

I am so grateful that, during this chaotic and uncertain time, people made the jump right away to electronic platforms making AFG accessible when we haven't been able to meet face to face. Being concerned about newcomers, we wondered what we could do since we weren't able to hand them a Newcomer Packet. WSO had some good resources for them on the al-anon.org website and in our temporary electronic meetings we pointed newcomers there. Here are some of the resources available there:

- Sample chapters of CAL: <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/feature-publications/>
- Free downloadable options: <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/downloadable-items/>
- Slogans page: <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/al-anon-slogans/>
- Member Blog: <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/member-blog/> which is also available for use for any Al-Anon meeting.
- *The Forum* magazine excerpts: "[The Forum](#)" Magazine Stories
- The 2020 *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* magazine: <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/magazines/afa-magazine/>

There is a project to develop an electronic Packet. There isn't a release date as of yet, but it is expected to be available this year and will work similar to the way that our current eBooks do.

There is a new daily reader coming! This is "a new daily reader that reflects the diversity of the Al-Anon fellowship" and its members as they are today. It will be a collection of single-page meditations (between 200-300 words) that focus on applying Al-Anon principles to a real-life problem or challenge. The Literature committee spent some time clarifying that "diversity" is more than gender, age, skin color, ethnic background, sexual orientation, or religion. It is anything that makes us feel different from other people in the room. Diversity can also mean a new viewpoint—a fresh way of looking at recovery. They hoped that the book will show, through the diverse experiences of our members, how universally the Al-Anon program works, regardless of our differences. I am excited and eagerly anticipate this newest addition to our rich treasure trove of CAL.

Electronic version of the *Al-Anon Newcomer Packet* (K-10): As was mentioned in the most recent Chairperson of the Board letter, this project was recently approved for development, and Staff is implementing a previous Literature Committee recommendation to eliminate duplication of information in the *Packet*. No release date has been set yet, but the project is in progress and expected to be available this year through a variety of vendors, just as our current eBooks are, such as the electronic versions of *How Al-Anon Works* (eB-22), *Courage to Change* (eB-16), *Hope for Today* (eB-27), etc., and it should work in the same way that the eBooks do. Announcements will be made when it is available. In the meantime, electronic meetings can provide the following URL to newcomers so they can sign up to receive an email with newcomer information: al-anon.org/welcome. The newcomer will be prompted to enter a personal email address to where the digital information will be immediately delivered. Members may wish to share this in their meetings and include it in their meeting formats when welcoming new members.

NEW DAILY READER (working title): The Literature Committee will soon be reviewing the near final draft of our next daily reader! Once it has given approval, the draft will proceed with Policy review and final review by the Executive Director. But there will still remain much work to be done, including selection of a title by the Titling Committee, developing an index, designing the look of the book, and translation into French and Spanish so that all three editions can be released at the same time. (That last item is a year-and-a-half project in itself.) Our goal is to have the book ready for the 2023 Al-Anon International Convention in New Mexico. That sounds like a long way off, but the view from here is a busy one.

Members Blog: Have you read or written a sharing for the Member Blog? Have you encouraged other members to do so? Please check it out at al-anon.org/member-blog. Each month there are new topics added, including the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service.

"CAL Corner" Topics: This department is featured each month in *The Forum* magazine. It contains members' sharings on how a particular piece of our literature has enhanced their recovery. January's topic is *Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses* (B-29). In February, the department will focus on the 25th anniversary of *Courage to Be Me* (B-26), and in March on *Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships* (B-33).

Sharings needed for "CAL Corner": Please urge members to share in writing about how a piece of CAL has helped them with their recovery. We are currently looking for sharings about *Hope & Understanding for Parents & Grandparents* (P-94), *Al-Anon's Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions* (B-8), *Living Today in Alateen* (B-26) *Discovering Choices* (B-20), and *Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses* (B-29). Please see the writing guideline for "CAL Corner" in the Guidelines & Procedures folder under the "Library" folders in the Literature Coordinator community of AFG Connects or at: al-anon.org/pdf/CALcornerSharingRevised%202018.pdf.

Writing about CAL for Area Newsletters: Please use your Area newsletter to share how local members are spreading the word about CAL or to publish their reviews of various CAL.