

# Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism

## Writing Guideline



### The goals of *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* are:

- to help potential Al-Anon members get past the obstacles we typically face before we reach out for help, i.e., denial; not wanting to rock the boat; shame and embarrassment to let people know there is a drinking problem; the “myth” that Al-Anon Family Groups is religious; resentment that “they” have a problem, not me, etc.
- to let potential members know that we understand
- to give comfort and offer a possible solution
- to give potential members basic information about Al-Anon and Alateen and let them know we’ll be there if and when they want help

Without member sharings, *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism*, our most comprehensive annual public outreach magazine, wouldn’t be possible. Within the last year, Al-Anon members have distributed nearly 400,000 copies throughout the U.S., Canada, Bermuda, and Puerto Rico. Please help us continue to make this the most successful member participation outreach project in our history!

Remembering what it was like  
to be a newcomer  
may inspire you to write the words  
that will resonate with a potential member.

Please consider writing a few words about any of the bulleted items (word count: 50 – 300). Other suggestions for topics: Remembering how difficult it was to go to your first meeting—what helped you take that first big step? Did you hear anything early on that made you want to come back?

You have something to say to a potential newcomer that will help them find their way to us and we want to hear it.

See back for important information

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Attach this to your sharing

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Name\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Regardless of how you want your name to appear in *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism*, please include your name and address so we can acknowledge your submission. Also, if your article is published, we will send you a complimentary copy of the issue in which your article appears.

\_\_\_\_ Please use my first name, last initial, and state or province for credit

\_\_\_\_ Please sign me "Anonymous"

Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.,  
c/o *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism*  
1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617;  
by fax to (757) 563-1656; by e-mail to [wso@al-anon.org](mailto:wso@al-anon.org);  
or submit on-line on the Members' Website, [al-anon.org/sharing](http://al-anon.org/sharing)

**THANK YOU** for sharing your experience, strength, and hope.

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**\*\*IMPORTANT — please read\*\***

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Sharings for *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* become property of Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. and may be used in whole or in part in the development of Al-Anon material—printed and/or electronic. Due to the number of stories we receive, we cannot guarantee publication of any sharing at any time.

I have read and understand that my sharing may be used in print as well as on the Internet. If used, it will be signed as I indicated above.

Please photocopy this sheet and share it with others.