

# News & Views

Providing up-to-date information to groups within our area

October 2009

## MESSAGE FROM OUR MONTANA DELEGATE

The Assembly in September was wonderful! I want to thank all of you for your hard work to keep this Assembly moving on and growing up. The atmosphere has changed so much from the time I first started coming to Assembly. It's all about what can we do for Montana Al-Anon, and what a terrific experience! I'd like to expand on a couple of things that I shared at the Assembly.

- 1) We talked a little about individual groups having their own post office box. An individual P.O. box for each group would serve as a consistent mailing address for the World Service Office. This makes it possible for mail to consistently reach each group whenever Group Representatives change, thus avoiding returned mail.
- 2) It was also mentioned for individual groups to consider having one e-mail address. This makes it possible for information to consistently reach each group. Information could be available and get passed on to multiple users via a password, such as their Al-Anon group number. An example would be [sunrisegroup@yahoo.com](mailto:sunrisegroup@yahoo.com), password: AFG#12345.
- 3) We also talked a little about individual groups applying for an Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the State. By doing so, groups could get checking accounts out of individual members' names and Social Security numbers. This will also simplify the process of changing signatures on checking accounts when treasurers leave their positions.

Talk about these things at your groups and let's get the ball rolling so we can discuss it at the Spring Assembly.

In Service to You  
Pennie K.  
Montana Area 32  
Delegate Panel 47

## NEW OFFICERS, COORDINATORS AND GRS TO TAKE POSITIONS JANUARY 1, 2010!

A huge thank you to the past officers for all their hard work during the past three years! Hats off to you! Volunteer positions take time and effort, and we want you to know your work doesn't go unnoticed! Thank you, thank you, thank you for being a part of Al-Anon and Area as well!

To those of you who are continuing on and stepping into new positions, we appreciate your courage and willingness to take on new challenges! A directory of all our new officers will be available when they start their new terms on January 1, 2010. Those voted into new positions are:

**Officers:** Delegate - Cindy C. from Billings; Alternate Delegate - Sharon

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## DON'T DUCK SERVICE



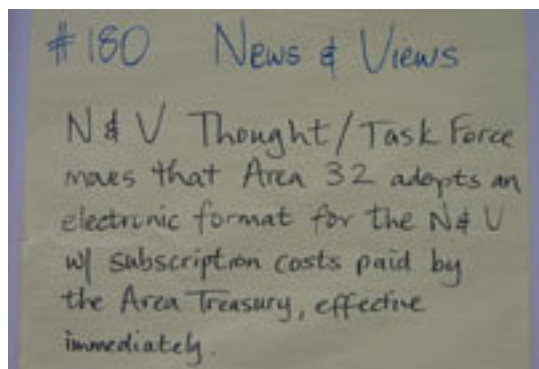
Pennie K.'s duck collection keeps growing and continues to spread the word. Many districts still have positions open, so please step up and don't duck service.

Mc., Butte.; Area Chairperson - Kari C., Bozeman; Area Secretary - Connie W., Clancy (Helena area); Area Treasurer - Pennie K. - Helena.

**Coordinators:** Alateen - Candy D., Stevensville; Archives - Beth W.-Shelby; Archival History - Jeanne H., Belt; Group Records - Cheryl T., Glendive; Institutions (position no longer exists); Forum - Nancy R., Great Falls; Internet - Lorelle D., Helena; Literature - Donna M., Valier; Newsletter - Mardi M., Missoula; PI/CPC - Kathy J., Billings.

**ATTENTION Al-Anon members at a local level:** Many of our Districts still have unfilled positions and we'd like to encourage you to step into service. Please encourage your sponsees to step into service, too. Remember our Al-Anon booklet, *When I Got Busier, I Got Better*.

**ATTENTION Group Representatives (GRs):** Please let us know who your new Group Representative (GR) is by emailing us email address asap at [newnviewsmt@yahoo.com](mailto:newnviewsmt@yahoo.com), and we'll add their name to receive our new electronic *News & Views* and Montana AFG Directory.



#### News & Views Ballot Item

Montana is the first Area to go electronic. New York and other states are also struggling with high printing costs and intensive labor with snail-mailing newsletters.



#### Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Discover WSO's fun skit on "Understanding Anonymity" under Member Outreach at [www.al-anon.org/members](http://www.al-anon.org/members)

### CHANGE OF LOCATION FOR SPRING ASSEMBLY 2010

It was voted on at the September Assembly to change the location for our next Spring Assembly - at this time Fall Assemblies will stay in Lewistown. Thought Force members, Dorothy K., Frances M., and Mary M. researched Great Falls and Helena as possible locations.

The reasons for requesting a different location were: 1) make it easier for others to attend a closer location, 2) involve and reach out to more Al-Anon members in different locations, 3) help spread the value of Al-Anon to more communities and 4) increase our Al-Anon friendships. Watch for the specific Assembly date in the next eZine.

**LOOKING FOR HELP IN GREAT FALLS:** If anyone would like to volunteer to help the Task Force with ideas and input for low-cost, high-quality meeting locations in Great Falls, we'd love your help. Please email the [newnviewsmt@yahoo.com](mailto:newnviewsmt@yahoo.com) and we'll forward your email on to the right folks. If you are familiar with Great Falls, your input would be invaluable!

### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR AL-ANON MEETING WITH 32

Learn to jump in with joy, just like this large duck that was a gift to Pennie K. for her wonderful service to Area 32 as Delegate. It sings, jumps and flaps its wings and had us all laughing 'til we cried as it led us in a song!!!

#### QUICK LINKS

[AREA SPRING 2009 MINUTES NOW AVAILABLE!](#)

[FIND A MONTANA MEETING!](#)

[FIND UP-COMING EVENTS: MT ROUNDUPS AND MORE!](#)

[eNEWS FOR PROFESSIONALS](#)

[READ EXCERPTS FROM "THE FORUM"](#)

[eMAIL MEETING CHANGES FOR OUR AL-ANON WEBSITE](#)

## YEAR HISTORY

On October 29th, 7:30 - 9 p.m., Stevensville is celebrating the special birthday of a meeting that's been going for 32 years! As a member who attended that first Stevensville meeting, Gayla is going share her historical perspective of this special group. Barbara from Hamilton is also scheduled to tell her story. Come join the celebration! See the flyer on our MT Al-Anon website at <http://www.mt.al-anon.alateen.org/events.html>.

As a reminder, as soon as you get a flyer for an event in your area, please send it to [mtal-anon@hotmail.com](mailto:mtal-anon@hotmail.com) so our webmaster can post it on our Montana website events page: <http://www.mt.al-anon.alateen.org/events.html>.

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## 55th ANNUAL ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE - HELENA

Get your flyers at <http://www.mt.al-anon.alateen.org/events.html>

**November 21, 2009**

Red Lion Colonial Hotel, 2301 11th Avenue

8:00 A.M. Registration begins

8:30 A.M. Workshops and Meetings Begin

TBA, Alateen Speaker

4:30 P.M. Seating for Dinner Begins

6:00 P.M. Speakers begin

Jan Ellen S., Al-Anon Speaker

Dinner & Registration: \$21.00 by November 14 ensures a meal at the banquet

Al-Anon will participate in the Attitude of Gratitude with meetings, raffles, refreshments and greeters.

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## ANOTHER MONTANA AL-ANON BILLBOARD GOING UP

Helena 's District 11 recently met and gave permission to their Outreach Coordinator, Libby, to go ahead with an Al-Anon billboard to be displayed between November 30 to December 27, 2009 . This is a great month to get the word out about Al-Anon, because it is one of the most challenging holiday months of the year regarding alcohol. District 11 hopes to display a local phone number and to have it located on one of their busiest traffic locations on North Montana Avenue. District 11 is really excited!

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## SUBMIT YOUR NEWS TO THE NEWS & VIEWS!

You can submit your news, within a simple email or as a word doc, directly to [newsviewsmt@yahoo.com](mailto:newsviewsmt@yahoo.com). Please keep your news item to a 250-word count. Time sensitive items will then be prioritized for the up-coming newsletter. **DEADLINE TO SUBMIT YOUR NEWS: the 15th of each month!**

**HOW TO SIGN UP FOR THE NEWS & VIEWS:** Please forward this electronic *News & Views* eZine to other interested Montana Al-Anon members. They can sign up by clicking on the sign-up button on the Montana Al-Anon website on the events page [here](#). If you no longer want to receive the *News & Views*, click on "Manage Your Subscription" at the bottom of the eZine and unsubscribe.

**MANAGE YOUR OWN ACCOUNT:** Also, PLEASE help us by updating your own email address at "Manage Your Subscription" if your email changes and you want to stay on our email list. Ultimately, that saves your Montana Al-Anon time and money.

Oh, and before you leave, please make sure you check out the "[QUICK LINKS](#)" in the right margin. These links will change and are put there to

help you easily find what you're looking for on our Montana Al-Anon website, Al-Anon's World Service Website and to check to see if your local meeting is correct. There is also an email address to click on to let our webmaster know of any meeting changes. Thanks for reading all the way to the end.