

**Area World Service Committee Meeting
August 16, 2014**

CHAIRMAN: Sandy F began the meeting at 12:50 with the Serenity Prayer, Statement of Unity and a welcome to all. Traditions were read by Theresa M, Concepts of Service were read by Shirley M and the Warranties were read by Sharon B. We then continued with introductions. There were 25 present.

SECRETARY-Karen McK: Sandy asked if there were any additions or correction to the minutes from the August 2013 AWSC meeting. There were none. Nancy O moved to accept the minutes as presented. Cindy C seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT- Theresa M

Balance as of 12-31-13	\$32,034.69
Income after 12-31-13	\$15,983.70
Expense after 12-31-13	\$16,931.41
Balance as of 05-12-14	\$31,086.98

ALTERNATE DELEGATE/NEWS LETTER: Ginny C.

The Summer issue of the Al-A-Notes is being sent out next week. I just want to call attention to the two enclosed fliers: one on the Fall Assembly and the other on District 48 Conference in Wilmot, Ohio.

DELEGATE'S REPORT- Rex M

Ginny C took Delegate position for Rex M while I had back surgery April 7, 2014. Ginny did a great job giving her report for Assembly.

Summary's 45 copies for AWSC members. We need members to sign for their copies. We will have extra's for sale if anyone wants to buy them.

Thought Force on Abundance and Spirituality in Money Discussions. We had phone conference calls discussing the different questions. Making changes in writing, This is still in process.

Meet the Board. We are submitting for Akron, Ohio to Meet the Board. We will mail papers to WSO.

Literature Coordinators. New daily reader being discussed.

Thought and Task Forces Up-dates

Work group to assign numbers to lettered Districts in Ohio Area – Phil H

Task Force to add Ohio Al-Anotes to the Ohio area website in addition to printing – Ginny C

COORDINATOR AND STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND CONVENTIONS

ALATEEN- Rose R - No Report

ARCHIVES-Caroline S - No Report

FORUM- Sharon B- No Report

GROUP RECORDS- Phil H

The annual Group Update Report letter will be mailed to every registered Al-Anon group before our Fall Assembly. It is **VITALLY** that groups complete and return this letter to the WSO. This report letter is the opportunity for a group to review and update the information that is on file at the WSO, such as meeting day & time, Current Mailing Address (CMA), Group Representative (GR), etc. If everything on the report is correct, all that needs to be done is to check the box marked "All Information Correct" (or something similar to that) and return it to the WSO. Corrections can be made on the reverse side. I cannot emphasize how important this one piece of correspondence is. So far, in the time period of 1 October 2013 to present, only 39% - yes, I said **THIRTY-NINE PERCENT** of the groups have returned their letter from last year.

**“Group Business
Group Records**

Keeping group information up-to-date is vital to assure that the most accurate meeting information is provided to persons seeking help in the Al-Anon and Alateen fellowship. Accurate records also keep communication flowing between the group and the WSO, and the group and local service arms. It is essential that groups promptly report changes in their meeting, location, meeting day, time, CMA (Current Mailing Address), Group Representative (GR), or phone contacts to their Area Group Records Coordinator or the WSO in writing. Group members can contact their District Representative (DR) to inquire about their Area process to submit group changes. The Area Group Records Coordinator can provide group reports to verify that the information on file is current.”

This is on page 51 of the Al-Anon/Alateen Groups At Work manual. Please help me keep group information current.

Through last night, there were 441 active groups holding a total of 499 meetings. Of those 441 groups, 282 have Group Representatives, or 64%.

There are 138 “Inactive” groups and 5 groups in “No Mail” status. In addition, we’ve received mailings back on 4 additional groups that will probably go on “No Mail” status because the group’s CMA has moved out of state.

PUBLIC OUTREACH- Merri G

We, AFG of Ohio was notified of an up-coming referral to Al-Anon by Dear Abby. The publication date is August 14. Watch your local papers for this article. We have been invited to participate in Ohio’s Rally for Recovery at the State House on September 16, 11:30 to 1:30 on the west lawn. People in recovery from all around Ohio are expected to attend this event. No additional literature will be purchased for this event. This will be the second year of participation. Another event AFG of Ohio has been invited to participate in will be held at Case Western reserve on October 14 and 15. It is an event similar to the Addiction Studies Institute to be held at the Cleveland Marriot. If you could help with this event contact Merri G.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUDGET – Robin R – No report

BY-LAWS & HANDBOOK-Barbara W- No Report

REVIEW AND AUDIT- Louise W- No Report

COMPLIANCE LIASON AND AREA ALATEEN PROCESS PERSON -Janice R – No Report

OHIO AREA CONVENTION AND TWO DAY FALL LIASON – Donna K

I have not been involved with the planning of the 2015 OAC as I had hoped to be. I have been working with Jan S from Mentor on the 2016 OAC She will be talking to the Cleveland reps at the District meeting on Sep 3, 2014 to get their approval of the chairperson, co-chair, and hotel choice. She will be letting our treasurer, Theresa know if her plans are accepted and when she will need the check to reserve the hotel. Anyone who would like to help, please, contact Jan S of Mentor.

I would like to ask for funding to be considered for the Cleveland Office they donate a lot of time and literature to two medical conferences that are held in Cleveland – similar to the one that we fund in Columbus. I will get a KBDM to Sandy before the Fall Assembly.

REGISTRATION – Eleanor T – No Report

OHIO WEBSITE- Mike K-

Our traffic report for Q1 of 2014 made it clear our site became the target of hacking activity again. The activity tainted our traffic results. Our average volume of visitors jumped from 2,000 to 15,000 a month. Most of that traffic came from Europe and .NET sources rather than from residential/commercial.

Further, our web hosting company, Parcom Web Hosting, told us they were reaching the end of the line on support for their legacy hosting plans and recommended we move to another hosting plan, our hosting plan also happened to be due for renewal this month.

So, we made the decision to move our site to another hosting company. That move took place this past week, and we are fully operational. The new account IDs/Passwords were delivered to our Chairperson and Delegate. This move will not require a change in the Web budget.

In other news, Smartphone and Tablet usage on the Internet continues to increase. Currently they make up over 26% of web traffic. Web designers are giving greater emphasis to these devices in Web design. However, it’s also found that handheld device users are feeling they are not getting all the information they need when going to mobile-friendly sites, so they are clicking on the “Deliver desktop page” option when they are browsing, defeating the purpose of building mobile specific sites. We’ll be taking this into consideration in the new design. Webmaster@ohioal-anon.org

2-DAY FALL ASSEMBLY- CONVENTIONS REPORTS

2014 Fall Assembly Report August 2014

The hotel has 15 rooms blocked for us for Friday October 10th and 50 rooms blocked for October 11th. The room block will only be honored until September 21st. Reservations must be made by that time. Dinner reservations must be made by September 21st also. If there are questions please call Sandy.

Ohio Area Convention – June 5 – 7, 2015 Districts of Cincinnati

Fall Assembly 2015 – Districts of Toledo

OLD BUSINESS-

NEW BUSINESS - We cannot upload fliers to the website unless they are sponsored by a District, Registered Group or Area. They must be attached to a service structure.

Deadline for vouchers is December 1, 2014 so that Theresa can close the books for the year to pass on to the new Treasurer.

MOTIONS FOR TWO DAY FALL ASSEMBLY

Motion # 2014-001

I move to change the Lettered Districts in Ohio Area (44) to Numbered Districts as follows:

- District A - Change to District 17
- District B - Change to District 18
- District C - Change to District 19
- District D - Change to District 20
- District F - Change to District 3
- District G – Change to District 13
- District H – Change to District 11

Motion # 2014-02

To add Ohio Al-A-Notes to the Ohio Area website with all personal contact information removed

DISTRICT CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS –

MVAIS, District 24 will be hosting a round up on November 8, 2014

District 48 is hosting a fall conference “Fall Into Serenity” in Wilmot, Ohio September 26-28, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

Cindy T, District 25, moved to adjourn our meeting and Janice R, APP, seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM

We closed with the Al-Anon Declaration which is worded as follows: **“Let it begin with me When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen always be there, and -- Let it begin with me.”**

Respectfully submitted
By, Karen McK
Area Secretary