

JUNE 2026



What's the Scoop?

In this newsletter you can expect:

District Representative Spotlight

How to Get Involved

What's Happening in the District

Alateen Events & Announcements

Events & Announcements

Looking Back

SERVICE—PUTTING LOVE INTO ACTION

Hey, everyone!

Welcome to your service edition of the Scoop! We are here to talk about how service brings the serenity, plus ways to get Involved.

I am extra excited about this edition because we spotlight a fabulous new opening, the Alternate District Representative. If our DR Is Butch Cassidy, the ADR Is the Sundance Kid. The Robin and Batman. The Sherlock and Watson. You get It.

This position is a rich opportunity for growth, fellowship, and serenity. And if that's not for you, there's plenty of ways to jump In this summer!

Thanks for reading! As always, please feel free to send feedback!

Happy reading!

*Natalie M.
Scoop Editor*

Dear Fellow Al-Anon Members,

Again, it is an honor and privilege to be part of this latest Scoop edition featuring Service, our third legacy.

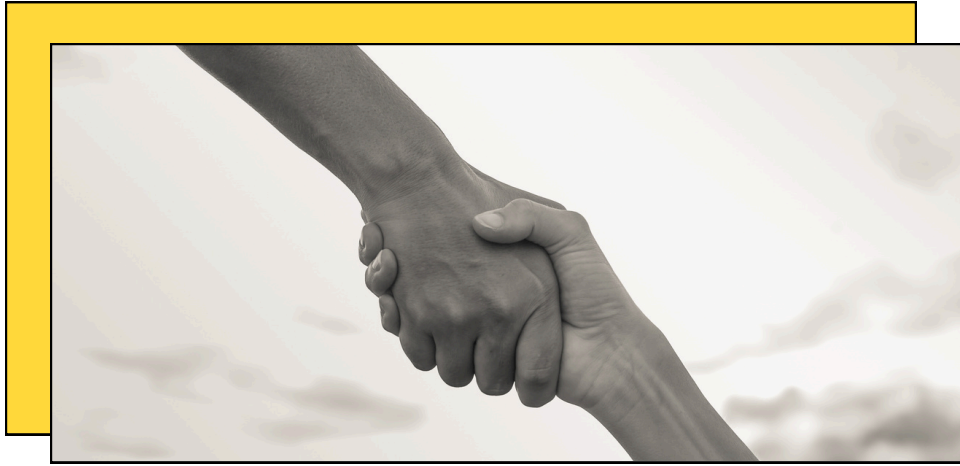
Service has changed my life in so many wonderful ways I could never have imagined. When I first came to Al-Anon. I thought I had it all figured out and knew what I wanted. Fortunately, my Higher Power had better ideas and through service has helped me know a serenity and contentment far greater than I thought of before.

Service helps us go beyond our ego and find that inner connection to the God of our understanding.

There is joy in service (and growth too).

Newt G.
District 12 District Rep.





Serenity Through Service: An Interview with our District Representative, Newt G.

What first inspired you to get involved in Al-Anon service?

I was first inspired to get involved in Al-Anon service because I wanted recovery in the program. I knew the way to get it was to come to meetings, read literature, work the steps with a sponsor, and be involved in service. I knew it would take me out of my comfort zone, but I knew my “comfort zone” was not working for me. I wasn’t fulfilled. I wasn’t happy. I wasn’t content. I wanted to change! If service could help me change, I wanted to do it.

Which service roles have been most meaningful to you?

All the roles I’ve taken in service have been meaningful to me because every role that I took was exactly what I needed at the time. In the very beginning, I took roles in the group (seemingly very simple,) but they challenged me enough socially and emotionally to require me to work my program. They all made me feel better about my inner self. No matter how small, that small bit of feeling better has always meant so much to me. The program shows me that I am worthy of love and loving.

How has serving in Al-Anon shaped your personal growth or recovery?

One great gift of service, among many, is I am less concerned about what other people think of me. I realize that I am worthy of God’s love, even if somebody is criticizing what I do. I am also learning that I don’t need to take criticism personally and act defensively. I can listen to what people are saying and look at it from their perspective—they may be right. I can point out to them the things they say that I agree with, and the things they say that I don’t agree with, and I can let it go. I am also not looking for credit like I used to. It feels much better to just be of service. We are all here for recovery and we are all doing our best to be of service as best we can. We all need, and we all are, worthy of God’s love.

All volunteer opportunities are there to help support the groups—this is where we carry the message. Whether you have one day or one decade, everyone needs the meetings. If you want to get involved beyond the group level, a great way to start is with the Group Representative position. This keeps our meetings connected to the Worldwide Fellowship of Al-Anon.

Serenity Through Service: An Interview with our District Representative, Newt G.

What would you say to someone who is thinking about getting involved in service?

If you are thinking about it, you should probably just jump in and do it. Your Higher Power will take care of you. There is no failure in service. No one is expected to do the service perfectly. You don't even have to do the service "well"—just show up and do what you can do for your own growth. Your own desire for recovery will give you enough inspiration to keep going.

The service is an opportunity for you to grow, and if you make a commitment which you later can't keep, there's no harm or shame in pulling out. And, every once in a while, you might need to miss a service meeting or commitment. Got a family reunion? Got one-in-a-lifetime concert tickets? Sick? All are a-okay for reaching out to others to cover for you. If you can't be there for every commitment, that's okay—there is always somebody who will help you out.

Wherever you are at in your recovery, a service opportunity will be there for you. If you're thinking about, it might mean you should do it.



What would you tell someone who is interested in the Alternate District Representative role?

The Alternate District Rep role is a great opportunity for growth. You get to work with all kinds of people, support new Group Reps, help with Ask-It Basket questions, assist the District Rep, and attend assembly meetings. You're also a link between District 12 and the wider Al-Anon fellowship. It's a needed role, and you're never doing it alone.

You have the opportunity to become the District Rep if you want, but, of course, if you don't want it, you don't need to take it.

Anything else you'd like to add about service?

There are lots of ways to be of service. Listen and share at meetings, call a friend in need, be a Sponsor, etc. To help others grow in recovery, person to person, are services we all can provide. These services make Al-Anon work.

These acts of service all point back to the meetings, which are the core of Al-Anon. Being of service at the group level enables our meeting to run smoothly, efficiently honestly and serenely. Well run meetings allow for the sharing of experience, strength, and hope in the most natural, honest, open and serene atmosphere, allowing it to be experienced by everyone in attendance, newcomers and long timers alike.

“Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to others, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.”

-Step 12

WANTED!

Seeking a straight shooter with a sharp eye
for detail and a heart for service!

Think you got what it takes?

- A love for the ADR code of honor (aka the guidelines).
- Ride alongside the trusty District Representative, Newt G
 - Take the reins organizing the Annual Gratitude Fair — the rootin' tootin'-est event this side of the district!
 - Track down and share the "Ask It Basket" questions, bringing knowledge and curiosity to every campfire circle.
 - Give a hearty welcome to all new Group Representatives, helping them saddle up and register with SCWS.

If you've got spirit, organization, and a love for community, saddle up — this district needs YOU! 🤠

**FUTURE
DISTRICT REP**



REWARD

Immense serenity, fellowship,
love, and a closer relationship
with your fellows and program

Report sightings to Newt G. at 310-704-9223



What's the Best That Can Happen?

The opportunity to volunteer is the gift that keeps on giving. How, you ask?

Fellowship & Connection

One of the great ways to enhance (and some research shows extend!) your life is through community. One of the best parts of Al-Anon is the built-in fellowship. Service allows you to go even deeper into these relationships.

Self Esteem Building

Confidence is built when you go from “I absolutely cannot do that” to “I did it!” Many of us have lost ourselves to the disease of alcoholism. Service is a fun, friendship-building way to finding out more about ourselves—what and who we like and why, what we are good at, what we need to work on, and what we can leave behind.

Every Day is a School Day

Learn a new skill! Improve those delegation tactics! The new additions to your “strengths” list will be something to brag about!

Barriers of Success

But I am VERY BUSY. How do I make the time?

Al-Anons tend to be busy people and often, time constraints are a very real thing. Do your best, try to make it work—you'll be surprised how much a busy person can get done!

I'm not qualified!

Help is available.

Gather your favorite Al-Anon folks and ask for help—start your own mini-committee, phone an Al-Anon friend, and spread the service wealth. Nothing in Al-Anon is done alone, why start now?

Do your best.

Suit up, show up, and do your best. Your sincere efforts—no matter how good or bad—are always better than no one doing the service at all. Release your Inner perfectionist and get started today!

My life is seriously in session—what if I need to quit?

Absolutely fine. Everyone completely understands that life within the disease of alcoholism can be unpredictable, so if you need to resign, everyone will be understanding. Al-Anon will survive!

I have no idea what some of these positions even are, how would I do a position I know nothing about?

Ask questions! To whom? Anyone! The great thing about most Al-Anons is we love to help. Your sponsor, people in your meeting, or even your Scoop Editor would happily point you in the right direction!

Ask exactly the responsibilities and time commitments for each role. Is this a low-stress job just for a few hours a month? Is there a committee established to help? Will I need to manage anyone? Do I need to be anywhere at a certain day/time or can I fulfill this role on my own schedule?

How can I keep my anonymity while being of service?

The same rules of the meetings apply to service—anonymity is of the utmost importance. Some services, like manning an Al-Anon Booth, do not lend themselves to anonymity. Ask about the position, and if it does not feel right to you, do not do it. Being comfortable with your anonymity is of highest priority.

What are the different types of service?

- **Individual service:**
 - Calling a fellow on the phone
 - Becoming a sponsor
 - Offering comfort and support to a newcomer
 - Sharing your story
- **Group service:** work done within a home group to keep meetings running well, such as setting up meetings, greeting newcomers, chairing, literature, and contributions.
- **District service:** coordination among several groups in a local area, often through district representatives and committees.
- **World service:** broader service through the Area, Conference, Board, and World Service Office, which helps Al-Anon function worldwide.



What does the literature say?

“Practicing the Twelfth Step offers us an opportunity to share our program in a new way. We benefit when we practice gratitude, and Al-Anon service is gratitude in action.”

-When I Got Busy, I Got Better



“The greatest thing we learn from the Al-Anon program is that we cannot get unless we give.”

-One Day at a Time in Al-Anon, April 30th



"Service is the practice of unconditional love. There are no 'should's', no obligations."

-Service - Putting Love into Action

"Service has done more for my self-esteem than anything else in my life."

-When I Got Busy I Got Better

District-Level Service Opportunities

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE (POSITION OPEN SOON)

The DR is the leader of District 12 and the President of the District 12 501(c)(3) exempt corporation. The DR helps the Groups understand their relationship to SCWS and WSO and passes on WSO and SCWS information to the Groups. The DR is also responsible for all Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) adhering to the Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements (ASBR). Many other responsibilities and activities are enumerated in the Guidelines.

ALTERNATE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE (OPEN POSITION)

The ADR is to become familiar with the guidelines for the ADR position and be willing to assist the DR as requested. Also, will design and organize the Gratitude Fair (annually). Collects, researches and presents District "Ask it Basket" questions. Welcomes all group GR's and assist them in registering with SCWS.

SECRETARY & ALTERNATE (POSITION OPEN SOON)

The Secretary is a District 12 Officer as well as having the duties and responsibilities as a corporate officer in the State of California. The Secretary maintains records and minutes of all District meetings and acts a central communications hub, receiving and distributing District information via email.

TREASURER & ALTERNATE (POSITION OPEN SOON)

The Treasurer is a District 12 Officer as well as having the duties and responsibilities, as a corporate officer in the State of California. The Treasurer is responsible for all District 12 financial activities, including custodian of funds, maintaining financial books and records and the filing of tax returns and other required filings. District 12 may engage a CPA to assist in these matters.

ALATEEN (MULTIPLE OPEN POSITIONS)

Fosters the growth and development of Alateen in the District. Works with current and new meetings and attracts and certifies Volunteers (AMIAS).

ARCHIVES (POSITION OPEN SOON)

Records and preserves all District 12 Al-Anon memorabilia, designs the displays of Al-Anon's history at local events.

COOPERATING WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (POSITION OPEN SOON)

Communicates with local professionals to develop name recognition and credibility for Al-Anon so that professionals may be willing to inform those they serve about Al-Anon.

GROUP RECORDS

Maintains a local listing of all group records, meetings, GRs, AGRs, CMAs, Officers and Coordinators.

INSTITUTIONS COORDINATOR

Works to provide Al-Anon meetings and Panels along with Al-Anon Literature and Meeting Directories in local institutions.

LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION CENTER

Provide District 12 Al-Anon members with Al-Anon Conference-Approved Literature for sale and displays literature for sale at Al-Anon conventions and other outreach events. Open Thursdays 11-3 and Saturdays 10-12. 505 Poli Street, suite 307, Ventura

PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR (OPEN POSITION)

Assists the membership in bringing information about Al-Anon to the general public, including how, when and where they can attend a meeting.

ROUND ROBIN COORDINATOR (OPEN POSITION)

Fosters community fellowship by encouraging Round Robins, special meetings where one group hosts and invites all members of the community to come and share.

SCOOP NEWSLETTER

Produces and distributes the district's Scoop newsletter.

SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR (POSITION OPEN SOON)

Creates and uses social media for public outreach and communication to members of any Al-Anon news and events. All to be done in accordance with WSO guidelines.

SPANISH LIAISON (POSITION OPEN SOON)

Acts as a liaison between the Al-Anon Spanish community and the District at large; encourages the Spanish community to participate in District activities and encourages the District to include the Spanish community in all District activities and public outreach.

WEBSITE COORDINATOR

Maintains the District 12 Website.

For more information, contact Newt G. at (310)704-9223 or click [here](#).

Other Service Opportunities

Alateen

Become an AMIAS! Find out more [here](#).

World Service Organizaton

Ready to get Involved with Al-Anon at the highest level? Get started [here](#)!

Phone Answering Service

Be a newcomer's first point of contact when they call our hotline.

Workshops

Service Workshop

Already a service savant? Share you experience, strength, and hope at the Service Workshop! Call or text Newt G. at (310)704-9223.

Events

4th of July Booth

Volunteers needed to man the booth! The booth is ready to go, we just need people to spread the word!

Gratitude Fair

Come volunteer at the most grateful fair in town! Reach out to Newt G. at (310)704-9223.

Photographers Needed

Calling all photographers! If you have a camera and a keen eye for photography, come take some pictures for us!

LDC

Ongoing, group service opportunity that goes on in the district. 20 volunteers at a time! Wow! Very flexible—you can volunteer as much or as little as possible.

Coffee Shop Sponsorship

Sponsor that coffee shop by putting a little card about Al-Anon on that board every time. Pamphlets, etc.



Service Opportunities and Events

DISTRICT 12 SPEAKER BUREAU

LOOKING FOR AL-ANON
SPEAKERS TO SHARE
THEIR EXPERIENCE,
STRENGTH AND HOPE

HOW TO SIGN UP:


Go to
www.alanonventura.org

Click on **Speaker Bureau** link

Complete and submit a **Speaker Sign-Up** form

QUESTIONS?

Contact Camille M. at
grouprecords@alanonventura.org



**VENTURA COUNTY
AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS**
VCAAC Fundraiser



VCAAC 2026 CONVENTION



CHILI & CHICKEN WINGS

COOK-OFF
— and —
Bake Sale!

SATURDAY, JULY 25
12:30 PM – 3:30 PM

TICKETS:
\$20
Adults
\$5
Children 6-12
5 & under
FREE!

1379 E. Janss Rd. Thousand Oaks
Conejo Creek North Park
at Creekside Pavilion

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



ALL YOU CAN EAT!



CASH PRIZES!



LIVE MUSIC!



GAMES & ACTIVITIES!



DELICIOUS BAKES!



BRING YOUR APPETITE & YOUR FRIENDS!

venmo
Linda Brandt
@Linda-Brandt-2



zelle
Linda Brandt
760-578-5830





VCAAC 2026 CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2026



2026 Ventura County A.A. Convention

A.A.'s Legacy of Service

AA, Al-Anon, Alateen, ACA, Friends & Family
Meetings in English, Spanish & ASL | All are Welcome!

Experience a Full Weekend of Fantastic Speakers, Marathon Meetings & Special Events (All Main Speaker Recordings included with price of registration by Sound Solutions)

Join us Friday morning for our off-site Golf Tournament, the Saturday Al-Anon Speaker Luncheon, and the Saturday Night Grand Banquet with Speaker (feel free to dress to impress!)

Plan ahead for our popular Saturday Evening Ice Cream Social and our newly added Sunday Breakfast with Speaker.

Participate in Opportunity Raffle, Relaxing Sound Bath, Young Peoples Friday Karaoke, Saturday Rule 62 Comedy Entertainment, and our Sunday Morning Dove Release.

Visit our AA Archives Room, Al-Anon Country Store and our Atrium full of Memorabilia Apparel, Personalized Mugs, Information and Al-Anon Basket Raffle.

These events do adhere to maximum seating and tend to sell out early.

Online Registration opens May 1st 2026
Don't miss out on any of the Fun & Fellowship

MAKE IT A "STAYCATION"
Reduced-rate room block at Hyatt Regency with complimentary self-parking for overnight guests. This discount is not available if you book through outside booking reservations agencies and only available via the link on our website, www.Vcaac.org.

Reservation questions? Contact Pegi S. at 805-857-4436 (text friendly). Group# G-VC26

SCAN QR FOR INFO
vcaac.org



Alateen Meetings & Announcements

2026
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ALATEEN CONFERENCE
(PENDING FINAL APPROVAL)



FRIDAY, JULY 10TH TO SUNDAY, JULY 12TH
UNIVERSITY OF REDLANDS
1200 E COLTON AVE, REDLANDS CA 92373


FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
BERNADETTE H. SCAC-CHAIRPERSON@SCWS-AL-ANON.ORG

A Day at a Time Alateen


In Person at Nate's Place
3840 W Channel Islands Blvd.
Oxnard, CA 93035

TUESDAYS at 7:15pm-8:15pm


This is a meeting for teens from ages 12-18 whose lives have been or are being affected by the effects of anyone's drinking. This meeting has no dues or fees.



For more information contact Bear at (805)766-7401 or visit the QR Code

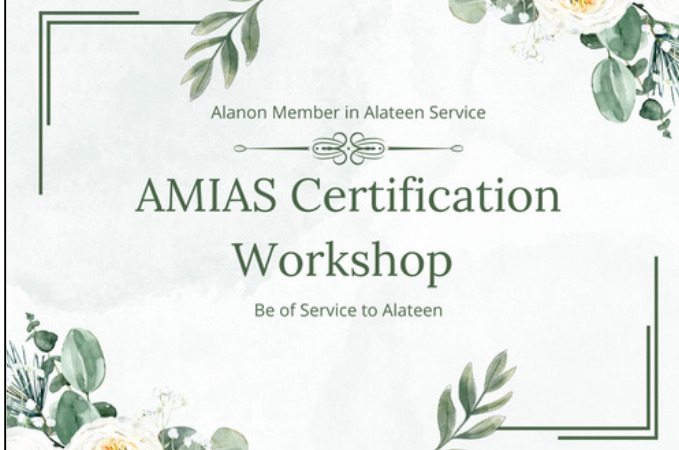


Alanon Member in Alateen Service



AMIAS Certification Workshop

Be of Service to Alateen



JUNE 14 7-9PM
JULY 7-9PM
Zoom ID: 898 0165 9827
Passcode: AMIAS2026

Ventura County Announcements & Information

By the Numbers

Our district currently hosts 70 meetings each week

- Agoura Hills - 14
- Camarillo - 5
- Fillmore - 2
- Ojai - 4
- Oxnard - 13
- Santa Paula - 4
- Simi Valley - 6
- Thousand Oaks - 6
- Moorpark - 1
- Ventura - 11
- Westlake Village - 5

Note: some of these are Zoom only

Fast Facts

- All meetings have a CMA
- 18 meetings need a Group Representatives
- ... but that means 51 meetings have a Group Representatives!
- 6 meetings have an Alt. Group Representative. Please encourage a member of your meeting to volunteer as Alternate GR!

2026 AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manuals are at the LDC!

505 Poli Street, Suite 307, Ventura, CA
Behind City Hall off of back parking lot, 3rd floor

Thursdays: 11am – 3pm
Saturdays: 10am – 12pm

Please call (805) 907-1299 to confirm store is open or to make a personal appointment.

Committee Meetings

All on Zoom, ID: 895 8040 4416; Password: 121212

LDC Committee - 2nd Monday of every even months at 1-2:30PM at the LDC and on Zoom

Finance - 3rd Tuesday of the month, reach out to treasurer@alanonventura.org for meeting time and place

Budget - 1st Tuesday of even months at 2:30 PM

Website - 1st Tuesdays of even months at 7PM

Service Coordinators & Officers Committee Meeting - 3rd Thursday of odd months at 7PM

General Board Meeting with all Group Reps - 3rd Thurs of even months 7PM

Service Area Announcements

Serenity By The Sea

Serenity by the Sea was a great success—lots of recovery, great speakers, marathon meetings, food and fellowship, and service opportunities for all.

VCAAC

The Ventura County AA Convention with Al-Anon participation is September 11–13th. Online Registration is now open. See the VCAAC website for more details or call Sara R. at 805-750-4545.

4th of July Parade

The City of Ventura Fourth of July Parade is coming up. We have a booth. Volunteers are needed. See the website or call Newt G. at 310-704-9223 for more details.

AFA Magazine Campaign

Cooperating with the Professional Community is sending hard copies of the Magazine “Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism,” to all the meetings. Please take a copy and pass it out to a professional.

Workshops

Does anyone want to do a workshop? Any meeting or group of meetings can put on a workshop for all to come to. See your Group Rep or Newt G. for more info.

Gratitude Fair


The District 12 Ventura County Gratitude Fair is coming up October 17, 2026, at Saint Columba Church in Camarillo. More details to come.



Southern California Events

District 63 Al-Anon Workshop

Detachment with Love



Al-Anon Panelists:
Robin R. - Huntington Beach Jim M. - Artesia
Fred A. - Huntington Beach Yolanda V.

Join your Al-Anon District 63 Representatives and our Guest Panelists as we discuss how to separate ourselves from the adverse affects of another person's alcoholism. We will be providing CAL-approved handout materials and time for Q&A followed by open sharing, time permitting.

DATE: June 13, 2026 **TIME:** 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
LOCATION: St. Wilfrid's Episcopal Church - Sacquety Hall
18631 Chapel Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92646

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Questions? Email your District Representatives at:
Mindy (Secretary): FogcuttersD63@gmail.com
Diane (District Rep): District63DR@gmail.com

Please Join Us...

for
A FUNDRAISING EVENT BENEFITING THE
**50TH ANNUAL
AFG CONVENTION**

with
**AMERICA'S PREMIER A CAPPELLA
DOO WOP GROUP**
Singing Your Favorite Songs from the 50s and 60s

on
Saturday, July 25, 2026, 6pm

Dinner & Show
Door Prize & Opportunity Drawing
Al-Anon Jeopardy Game

LOCATION:
First UMC of Orange, 161 S. Orange St., Orange, CA

TICKET INFO:
Advance Ticket Sales Until July 18: 1 for \$35 / 2 for \$60
At the Door Tickets: \$40
email: fundraiser@afgconvention.org
for payment information

Dress in your Best Doo Wop Style!
Think: Pink Ladies | The Greasers | Poodle Skirts | Leather Jackets!!

Southern California World Service Area

Special Assembly BYLAWS AND POLICIES

Meeting Information
9AM - Noon
Saturday July 25, 2026

For information, visit:
scws-al-anon.org/area-assembly-information

Meeting ID 883 5284 2556
Passcode Bylaws26

Southern California Events

Southern California World Service Area

Public Outreach Workshop

Saturday June 20, 2026 10:00 AM - Noon

Meeting ID 885 5785 1543
Passcode Outreach26



Great Fellowship DISTRICT 33 PRESENTS: **Wonderful Recovery**

2026 Surrender To Soar

District 33 Alathon

Picnic Potluck **Amazing Silent Auction** **Entertainment**

June 27th, 2026
9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Diamond Bar United Church of Christ,
2335 S Diamond Bar Blvd, Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Opening Speaker: Lil S.	OC Men's Panel: Ajit S., Wyatt H., Steve M.	Closing Spiritual Speaker: Betty Ann Z. Woodland Hills, CA
Family Speakers: Cathy S., Al-Anon Curt S., AA Christa S.	From Alateen to Alanon: Bernadette H., Kelly L., and Molly T.	

Contact: Dist33alathonchair26@gmail.com for more details.

Looking Back



Serenity by the Sea

"I went to the main speaker on Friday night and it put my problems into perspective. The light and joy the speaker emanated, even while recounting painful memories was inspiring—a real testament to the program. This is why attending these events is so important for my recovery: to hear my same recovery tools being used in even the most dire of circumstances."

-Jeff M.

"The Friday night Al-Anon hometown speaker, Robin N., from Carpinteria was inspirational and it was fun to connect and share experience, strength, and hope with a casual vibe by the sea."

-Sara R.

Thank you for reading!

AL-ANON/ALATEEN FAMILY GROUPS VENTURA COUNTY	<u>805-253-7188</u>
<u>www.AlanonVentura.org</u>	P.O. Box 728 Camarillo, CA 93011-0728
