

VA Area District Representative Report

2021 Fall Assembly

Date of Meeting: Oct 16-17, 2021

District Name and Number: Albemarle District, #001

I remain very grateful for all of the Albemarle District GRs and Officers, who have persistently been engaged and dedicated to their groups and to the district; they are doing an amazing job and I feel so fortunate to serve with them.

This report includes news and information that has occurred since the spring 2021 assembly.

Our district normally has meetings every day of the week and there are currently (9) active meetings, some meeting virtually only and some in hybrid status. (3) of our meetings have been suspended as of the onset of the pandemic. We have district meetings once a month, and they are generally pretty well attended.

I feel amazed and encouraged that even with hybrid and virtual meeting statuses, group contributions to the district are on target for our project budget. We are holding steady the rate of contributions nearly identical to last year, which was actually an increase from 2020. In the coming months we will discuss the possibility of sending a year-end contribution to WSO, as a way to offload some excess funds.

For the first time in years we did not have a spring workshop, nor are we planning a fall workshop this year. It feels like people are spread pretty thin in our district, and that we needed that time and energy to direct into other areas.

Our Alateen meeting continues to meet every week on Monday nights. It seems like its attendance has been down a little lately. The Alateens continue to meet virtually. Albemarle District continues to welcome participation in our meeting from teens all over the state and beyond; please email Sonia at senglot12@gmail.com for the joining information.

All of the meetings seem to be maintaining a core attendance despite being virtual and hybrid, and in fact I am told that one meeting which just went hybrid is increasing in size each week. We are still attracting newcomers, and we have a district email address which is regularly monitored, and when someone reaches out asking about meetings in the area, they are welcomed and sent a list of virtual meetings, or connected with our Alateen contact. This email address gets a lot of traffic.

I am happy to report that someone stepped up quite a while ago to stand for our next panel's DR position, so we are in good shape in that regard, as well as there being enthusiasm and interest in other district offices. Public outreach is receiving a healthy shot in the arm, with two people moving it forward into the next panel with communications and a special project.

Respectfully submitted by Katherine P., Albemarle District (001) Representative, Panel 59