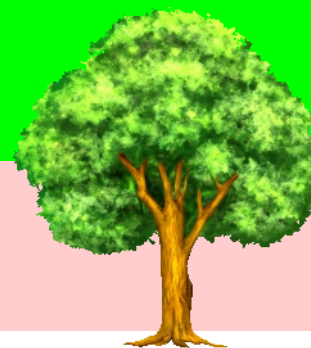


# Growing Oaks



OAKLAND COUNTY  
AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS  
NEWSLETTER - SUMMER 2019



There are always lots of fun, exciting events going on in Al-Anon. Some upcoming events can be found starting on page 5, but be sure to check out the website for Oakland County Al-Anon/Alateen for even more information:

**OAKLANDAFG.ORG**

## ***Need to find a meeting?***

***You can find an up to date list of Oakland County Al-Anon Meetings at our website. (link at right.) You can email us at the newsletter or contact the office through the website for information on locations and times meetings.***



## **Summer's In the Air...**

Welcome to the Summer 2019 issue of the Growing Oaks Newsletter! Here you will find a report about Alateen's experience at the recent KOMIAC convention held here in Michigan in July, and information on upcoming events.

## **Want Literature?**

When you purchase literature from your group or directly from the Oakland AFG Literature Distribution Center you help financially support the work that our county office provides to all the groups in District 12 and 14. To purchase materials, email requests to [oaklandafg.literature@gmail.com](mailto:oaklandafg.literature@gmail.com) or stop by the office (address below) on 1st Saturday mornings between 9-11am (please call or email ahead to make sure someone will be there.)

*Growing Oaks is a quarterly publication of Oakland County Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups*

*Phoenix Square Office Building  
3720 Elizabeth Lake Road  
Waterford, MI 48328  
248-706-1020*

[oaklandafg.org](http://oaklandafg.org)

*Edited by Greg B.*

*This is **YOUR** newsletter: Your articles and announcements are welcome!*

*Please email to:  
[digadigadig@yahoo.com](mailto:digadigadig@yahoo.com)*

©2019 Oakland County AFG

# Trusted Servants



*For our group purpose there is but one authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants—they do not govern.*

*Al-Anon/Alateen Second Tradition*

## 2019 BOARD MEMBERS

**Chairperson:** Ruthanne O. 248-229-2709  
**Co chair:** Jackie F. 248-321-0749  
**Secretary:** Kathy J. 248-767-0323  
**Treasurer:** Mitch S. 248-324-1448  
**Members at Large:**  
Heather D. 248-787-6070  
Jaema B. 248-852-1946  
Haley K. 248-461-7053



## VITAL TRUSTED SERVANTS

<b>District 12 Rep</b>	<b>Debbie D.</b>	<b>248-890-0820</b>
<b>District 12 Alt Rep</b>	<b>**Open - Position Available**</b>	
<b>District 14 Rep</b>	<b>Michelle B.</b>	<b>248-941-1644</b>
<b>District 14 Alt Rep</b>	<b>Theresa M.</b>	<b>248-894-4385</b>
<b>AWSC Liaison</b>	<b>**Open - Position Available**</b>	
<b>Alateen Sponsor/Contact</b>	<b>Emily P.</b>	<b>248 660-3154</b>
	<b>Mitch S.</b>	<b>248 324-1448</b>
	<b>Alisa B.</b>	<b>248-404-7206</b>
	<b>Therese S.</b>	<b>248-705-4791</b>
	<b>Haley K.</b>	<b>248 461-7053</b>
<b>Office Contact</b>	<b>Janet N</b>	<b>248 259-8297</b>
	<b>Emily P.</b>	<b>248 660-3154</b>
<b>Literature Coordinator</b>	<b>Mike A.</b>	<b>248 376-2394</b>
	<b>Mary R.</b>	<b>248 821-6186</b>
	<b>Doug D.</b>	<b>248 259-7027</b>
<b>Public Outreach Contact</b>	<b>Jaema B.</b>	<b>248 852-1946</b>
<b>Website Editor</b>	<b>Karl W.</b>	<b>248 872-8602</b>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>Greg B.</b>	<b>202 345-3681</b>
<b>Meeting List Editor</b>	<b>Renee F.</b>	<b>248 821-3359</b>



*Hope and Help for Young People who are the relatives  
and Friends of a Problem Drinker*

## KOMIAC 2019

These are messages from your Oakland County Alateens who were fortunate enough to attend the 45th Annual KOMIAC (Kentucky Ohio Michigan Indiana Alateen Convention), which was held July 26-28 at Siena Heights College in Adrian, Michigan this year. The theme was **"We're Bringing the Pieces Together!"**

Because of your generous donations to the Oakland County Alateens, we were able to pay the way for 29 teens and sponsors to attend a weekend of peace and serenity. I've been to KOMIAC both as a teen and as a sponsor. It has always been the weekend I look most forward to every year. As a teen I remember feeling at home and safe, even though I was surrounded by strangers (that would be family by the end of the weekend). As a sponsor, I love watching my Alateens spread their wings. I get to see them express emotions, make lifetime friends, grow in their program and be teenagers without worry for a full weekend. None of this would be possible if it weren't for all of you. So thank you, again, for helping our Alateen program and supporting the next Al-Anon generation.



Your Oakland County Alateen Coordinator,  
Emily P

*KOMIAC is amazing. An experience to show and receive love and trust that you cant get anywhere else. Sure I have friends and family that love me, but no one gets me like my alateen people. I see these amazing, talented, well spoken people once and year and it's my favorite time of the year. I get to see all of the people that love me unconditionally and work the same program I work and understand the program I work. KOMIAC is a place of understanding and love. Its like the weekend is just one giant hug and when its over you just get so excited thinking about next year. KOMIAC changed my life and its just an amazing weekend that I will cherish for as long as I can.*  
- Sabrina L

***My KOMIAC experience this year was a little stressful because I had the honor of being secretary on the KOMIAC board. I have a whole new appreciation for what the teens have to do to make this life changing convention happen. Even through all the stress, the unconditional love as always is strong and I always am sad to leave. Already looking forward to next year in Ohio :). - Lawson F***

*KOMIAC was a spiritual experience that has positively impacted the growth of my program, as well as given me a place that I feel unconditionally loved and understood. I have made lifelong friends at KOMIAC that are willing to help me through life's challenges. The worst part about KOMIAC is leaving. - Matt R*

***Komiac was a life changer! This was the first place where I felt safe and calm with people. I am usually very shy and insecure but here it was different. I was at a place where people who didn't know me understood me. Where people loved me for who I was. Every one is in Alateen are there because honestly we are all messed up and here we feel whole. - Grace M***





# ***Spring Training Report***

About 20 people got together the last Saturday in April for a service workshop known as “Spring Training.” Participants enjoyed the baseball themed agenda, décor and menu. Hotdog anyone? Up at bat were several

experienced Group Reps and current Board Members sharing their experience, strength and hope on how to have an effective Group Conscience, tips on using the service manual, welcoming the newcomer, role of the GR and a deeper dive into our service structure. Additionally, participants had a table share exercise where they discussed solutions for common issues within the groups. And, of course, the keynote speaker Public Outreach Coordinator, Jaema B, who shared the many ways she has grown through service work and the joy she has experienced.



Thanks to everyone who participated and shared their experience, strength and hope. And a special thank you to District 12 DR, Debbie D. for the great job she did with the food, as well as Mitch S, Renee F., Chris P., Jackie F., and Ruth O, and anyone else we may have missed mentioning.



Experienced GR and current DR for District 14, Michelle B. says of the workshop, ***“This is the second time we have held a workshop like this. Participants come away from it with a better understanding of our service structure and how important their role is, as well as resources they can turn to.”***



## OAKLAND COUNTY AFG DISTRICTS 12 & 14 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS\*

DATE	EVENT
<b>August September</b>	
Aug 3	Oakland AFG Board Meeting, 8:30 am, District/Group Rep Meeting, 9:35 am:
Aug 5	Family in Recovery Open Talk & Potluck Brunch, Peace at the End of the Road AFG, 9:00am, Trinity Episcopal Church, 26880 La Muera Dr, Farmington Hills (N off 11 Mile, between Middlebelt & Orchard Lake.) See website for flyer.
Aug 10	AWSC – Area World Service Committee (area state wide District Representatives & Member Guests meeting), St. Louis, MI
Aug 23-25	AA State Convention with Al-Anon/Alateen participation at The Crowne Plaza, 2 Washington Blvd, Detroit
Sept 7	Oakland AFG Board Meeting, 8:30 am, District/Group Rep Meeting, 9:35 am:
Sept 21	Open Talk, 11 am, Alisa B., Our Lady of Refuge, 3750 Commerce Rd. West Bloomfield
Sep 27-29	AA Tri-County Conference with Al-Anon participation, The Wyndham Garden, Sterling Heights.
<b>October, November, December</b>	
Oct 5	Oakland AFG Board Meeting, 8:30 am, District/Group Rep Meeting, 9:35 am.
Oct 12	Fall Assembly –Election Assembly (area state wide Group Representatives and Member Guests meeting), St. Louis, MI
Oct 26-27	Alateen Fall Lock-In at Dawn Farm. Permission slip required. See Alateen sponsor for details.
Nov 2	Oakland AFG Board Meeting, 8:30 am, District/Group Rep Meeting, 9:35 am.
Nov 9	AWSC – Area World Service Committee (area state wide District Representatives and Member Guests meeting), St. Louis, MI
Nov 23	Oakland County AFG Fall Fundraiser Workshop
Dec 7	Oakland AFG Board Meeting, 8:30 am, District/Group Rep Meeting, 9:35 am.

### 2020 and Beyond

**July 2020: International AA Convention with full Al-Anon/Alateen Program – Detroit, MI**

.....

*Would your Al-Anon homegroup like to host an Open Talk or other event?  
Oakland County AFG would love to help!*

Hosting an event can be a way of drawing new members to your group as well as carrying the message. We can help with ideas, speakers, and flyers-you supply the date, time and location!  
Leave us a message at (248) 706-1020 and we'll get back to you.

*\*Calendar includes Al-Anon/Alateen events and AA events with Al-Anon/Alateen participation, and events sponsored by other districts. Dates/Events subject to change or cancellation. See [Oaklandafg.org](http://Oaklandafg.org)>Events /Flyers for latest information and updates on Al-Anon/Alateen events. Information as of 8/2/2019.*

Oakland County Al-Anon Family Groups  
**Orchard Lake**

---

**Al-Anon Open Talk**

**Alisa B.**

---

Date: Saturday, September 21, 2019



11:00 AM

Our Lady of Refuge

3750 Commerce Rd.

West Bloomfield Township, MI 48324

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# **Al-Anon Fourth Step Study Group Introduction meeting**

**Sponsored by: MAPLE WEST  
MONDAY NIGHT AL-ANON AFG**

Take this opportunity to join a 4<sup>th</sup> Step study group using Al-Anon's ***Blue Print in Progress***. Al-Anon members, who have used this support group to complete their 4<sup>th</sup> Step, will be there to share their experience of participating 4<sup>th</sup> Step study group.

**Groups will form at this Introduction Meeting.** Once formed, the ongoing meeting days and times will be decided by each group. Church space will be available on Mondays at 7:30 p.m.; however, optional locations are often selected by each group.

Your recovery is up to you! Show up and "more will be revealed!"

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Monday September 23, 2019</b>
<b>TIME</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>
<b>PLACE</b>	<b>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1669 W. MAPLE ROAD BIRMINGHAM, MI 48009</b>

***CONFUSED? UNSURE? QUESTIONS?***

***CONTACT:***

Chris D 248 613-0091

# "One Day At A Time"



## 32nd Annual Tri-County Conference

September 27th, 28th and 29th, 2019

The Wyndham Garden Sterling Heights  
34911 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights, MI



### Registration Fees:

AA & Al-Anon before 9/15/18: \$15

AA & Al-Anon after 9/15/18: \$20

\*Sunday - At Will A.K.A. Free!!

Alateen registration is a \$5  
flat rate all weekend

ALL PROCEEDS CONTRIBUTED TO AA INTERGROUP  
OFFICES OF THE TRI-COUNTY AREA

### Saturday Night Banquet

Must purchase tickets by 9/15/19

*Reserved seating at Saturday night  
Open Meeting for Banquet attendees*

*DECLICIOUS BUFFET!*

### HOTEL ROOMS AT REDUCED RATES!

PER ROOM-PER NIGHT \$99.00 U.S. (PLUS TAX) - NO WATER PARK  
+\$10.00 U.S. (PLUS TAX) - PER WATER PARK PASS

REDUCED RATE ROOMS MUST BE RESERVED BY AUGUST 30, 2019

THE WYNDHAM GARDEN STERLING HEIGHTS HOTEL  
586-979-1400

Register Online at:  
[www.Tri-CountyConference.org](http://www.Tri-CountyConference.org)

### FRIDAY

#### EVENING AA SPEAKER

STEVE L  
NASHVILLE, TN

### SATURDAY

#### AFTERNOON AA SPEAKER:

BOB B  
SAINT PAUL, MN

#### AFTERNOON AL-ANON SPEAKER:

ELLEN C  
ADDISON TX

#### EVENING AA SPEAKER:

CHARLIE H  
FRANKLIN, MI

### SUNDAY

#### AFTERNOON AA SPEAKER:

DIANA M  
LARGO, FL

ASL INTERPRETER PROVIDED FOR DEAF & HEARING IMPAIRED GUESTS DURING FRI AND SAT MAIN SPEAKERS ONLY

PLEASE MAIL REGISTRATION FORM TO: TRI-COUNTY CONFERENCE, P.O. BOX 4324, TROY, MI 48099



# Monroe's 21<sup>st</sup> Annual OctSoberFest

'A Spiritual Kindergarten'

10/12/2019

Grace Lutheran Church  
630 N. Monroe St.  
Monroe, MI

## Conference Schedule

9:00 Doors open  
9:30 Al-Anon speaker- Bill C., Ferndale, MI  
11:00 AA speaker- Ian C., Pittsburgh, PA  
Lunch *(on your own)*  
1:45 Al-Anon speaker- Ramona C., Chicago, IL  
3:30 AA speaker- Jennifer K., Plano, TX  
5:00 AA speaker- Joe C., Palm Coast, FL  
Dinner *(provided by the 24 Hour Group)*  
Sobriety Countdown  
8:00 AA speaker- Georgia B., La Crescenta, CA



Tickets \$20.00  
Sold in Advance Only

*Deadline for Tickets-  
Sunday 10/6*

Space is limited. *Sorry-  
No children or pets will be  
admitted.*

CDs by Blueprint Tapes

## Presented by Monroe's Tuesday Night 24 Hour Group

For Tickets by Mail-Please send before 10/4

For more information or tickets by mail after 10/4, if available, please contact: Mark M. 734 529-5565  
Greg H. 734 777-7349  
or [dmmasserant@yahoo.com](mailto:dmmasserant@yahoo.com)

### *Why do I have to pay?*

Because special events like the OctSoberFest require a considerable amount of money to cover travel, hotel and other expenses for our guests who are speaking, along with printing costs, payment for the use of the facility, coffee, etc., tickets must be sold to support those costs. A free dinner is also provided by the group for the attendees.

### *For Tickets by Mail-*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AA \_\_\_ AFG \_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AA \_\_\_ AFG \_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: The 24 Hour Group  
2313 Grand Blvd  
Monroe, MI 48162



SLOPPY JOES FOR DINNER!

CANDLE LIT MIDNIGHT  
MEETING!

BRING A SNACK  
TO SHARE!

\$10 PER PERSON

# ALATEEN FALL LOCK-IN

October 26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>

4PM on Saturday to 9AM on Sunday

Dawn Farm 6633 Stony Creek Rd, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

\*\*Each teen must get a permission slip from their sponsor\*\*

Questions? Call Marte (517) 285-5211

# **Save the Date!**

**November 23, 2019**

**Oakland County AFG's**

**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Fundraiser Workshop**  
**is**



**We're hard at work planning the Fall Fundraiser Workshop for November 23, 2019. Please mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details to be posted to [OaklandAFG.org](http://OaklandAFG.org).**



# ***ARE YOU WONDERING WHY WE HAVE AN ANNUAL FALL/FUNDRAISER/WORKSHOP?***

## ***HERE'S THE ANSWER ...***

1-FOR **ADDITIONAL RECOVERY** through fellowship, speakers, activities and a chance to meet more people in the recovery community of Al-Anon & Alateen.  
Oh, and there's food too!

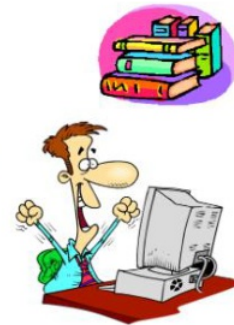


2-FOR **FINANCIAL SUPPORT** of the Oakland County Al-Anon office.

## ***WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?***

THE **ANNUAL BUDGET** covers the following expenses:

- Office rent & insurance
- Telephone service
- Office supplies/equipment
- Literature & sales tax
- Public Outreach materials
- Group Rep Seminar
- Our website
- Seed money for the Fall Workshop
- Alateen events
- Donations to State and WSO
- And more.



## ***WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?***

### **1-GROUP DONATIONS**

Some donations come from groups within our geographical boundaries.

As per our traditions, contributions are voluntary and are not a condition for membership. Oakland County AFG does not seek or accept support outside the area it serves.

### **2-FALL FUNDRAISER WORKSHOP**

### **3-LITERATURE SALES**

*We hope that you will support your Oakland County Al-Anon/Alateen Office by attending this year's Fall Fundraiser/Workshop on November 23<sup>rd</sup> for a day of Shared Recovery, Fellowship, Silent Auction, Speakers, Food & Fun!*

*If you are unable to attend please know that any donations are appreciated at any time. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you soon! The Oakland County Board of Al-Anon along with the many Volunteers who make this day happen!*

# Website Help Needed

*Are you a WordPress developer as well as an Al-Anon member? If so, we need your help! The Oakland County AFG website is using an older WP theme, and some of the site's useful functionality doesn't work as well as it should. Some plug-ins no longer work. When we update them the entire site crashes and we have to roll back to a previous backup. The webmaster and his assistant, (me, the editor of this newsletter) know enough to make content changes and updates, minor tweaks and fixes, but we need an expert's help when it comes to tweaking the widgets and background code, or replacing non functioning plugins or the overall WP theme with something that works better.*



*Help us if you can! Please email Karl at [surcuitpac@aol.com](mailto:surcuitpac@aol.com) and/or Greg at [digadigadig@yahoo.com](mailto:digadigadig@yahoo.com).*



**Al-Anon Family Groups**

Oakland County, Michigan

**Strength and hope for friends and families of problem drinkers**

Remember to check the website for more announcements!

**OAKLANDAFG.ORG**