

Serenity Sentinel

SPRING 2021

Volume: Panel 61

See inside for information about this year's FREE State Convention!



Issue: #1

DONATION ADDRESS

Seventh Tradition donations, meaning all contributions from individual members, groups, districts, and AIS offices should be sent to:

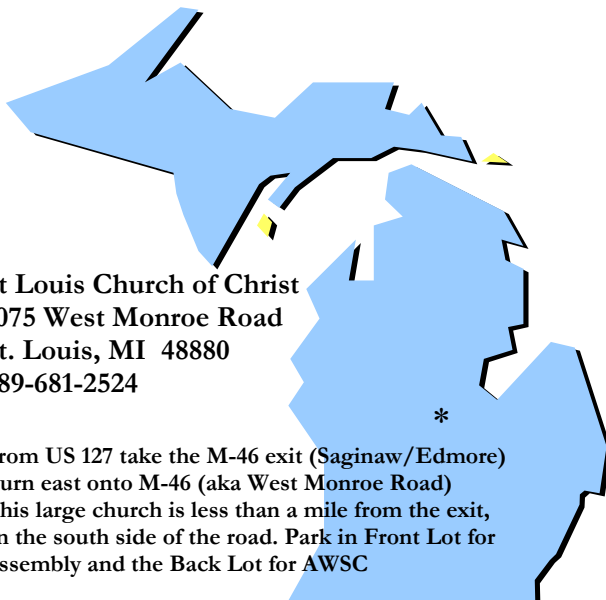
MICHIGAN AFG, INC.
PO BOX 980174
YPSILANTI, MI 48198-0174
or PayPal Option at www.miafg.org

The *Serenity Sentinel*, a quarterly publication, is the voice of the Michigan (Area 27) Assembly. The newsletter is now available electronically to all AFG members via www.miafg.org. Paper copies are available to members who wish to subscribe.

To receive notification when a new *Serenity Sentinel* is available or to direct any comments or questions regarding the newsletter, please email the Editor at miafgnewsletter@gmail.com.

MIAFG AWSC and Assembly Location Directions

Check www.miafg.org to confirm if meetings are in person or virtual!



St Louis Church of Christ
1075 West Monroe Road
St. Louis, MI 48880
989-681-2524

From US 127 take the M-46 exit (Saginaw/Edmore)
Turn east onto M-46 (aka West Monroe Road)
This large church is less than a mile from the exit,
on the south side of the road. Park in Front Lot for
Assembly and the Back Lot for AWSC

9AM Registration Opens * 9:40AM New Rep Orientation
10AM Assembly/Meeting Begins

Serenity Sentinel Subscriptions

Individual paper subscriptions are available for **\$4.00** per year. To receive this Michigan AFG quarterly publication, please complete this form and send with your check or money order (currently \$4.00 per subscription) made payable to Michigan AFG, Inc., to:

Serenity Sentinel
c/o Michigan AFG, Inc.
PO Box 980174
Ypsilanti, MI 48198-0174

Name _____

Address _____

Apt # _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Order gift subscriptions for your program friends! Please list additional subscription information on a separate page.

2021 Schedule of Events

- April 30 – **49th Annual MIAFG State Convention**
May 1 *Virtual via Zoom (see Pages 10 and 11)*
Hosted by District 39
- June 10 **New Group Rep Orientation (6:30 p.m.)**
Virtual via Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87067071786>
Meeting ID: 870 6707 1786 (no password; waiting room will be used)
- June 12 **Spring Assembly (9 a.m. – 3 p.m.)**
Virtual via Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88474241257>
Meeting ID: 884 7424 1257 (no password; waiting room will be used)
- August 14 **AWSC**
- October 9 **Fall Assembly**
- November 13 **AWSC**

If you have a District event that you would like to add to the calendar, please email miafgnewsletter@gmail.com



Letter from the Editor

Take What You Like...

I am pleased and excited to serve as the **Serenity Sentinel** editor for Area 27's Panel 61. I remember seeing issues of the newsletter soon after I started attending Al-Anon meetings in the fall of 2009. I appreciate the work the previous editors have done, and I look forward to continuing the tradition of bringing you news of what's happening with Area and Al-Anon groups in Michigan.

I think "Sentinel," defined as "a person or place that watches or stands guard," is an interesting word choice for an Al-Anon newsletter title. Prior to beginning my recovery journey in Al-Anon, I was certainly a "Sentinel" when it came to watching (and judging) what others were doing and, through "grim determination," trying to do everything in my power to stand guard on things that were beyond my control. The clip art of the sentinel or sentry in this newsletter? That was definitely me – on the alert for people, places and things trying to "thwart" me.

Fortunately, our newsletter title also includes the word "Serenity," which reminds me where my attention should be focused. In Al-Anon, we learn to stay in our hula hoop and recognize that when we point at someone or something, there are three fingers pointing back at us! Serenity, and for that matter, Al-Anon, is not to be taken for granted. After all, we talk about "working" the program all the time.

As you'll read in the reports submitted by your trusted servants, Panel 61 has ambitious plans for the next three years. If you are looking to expand your recovery in Al-Anon, please think about Area service work by filling a Group Rep or District Rep position, joining a committee, or just attending AWSC or Assembly, where you always have a voice. Help "stand guard" for the Al-Anon program and, ultimately, your serenity.

Yours in Service,
Wendy S

...and Leave the Rest

Curious about what Conference Approved Literature (CAL) were WSO's top sellers for 2020? Turn to Page 8 to find out.



Q & A

Q: Looking for an Al-Anon meeting?

A: Contact one of the Literature Distribution Centers (LDCs) or an Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) for the most accurate list of meetings (in-person and virtual). See Page 3 for Contact information.

Q: Have an update for your meeting?

A: Contact your District Rep (DR) or if you don't have a DR, Lauren C, the Area Records Coordinator, at miafgrecords@gmail.com.

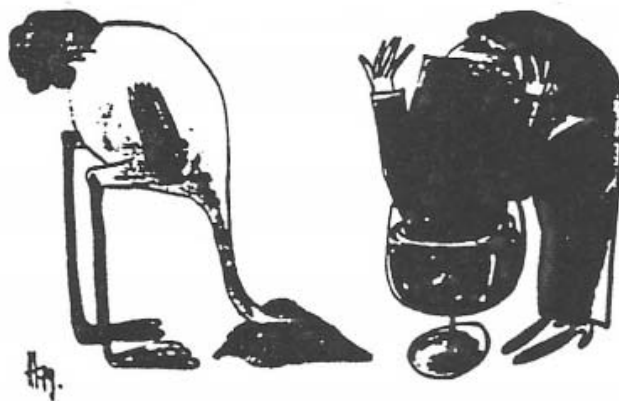
Q: Don't have a District Rep for your District?

A Consider being a District Rep. To qualify you need to have been a Group Rep and are elected by other Group Reps in your District. If you have never been a Group Rep, consider *this* service position. For more information about Service to the groups and Area, please contact any member of Panel 61.

What's New from Archives

Did you know?

Did you know that in the early 1990s the WSO initiated a project to "support the struggling groups ... in the former Soviet Union." This venture included sending Conference Approved Literature to groups in Russia, Ukraine, and Lithuania, as Al-Anon groups in the Soviet Union were not able to buy or print literature at that time. The initiative also included a service project for Areas to "Adopt a Russian Group" in order to carry the message by sending cards or letters sharing our experience, strength and hope. The form used to sign up for adopting a group included the below cartoon representing the two sides of the family disease. In 1994 at the Spring Assembly, MIAFG decided to join this initiative and adopt a Russian Group. MIAFG was paired with the Ausma AFG in Tukums, Latvia. 'Ausma' translates as "the dawn" or "dawning." The MIAFG Archives includes a postcard from Latvia with a handwritten note of appreciation from the Ausma group expressing the group's gratitude for MIAFG's support.



This drawing was done in the Soviet Union in the year 1986. The place where the artist lives is now the country of Estonia, with one Al-Anon group. Though our names and locations may differ, our reactions to alcoholism are the same.

MICHIGAN (AREA 27) CONTACT AND 7TH TRADITION INFORMATION

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
Michigan AFG, Inc.	Contributions: PO Box 980174 Website: www.miafg.org	Ypsilanti, MI 48198-0174		miafgtreasurer@gmail.com miafgwebcoordinator@gmail.com
Al-Anon's World Service Office	1600 Corporate Landing Pkwy. Website: www.al-anon.alateen.org	Virginia Beach, VA 23456	757-563-1600 Fax: 757-563-1656	wso@al-anon.org
AFG, Inc.	Members Website: www.al-anon.org/members Meeting Info: 1-888-4ALANON (Toll free) OR http://www.al-anon.info/MeetingSearch			
AREA 27 INFORMATION SERVICES / LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION CENTER SERVICE A8RMS				
Central Michigan AIS/LDC	Automated Service PO Box 615	Dimondale, MI 48821	517-484-1977	centralmiafgld@aol.com
Detroit Metro AIS/LDC	Varies 26150 Five Mile Rd. Suite #19	Redford, MI 48239	313-242-0300	info@al-anon-semi.org
Genesee/Lapeer AIS	Automated Service PO Box 454	Linden, MI 48451-0454	810-234-1460	geneseeareaais@gmail.com
Grand Rapids AIS/LDC	Varies PO Box 1428	Grand Rapids, MI 49501-1428	616-222-0632	info@aisgr.org Website www.grafg.org
Southwest Michigan AIS	Answering System 933 S. Burdick	Kalamazoo, MI 49001	269-993-0589	swmichiganalanon@gmail.com Website www.swmichiganal-anon.org/
MI Thumb Area AFG Info/LDC	Varies % Cakima 3800 Lee Hill Rd	Mayville, MI 48744	989-912-5478	MIThumbAreaAFG@yahoo.com
Oakland Co. AIS/LDC	Varies PO Box 155	Keego Harbor, MI 48320-0320	248-706-1020	info@oaklandafg.org
District 39 AIS	Answering System PO Box 5132	Traverse City, MI 49696	231-938-7399	alanond39@gmail.com
Northwestern Michigan AIS	Answering System PO Box 224	Boyne City, MI 49712	231-675-7044	n/a
Washtenaw Co. AIS/LDC	Answering System PO Box 1861	Ann Arbor, MI 48106	734-995-4949	AIS@afgDistrict5.org Literature@afgDistrict5.org
Looking for the current Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual?				
Go to: https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/service-manual/				

March 13, 2021 AWSC Reports

DELEGATE

It's been a busy start to 2021, attending World Service Conference (WSC) Orientations, Town Hall Meetings, Panel 61 Delegate Meetings, WSC Sessions for the Delegates, etc. Part of my responsibilities is to represent all the groups in our Area at the annual WSC. The Delegate is the primary communication link between the groups and the World Service Office (WSO). Please keep me in your prayers as I get ready to attend the 2021 Virtual World Service Conference from April 12 thru April 16.

I would like to introduce the Panel 61 Coordinators:

Alateen	Jules E	District 20
Archives	Kate A	District 32
AAPP	Sandy C	District 2
Literature/Forum	Gloria V	District 3
Newsletter	Wendy S	District 12
Public Outreach	Joy Mc	District 23
Records	Lauren C	District 34
Website	Marie S	District 39

We are currently looking for a Technical Coordinator. If you are interested in this position, please contact me at miafgdelegate@gmail.com.

Panel 61 Kickoff and Transfer Meeting

Panel 58 and 61 Board Officers and Coordinators met via Zoom on January 9. After introductions, we used breakout rooms so past and present coordinators could connect. Together we created Panel 61's Vision Statement, Board Goals and Mission Statement (found on Page 9 of the newsletter).

News from WSO

This mobile app is now trilingual and has 30,000+ members and 14 Alateen Chat Meetings. The Premier Subscription issues have been corrected. If you need help with this mobile application, please contact me and I will forward the instructions for resolving the issues.

There are now 586 Permanent Electronic Meetings registered with WSO. We need to consider how do we bring electronic meetings, which are borderless, into the links of Al-Anon service?

A new Electronic Newcomer Packet, \$2.99 each, will be ready for distribution soon. Some members have asked if a group can buy these packets and gift them to Newcomers. I will investigate this.

The WSO experienced a record year for contributions and has extended its policy for \$5 Shipping and Handling fees for Literature Orders that are \$50 or less.

The North Central Regional Trustee position is open. To be considered for this position, the nominee does not have to be a past Delegate. You must be an active member (ten years continuous) of Al-Anon or Alateen with service experience beyond the group level and eligible to be an Alateen Sponsor. The nominee cannot be an Al-Anon member who has ever been a member of AA. The deadline for resumes is August 15, 2021. For more information, visit <https://al-anon.org/for-members/board-of-trustees/wso-volunteers/board-of-trustees/>

April 12 – 16 WSC

As my computer wouldn't always allow me to get on Webex, which is what will be used for April's WSC, I purchased a new personal Windows based laptop. I suggest we discuss the purchase of a Delegate's laptop for the future.

Love Gifts – I will be mailing Michigan's love gifts from last year to all current Delegates. They were not shared last year because of the late changes in WSC.

WSC Pinning – Pinning usually happens at the opening dinner of WSC, but with the conference being virtual they have mailed the new Delegates their pins. I have asked Ann M (Past Delegate) to pin me.

Email – I have scheduled "email time" every Thursday between 10am – 12noon. As Delegate, I receive a lot of email. If there is something that needs my immediate attention, please text me.

Embracing hope,
Kristine G
Delegate, Panel 61 Area 27

Want to show support and encouragement to our Area Delegate during the April 12 – 16 World Service Conference? Send Kristine an email! miafgdelegate@gmail.com



March 13, 2021 AWSC Reports (continued)

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

What an interesting time the last three months have been. A new panel and a new position with new responsibilities. I went into this new phase of my Al-Anon journey with my eyes wide open. What I mean by that is I have served in several different capacities at the Area level over the last few years, so I have a decent concept of what happens at MIAFG, Inc. The amazing part is the more involved I get the more I am aware of all the communication and sharing that goes on making all our jobs easier and transparent. My sincere thanks to each person who has helped with their experience, strength, and hope to make this 'job' easier.

One of the first tasks the Alternate Delegate does at the beginning of each year is research venues for the annual MIAFG, Inc. Al-Anon/Alateen Convention and offer a report at the August AWSC meeting. That will not happen this year. The COVID-19 outbreak is a factor; last year's convention was cancelled, this year's convention will be virtual (via Zoom), and the 2022 convention is a guess at best. Another factor is the Convention Feasibility Committee findings and decision by our members as to the future format of the conventions.

I have attended multiple meetings on multiple topics since the beginning of the year. We started with the Panel 61 Kickoff meeting where we established our Vision Statement, Mission Statement, and Board Goals to this past Thursday's District Representative Orientation Meeting. We had one new DR in attendance, Nancy B. for District 5. Congratulations on your new position Nancy!

Saturday, March 20 will be the North Central Regional Delegate's Meeting (NCRDM). This is normally a 3-day weekend event. This year due to COVID it will be a one-day virtual meeting – so much to learn, so little time!

I think if I had to reduce my experience (so far) to one key word it would be communication. We truly do talk to each other and reason things out.

Yours in service
Ross F
Alternate Delegate, Panel 61

The month of April is National Alcohol Awareness Month



SECRETARY

This January 1 we began the new Panel 61 of which I'm honored to be a part. We've already had several meetings, and our synchronicity is rockin'! I am confident the next three years serving Area 27 are going to be amazing!!

My personal MIAFG goals for this panel include completing the cleaning up of both the old Motion Logs and the Google Drive Files. During last panel, I made a valiant start on both; however, throughout this panel, I'll really roll up my sleeves, get busy, and knock out these tasks that have been passed down to me.

Though COVID-19 has made it possible for all Zoom Al-Anon meetings to become world-wide meetings, which is wonderful, I for one will be unbelievably excited to receive the COVID vaccine and be able to attend an in-person meeting. I miss the ability to give and receive a hug "Hello," "I've got your back," "You're going to be okay," "We're in this together," the list could go on forever. Al-Anon has no end to its huggable reasons. However, I do have to admit that I am loving that I can Zoom into my former home group in McHenry, Illinois every week for their meeting and for a book study. I guess these consequences resulting from the pandemic also fit with Al-Anon's "Take what you like and leave the rest."

As some of you already know, my mom has been extremely ill for the last couple months. I would like to take this opportunity to apologize for any tardiness in my email responses. My attention has often been with my mom in Louisiana. Though I am still quite worried, I am much better at staying focused and getting my job accomplished. I would also like to thank those whose patience, support, and prayers have been unyielding. Kristine, Ross, Renee, Ann words cannot express how much I appreciate you. If I might impose, please join me in praying for God's Will for my mother. One can never have too many prayers. Thank you for your consideration and your support.

I look forward to being one of your Trusted Servants and serving as your Area Secretary for the next three years. Have a Blessed Day and join me in Choosing Joy!

Theresa S
Secretary, Panel 61

March 13, 2021 AWSC Reports (continued)

TREASURER

Welcome Spring 2021. The following information was provided at the March AWSC.

Our account balances as of February 28, 2021 are:

Checking	\$ 33,432.49
Prudent Reserve	\$ 16,741.55
Convention	\$ 3,818.48
Total	\$ 53,992.50

Our total income for 2021 as of 2-28 is \$2,350.36 and our expenses are \$483.76. This leaves us with net income of \$1,866.60.

A big thank you for all 2021 Group donations through February 28, 2021 totaling \$2,349.79. During this period last year, our group donations were \$2,919.79. Plus, I have about \$1,000.00 that has been received and not yet deposited. The Group Donations Report from January 1 thru February 28, 2021 is available on the Google drive. Please carefully check this report for your donations. Thank you very much to all the groups who included their WSO number and Group name on their check, this assures that your donation will be correctly documented. Continue to utilize the PayPal link located on our website (www.miafg.org) or mail donations to:

MIAFG Inc.
PO Box 980174
Ypsilanti, MI 48198-0174

A copy of the 2021 Budget v Actual report is available for review. So far this year our expenses have included \$391.76 for Operating Expenses (Zoom, eCommerce, virus software, Newsletter) and \$92 for Business Expenses (Treasurer P.O. Box). We have received \$16 in newsletter subscriptions.

2020 Financial Records have been provided to our Financial Review Person. The 2020 QuickBooks reports that go to Yeo and Yeo for tax preparation are in process and will be sent over soon.

Year End Reports including the 2020 Budget v Actual, and 2020 Donation List are available for review on the Google drive. I am including a breakdown of donations by Districts along with utilizing PayPal (Pages 12 – 14 of this newsletter).

In 2020, Group Donations were \$19,398.99, with a Total Income of \$20,969.12, and Total Expenses of \$6,382.26, which gave us a Net Income of \$14,586.86.

Thank you to all our members for keeping MIAFG alive and healthy during these trying times so we can continue to carry the Al-Anon message.

Yours in Service,
Renee F
Treasurer, Panel 61
miafgtreasurer@gmail.com

ALATEEN COORDINATOR

Financial

- I have not yet received any information about KOMIAC and therefore do not know what financial contributions will be necessary, if any, in July of 2021.
- There will not be a Spring Lock In, although at this point there may be a possibility of having a Fall Lock In. Stay tuned.
- At this point, I am in contact with the former Area Alateen Coordinator about the information needed to be able to give more accurate reports about Alateen's finances in the future.

Alateen's Goals

Alateen has the goal of unity this year. What a time for a goal like that, huh? At this time we are in the process of training and recertifying* many, many people to sponsor groups on and offline. The issue I see is not new: we have lots of adults and not-that-many kids.

There are a lot of moving parts in meeting online; from Zoom being less anonymous than we think, to kids and their families being uncomfortable Zooming with new people, to the simple fact that good internet isn't as easy to come by as we like to think. There are huge barriers we now have to overcome to be unified in the same ways we once were.

With that being said, Alateen has managed to thrive regardless. "Together We Can Make It," as we like to say, and even in times like this we still find each other. I've seen group-chats and social media become bigger players here, for better or for worse (I believe for better), and we've also seen sponsors take initiative and find socially distanced ways to meet or bring their kids together.

*Sponsor Training: During Convention (May 1) and June 19 and 20.

Julie "Jules" E
Area Alateen Coordinator, Panel 61
miafgalateen@gmail.com

March 13, 2021 AWSC Reports (continued)

ARCHIVES COORDINATOR

I am delighted to be of service to MIAFG in a role that interests me greatly and gives me the opportunity to use my skills for the good of Al-Anon.

In January I took possession of 17 boxes of material. The numerous binders, folders, documents, photos, a/v, posters, supplies and other materials were approximately 25% organized. I created a basic inventory list of all the boxes' contents. Later, when the archives contents are better organized, this catalog can be saved to the MIAFG Google drive so that anyone interested in the history of MIAFG can see what materials we hold.

The next step in organizing the materials is to sort the unorganized items into categories and arrange them chronologically so that like documents are together.

There are policy questions to be addressed, such as whether to keep CAL (this is technically the responsibility of the WSO, not MIAFG) and how or whether to accommodate photo albums which raise issues of anonymity. I suggest that an Archives Committee be established, per G-30, to make policy decisions. I also suggest that a Collecting Policy be established which will detail what is and is not to be included in the archives. This policy is easily drafted from the G-30 Guideline and documentation from the archives thread of AFG Connects. I believe such a policy should be formally approved by MIAFG and included in the Archives Coordinator Service Position Guidelines.

Issues to address in the future include 1) archiving electronic materials, 2) securing the physical materials in acid-free storage, 3) further cataloging, 4) labeling, 5) whether to digitize the collections, 6) whether to establish an auxiliary library of CAL as a reference accessory to the archives, 7) soliciting group histories and 8) initiating outreach to our membership to provide contributions to the archives.

I have communicated with the WSO Archivist; he has been helpful and encouraging. I have liaised with our newsletter editor to provide regular content for the newsletter.

The work I have done so far has been pure joy for me. I feel like a kid in a candy store. I'm looking forward to further processing of the materials and digging deeper into MIAFG's history.

In joyful service,
Kate A
Archives Coordinator, Panel 61

MIAFG Serenity Sentinel Panel 61 Issue 1

NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR

The first issue of Panel 61's *Serenity Sentinel* will be released late March or early April. The biggest change to the publication (besides me being the new editor!) will be its manner of distribution. Like many other organizations, MIAFG has elected to distribute its newsletter electronically to save on costs (postage and printing) and to, hopefully, reach more members. (At the June 13, 2020 Assembly, **Motion #293** passed. "The newsletter shall be sent using the most economical format and delivery system available. Paper subscriptions will also be available.") The newsletter will be available via MIAFG's website and for members to easily forward to others. Subscriptions for the paper copy are currently \$4 per year.

As I embark on my new service position, I have three objectives for the *Serenity Sentinel*:

1. That the *Serenity Sentinel* continue to contain information to help members grow in their recovery and in their awareness of and participation in service opportunities
2. That it reaches members successfully through the available distribution channels
3. And that people read it!

I look forward to getting contributions for and feedback regarding the newsletter.

Wendy S
Newsletter Coordinator, Panel 61
miafgnewsletter@gmail.com

The World Service Office (WSO) is introducing a new series of Al-Anon and Alateen poster templates for public outreach purposes. The templates, which will be available in different designs and orientations (vertical or horizontal) can be found at al-anon.org/posters and can be downloaded and customized with local contact information.

PUBLIC OUTREACH COORDINATOR

My time, thus far, has been spent finding responsibilities of the position. There have been several emails read and guidelines reviewed to help me get up to speed. Lord willing, by the time my term is over I will have become successful at my position. Thank you to the past and new Delegates for reaching out and working to get me involved. "When we get busy, we get better!"

Joy Mc
Public Outreach Coordinator, Panel 61

March 13, 2021 AWSC Reports (continued)

RECORDS COORDINATOR

As of 3/8/21, the following is the Area 27 meeting status.

- 391 Active meetings
- 77 Temporary Electronic and/or Hybrid (electronic and in person) meetings due to COVID (these meetings are included in the Active meetings count)
- 1 Reported Not Meeting (currently researching this)
- 134 Inactive meetings
- 0 No Mail Status

Please contact me with any group updates or questions.

Laureen Crowley
Records Coordinator, Panel 1
miafgrecords@gmail.com

LITERATURE/FORUM COORDINATOR

It has been exciting to learn about my new role as the Area Literature/Forum Coordinator. Since I will be including some goals and plans for the next three (3) years, my report will be longer than usual. **I'd like to focus on two responsibilities of my position.**

Forum: *Encourages the membership to purchase subscriptions of the Forum.*

Findings: Here is what I found when I reviewed past Forum Sales reports for Michigan:

- In 2020, there was a gradual decline in Total Forum subscriptions and Total copies by 12 and 14%, respectively. Group subscriptions declined by 27%.
- In January 2021, only 32 groups have Forum subscriptions – out of 367 groups, that is only 9 % of the registered groups in Michigan.

Goals: To increase Forum subscriptions, both in groups and others (includes subscriptions from individuals, Districts, AISs, and LDCs)

- Increase Total Forum subscriptions by 10% per year starting in 2021.

Action Plan: I am asking for District Reps' assistance in:

- Making groups aware of the Forum – generate interest in reading.
- Encouraging subscriptions – 1) suggest each group to purchase one (1) Forum subscription; 2) have a drawing at your next District meeting to “award” a group a free year's subscription.

Literature: *Encourages local AFG to explore CAL literature.*

WSO Literature News

- NEW Electronic CAL is in the works!
 - Al-Anon Newcomer Packet (K-10) is coming – No release date has been set.
- Last year, WSO developed a URL that electronic meetings (or hybrid) can provide to newcomers so they can sign up to receive an email with newcomer information: al-anon.org/welcome.
- AFG Connects sends Literature Coordinator Updates every 2 months – The last one received was January 2021. Highlights included:
 - NEW Daily Reader (working title) – The first draft is almost done. The goal is to introduce the new daily reader at the 2023 Al-Anon International Convention in New Mexico.
 - There is an Al-Anon Member's Blog – Check it out and share: al-anon.org/member-blog
 - CAL Corner – The Forum is always looking for member's sharings on how a particular piece of CAL enhanced their recovery. Please contact me for the guidelines.
- Best CAL Sellers (top 12) can be found when you go to the WSO site – Al-Anon Store. Here are the top three:
 - #1 How Al-Anon Works
 - #2 Courage to Change
 - #3 One Day at a Time

Findings:

- Literature sales and Forum subscriptions make up ~ 50-60% of all revenue for AFG, Inc.
- Our local LDCs experienced extreme reductions in sales in 2020 due to COVID and reduced face-to-face meetings. Currently, we have five LDCs in Michigan.
- **REMEMBER – When you buy from your local LDC, you support your local services.**

Goals: Increase CAL sales. (Unfortunately, no sales reports by State are available. I have made this suggestion to Tom Coffey, WSO Literature Coordinator).

- Increase awareness of Area LDC activity.
- Positive reports from Area LDC sales

Action Plan:

- Connect with LDCs every 2 months by forwarding AFG Connects updates.
- Report on sales at AWSC meetings.

Excited to serve,

Gloria V

MIAFG Literature/Forum Coordinator, Panel 61

“Power in the Pages”

MIAFG (Area 27) News

PANEL 61'S VISION, GOALS AND MISSION

On January 9, after meeting with members of Panel 58, Panel 61 Board Members and Coordinators developed the below Vision Statement, Board Goals and Mission Statement to guide them during the next three years as Area 27's trusted servants.

Vision Statement (talks about our future)

Anyone in Michigan, Area 27, affected by someone else's drinking can find help and recovery in Al-Anon and Alateen

Board Goals

Unity – increase our use of emerging technology to improve communication and transparency (sharing process, content, and information)

Education – provide education and familiarization to Districts as to how Michigan AFG works

Participation – increase participation at our Assemblies, AWSCs, and Conventions

Alateen – support Alateen Coordinator to increase participation

Mission Statement (talks about the present leading to this future)

To help families and friends affected by someone else's drinking, to connect and support each other by creating an atmosphere of unity, harmony, and spirituality within MIAFG, using our three Legacies in all our affairs.

MIAFG Website

During the March 13 Zoom AWSC, Website Coordinator Marie S shared her screen and presented some of the features of the revamped www.miafg.org. Some of these features include an Upcoming Events tab; a Resources tab, where previous *Serenity Sentinels*, a directory of external links to various Al-Anon offices and Area business documents can be found; and, on the Contact Us tab, a listing of all the Districts and their cities that currently host meetings. Explore the website and all the resources and tools it offers. If you have any updates or would like to submit information, please email Marie at miafgwebcoordinator@gmail.com.

HALT, Breathe, Gratitude, Meditate, Think...What Al-Anon tools or ideas are you using today?

MIAFG 49TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

At the March 13 AWSC Meeting, Convention Chair Karl reported on plans for the April 30 – May 1 State Convention. Originally entitled “Splash into Recovery” and taking place at Traverse City's Great Wolf Lodge, the event will now be virtual and its title renamed accordingly “Zoom Into Recovery.” While the two-day event (Friday evening and all-day Saturday) will be free, donations to MIAFG are appreciated.

See Pages 10 – 11 for the event flyer and schedule. Please check www.miafg.org for any changes in the schedule.

Thank you for reading *Serenity Sentinel*. To help us try to gauge the number of readers, we ask that you email miafgnewsletter@gmail.com. If you send an email before May 15, you will be entered into a raffle where the winner receives choice of one CAL and a complimentary paper copy of the next *Serenity Sentinel*.



Classifieds

Help Wanted

Position Open! Tech Coordinator for Area 27 (aka Michigan). Training available. Outstanding benefits. Helpful co-workers. For more information, email miafgdelegate@gmail.com

Virtual Vacation

Great virtual vacation destination at little or no cost! “Zoom Into Recovery” available April 30 – May 1. For more information, email alanond39@gmail.com

Refunds Available

Are you unsatisfied with Al-Anon after having attended six meetings? Contact Al-Anon immediately for a refund on your misery.

Missing: DRs

Have you heard from a District Rep? If not, it may be because your District currently is without one. Interested in filling this key service position? Email miafgalternatedelegate@gmail.com

Michigan Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups 49th Annual State Convention

with AA Participation

April 30th – May 1st, 2021

Zoom Into Recovery



Zoom ID 848 7547 6632

Passcode 737915

Phone (312) 626-6799

Zoom ID 848 7547 6632

Passcode 737915

Speaker Information

Friday: Opening at 7:00 PM

Family in Recovery: Marsha and Tom G, Traverse City

Saturday: Opening at 8:00 AM

Alateen: Lawson F– West Bloomfield, MI

AA: Genie A – Suttons Bay, MI

Al-Anon: Kathy H – Cincinnati, OH

See page 2 of flyer for Convention Schedule

For more information:

Phone: (231)938-7399

Email: alanond39@gmail.com

www.miafg.org

This is a **FREE event**, but donations are appreciated

Mail to: Michigan AFG, Inc.

P.O. Box 980174

Ypsilanti, MI 48198-0174

or www.miafg.org

Tentative Schedule – April 30 – May 1, 2021

Please check the website www.miafg.org for any changes in the schedule

Friday Evening

- 7:00 – 7:15 Welcome – Karl K – Convention Chair
- 7:15 – 8:30 Al-Anon and AA Family Speakers
Marsha G and Tom G – Traverse City, MI
- 9:00 – 10:00 Al-Anon Meeting – Marie S Chairperson

Saturday All Day

- 8:00 am – 9:00 Al-Anon Meeting – Ann M - Chairperson
- 10:00 – 10:30 Welcome and “Fear of Change” Skit –
Convention Planning Committee
- 10:30 – 11:00 Al-Anon Panel - “How the Pandemic
Affected My Recovery” – Marie S
Moderator
- 1:00 – 2:00 Alateen Speaker – Lawson F – West
Bloomfield, MI
- 2:15 – 3:15 Open AA meeting – Ann W - Chairperson
- 3:30 – 4:30 AA Speaker – Genie A – Suttons Bay, MI
- 4:45 – 6:15 Alateen Sponsor Training – Julie E–
Michigan AFG Alateen Coordinator
- 7:00 – 8:00 Al-Anon Speaker – Kathy H – Cincinnati, OH
- 8:00 – 8:15 Convention Wrap Up
- 8:30 Alateen Activity – Julie E

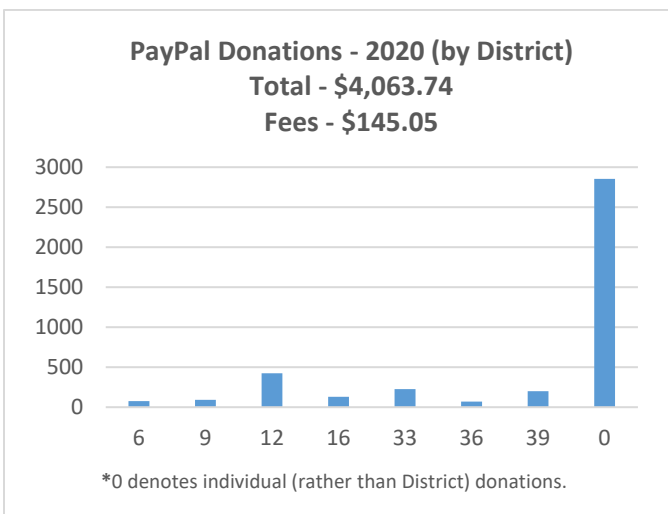
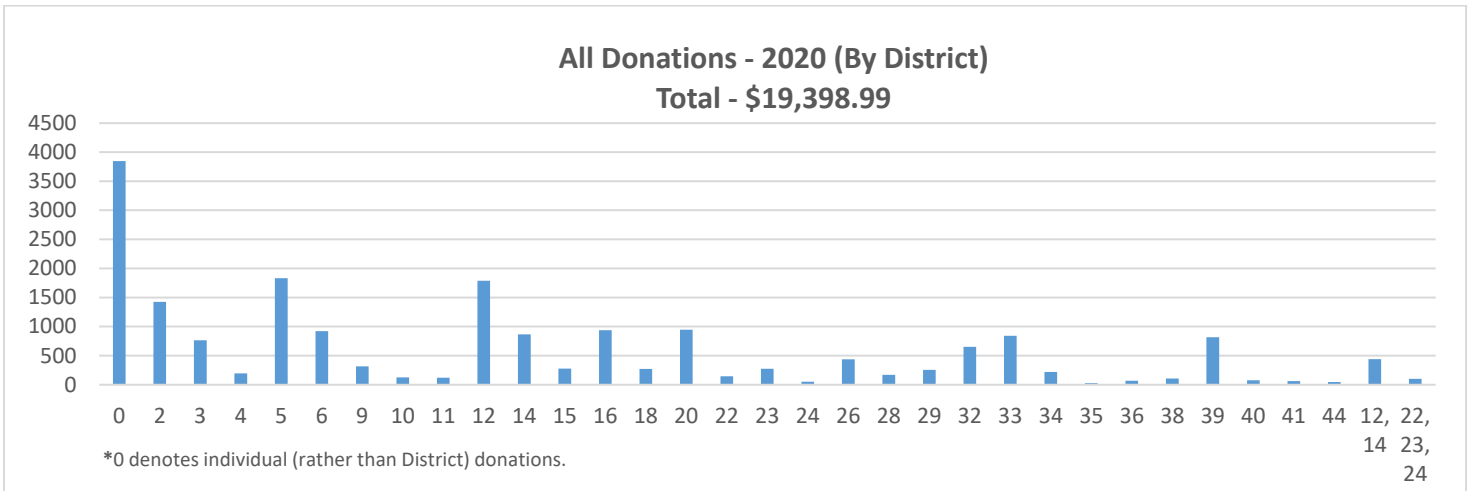
MIAFG DONATIONS FOR 2020

GROUP DONATIONS

Name	Zip Code	WSO #	Name	Zip Code	WSO #
12 Step Study Group Paths To Recovery AFG	48640-8549	30615814	Eastport Group AFG	49648-8998	00502698
12 Step Tuesday AFG	48468	30708652	Easy Does It AFG	49504	30690752
12 Steps To Self AFG	48213-2868	30679264	Farmington Hills AFG	48334-1939	00035278
A Family Affair AFG	48313-2686	30526085	Fenton Wed AM AFG	48430-2322	00006677
A Peace of Serenity AFG	48304-3400	00063967	Flint Central AFG	48507	00006693
AFG 12 Steps and 12 Traditions	49423-4534	30651078	Friday Night Almost There AFG	49548-1050	00063799
All In The Family AFG	48906-4807	00006813	Friday Night We Care AFG	48060-6587	00006925
Amazing Grace AFG	48382-2201	00063799	Friendly Fireside Monday Night AFG	49525-9635	00030623
Anchor By The Bay AFG	48706-4777	00066563	Friends In Need AFG	49445-3040	00054557
Bay Area AFG	48001-1345	30650769	Friendship AFG	49684-2302	00007021
Belding Caring and Sharing AFG	48809	00006555	Genesee Area AIS	48480-0998	03001353
Bellaire Beginnings AFG	49615-9591	30571281	Getting Better AFG	48093-8445	00029248
Berrien County AFG	49127-8302	00007004	Grayling AFG	49738-8021	00053770
Beyond The Steps AFG	48301-1647	30526928	Harbor Springs Friday Noon AFG	49740-9395	00030705
Blueprint For Progress AFG	49503-1121	00006734	Harmony Hunters AFG	48744-9669	00006854
Calhoun County AFG	49014-4015	00006541	Hart AFG	49420	30681331
Cal's Pals AFG	48356-2971	00503499	Highland Hour of Power AFG	48356-2824	00006763
Canton Courage To Change AFG	48187-2753	00054282	Holly AFG	48442-1645	00026227
Changing Directions AFG	48197-7067	00065448	Hope and Sharing AFG	48423-2034	00006619
Chelsea Tuesday Night AFG	48118-1383	00006593	How It Works AFG	48360-1755	00066550
Cherry Bowl AFG	49643	30693290	Ionia Area AFG	48886	30713518
Courage To Change AFG	49503-1121	00006736	Just For Today AFG	48103-4141	00065043
Courage To Change Crew AFG	48422-1315	00063357	Just For Today AFG	48239	00027796
Dearborn Heights AFG	48124-2805	00006628	Just For Today AFG	48450	30694363
Dearborn Woods AFG	48124-2813	00006620	Kalamazoo Westside AFG	49006-4437	00006801
Denial No More AFG	49426	00501769	Keego AFG	48324	00007051
Detach With Love AFG	48116-1824	30583683	Lakewood AFG	48849-9207	30554511
District 3	49221		Leland Serenity AFG	49654	30539360
District 39	49686		Let It Begin with Me Steps & Traditions AFG	49117-1808	30665090
District 5	48106		Lifeline AFG	48014	00006579
Downtown Saturday PM AFG	48640-5139	00006864	Long Lake Area AFG	49685-9016	30557205
Early Birds AFG	48170-1565	00062084	Ludington AFG	49431-1723	00006840
			Mending Hearts and Minds AFG	49660	30597782

Name	Zip Code	WSO #	Name	Zip Code	WSO #
Mid-Day Serenity AFG	48326-3245	00067138	Saginaw Monday Morning AFG	48602-2149	00006960
Monday Afternoon AFG	49677-8251	30625800	Saline Serenity AFG	48176-1349	00006975
Monday Night AFG	48768-1148	00007034	Saturday Morning Starting Over AFG	48220-1204	30645441
Monday Night AFG	49006-2707	00006921	Scottville AFG	49454-9609	00006986
Monday Night AFG	49417-1455	00006718	Second Chance AFG	48505-1921	00038746
Monday Night Men's Stag AFG	48103-2835	00006533	Serenity 2 AFG	48161	30727326
Monday Night Miracles AFG	48072-1229	30533346	Serenity AFG	49456-2142	00054576
Monday Nite AFG	48623-2543	00006699	Serenity Now AFG	48381	00503386
New Beginnings AFG	48304-2725	00039341	Serenity Now AFG	49221	30705215
New Beginnings AFG	49735-1637	00062436	Serenity Now Noon AFG	49423-5158	00503178
New Beginnings AFG	49783-1846	00502939	Serenity Seekers AFG	48104-6829	00502722
New Directions AFG	48197-6609	00029920	Serenity Seekers AFG	49201-1908	00006795
New Hope AFG	49230-8979	30685626	Serenity Support AFG	49525	30546301
Niles Serenity AFG	49120-2708	00006898	Serenity Through Recover AFG	48111-2618	00053156
Niles Steps To Serenity AFG	49120-2708	30569555	Southend AFG	49315-9470	00006615
Novi Noon AFG	48374	30532022	Southfield AFG Tuesday and Saturday	48076-2959	00064352
Oakland County AIS/LDC	48328	02104314	Southfield Noon Serenity Seekers AFG	48033	00066633
Orchard Lake AFG	48324-1611	00006906	Step It Up AFG	49007	30627021
Outreach AFG	48504-7519	00006688	Stepping Stones AFG	48820	00006655
Over The Horizon AFG	48823-2602	00029457	Stepping Stones AFG	49503-1121	00054727
Paths To Recovery AFG	48430	30696970	Steps To Freedom AFG	48439-1100	30535141
Peace At The End of The Road AFG	48334-4614	00032286	Steps To Serenity AFG	49503-1121	00503692
Pelham AFG	48124-2813	00006626	Sunday Afternoon AFG	49221	30537369
People Helping People AFG	48036-2583	30667224	Sunday Morning Serenity AFG	48185-7048	00007056
Plainfield Beacon of Hope AFG	49525-1612	30628253	Sunday Night Peace AFG	48602-2902	00006964
Plymouth Alateen	48170	30713714	Sunday Night Stepping Stone AFG	48040-1220	00026975
Portland Area AFG	48875-1440	30629029	Sunday Serenity AFG	48304-3029	00503494
Positive Thinkers AFG	48650-8469	00062088	Survival To Recovery AFG	48473-8528	30592689
Power Lunch Wednesday Noon AFG	48840-8415	00062298	Survival To Recovery II AFG	48532	30689992
Reaching For Personal Freedom AFG	49503-1121	30621718	T G I F AFG	48346-1358	00006599
Rochester Sunday Night AFG	48307-1134	00063221	Tawas Tuesday Night AFG	48730-1130	00006667
Romeo Thursday Night AFG	48065-5184	00006945	Territorial Road AFG	49015-1721	30555489
Royal Oak Tuesday Morning AFG	48073-2301	00006955	TGIF AFG	49221-1313	00006514

Name	Zip Code	WSO #	Name	Zip Code	WSO #
The Legacies AFG	48021	00006650	Tuesday Nite Friends AFG	48169-8148	00063968
The New Beginnings AFG	49201-2804	30542725	Tuesday PM AFG	49441	00060392
The Steps Forward AFG	49007-3736	00502360	Unity of Livonia AFG	48154-3824	00006837
The Tuesday Night AFG	48060-4476	30515218	We Are Not Alone AFG	49548-1050	00006732
Thumb Area AFG	48744-9669	30563350	Wednesday Afternoon Serenity AFG	48060-2840	00006927
Thursday Keep It Simple AFG	48103-2835	00031745	Wednesday CIP Continue Improve Practice AFG	49720-1314	30685256
Thursday Night Serenity AFG	49707-1423	30528032	Wednesday Night AFG	49286	00024393
Tri Cities AFG	49417-1233	00061413	White Lake AFG	49437-1516	00006876
Tuesday and Thursday Lunchtime AFG	49548-1050	30569566	You Are Not Alone AFG	48114-8602	30669062
Tuesday Morning AFG	49650	30571070	Young At Heart AFG	48103-4769	30536386
Tuesday Morning Topic AFG	48910	30667926	Zeeland AFG	49464-1719	00007068
Tuesday Night Serenity AFG	48166	00006870			



Let it Begin with Me...

Share your experience, strength and hope in the *Serenity Sentinel*. Email your share to miafgnewsletter@gmail.com and indicate if your first name and last initial should be used or if you wish for it to be signed "Anonymous."

Please note that if your share is published, it will be available on the Internet and will be shared with Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.

All submissions become the property of MIAFG and/or Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc., and may be used in whole or in part to develop Al-Anon/Alateen material. (Electronic submission constitutes your agreement).

MICHIGAN TRUSTED SERVANTS 2021-2023 AND OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

POSITION/CONTACT	NAME	E-MAIL	SERVICE RESPONSIBILITY
PANEL 61			
World Service Delegate	Kristine G	miafgdelegate@gmail.com	Membership Outreach
Alternate Delegate	Ross F	miafgalternatedelegate@gmail.com	Membership Outreach
Chairperson	Ann M	misssmurph@mindspring.com	Membership Outreach
Secretary	Theresa S	miafgsecretary@gmail.com	Business Services / Finance
Treasurer	Renee F	miafgtreasurer@gmail.com	Business Services / Finance
Tech Coordinator		miafgtechcoordinator@gmail.com	Business Services / Finance
Archives	Kate A	miafgarchives@gmail.com	Group Services
Area Records	Laureen C	miafgrecords@gmail.com	Group Services
Alateen Coordinator	Julie "Jules" E	miafgalateen@gmail.com	Alateen
Alateen Process Person	Sandy C	miafgaapp@gmail.com	Alateen
Alateen Representative	Lawson		Alateen
Alt. Alateen Representative	Neveah		Alateen
Public Outreach Coordinator	Joy Mc	miafgpublicoutreach@gmail.com	Public Outreach
Web Coordinator	Marie S	miafgwebcoordinator@gmail.com	Public Outreach
Literature / Forum	Gloria V	miafgliterature@gmail.com	Fellowship Communication
Serenity Sentinel	Wendy S	miafgnewsletter@gmail.com	Fellowship Communication
Previous World Service Delegates (Partial List)			
2018-2020 (Panel 58)	Ann M	misssmurph@mindspring.com	
2015-2017 (Panel 55)	Mike D	Deceased	
2012-2014 (Panel 52)	Liz P	Deceased	
2009-201 (Panel 49)	Debbie K		
2006-2008 (Panel 46)	Mike B	mikesuebarry@yahoo.com	
2003-2005 (Panel 43)	Sue B	suelongdrive@yahoo.com	
2000-2002 (Panel 40)	Bev S	tmle8595@comcast.net	
1997-1999 (Panel 37)	Geri H	gericarh@aol.com	
1994-1996 (Panel 34)	Michelle L	myl583@yahoo.com	
1994-1996* (Panel 34)	Helen P	Deceased	
1991-1993 (Panel 31)	Bill L	Deceased	
1991-1993* (Panel 31)	Connie C	connysusiecc@aol.com	
1988-1990 (Panel 28)	Skeet J	coretajeffreys@gmail.com	
1985-1987 (Panel 25)	Connie B	Deceased	
1982-1984 (Panel 22)	Shirley W	Deceased	
1979-1981 (Panel 29)	Mary J	Deceased	
1976-1978 (Panel 16)	Anne S		

* Alt - served part

Please honor our Traditions and maintain the anonymity of all persons listed on this page.