

# AI-Anews

FLORIDA NORTH, AREA 9, DISTRICT 7 (Pinellas County), PANEL 61

AUGUST 2022

## SERVICE POSITION SPOTLIGHT: DISTRICT SECRETARY

Each month, Group Representatives from all over District 7 (Pinellas County) (GRs), meet to discuss and guide the “business” of keeping our fellowship healthy and growing. It is exciting to have so many people stepping up to be trusted servants at the District level!

A critical position remains open at the District level, however: District Secretary. It is very straightforward, so consider whether this could be the position for you.

The District Secretary takes notes and develops the minutes of the District Meetings and Panel Meetings, provides the District Meeting minutes to the GRs for approval, and maintains an accounting of the District motions.

### Duties:

- Attend District Meetings or ensure an acting District Secretary is scheduled to attend
- Attend Panel (District-level service position) Meetings or ensure an acting District Secretary is scheduled to attend
- Take notes at the District Meetings and Panel Meetings

The mission of District 7 is to foster participation in service and interest in the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts; to provide opportunities for groups to associate with other groups; to inform the membership about the activities and services in our district and area; and to maintain representation to and from the Florida North Area.

- Email draft of minutes to GRs for their review prior to next District Meeting
- Prepare and present minutes at the following District Meeting for approval by the voting membership
- Maintain the minutes of the District Meetings in binder
- Maintain an updated list of motions and copies of written motions in a separate binder
- Work with Group Records Chair to maintain up-to-date contact information

### Service Responsibilities:

- As a District Officer, the service position has voice and vote at Panel Meetings; and voice and no vote at District Meetings
- Enlighten members of service opportunities
- Maintain accounting of District expenses and promptly submit to Treasurer for reimbursement

For more information or to step up, please contact Shelly F at [dr@d7afg.org](mailto:dr@d7afg.org).

**District 7 Information**  
**Line: 727.548.6811**



# Hurting, Healing, Helping

Before I entered the rooms of Al-Anon, I lived by the motto “Whatever does not kill me makes me stronger.” Funny, huh? The reality was that I ended up getting hurt over and over again. Being beat up repeatedly—either emotionally, mentally, or spiritually—oftentimes left me in a weakened state. I had only rudimentary tools to prevent myself from being hurt.

I came to Al-Anon over 11 years ago, hurting and weakened beyond what I had ever experienced before. My son was found by campus police, drunk, passed out, and exposed to the elements. Al-Anon helped me distinguish what hurt was mine and what was his (detachment), trust in my Higher Power and ask for His help, and recognize the difference between helping and enabling my son. Intellectually, I understood these concepts, but it was far different to feel and live them. By going to meetings, getting a Sponsor, reading the literature, learning about and using the Al-Anon tools, and relying on the slogans and the Serenity Prayer, I started to heal and grow.

Five years ago, I learned that my son had been arrested and jailed out of state for another alcohol-related offense. It almost felt like I was two people: one was the taking-care-of-business dad who made the phone calls and arrangements to get him an attorney, to get him released from jail, etc. Once he was released, I handed over any further legal responsibilities to him. The second was dad-as-an-emotional-mess. I was hurting deeply again, but not as deeply or for as long as I had been when I entered the program.

For me, healing is a process. It is not complete and may never become so entirely. But the wounds get smaller every time I say yes to the chance to grow by facing a challenge. I do not have to do it alone now. I have my Higher Power, my Sponsor, my Al-Anon friends, my wife (who is also in Al-Anon), and my son. I now come from an attitude of gratitude for this family disease. If I did not have it, I would not have recovery either. I feel blessed to be able to share my recovery and to offer a listening ear to others in order to help them find what I have found: the blessing of going from hurting to healing to helping.

*By Jim M., Ohio*

*The Forum, August 2022*

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**The Florida North Convention is coming up!**

August 26-28, 2022

Make your baskets and boutique items and bring them along. (How long has it been since we did *that*??!)

Go to [afgarea9.org](http://afgarea9.org)

# North FL Area Special Project

Members are needed to step up!

Each panel (3-year term), North FL Area identifies and funds a special project. For this panel Diane, the North FL Area Public Outreach Coordinator, is tasked with the project. She came to our April District 7 meeting to explain the project and what our District's part will be.

Diane and her team are identifying institutions in each Area 9 District that serve inmates returning to society and contacting these institutions to establish a relationship with them. "Relationship" includes continuing with the relationship after initial contact. Diane's team has identified three institutions in District 7 that will be contacted.

Once a relationship with them has been established, Diane will know what they need such as literature, meetings or other form of AI-anon help. She will then need a member or team from this District to carry on the relationship.

Diane stressed that she and her team are available to provide help and support to anyone who steps up to continue the project.

As public outreach is vital to reaching new members, please consult with your Higher Power about serving as District 7's liaison to this project. For more information or to contact Diane, see this page: <https://www.afgarea9.org/public-outreach-coordinator.html>

To be added to the email distribution of AI-Anews, please send an email to [alanews@d7afg.org](mailto:alanews@d7afg.org). PLEASE put your email address in the body of the message, because Outlook only shows sender's name, not email address....

## SPEAKERS NEEDED FOR OUR SPEAKERS LIST!

If you would like to have your name added or if you have heard a speaker you like, let Shira know at [speakerslist@d7afg.org](mailto:speakerslist@d7afg.org).

Take a look at how your meeting is listed on the website event calendar at [d7afg.org](http://d7afg.org) and in the When & Where. Is it correct?

Also, have you changed your GR or mail person recently? If anything needs changing, please let the Group Records chair know!

[grouprecords@d7afg.org](mailto:grouprecords@d7afg.org)

# MEETING PLACE

## NAME CHANGE

East Lake Tuesday Morning AFG is now  
**Tarpon Springs Tuesday Morning AFG**  
Tuesdays, 11am  
First United Methodist Church  
501 E Tarpon Ave  
Tarpon Springs FL 34689

*Your meeting news could be here! Send information to [alanews@d7afg.org](mailto:alanews@d7afg.org).*

For basic meeting information changes, please contact Group Records at [grouprecords@d7afg.org](mailto:grouprecords@d7afg.org). Any changes in meeting locations or times must first go there before they can be put in the When & Where, AI-Anews or on the website.

# DISTRICT PAGE

## DISTRICT MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- One of the District's immediate priorities is filling open service positions:
  - We need a District Secretary, AA Liaison, Institutions and Archives chairs, and Spanish Coordinator
  - Thank you to our new DAPP, Information Line, Public Information and When & Where chairs for stepping up! These are critical service positions for our district.
- The World Service (WSO) Office continues to run a deficit. Groups and individuals are encouraged to consider direct donations. WSO develops and publishes our literature, maintains the website and the meeting app, and generally conducts the "business" of keeping our program up and running world-wide. Consider all that was required to respond to the pandemic: resources for electronic meetings, leadership regarding safety while still meeting the needs of a world-wide membership, and developing our next daily reader (due out 2023). Individuals can contribute directly through the AI-Anon app; groups can respond to the appeal letter or by sending a check. NOTE: This is not the same as contributing to District.
- A small task force will be looking at the issue of non-profit status for the District and our groups and how this affects money handling by District and group treasurers. This question has been unresolved for years; we hope to make some progress toward an acceptable approach.
- WSO Board is seeking applications (al-anon.org/for-members/board-of-trustees/wso-volunteers/)
  - Trustee of the Board: At-Large and Regional for 2023
  - ECRPM Executive Committee Real Property Management (3 year term)
    - At-Large member of the Executive Committee (1-3 year term)

### Next District Meeting

(monthly meeting for GRs, District trusted servants and any interested members)

**Saturday, September 10, 2022, 9am ET**

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Fellowship Hall

1454 Belleair Rd, Clearwater 33756

## DISTRICT 7 Service Positions

**District Representative (DR)** Shelly F  
dr@d7afg.org

**Alternate DR** Heather D  
alternatedr@d7afg.org

**District Secretary\***

district\_secretary@d7afg.org

**District Treasurer** Bob W  
treasurer@d7afg.org

## DISTRICT INFORMATION SERVICE (DIS) Positions

**DIS Liaison (DISL)** Kimberly H  
disl@d7afg.org

**DIS Secretary** Sharon C  
dis\_secretary@d7afg.org

**AA Liaison\***

aaliaison@d7afg.org

**AI-Anews** Susan C  
alanews@d7afg.org

**Alateen** Iris L

alateen@d7afg.org

**Archives\***

archives@d7afg.org

**Cooperating with the Professional Community (CPC)** Victoria P

cpc@d7afg.org

**District Alateen Process Person** Jeff  
dapp@d7afg.org

**Group Records** Casey W  
grouprecords@d7afg.org

**Information Line** Donna  
informationline@d7afg.org

**Institutions\***

institutions@d7afg.org

**Literature Distribution Center (LDC)**  
Donna L

literature@d7afg.org

**Public Information** Gail and Lisa  
publicinformation@d7afg.org

**Spanish Coordinator\***

spanish@d7afg.org

**Speakers List** Shira P  
speakerslist@d7afg.org

**Web Site** Johanna K  
webkeeper@d7afg.org

**When & Where** Rosemary  
whenandwhere@d7afg.org

\*Open Position — service opportunity!