VA Area 057-002 District Representative Report 02/19/22

"If Al-Anon is to continue to exist, it must continue to grow. There is no standing still without retrogression.

Al-Anon must continue to grow if it is going to fulfill its primary purpose of reaching millions who need Al-Anon's help but who are not yet aware of the existence of our fellowship."

— Leis W.

District Name & number: Springfield Annandale District 057-002

Meeting Status: Nine active meetings, eight active groups—one group has two meetings, two inactive groups. We have two in-person and seven virtual meetings.

District Representative (DR) Name and Contact Information: Chris B (cbnp15@verizon.net), 703-389-1405, temporary DR until a permanent DR can be found from within District 057-002

DR Transition: I continue to transition into the temporary DR position with excellent assistance from the former DR, Joanna C. I received a warm welcome when introduced to the Group Representatives (GR), Current Mailing Addressees (CMA) at the January District Meeting. I chaired the January and February District meetings and am becoming more familiar with the District, its members and ongoing issues. I attended all of the District meetings in January and my first impression is that the meetings are strong with much good recovery. We have many members who are mature in the program and capable of filling all of our vacant service positions[©]

Events/Projects completed by District/Group since last VAWSC/Assembly:

• **Hug and Cookie**, December 2021: We had excellent speakers and 36 attendees at this virtual event. Deborah O. did an excellent job of organizing and hosting. The attendees expressed their appreciation to Deborah for her willingness to serve and the wonderful job she did making this event a great success.

Events or projects the District/Group is planning:

- Permanent Electronic Meeting Policy: We discussed the Area's policy for permanent electronic
 meetings at our February District meeting and the possibility of including an outside permanent
 electronic meeting joining District 057-002. The consensus was that District 002 out of a sense of
 inclusivity would welcome a new permanent electronic meeting from within or without the
 Virginia Area.
- Assembly update: There was a consensus that groups should be able to cover the cost of attending, even in a virtual status, from operating budgets, but was aware that there is an

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option to ask for assistance from the District or Area as needed. GRs had no problem with a virtual attendee paying to attend.

- Assessing Alateen Sponsor interest. District has only 3 Alateen sponsors. We have publicized the Alateen sponsor training and will continue to assess interest in sponsorship.
- **Group update.** We are working with Area Group Records Coordinator to close Springfield East AFG, inactive since 2019. The other group has only been inactive since January 2022.

Successes/Things that are going well – none too small or too large to share!

- Ongoing transition of new DR.
- Hug and Cookie Workshop.
- Meetings are well-attended with good recovery. Groups have attendees from Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Nebraska, and Maryland.
- Established GR/CMA group text list. One of the GRs volunteered to manage the list.

Challenges/Things that need attention:

- Filling permanent DR position, three GR positions, District Secretary, District Outreach, alternate WEBEX scheduler-- Building a culture of service.
- Assisting three new GRs in their transition to service.
- Assess willingness within District to become Alateen sponsors.
- Anticipating transition of more groups to in-person meetings and retaining online members
 possibly through hybrid meetings, although that requires greater tech support.