

*District Archives
Early 1961*

San Marco Family Group

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP HEADQUARTERS, INC.

1960 PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE GROUPS

Dear Fellow Members of Al-Anon and Alateen:

Again it is time to report to you about our Headquarters; how we operate with the contributions you gave us for the many services to your groups. During 1960, 375 new groups registered but 175 old ones disbanded, so that actually there was an increase of about 200 groups, making our total number of registered groups over 1500.

Our 50% increase of letters mailed (28,914) was due in part to the Convention activity in Long Beach last July and to the new activity, our first World Service Conference to be held in New York, April 20-22. There was a steady stream of requests for help from individuals; letters to groups with problems; inquiries from doctors, clergymen and welfare agencies, due to many articles about Al-Anon and Alateen in magazines and newspapers, made possible through the endeavors of our hard working Public Information committee and letters to families of alcoholics in AA in prisons and hospitals. Over 42,000 Forums were mailed out.

There was a 33% increase in cash receipts resulting in an increase in the volume of detail handled by the bookkeeping, filing and general staff work. There was a substantial increase in the sale of books and the literature sales. The literature sales are being sustained and a large inventory of both is on hand. As with AA, the sales of books and literature represent an important part of our revenue. A total of 834 groups contributed, representing only 55% as against 63% of the total number last year, indicating that the increase in contributions was not keeping pace with the growth in the number of groups. However, it is hoped that with the better communication made possible through the establishment of the World Service Conference, a larger number of groups will be made to realize the importance of financial support of Headquarters. We are so in need of one more paid staff member but until money is more available, our present staff and volunteers must carry the burden.

Our bookkeeper, not an Al-Anon member, is paid for part time work, but most usually puts in a full day's work. She is a devoted soul who thinks this fellowship is one of most importance for daily living.

We also had to expand our working area and purchase office equipment to enable our present staff to work more quickly and efficiently. We cannot praise our volunteers enough. They are enthusiastic and loyal but our need for more is ever present. Our public information, publicity, institutions and literature committees consist of volunteers and it is difficult at times to replace them when the need arises.

I will always feel deeply grateful and privileged to have been a part of this growth and to have worked here at Headquarters with Lois as a volunteer since its beginning. What I have gained through this program has been brought sharply into focus to me since the recent loss of my husband who had almost ten years of sobriety.

Headquarters sends warmest regards to each of you for continued peace and serenity.

Cordially,

Anne
Anne H. Bingham
President