Arlington District (03)
District Report
As of September 2020

• Seven groups in district

• District meetings are quarterly, with check-ins as needed in between

• As of mid-March, all meeting facilities were shut down
  • One very small group suspended meetings altogether
  • The Spanish-speaking group, also small, continues to meet via teleconference
  • The remaining 5 groups set up Zoom meetings and continue to operate that way, in at least two cases averaging 40-60 participants

• All 6 virtual groups have set up instructions on the Northern Virginia Service Center website about how to gain access to their meetings
  • Because of early “Zoom bombing” and anonymity concerns, all but one group decided they wanted a “privacy buffer” for their meetings, either listing contact information for the DR, who serves as a gatekeeper to pass on meeting information, or providing a link to a group email account that is monitored by one or more members
  • The Spanish-speaking group does list their teleconference information on the NVSC website

• Group emails/newsletters are being used by several of the groups to send out:
  • Requests for volunteers to chair, lead, host, and read the Steps/Tradition at upcoming meetings (some use “Sign-Up Genius” to do this)
  • Listing of who has volunteered for those roles at the upcoming meeting
  • Information on how to donate to the group online
  • Attachments, such as flyers for workshops and other special events/meetings
  • Links to other pertinent information or resources, such as the new Al-Anon app, the NVSC and WSO websites for purchasing literature, etc.

• At least several of the groups maintain rosters to enable members to keep in touch between meetings

• Groups have set up on-line and/or mail-in processes to collect donations

• Group treasurers are in communication with the district treasurer for guidance about making donations to higher levels of service, setting up fee-free accounts with banks or credit unions, and on-line donation and payment options

• Service positions within groups are generally filled — all have GRs, 4 also have AGRs, all have treasurers (in one case the GR performs double duty)