

the Roadrunner



Volume 50, Issue 4

Happy 55th Anniversary to *The Roadrunner!* ([see p. 6](#))



Al-Anon Carries Me

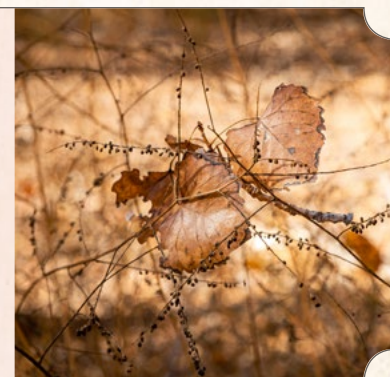
I walked into my first Al-Anon meeting on July 2, 1986, at the old Friendship Club in Santa Fe at noon on a Wednesday. It was the last place I wanted or felt I needed to be. After all, he was the alcoholic and the problem; there was nothing wrong with me.

At that time this meeting was the 3rd oldest in town. The second oldest was held Monday evenings at the Guadalupe Parish Hall, and the oldest was Thursday evenings at the St. John's United Methodist Church. Today, after the pandemic, the Wednesday meeting is now the oldest in Santa Fe.

Many new meetings have been started throughout the years, and some are still in place, and some have faded away for various reasons. Recovery remains strong and stable, even though we have lost many seasoned members. Those members gave the gift of recovery to those coming in, and thankfully many of those incoming people stayed to carry a vital message. We have been blessed in Santa Fe to have many members move into our city to add their voices and messages of experience, strength, and hope. ([cont p. 3](#))

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New Mexico/El Paso Area 38 Officers and Coordinators

As we approach the start of 2026, we thank our outgoing Area Officers and Coordinators for a job well done and welcome those who will begin their service on January 1, 2026. Thank you for being of service!

Panel 63 (2023-2025)

OFFICERS

Delegate: Rocio N.
Alternate Delegate: Mary Lou J.
Chairperson: Parker J.
Alternate Chairperson: Navida J.
Secretary: Terry A.
Treasurer: Carla T.

COORDINATORS

Alateen Coordinator: Martha G.
Alateen Process Person: Teresa C.
Archives Coordinator: Angela P.
AV & IT Coordinator: Stacey G.
Electronic Media Coordinator: Rosa C.
Group Records Coordinator: Gloria Z.
Institutions Coordinator: Patricia C.
Literature & Forum Coordinator: Mari Nieves C.
Minorities Coordinator: Irene G.
Roadrunner Editor: Sara L.
Public Outreach Coordinator: Dorrey W.
Translation Coordinator: Silvia B.
Website Coordinator: Mark R.

Panel 66 (2026-2028)

OFFICERS

Delegate: Parker J.
Alternate Delegate: Navida J.
Chairperson: Mary Lou J.
Alternate Chairperson: Rhonda P.
Secretary: Sara L.
Treasurer: Rody C.B.

COORDINATORS

Alateen Coordinator: Dolores T.
Alateen Process Person: Mari Nieves C.
Archives Coordinator: Martha G.
AV & IT Coordinator: Bianca B.
Electronic Media Coordinator: Debie R.
Group Records Coordinator: Rosa C.
Institutions Coordinator: Silvia B.
Literature & Forum Coordinator: Monica M.
Minorities Coordinator: Brenda O.
Roadrunner Editor: Nancy R.
Public Outreach Coordinator: Astrid G.
Translation Coordinator: Sonia M.
Website Coordinator: David T.

2026 Area Calendar

February 28

Spring AWSC
Socorro, NM

Dates TBD

Spring Assembly
Ruidoso, NM

Area 38 Facebook:

www.facebook.com/NMEP.Al.Anon

Area 38 Website:

www.nmal-anon.com

AIS/INTERGROUP LIAISONS (AISL)

English: Frank L.
Hispanic Districts 12 & 14: Maria G.
Hispanic District 15: Lupe M.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES (DR)

(For map of districts see back page.)

District 1: John C.
District 3: Rhonda P.
District 4: Stacey G.
District 5: Danielle B.
District 6: Navida J.
District 9: Sue M.
District 11: Amanda M.
District 12: Luz S.
District 14: Astrid G.
District 15: Martha G.

DISTRICT VACANCIES

DR District 2, 7, 8, & 10

(cont from p. 1)

I am so grateful I stayed. Without Al-Anon, I believe I would not have the incredible life, relationships, and a Power Greater than Myself to carry me through life's certain trials and low spots.

–Juanita U.



Get in the Car

Do you remember the Al-Anon service pamphlet, “Get in the Car”? I did get in the car and started doing Al-Anon service—and that’s why I have had the privilege of serving as the New Mexico/El Paso (NM/EP) Area Delegate. As the Service Manual says, **“Participation also responds to our spiritual needs. All of us deeply desire to belong.”* These words truly resonate with me. Service has always given me a sense of belonging—every single time I raise my hand, I feel that I am part of something greater.

I attended my first NM/EP Assembly just a year after joining Al-Anon. At that time, Juanita was the outgoing Delegate and Rick was the incoming Delegate. Juanita was invited to be the Saturday night speaker. Even though I had only recently come to Al-Anon, hearing her story was the first time I truly felt that I belonged. Her experience moved me deeply as she shared about her life before Al-Anon, her journey in the program, and the present. I identified with being an adult child of an alcoholic and with her struggles before she found recovery. When I learned Juanita was the outgoing Delegate, I didn’t even know what the role was about. She seemed serene, fulfilled, and happy—in my own distorted perception, she seemed perfect. I wanted what she had, and I decided that to be like her, I needed to become a Delegate one day.

So, it became my goal to serve as Area Delegate. I thought that being Delegate meant I would achieve what Juanita had—happiness and perfection. I started doing a lot of Al-Anon service, hoping to reach that goal, but as I began to serve, I discovered something important: I didn’t have to be perfect. In fact, the position didn’t make me perfect at all, and I’m grateful for that realization. The real growth happened through the service itself—the work I put in, the willingness to raise my hand even when I didn’t feel ready, and learning to rely on others, especially my sponsor. At first, I believed I had to memorize the Service Manual to be a “real” Delegate, and I felt like an impostor because I hadn’t. But I kept raising my hand anyway, and I’m so glad I did, because I learned by doing. ([cont p. 5](#))



Everything you need to know about Albuquerque AIS

An Al-Anon Information Service, also known as an Intergroup, is a local service established and maintained by one or more Districts or by groups located close enough geographically or connected by language to one another for easy access and communications.

–From 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Groups At Work, page 65

The Albuquerque Al-Anon Information Service, Inc. (AIS) was established and is maintained by the Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups within the New Mexico/El Paso, TX Area (NM/EP Area) for the effective and efficient release of Al-Anon/Alateen information to the friends and families of alcoholics.

Services Provided by AIS

- **Albuquerque AIS Office** is located at 1927 Alvarado Drive NE and is the official Literature Distribution Center (LDC) for Conference-Approved Literature (CAL) for New Mexico and El Paso.
- **Weekly Tuesday Email Newsletter** provides timely information about NM/EP Area activities, WSO publications, and services and currently reaches over 1,500 members. To sign up, go to the contact page of the website. To advertise local Al-Anon events, please submit them to Maggie Schmitt at mmsnm88@gmail.com and they will be added within a week.
- **24-Hour Telephone Answering Service** provides meeting information and receives and supports 12th Step callers at 505-262-2177. Calls are answered by the part-time office manager, office volunteers, on-call volunteers, or the answering service.
- **Website www.aisnm.org** provides information about Al-Anon, meetings, CAL, volunteer opportunities, making monetary contributions, and general information about AIS.
- **Public Outreach** coordinates volunteers affiliated with AIS to attend public events related to health and sobriety to provide information about Al-Anon and Alateen, CAL, and meeting listings.


Albuquerque AIS
1927 Alvarado Drive NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110
505-262-2177
abqaisldc@gmail.com
www.aisnm.org

(cont from p. 3)

If you're reading this, I invite you: consider standing for service. Not necessarily to become Delegate right away—because yes, it's a commitment, and yes, it's a lot of work, including personal growth and sometimes tough, honest conversations with my sponsor. But the rewards are immense: friendship, meaning, and growth. Service helped save my life, even before I worked all the Steps. Thank you for being part of my recovery and for helping me understand the true meaning of service.

—Rocio N.

*From: 2022-2025 *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P24/27)*, v. 4, *Al-Anon's Concepts of Service*, p. 190, © 1970 by Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. Reprinted with permission of Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.



My Hope is Huge

December 15, 2025, marks my 7-year anniversary in Al-Anon. Despite being a mental health professional, I had no idea what Al-Anon was when I first entered the program in 2018.

I was depressed, and I had become completely detached from my spirit. It was a very dark and lonely time. The pain from this emotional void was excruciating, and I heard in the meeting that Al-Anon offered hope, so I just kept coming back.

As I started to stabilize, I was able to better understand Al-Anon and participate more effectively. The emphasis on higher power helped me to become aware of how removed I had become from the divine and all the hope and trust that this connection offers.



Well, seven years later, I have a sponsor, I am doing service, I share at meetings, and I have Al-Anon friends with whom I love to spend time and with whom I can reason things out when my life becomes unmanageable. I love this program and am forever grateful for my expanding toolbox of coping skills, hope, self-acceptance, communication, and joy. My hope is huge, and I look forward to every new opportunity (of which there are many) for growth in recovery.

—Rhonda P.



JULY 1984

VOL. 9 NO. 3

Happy 55th Anniversary to *The Roadrunner*!

According to this share from the July 1984 issue, *The Roadrunner* began its journey in December of 1970. What a sweet journey it's had, and may its future continue to soar and unite the New Mexico/El Paso Area!

Dear Roadrunner,

Please keep your issues a comin'!

It's a joy to read it to see what's going on down there in New Mexico.

I think you and Northern California's Al-Anon/Alateen 12-Stepper are about the same age - Born 1970 approx?

My love to all!

Irma

ROADRUNNER HISTORY

When the history of the Roadrunner was mentioned at our Spring Assembly WSC meeting, no one at that meeting, other than Ona G., was familiar with its origin. Our editor has asked if I would share it with you.

In 1969, our Assembly was asked if they thought we were big enough to have a newsletter. They thought not. In 1970, copies of newsletters from 9 different areas were brought back from the World Service Conference, and presented to the Spring Assembly. At the Fall Assembly we decided to give it a try.

Helen W. (then of Albuquerque) volunteered to do the editing, so all articles for publication were first sent to her. Madge P. of Columbus volunteered to do the publishing, so the articles were edited and put together in Albuquerque, then sent to Madge in Columbus.

Madge bought a \$29.95 copier with her own funds, the kind which required a minute or two for each copy, and thus our Area gave birth to a quarterly Newsletter, subscription price \$1.00 per year.

Then, the Newsletter needed a name. Each Group in the Area was asked to submit a name, or names, from members of their Group. The winning Group would receive a free one-year subscription. The name of "Roadrunner" was submitted by Ona G. of the Silver City Group, and chosen by the Area Officers. Madge drew the bird which still appears on the Newsletter, and our first issue was in time for Christmas, 1970.

Do you enjoy receiving your Roadrunner? Do you enjoy reading it and sharing it with your group? If you do, please keep it alive. Send news of your Group and District activities to your editor. Share your experience, strength and hope with others through your Newsletter. Your editor cannot print what you don't write. Don't wait for George to do it - you do it. Without your support, your Newsletter will die.

Joy M.



Volumes of Fun

Last year, I began adding volume numbers to *The Roadrunner* newsletter in order to provide more continuity. Years now have their own volume number (which continue in consecutive order), and each edition has an issue number in order of when it is published throughout the year (1-4).

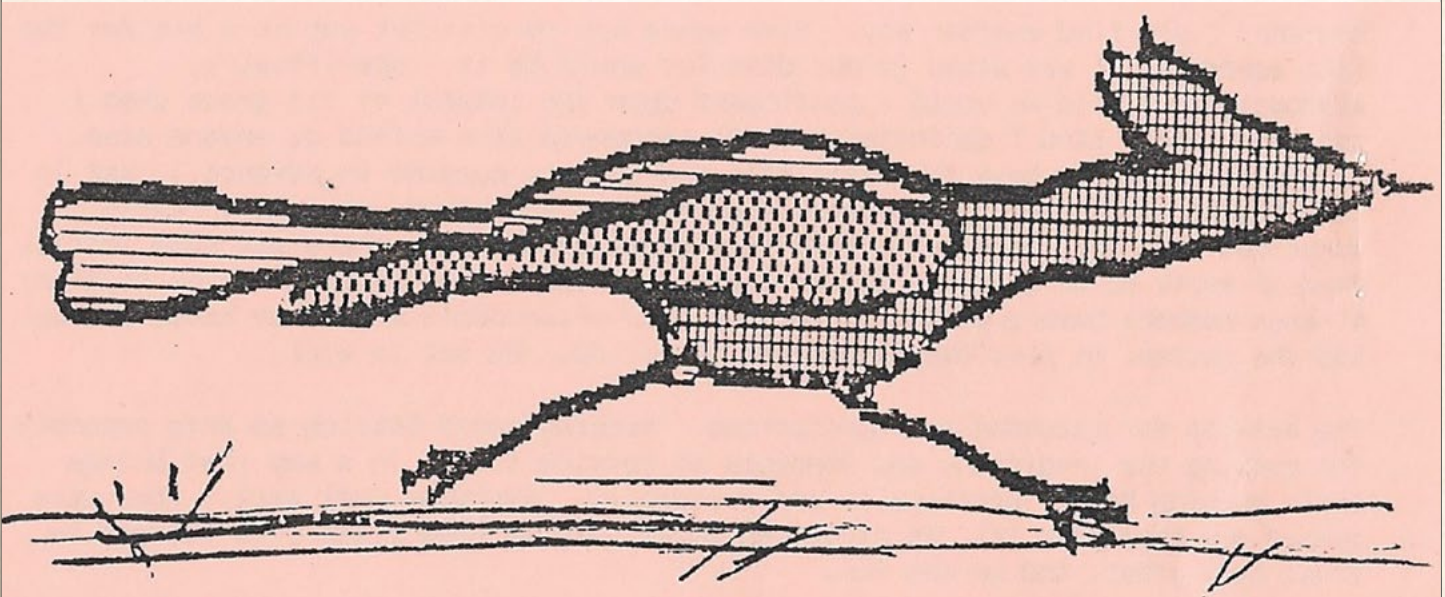
I had several options when deciding how to select volume numbers: I could create my own numbering system from scratch, borrow from the story on p. 6 and proceed in chronological order from 1970, or make use of a previous numbering system. Perhaps unsurprisingly for an Al-Anon, who tends to complicate things, I chose the last option.

Our Area's oldest known surviving copy of *The Roadrunner* is from 1984, and it is listed as "Volume 9." While that doesn't sync up with a starting year of 1970, that same volume numbering system was followed faithfully by four newsletter editors over the course of at least 11 years (demonstrated by 19 surviving issues), which I consider quite an accomplishment. After that, only a handful of our Area newsletters list a volume number at all, and the ones that do appear to be random numbers. So, as an homage to the unsung heroes of volume numbering from the 1980s and 90s, I decided to continue their numbering system in my newsletters. It will be up to future newsletter editors to decide if they want to keep it going or carve a different path.

I love reading past newsletters. They demonstrate the timelessness of the Al-Anon program, and they always provide me with encouragement and inspiration. I hope that someday we can create an online archive so that our members can access past newsletters themselves. Also, if you have any newsletters older than 1984 or from 2009-2014, please let us know because they contain pearls of wisdom that we'd love to add to our archives.

As I pass the mantle to our exuberant new editor, Nancy R., I'm reminded of how quickly time flies when you're having fun. Thanks for coming along on this journey with me, and please keep submitting your shares and Area announcements because they really do inspire folks to keep coming back!

Love in Service,
Sara L.
Roadrunner Editor, Panel 63



Cover art from *Roadrunner* 1990-1992, Editors: Dorothy Aakhus & Carole Leonard

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

The group supports Al-Anon/Alateen financially at all levels of service by contributing to:

- Their District
- Al-Anon Information Service (AIS)
- Area 38
- World Service Office (WSO)

→ Read more about Group Finances/Budget in the *2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*, p. 52.

How to Contribute

When making group contributions, please provide the group's official name and the WSO ID number (*see p. 9*) on the payment.

Your District:

Contact your District Representative (DR) or the Area 38 Group Records Coordinator, Gloria Z., at area38records@yahoo.com to find out what District you belong to and how to donate.

Albuquerque AIS (Al-Anon Information Service):

www.aisnm.org

Area 38 New Mexico/El Paso:

www.nmal-anon.com

or make a check or money order payable to
"New Mexico Area 38 Al-Anon Inc." and mail to:

Carla Thomas
4512 Arrowhead Ave. NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114

WSO (World Service Office):

www.al-anon.org/contributions

or make a check or money order payable to
"AFG Inc." and mail to:

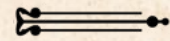
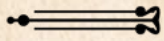
AFG Inc.
1600 Corporate Landing Parkway
Virginia Beach, VA 23454

Hispanic Intergroup in Albuquerque

8520 Marble Ave. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
505-243-6135

Hispanic Intergroup Office in El Paso, TX

3505 Hueco Ave.
El Paso, TX 79903
915-778-3686
www.eptx-al-anon.com



Keeping group information up-to-date is vital to assuring that the most accurate meeting information is provided to persons seeking help in the Al-Anon and Alateen fellowship.

–From 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, p. 46

The TWO most important ways to keep your meeting's information up-to-date is by sending updates and additions to both of the following:

1. Area 38 Group Records Coordinator - Gloria Z. at area38records@yahoo.com

2. WSO website

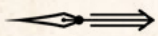
- Go to: www.al-anon.org/for-members/group-resources/group-records
- Click on “Al-Anon Group Change”
- Click on “Update Online” OR download the “Printed Form” and email it to: AFGrecords@al-anon.org

When submitting meeting updates for any of the above, be sure to include:

- The official name of your group
- Your meeting's ID number (*see below*)
- The description of changes (*for GR or CMA, please include the person's name, home address, and email address*)

Also, periodically check that your meeting's information is accurate on the following:

→ WSO website - www.al-anon.org



HOW TO FIND YOUR MEETING ID



The WSO (World Service Office) assigns every meeting an ID number that groups will need in order to make changes to group records. To find out your meeting's ID number online:

1. Go to the WSO's “Find an Al-Anon Meeting” webpage:
www.al-anon.org/al-anon-meetings/find-an-al-anon-meeting
2. Enter the meeting's address (or ZIP Code or City) in the “Enter an Address” field. As you type the address, a list of nearby meetings will be displayed and can be refined.
3. Scroll through the search results in the left panel to find the meeting information, narrowing the search if necessary. The official name of a group is displayed at the top of the meeting details. The WSO ID number is displayed near the end of the meeting information as the “Group ID.”

Acronyms Used in Al-Anon

(Spanish acronyms in italic parenthesis)

AAC	Area Alateen Coordinator
AAPP	Area Alateen Process Person
AFG	Al-Anon Family Group (<i>GFA</i>)
AFGWME	Al-Anon Family Group Which Meets Electronically
AGRC	Area Group Records Coordinator
AIS	Al-Anon Information Service (<i>SIA</i>)
AMIAS	Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service
AWSC	Area World Service Committee (<i>CSMA</i>)
CAL	Conference Approved Literature (<i>LAC</i>)
CMA	Current Mailing Address (<i>DPA</i>)
DR	District Representative (<i>RD</i>)
GEA	Global Electronic Area
GR	Group Representative (<i>RG</i>)
GSO	General Service Office (countries outside of US, Canada, Puerto Rico, and Bermuda)
ISR	Information Service Representative (<i>RSI</i>)
LDC	Literature Distribution Center (<i>CDP</i>)
PI	Public Information
PO	Public Outreach
PSA	Public Service Announcement
SOS	Sharing of Service
SWRDM	Southwest Regional Delegates Meeting
WS	World Service
WSC	World Service Conference (<i>CSM</i>)
WSO	World Service Office (<i>OSM</i>)

SHARES NEEDED

for the Spring Edition
of the Roadrunner

SUGGESTED TOPIC

Using Al-Anon to solve problems

LENGTH

under 400 words

LANGUAGE

English or Spanish

*Also needed: photos of the Ruidoso area!



Send to Nancy by Mon, Jan 12.
AREA38ROADRUNNER@GMAIL.COM

Newsletter Subscriptions

If you would like to receive a digital copy of *The Roadrunner* newsletter as soon as it's published, please send a request to the editor, Nancy R. at Area38Roadrunner@gmail.com. You can also download it for free from the Area 38 website: www.nmal-anon.com. You are also welcome to print your own copies, but we no longer offer print subscriptions.

CURIOUS ABOUT ALATEEN SERVICE?

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

A Al-Anon
M Member
I Involved in
A Alateen
S Service



- Age 21+
- Regular attendance in Al-Anon
- Al-Anon member for at least 2 years
- Actively working the 12 Steps
- Complete a 90-minute training

For more information, contact the
Area 38 Alateen Process Person
Teresa C: FIPCVR@YAHOO.COM



JAMBOREE 2026

The Promises

FEBRUARY 13, 14, 15, 2026
 RADISSON HOTEL EL PASO AIRPORT
 1770 AIRWAY BOULEVARD
 EL PASO, TEXAS

Sobriety on the Border

Information • Call 915.562.4081
 JAMBOREE COMMITTEE: P.O. Box 3115, El Paso, Texas 79923-3115
 All proceeds benefit the operations of the El Paso Central Office

www.aelpaso.org/jamboree

2025 WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE SUMMARY

**Investing in Each Other to
Preserve Our Legacy**

**Invertir los unos en los otros
para preservar nuestro legado**

**S'investir mutuellement
pour préserver notre héritage**

WSC 65th Annual
World Service Conference 2025

Now available at Al-Anon.org
under the Members tab!



al-anon.org/holiday-bundle

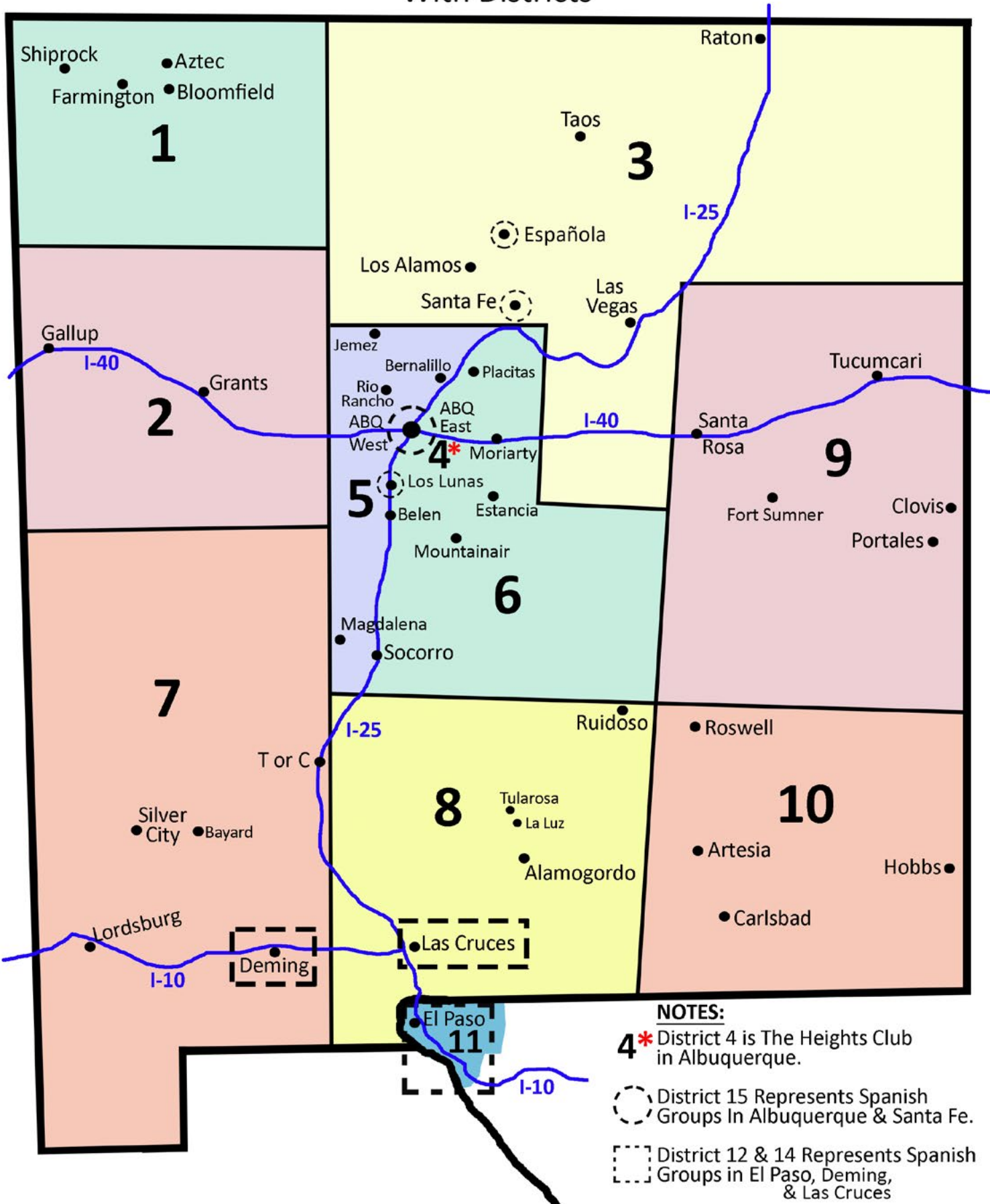
Al-Anon Family Groups Holiday Bundle

- NOW AVAILABLE!



HELP US CELEBRATE 75 YEARS OF RECOVERY! FREE SHIPPING!

AL-ANON AREA 38 - NEW MEXICO / EL PASO MAP

With Districts



NOTES:

- 4*** District 4 is The Heights Club in Albuquerque.
-  District 15 Represents Spanish Groups In Albuquerque & Santa Fe.
-  District 12 & 14 Represents Spanish Groups in El Paso, Deming, & Las Cruces

Area 38 Facebook: www.facebook.com/NMEP.Al.Anon

Area 38 Website: www.nmal-anon.com