03, 2014

Intergroup Meeting

Hospital and Institutions

Regarding Court Cards

While volunteering at OC Central Office I have received several phone calls from individuals who have received DUI's and were looking specifically for Al-Anon meetings to have their court cards signed off. There have also been reports that individuals have come to Al-Anon meetings with court cards while intoxicated. The Group is within their autonomy to not sign off on a court card in this instance. There are usually three ways that individuals find AA: family, courts and/or job.

If the court card states that the person must attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and they are attending an Al-Anon meeting with care and kindness it should be explained that they are not in an AA meeting.

This is not meant to deter Groups from signing court cards. Court cards should always be signed at the end of the meeting. We always want to be welcoming. There are judges that send family members to Al-Anon and Alateen meetings and that is wonderful.

As an Intergroup Rep it is your responsibility to inform your Group of what you learn here. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call one of the members on the Service Board.

## Group Phone Volunteer Form

Thank you to your group for sponsoring the answering of phones for the weekend of:

\_\_\_\_\_ Dates \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) Please get three volunteers from your group approximately 1-2 weeks before your weekend and get the following information. The easiest way is to pass this form around at your meeting. Give each a volunteer sheet with their time and date of service.
- (b) We will call you the week before your group is due to serve to remind you. We will also e-mail you the forwarding instructions in case any of your volunteers have lost them.
- (c) The week before your group's weekend (at your meeting or by phone) remind your volunteers of their service time. Also make sure they have the instructions.

1. Saturday \_\_\_\_\_ 9:00a - 1:00p  
date of service

\_\_\_\_\_ First name and Last Initial

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address

2. Saturday \_\_\_\_\_ 1:00p - 5:00p  
date of service

\_\_\_\_\_ First name and Last Initial

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address

3. Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ 9:00a - 1:00p  
date of service

\_\_\_\_\_ First name and Last Initial

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address

2. Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ 1:00p - 5:00p  
date of service

\_\_\_\_\_ First name and Last Initial

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address

*Thank you very much for being of service*

# December 2014 Intergroup Meeting Report

Mary Lou L., World Service Liaison

## **Report on District 57**

**Printer Purchase:** District 57 has made a purchase that will help it reduce the cost of duplicating material for members: a computer printer. The District found that even with the cost of ink cartridges and paper it is cheaper not only to run multiple copies of an original document off a computer printer, but also to duplicate material the District does not originate by scanning and printing it on a printer.

**Sound System Research:** The District is now researching a sound system to be used at their events. The process used to research and purchase both items is a good example of Knowledge Based Decision Making in action.

**CAL Distribution:** In addition, District 57 continues to seek out and distribute packets of CAL to numerous locations.

## **REMINDER: World Service Sharing of Service Program**

Saturday, January 17: The Sharing of Service Workshop will be held at 134 N. Kenwood Ave. in Glendale from 9am to 4pm. Workshops topics include: How to do the Knowledge Based Decision Making (KBDM) process to reach an informed group conscience and Conflict Resolution. The special guest speaker, Judy K. from Nevada, is a Trustee at Large. FYI, the Board of Trustees is accountable for the business and legal aspects of AFG. Registration is \$15 with lunch included. Flyers and information are available at the SCWS website.



# Knowledge-Based Decision-Making Process to Reach An Informed Group Conscience *KBDM Quick Reference Tool*



Before you begin discussing the issue, the group:

- Decides who will call on people, take notes, and who will summarize (this could be the same person or several people). Decides how and when people will be called upon. (Use a timer or not? Who hasn't spoken yet?)
- Considers adopting guidelines like: Start and stop on time. Stick to the agenda. No side conversations. No cross talk. Be polite and courteous. Listen: if someone says what you were going to say, don't repeat it.
- Your individual part? Participate in the dialogue. Practice our principles. The issue may require more than one group conscience: practice patience and humility. "Let it begin with me."

## **How It Works (What do we actually *do*?)**

The issue is first "framed" or introduced by someone familiar with the topic. Then we gather information, ask questions, and have a conversation *before* crafting a solution.

1. ***Exchange Information***—everyone has equal access to the same:
  - a. Printed material (e.g. *Service Manual*, past motions, archives from meeting, etc.), and
  - b. **Explore the issue using the 5 KBDM questions** (below) as a guide (or this can be assigned to a Thought Force or a committee).
2. ***Summarize*** what you learned before moving onto the discussion.
3. ***Discuss***
  - a. Discuss and offer opinions *based on information already exchanged* and on experience, strength, and hope.
  - b. Additional questions may be asked at this time.
4. ***Summarize*** the discussion. Then, *before* making a decision or offering a motion:
  - Has everyone asked all the questions needed for clarity?
  - Have all opinions, including the minority opinions, been heard?
  - Does everyone feel they thoroughly understand the topic?
  - Does everyone feel that an informed group conscience has taken place?
5. ***Make a Decision*** (3 possibilities)
  - a. Further research or deliberation may be needed about the issue.
  - b. Suggestion/Motion may be made (e.g. informal show of hands, or motion/second, if large group).
  - c. Status Quo (leave as is).



# Knowledge-Based Decision-Making



## *Background and Rationale*

The essential elements of the KBDM process are:

- Open communication between all members.
- All decision-makers have common access to full information.
- The idea that everyone participates is a spiritual principle. The KBDM process models this principle.
- Dialogue *before* deliberation and decision.
- Opinions are backed up by experience, principles, or knowledge.
- We are all equal and everyone is valuable. We respect all ideas and do not tolerate domination.
- We exist in a culture of trust and good will.

Why it is a good model (from *Conference Summary, 2006*):

- It allows thorough examination of issues without an end in mind.
- It is not necessary to choose sides or develop evidence with an end in mind.
- It allows those who make the decision to become far less important than the fact that a good decision is made.
- The outcome is not as important as the way we got there (discussion and an environment that encourages healthy thinking).
- It provides for open dialogue, so everyone's needs are heard, expectations and preferences are acknowledged, and ethical dimensions are considered.
- How we talk and listen to each other is more important than the decision we come to. Our Higher Power is present in the process of speaking and listening.

The benefits for our groups:

- Group members are more likely to support the decision made.
- Group effort is more likely to yield better results.
- Participants become part of the process, more voices are heard, more solutions are generated.
- There is recognition that responsibility for action rests on everyone.
- Actions tend to lean toward the greater good for the organization.
- Negativity is diffused.

World Service Liaison Report to Intergroup, December 3, 2014

Carol G.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY---This has very little to do with World Service, but Steve F., our Board Chair, asked me to share an ah-ha moment I had while joining my husband at a national conference on alcohol abuse among senior citizens and other retirees. When I learned that the scope of the problem is increased by medical issues and by not having the controls and constraints of employment, I realized that if there is a large number of untreated alcohol-abusers there is an even larger number of potential Al-Anon members. The take-home message for me was that when groups to which I belong plan outreach projects, we should include professionals and centers that serve seniors. The sad news we heard was that many believe advanced age precludes change. But the preamble to the Twelve Steps reminds us that “changed attitudes can aid recovery.”

RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED---The Southern California World Service Assembly at its November meeting adopted a Thought Force recommendation that a Task Force be created to develop a policy on how the Area can support Districts and Intergroups in “dealing with groups whose activities do not consider Al-Anon as a whole.” The Task Force will bring the proposed policy to the Assembly for its consideration.

The Thought Force was made up of District and Group Representatives from several Districts. The recommendation came after a year of meetings in which we used Knowledge Based Decision Making. The Thought Force report and recommendation had been ready since October 2013, but had been bumped from two Assembly agendas for lack of time.

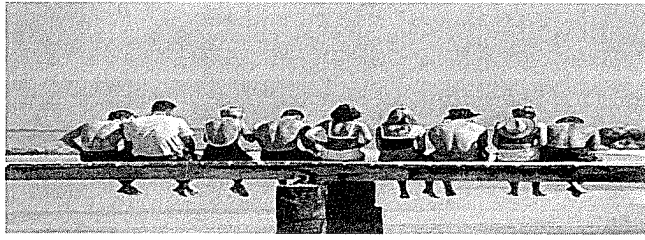
OC INTERGROUP REPRESENTED---Two OC Intergroup members were elected to the Area board at the Assembly: Kathi M. of District 63 is Alternate Delegate-elect and Sandy P. of District 57 is Secretary-elect. Kathi, a former Delegate from Alaska, has been serving as SCWS Alateen Process Person. Sandy has been serving as Area Coordinator for Cooperation with the Professional Community.

By using electronic voting devices, the Assembly was able to accomplish election of officers as well as other business. At the election meeting three years ago when paper ballots were used, the election took the whole Assembly meeting.

CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATION---As a result of an increase in contributions and assurance that Area funds are sufficient to cover other upcoming expenses, the Assembly voted to make a \$7,500 donation to the World Service Office, bringing the Area contribution to \$10,000 for the year.

DISTRICTS REACH OUT---World Service Districts within the Intergroup service area have ongoing outreach projects, including literature distribution and placing posters that provide information on how to reach Al-Anon for help.

December  
~~April~~ 2014



OC/GLB Intergroup

Alateen update

(AMIAS = Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service)

*In order to be eligible for recertification on May 31, 2015 every AMIAS must attend one of the designated Area sponsored AMIAS Recertification Workshops. You must be in attendance for the entire workshop and participate in order to receive the Certification of Attendance. There is no registration fee. All workshops are FREE and open to ALL Al-Anon & Alateen members.*

The AMIAS Recertification Workshops scheduled through May 2015 near/in Orange County:

Date:	Time:	Host:	Contact:	Email to Register:
1. 2-28-15 9a -	1p	D51	Diana F.	<a href="mailto:sfelsze@hotmail.com">sfelsze@hotmail.com</a>
2. 3-07-15 10a -	2p	OC IG	Cathleen C.	<a href="mailto:uclacathleen77@aol.com">uclacathleen77@aol.com</a>
3. <del>4-18-15</del> 12p -	4p	D66	Gordon A.	<a href="mailto:gordon.g.alexander@gmail.com">gordon.g.alexander@gmail.com</a> - limited to 12 only.

4/19/15

*The district/group hosting the workshop will distribute flyers with location details. Email the contact person to RSVP or ask any questions you may have.*

- 2014-2015 Workshop includes:
- Travel & Treatment Authorization Form
  - Alateen Ecent Plan Form
  - Role of the Group/Event Sponsor
  - Dealing with Behavioral Problems
  - Dealing with Conflicts
  - Interacting with Parents
  - Alateens in Difficult Situations
  - Mandatory Reporting in California

*Note: Any AMIAS who does not attend a Recertification Workshop through May 2015 will loose their certification effective July 1, 2015, and must begin the Certification Process as though he/she were applying for the first time. Alateen meetings without an appropriate certified Group Sponsor will be transferred to "inactive" status effective July 1, 2015.*

SCAC Update

- Received 501(c)3 Status from IRS last December
- Internal controls in place, the Area Treasurer receives an instant e-mail when there is a withdrawal or check presented to clear.
- Financials for SCAC will now be published in our quarterly Bulletin Newsletter.

Breakdown of SCAC Registration Cost

SCAC Conference 2014	
Air Conditioning	3,500.00
Missing Key	200.00
SCAC Facilities - Chapel	3,800.00
SCAC Housing	22,905.50
SCAC Meals	21,338.00
Total SCAC Conference	51,743.50

SCWS Alateen Information: <http://www.scws-al-anon.org>. Click on "Alateen Sponsorship" tab on left side of home page. Revised SCWS Area Alateen Safety & Behavioral Requirements (effective June 1, 2013):