

Area Literature/Forum Coordinator
Report to the CT AFG Spring Assembly
November 2, 2019

My role as an Area Coordinator is to coordinate the activities of my service as Literature/Forum Coordinator in our Area and act as a liaison between the Area World Service Committee (AWSC), districts and the groups. I also receive and share information from the Al-Anon World Service Office (WSO) with the Area, districts and groups. I participate in conference calls with other Literature and Forum Coordinators and WSO's Communications Director. Although in Connecticut these positions are combined as one Coordinator, they are separate positions at WSO. The WSO Guidelines for Area Literature Coordinators are G-6 and the Area Forum Coordinators are G-32. See www.al-anon.org for the text of these Guidelines.

My responsibilities as Literature/Forum Coordinator are primarily to encourage groups and individual members to order literature from our Literature Distribution Center (LDC) in Hartford, which supports our paid staff, as well as our office and storage facility; and to bring literature from the LDC on consignment to Al-Anon events and AA events with Al-Anon participation throughout the year. I also encourage groups and individual members to subscribe to the *Forum*.

In 2019 I provided literature for the Al-Anon Convention in March, which had a Literature Chairperson, however, the five AA events with Al-Anon participation had no Literature Chairperson. I worked with the Chair and Co-Chair of the Al-Anon programs in these events to obtain volunteers to help at the Literature tables. In April, Marie B., former LDC Office Manager brought the literature and handled the sales. In June, I attended AA's Soberfest and had several volunteers including the Al-Anon Chair and Co-Chair. On May 4, I chaired a Literature Writing Workshop for the Area. We had a keynote by our Delegate, Gail L., who is on the Literature Committee at WSO. Gail explained how literature is selected and reviewed at WSO. Workshop participants had two one-hour periods to write sharings for the Forum and the New Daily Reader. I collected the writings and mailed them to WSO. I received very positive feedback from the participants and requests from members, including several who couldn't attend, to have a future Workshop. I highly recommend doing another one next year and have requested funds in the 2020 budget for this purpose.

In July, I brought a sampling of most of the LDC's Spanish language books and pamphlets, as well as some English language literature to the AA event Rompiendo Fronteras. I brought two friends, one of whom is bilingual, which was very helpful, to help with the literature sales. In September I brought literature to the AA Convention where many people helped me. On Thanksgiving weekend the Connecticut State Conference of Young People in AA (CSCYPAA) will be the last event of the year for me to bring literature (and the last event in my term as Literature/Forum Coordinator, which ends December 31). Volunteers are always needed to help with the literature table at events. If you plan to attend any of these events, stop by the literature table. If you can spare an hour to volunteer at the table, that would be a great service.

Part of this Coordinator service commitment is communicating with other area literature coordinators and WSO staff on the AFG Connects. The August Literature Coordinator update from WSO has a lot of information. A copy of the report is attached. Some highlights are: Work continues on the New Daily Reader. *The Best of the Forum* will not proceed with a printed version. Alternate methods for sharing members' selections are being explored. The newest piece of literature—*Just for Tonight* (M-81) is doing very well and, as of June 30, 350,000 copies had been printed. As always, WSO is asking for Forum sharings from members for CAL Corner and on the three Legacies. A copy of the writing guidelines for the Forum (F-1) is attached.

Treat yourself to a Forum subscription (still only \$11/year). I look forward to reading mine each month. I just received the September Forum Sales Report from WSO regarding every area's group and individual subscriptions. Connecticut's are: 29 group subscriptions (34 copies) and 299 individual subscriptions (306 copies) for a total of 328 subscriptions (340 copies). I think we can improve on these numbers. A Forum subscription makes a great gift for an anniversary or a program friend. To assist you, I'm attaching a copy of the Forum subscription order form. I encourage everyone to read CAL literature and the Forum and to chair meetings on them.

I thank all the members who helped me during this year and in the course of my term since 2017 with transporting and selling literature and especially to those working on the Literature Writing Workshop. We had a lot of fun. Please consider submitting your Al-Anon resume for this service position to our Area Delegate. Your program will grow and you'll meet new friends.

Love in service,

Pat S.
Area Literature/Forum Coordinator