

SCV-AFG Intergroup Newsletter

DISTRICT MEETINGS

District 20 Meeting

Third Wednesday of odd months, 7:00-9:00 pm.
Zoom ID: 291-417-7219
Passcode: serenity

District 21 Meeting

First Wednesday of all months, 7:00–8:00 pm.
Zoom ID: 632 122 5845
Passcode: D21

District 22 Meeting

Third Wednesday of odd months, 7:00–8:30 pm.
Zoom ID: 958 118 1754
Passcode: district 22

INTERGROUP MEETING

Second Tuesday of all months, 7:30–9 pm.
Zoom ID: 681 1993 4890
Passcode: AFG

CONTACT INFORMATION

Santa Clara Valley
Al-Anon Family Groups
1 West Campbell Avenue
Room Q82, Campbell CA
95008
Phone: 408-379-9375
Email:
info.scvafg@gmail.com
Website:
<http://www.scv-afg.org>

New contact info? Let us know!

Two Years and Counting. . .

Late in 2021, we thought we had turned a corner, Covid19 was getting smaller and smaller in the collective rearview mirror. Many meetings were in the process of going live or hybrid. Then came Omicron, a faster, more contagious strain of the virus. What to do?

We can use our program to figure this out. As we move forward one day at a time, and do the next right thing, we can consult our Higher Power, as revealed to us, to find answers for our groups and ourselves. There is no one-size-fits-all here. We have three different meeting formats to choose from: Zoom, Hybrid, and In-Person/Live. Will this choice continue, or end when the pandemic ends? All formats are capable of carrying the message of recovery, and for now we can choose the one that is most comfortable to us.

The blow-up of our traditional meeting format in the time of Covid19 opened us up to these alternate formats, and continues to bring us new ways of connecting. Consider these: Zoom Speaker Meetings, Special Events, Workshops, Committees. Our By-Laws Committee updated and revised our by-laws, meeting entirely on Zoom for months until the first draft was complete in December!

If we embrace the courage to change the things we can, our presence in the recovery movement will be enhanced—and it will facilitate our stated purpose: “To help families of alcoholics.” Let’s get started!





WE WANT YOU!

Come to an Intergroup Meeting and see how the “upper echelons” of Al-Anon work to make recovery available to the world outside of the rooms of Al-Anon.

Our most important purpose is to reach out to people still suffering from the effects of someone else’s drinking. In our preamble it is stated:

“Al-Anon has but one purpose: to help families of Alcoholics. We do this by practicing the Twelve Steps, by welcoming and giving comfort to families of alcoholics, and by giving understanding and encouragement to the alcoholic.”

The only way to hold on to recovery is by giving it away! The power of this program to heal the families and friends still suffering from the effects of Alcoholism is within our power to facilitate.



Zooming In and Out of Covid

Our January Intergroup meeting was packed with challenges, mostly related to the pandemic. Did we expect to go back to that old “normal” or have we recognized that it is not possible?! These challenges will be addressed in this newsletter. The answers to them all rest with you, our members. For now, are truly weathering this Covid period with humor, grace, grit, and serenity.

The Campbell Office and Bookstore

Our scv-afg Bookstore and Office is challenged financially. We are dipping into our Prudent Reserves to pay the rent and overhead.

The Problem:

Donations and book sales are down, due to the pandemic. Zoom meetings don’t pass a basket, they offer a Venmo option, and people aren’t using it.

The Solution:

Donations: We all need to step up our donations. A dollar in the basket just isn’t enough anymore. Try upping it to \$3 or more If you walk into a meeting with a \$5 Starbucks coffee, you can probably chip in a \$5 donation.

Books and Literature: Books and literature, purchased from scv-afg at the Campbell Bookstore are cheaper than those purchased from WSO or Amazon. Amazon doesn’t need your money, they’re doing fine!

Venmo Payments: Instructions on how use the Venmo option for making donations is found on page 13. It is accompanied by the Venmo device that gets your donation to its destination. Try it out!



**Intergroup Report
for December 2021**

The Monthly Intergroup meeting on January 11 reports the following:

- Intergroup’s new Treasurer. Rochelle has combed through all of our finances and put them in order! We know now how we are doing and what we can plan for in 2022.
- Approximately \$7000 has been raised out of the \$9000 budgeted for the new website. We can start work on it!
- The Bylaws Revision Phase One is complete! Next comes the attorney’s review, and review by the whole of Intergroup.
- It’s still open: The new *Technology Coordinator* position was established and stands ready to be filled.
- An Intergroup Venmo account has been set up for members’ convenience in making donations. Check out Penny’s Flyer — page 11.



Contact your Intergroup Rep with any questions you have about this

**The New Website:
Our Membership Steps Up!**

In 2021, in the depths of the Covid quarantine, we realized how crucial our website was in communicating with our members. And it was badly in need of repairs. We set out to fix it.

A Website Committee was created to rethink and redesign what we had. A presentation to intergroup followed. Intergroup was supportive and approved a design and format. But wait! Before it got underway, new input from Chairperson Maria came our way, leading us to Tim Weaver, a professional website developer and fast friend of 12 Step Programs. Tim showed the Website Committee, in an exhaustive presentation, how much more our website could be and do with direction from a professional design and development service. We were sold, and asked him put together a presentation for Intergroup.

Intergroup loved it. The new concept reaches way beyond our local boundaries, brings people from great distances to the rooms of Al-Anon and the beginnings of recovery, and will raise our scv-afg presence in the world-wide Al-Anon Community. Best of all, it will address our one purpose: “to help families of alcoholics.”

His proposal and \$9000 budget for an entirely new website was approved. Now we needed to fund the proposal. We voted to go forward: with or without all of the funds in hand. We appealed to you, to help us fund this project, and you stepped up! Donations large and small came in, and now we are well over half the way to \$9000. It was a leap of faith to undertake this project, but we were confident that it would pay off. And you all stepped up!

Production is underway, we think we will have our new website up and running in about three months. But we still need funding! If you have not yet made a donation to the scv-afg website, or wish to contribute more to our website funding, please consider doing it now. Earmark your check or Venmo contribution to scv-afg with “website funding”.





Doug C. Explains Donating by Venmo

It's difficult to donate in a virtual setting. Doug C. explains donating with Venmo: "Scan the QR code with your mobile phone's camera app to make a payment to your meeting's Venmo account." Here's how:

1. Open the camera app on your phone.
2. Hold your phone up to the screen so that the QR code appears on the screen in the camera app. Your device recognizes the QR code and shows a notification.
3. Tap the notification to open the link associated with the QR code, then follow the instructions in the Venmo app to voluntarily donate.

Venmo is a PayPal service. Check it out online, or on our scv-afg website. Set it up your Venmo account!

And as Doug C, *Paths to Recovery* Treasurer says: "Make your contribution a **Venmo Five.**" We will all benefit.



Stepping Up

Intergroup just finished an excellent year of service to the members of Al-Anon under the leadership of Maria G, our Chairperson, and Penny P, our Alternate Chairperson. Meetings began and ended on time, business was dispatched in a timely manner, and Intergroup benefitted from their knowledge of the Al-Anon Links of Service.

"Presume good will" became the mantra for our discussions and debates. The only thing missing? Our traditional potluck Christmas Party/Meeting! Blame Covid19 for that!

For those new to, or considering service, now would be a good time to step up to service while everything is going so well, and the year is young. With the pandemic winding down (keep your fingers crossed), and Al-Anon entering a new era of interconnectedness, taking a service position has never had more potential for being interesting, challenging, and rewarding.

Once you find some recovery, you want to give back. This is a great place for it! It's late January. Not all groups have found Intergroup Reps yet—has yours? Find out and consider stepping up for it.

Want take on a specific challenge? Intergroup Coordinator positions are yet to be filled for many categories. Look over the following list for something you might be interested in. Both Intergroup Reps and Coordinator service positions last for one year, but can be extended.

Becoming a member of Intergroup is a great way to deepen your understanding and appreciation of the Al-Anon program. Plus, you meet the most interesting and committed members who also serve with you. They could become valued friends! And, finally, if you're just curious, monthly Intergroup meetings are open to all. They take place on the second Tuesday of month from 7:30 to 9:00 pm. You are welcome to attend. Now check out the open positions!



When Will a New Printed Directory Come Out?

In short—It will be a while. Out of 60 meetings in our three districts, only 8 to 10 are meeting in-person now, so it would be expensive and unwise to issue a printed Directory now.

Instead, consult the scv-afg website, where the last printed Directory is posted. Cross-check it against the Zoom listings to figure out whether a meeting is in-person or not. Right now, meeting formats are updating faster than they can be printed out in a Directory. Right now, some members are reluctant to attend in-person meetings until a Covid all-clear announcement is made. We respect that. Some have left the area and connect via Zoom. Some are house-bound. We'll reach all!

With patience we will get there, and when we do, it will be so great to see our friends in person! Keep coming back: in-person, Hybrid, Zoom, any way you can!



Intergroup Service Positions

These Intergroup Service positions are yet to be filled. Take a look at them and see which ones you might be interested in. Those with a star (*) are unfilled because Covid19 has made them impractical to implement. Those listed as “Alternate” follow the same description as the Coordinator position.

Alateen Coordinator: The Alateen coordinator meets periodically with Alateen sponsors, encourages cooperation between Al-Anon and Alateen meetings, exchanges ideas and suggestions for the growth and unity of Alateen, all guided by the literature available from Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.

***Meeting Directory Coordinator:** The Meeting Directory Coordinator maintains a listing of all Al-Anon and Alateen meetings in the area covered by Intergroup’s Districts 20, 21, and 22, including the name, address, and phone number of the group contact person, and the WSO# assigned to the group by Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. The Directory is published in January after all service positions have been updated. An updated Directory is published mid-year. Al-Anon and Alateen meetings adjacent to the Intergroup area may be choose to be listed at their request.

Alternate Facilities Coordinator: The Facilities Coordinator is responsible for the business operation of the Intergroup Office, sets business office hours, and supervises the activities of office volunteers.

Alternate Insurance Coordinator: The Insurance Coordinator makes sure our liability insurance is current, and correctly registered, and informs each group of their obligation to pay their share.

***Institutions Coordinator and Alternate:** The Institutions Coordinator cooperates with the District 20, 21 and 22 to arrange for Al-Anon and Alateen meetings in hospitals, institutions for alcoholics' families, and other institutional type locations, guided by the literature available from Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.

***Alternate Literature Coordinator:** The Literature Coordinator purchases Conference Approved Literature for resale to Al-Anon and Alateen groups and other interested persons, inventories literature periodically, maintains records as Intergroup may require, and reports the value of the inventory monthly at regular Intergroup meetings.

Alternate Newsletter Coordinator: The Newsletter Coordinator prepares, publishes, and distributes a newsletter to all Al-Anon and



Website Update

Contributions to the funding of our new scv-afg Intergroup website continue at a slower rate. But we are over the \$7000 mark, well on our way to the \$9000 total! It's not too late to donate!

With over half of the necessary funding in hand, we can start work on it! We think that we will have it ready to go in about three months.

The new website turned out to be our most significant outreach effort of 2021, and probably 2022 as well. We will continue to fine tune it as we go forward until all the kinks are out. Hurray!

Our internet presence will receive a huge boost, and our primary purpose, "to help families of alcoholics" will be honored. Thank you for your support.



-The SCV-AFG Website Committee

Alateen Family Groups registered with Intergroup, and to Intergroup officers, coordinators, and individual subscribers. The coordinator is guided in the contents by literature available from Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc, any policies which may, from time to time, be set by scv-afg Intergroup, and by subjects of interest to members of it. Intergroup's status as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization requires it to publish this newsletter quarterly at a minimum.

***Public Information Coordinator and Alternate:** The Public Information Coordinator is responsible for disseminating the Al-Anon and Alateen message to the public (who we are, what we do, and how to get in touch with us). Coordinator maintains a list of speakers willing to speak at the public level, and speakers willing to speak within Al-Anon and Alateen

***Special Events Coordinator and Alternate:** Special Events Committee consists of a Chairperson, selected by the Chairperson of Intergroup, and others as necessary to accomplish its function. Subsequent to the event, the committee shall submit a report to Intergroup within thirty days after the event, with a copy given to the Archivist for storage in the archives.

Technology Coordinator: This new position is intended to bring together all of the functions that require electronic connection between our various internet and inter-platform functions.

Alternate Tele-Service Coordinator: The Tele-Service Coordinator is responsible for maintaining a listing in local telephone directories, and to set up and maintain a system to respond to telephone inquiries from the public, to train telephone service volunteers, and to provide literature and meeting directories to the public upon request.





“Al-Anon Speaks”

A feature of the newsletter, “Al-Anon Speaks” was especially created for you, our members, to claim voice for whatever recovery centered topic you wish to speak to. But the voices of Alanon have not been getting to us lately.

Yoo Hoo! we know you’re out there! You have something to say. Sharpen up your pens and pencils, and send us your stories, your reflections, your meditations on recovery. It’s one of the most important ways we can connect with recovery. We want to hear from you! And we’re still listening...



Alanon Speaks: The Gift of Love

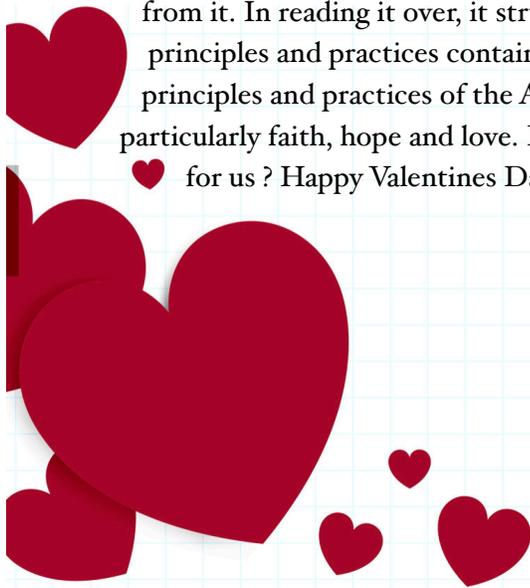
“If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for the prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, thought like a child; I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in the mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.” —*1 Corinthians*

This well-known letter of Paul to the Corinthians is often read at weddings. It is a favorite because it so succinctly and graciously tells us what true love is, and how we can know when we are drifting away

from it. In reading it over, it struck me how many of the principles and practices contained in this reading are the principles and practices of the Al-Anon program— particularly faith, hope and love. Isn’t it a Valentines message for us? Happy Valentines Day, dear friends!—Nancy B



WE'RE LIVE!

Welcome to
Keep It Simple
Al-Anon Family Group



Keep It Simple follows the 12-Step Program of Al-Anon. Here you can "Listen and Learn", "Reason It Out With Someone Else", take it "One Day at A Time", aim for "Progress Not Perfection", know that "This Too Shall Pass", "Do The Next Right Thing", and above all: "Keep It Simple!"

Join Us — Monday Mornings at 10 AM!

In "The Brick House" at Calvary Church,
16330 Los Gatos Boulevard, Los Gatos

Check out the sample pages on this flyer for our new website!
Imagine what is ahead for us with this new website helping to fulfill our
primary purpose: **“to help families of alcoholics.”**



Ready, Set, Go For It!

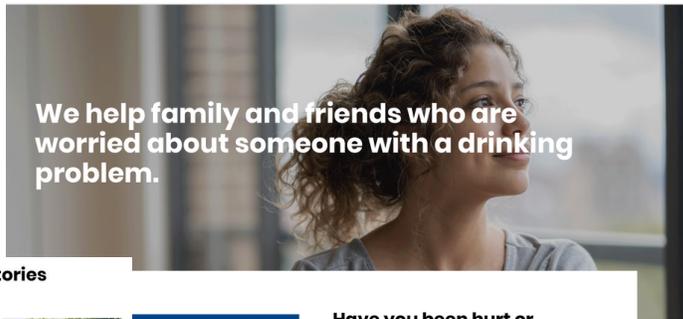
A Brand-New, Custom Built, Al-Anon Website!

Your SCV-AFG Intergroup Representatives recognize the need for it—
All of us are exasperated by the difficulty of updating and searching the
current one. The recent alphabet soup of the Zoom listings clinched it!

**We are
ready to
Go For It!**

SCV AFG Santa Clara Valley Al-Anon Family Groups

GET STARTED > MEETINGS > PROFESSIONALS > FAMILY & FRIENDS > CONTRIBUTE



Latest News and Inspirational Stories

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Have you been hurt or embarrassed by a drinker's behavior?

Teens come together to share their experiences and to find effective ways to cope with problems.

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Email Newsletter Signup
 New Email Address
 About Us What We Do Contribute Contact Us Address
 Connect With Us
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What We Do

 Online and In-person Meetings Near You. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nunc eu molestie tellus. Aenean ac massa porta ipsum elementum fribus. Vestibulum malesuada una cursus nisi dignissim, ut sodales velit facilisis. Get Started	 Family and Friends Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nunc eu molestie tellus. Aenean ac massa porta ipsum elementum fribus. Vestibulum malesuada una cursus nisi dignissim, ut sodales velit facilisis. Get Started	 Mental Health & Professionals Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nunc eu molestie tellus. Aenean ac massa porta ipsum elementum fribus. Vestibulum malesuada una cursus nisi dignissim, ut sodales velit facilisis. Get Started
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**Help Us
Go For It !**

We need you to donate. Why?
Covid19 strained our finances!. You can help us out!
Donate directly to:

SCV-AFG Al-Anon Family Groups
1 West Campbell Avenue, Room Q82
Campbell CA 95008

Out of the Box Al Anon Meeting

**Maywood Park
3330 Pruneridge Ave.
Santa Clara, CA 95051**

Sundays

9:30 am – 10:30 am

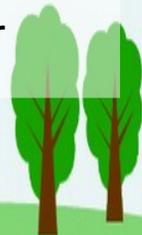
Live and in-person

Bring your own chair

Look for circle of chairs

Other side of hill from playground (Pruneridge Ave.
and Cronin Dr.) if sunny

Covered lunch tables if inclement weather





ANNOUNCING

SCV AFG Intergroup VENMO Account

We can now accept 7th Tradition Donations fast and easy!

IMPORTANT: Please put your meeting name, day, time and WSO#
DO NOT toggle over to pay for a good or service on the pay screen because we are a non-profit and we are not providing a good or service

SCVAFG Treasurer
@Inter-group-treasurer



In Venmo search for @Inter-group-treasurer

You will need a Venmo App and Account to donate

We contribute in gratitude for what we have received from Al-Anon

Intergroup Wants You!

Check out the
on page 5 of the
Intergroup
or read
the website

list of Service Positions
January/February
Newsletter,
about them on
at scv-afg.org.



Take this opportunity to serve Al-Anon above the group level! Connect with talented, intelligent, motivated people in recovery like you! Your combined special talents with theirs will make a difference!

Zoom ID: 864 4445 0162

Not certain this is for you? Come to the next Intergroup Meeting on the second Tuesday of the month, and see. Meeting starts at 7:30, ends at 9:00. You may participate in the discussion, but only elected Representatives may vote.

Passcode: 999



FYI, or “for your information“ includes articles from outside the scope of our SCV-AFG Intergroup Newsletter. It includes downloads and announcements that may be of interest to our membership.

Where to Find It - A Guide for SCV AFG AIS Intergroup SCV AFG (Santa Clara Valley Al-Anon Family Groups) Website Resources:

www.scvafg.org

scv-afg-news@googlegroups.com - this is email address to use to send emails to the SCV AFG group

SCV AFG Bylaws – <https://www.scv-afg.org/bylaws> Once here, select *download* to open a pdf version. B

SCV AFG Guidelines- Will be coming soon as a separate document – currently resides in Bylaws document **SCV/AFG Roster** – Coming soon

Groups.IO – Coming soon -- This is my idea if Google Groups doesn't work to store information

Find a meeting in Santa Clara Valley: <https://www.scv-afg.org/copy-of-al-anon>

Calendar of events in Santa Clara Valley: <https://www.scv-afg.org/events>

NCWSA (Northern California World Service Area) Website Resources: www.ncswa.org Find a meeting in Northern California:

What kind of meeting are you looking for? <https://northerncaliforniaal-anon.org/meetings/>

Listing of all of Northern California Zoom meeting:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12O5kcZfKZQ5DZxExpr7JZWCWQPTyoZqcHXot9vLy0U/edit#gid=1046800921>

Calendar of events in all Districts in Northern California: <https://northerncaliforniaal-anon.org/calendar/>

WSO(WorldServiceOrganization)WebsiteResources:
www.Al-Anon.org

[Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual \(P-24/27\) | Al-Anon Family Groups \(al-anon.org\)](#) Loaded with the Experience, Strength and Hope of those that have gone before.

WSO Guidelines- [Guidelines | Al-Anon Family Groups \(al-anon.org\)](#)
Calendar of events at WSO level: <https://al-anon.org/events/>

The Al-Anon Slogans- <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/al-anon-slogans/> **Downloadable Items-** <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/downloadable-items/>
Magazines- <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/magazines/>

“Talk to each other, reason things out with someone else.”

Sections of NCWSA — There are 27 Districts in the CA (N) Area. They are divided into 3 sections: Northern, Central and Southern. To read more about the sections, go to [Bylaws & Corporate Docs – NCWSA \(northerncaliforniaal-anon.org\)](#) and click on *NCWSC Guidelines*.

The Northern Section contains ten (10) districts including Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

The Central Section contains nine (9) districts including Districts 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 25, and 26. The Southern Section contains eight (8) districts including Districts 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 27.

We use these sections when we plan assemblies and NCWSC meetings. Doing so allows us to practice rotation of leadership and generate awareness and interest in Area service because local members provide service at these meetings.

The Executive and Budget Committees are formed from the DRs from these sections. This way, these committees are more likely to have diversity in their perspectives.

AIS Cheat Sheet

NCWSA Acronyms – The 12 Stepper Newsletter contains a list of acronyms can be found here [Literature – NCWSA \(northerncaliforniaal-anon.org\)](https://www.northerncaliforniaal-anon.org)

AA Alcoholics Anonymous, a fellowship of people recovering from alcoholism following the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts of Service

AAPP Area Alateen Process Person – an NCWSA Officer

ADAT A Day at a Time, one of the Alateen daily readers

AFG Al-Anon Family Groups, a fellowship of people recovering from the family disease of alcoholism following the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts of Service

AIS Area Information Service, mailing address and phone service for districts or areas; often at the LDC (see below) **AMIAS** Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service

AWSC Area World Service Committee. In the CA North Area, we refer to this as NCWSC.

CAL Conference Approved Literature, our fellowship literature written by you and me and approved by the WSC (see below)

DAPP District Alateen Process Person – in SCV AFG – our DAPP is an officer of SCV/AFG AIS and covers all three districts

DR District Representative, a member of the fellowship who facilitates district meetings and attends NCWSC meetings **ADR Alternate District Representative**, a member of the fellowship who assists the DR with District duties and is the liaison between the District and the SCV/AFG AIS/Intergroup – is a member of the Service Board

GR Group Representative, a member of the fellowship who participates in district meetings and attends NCWSA Assemblies

IGR Intergroup Representative, a member of the fellowship who participates in the SCV/AFG AIS/Intergroup meetings **H&I** Hospitals & Institutions, an AA term for outreach efforts to hospitals and institutions; Al-Anon participates in the annual AA H&I conference

KBDM Knowledge-Based Decision Making, a process for reaching a group conscience

LDC Literature Distribution Center, like a bookstore (non-profit) for CAL – In SCV AFG – we call this our Bookstore **NCWSA** Northern California World Service Area, one of 67 WSAs in the USA and Canada.

NCWSC Northern California World Service Committee, made up of DRs, officers, coordinators and a few others who meet three times a year (Feb, May and August) and serve to keep meetings in touch with our worldwide fellowship

ODAT One Day At A Time, one of the Al-Anon daily readers

PI/CPC Public Information and Cooperating with Professional Community (outreach)

SWRDM Southwest Regional Delegate's Meeting, an orientation meeting for incoming delegates. NCWSA is part of this region along with CA(S), OR, HI, AZ, NM/El Paso, NV, UT & CO. There are 9 Regions in the World Service Conference Service Structure.

TEAM Together Empowering Al-Anon Members. A collaborative event that was held between the WSO and NCWSA. **WSA** World Service Area; each area is represented by a delegate at the WSC

WSC World Service Conference, Al-Anon's annual meeting in April

WSO World Service Office, AFG headquarters in Virginia Beach