

SPRING ASSEMBLY
MAY 17, 2014

CHAIRMAN: Sandy F Opened the meeting at 12:30 with The Serenity Prayer. The Traditions were read Becky Z, The Concepts were read by Mel K, and The Warranties were read by Tina B. Sandy then welcomed everybody and explained our goals, meeting etiquette review and voting procedures. We were then introduced by Districts. KBDM (Knowledge Based Decision Making) was explained.

Ginny C Alternate Delegate welcomed our new Group Representatives. There were 12 new GR's.

SECRETARY'S REPORT- Karen M- A correction was brought to our attention from the Fall 2013 Minutes. On pg.8 Action Committee reports the cost of the cards "\$98 was paid for by the Cleveland Meeting of Districts". Jo S made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Kathy B seconded the motion and the motion then carried.

TREASURER REP ORT- Theresa M
Balance as of 12-31-13 \$32,034.69
Income after 12-31-09 was \$11,103.38
Expense after 12-31-09 was \$10,869.82
Balance as of 3-22-10 is \$32,448.25

ALATEEN STATE (AREA) REPRESENTATIVE – Liam N. Liam told about his duties as the State Alateen Representative. He told us he is available to speak at any function. If you would like to invite him, please contact Rose R Alateen Coordinator for his contact information.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE/NEWS LETTER:Ginny C.

Two issues of the Al-A-Notes have been published since the last Assembly. One in late November, 2013 and one this week. Starting with the fall issue, I upgraded the software to Microsoft Publisher for a more professional look. I am still working out some of the kinks. Thanks to the Kent Friendly AFG and Austintown Monday Night Serenity AFG, folding and labeling has become much easier. As registration chair for the North Central Regional Delegates Meeting, I spent much of February updating addresses and making name tags and folder tags. Not having done registration before, I learned what to do and not do next time. This North Central Regional Delegates Meeting was my third and many of the faces and names have become familiar. I am so glad I paid close attention the previous years because I will have to attend World Service Conference in Rex's place due to his health problems. This year at the meeting I paid even closer attention. Tips from other past and present delegates were helpful. Also I found out what I did not know and what information I was still missing.

DELEGATE'S REPORT- Rex Mc: In Rex's inability to attend the Assembly Ginny read a letter from him to the Assembly then gave the following report about the 2014 World Service conference.

First I want to thank the Assembly for funding most of my way to the Regional Delegates Meetings the past three years. Thanks to the training I received there, going to the World Service Convention was not as intimidating as it could have been. That being said, I still had to pinch myself to believe it was really happening. One of the things I have learned in my years of service is that if I am an Alternate for someone, I must be prepared to step in. The theme of the conference was Our Spiritual Principles in Action. While the conference deals with the business of Al-Anon, I had a number of spiritual experiences during the meeting. For example, I all of a sudden looked at the back of my service manual and realized that I was living through the concepts in action as they were written with the World Service Conference in mind. We practice our principles when we use mutual trust and respect, when we listen and participate and talk to each other and reason things out. The

WSC demonstrates the path to group conscience is through delegated authority and how each of us votes on matters affecting Al-Anon.

These are the underlying spiritual principles we operate under: equality, patience, honesty and generosity, understanding and compassion and acceptance and trust.

We learned the difference between a procedure and a principle during a workshop. This was very meaningful to me because it made me realize these “guidelines” or “rules” were all based in the principles of the program. For example, the sending of the Quarterly Letter of Appeal is based in Concept Seven and Warranty One. One of the many things our executive director said that was inspiring was “If you don’t share what is in your head, it’s not a true group conscience.” His words encouraged me to find my own voice and to vow that I would make it to the mike once a day at a minimum. He also stated “Vote what we think is good for Al-Anon regardless of what others are doing.” These words encouraged me to vote based on my own convictions and conscience.

One of the first presentations was on the importance of a home group. The Thought Force generated several strategies that could be used by groups: make home group a meeting topic, beginners’ meetings, workshops for Group Representatives, encourage participation in District Area, and TEAM/WSO events, submit articles for *The Forum*, develop language in group opening and inviting members to adopt meeting as their home group. Districts could use several strategies such as: Create a presentation/workshop on home groups, sponsor an event on service, communicate and disseminate tools and messages on this topic, and encourage member submission of written material. I would like to add to discuss this in our Membership Outreach Action Committee. The World Service Office or the World Service Conference could create a definition of “home group”, integrate the “home group” definition into WSO events and material or Initiate a campaign that conveys the benefits of a home group.

A trustee committee defined a universal understanding of recovery and was tested and retested with professionals in order to better communicate with professionals in the community. “Family recovery is a process of healing and growth from the effects of living in a family affected by someone’s problem drinking. This process helps individuals to make healthier life choices, and to develop relationships that are more positive and supportive.”

The Literature Committee presented the idea of having a new daily reader which reflects the diversity of the Al-Anon fellowship. The Courage to Change reader had edited out differences. We discussed format and how to get a diverse perspective from writers. The WSC carried the vote to give conceptual approval to develop a new daily reader. A Literature Committee Task Force was formed.

A new project has been launched to facilitate outreach to professionals in the community, in particular, treatment facilities. The resources can be found on the member’s website under Service Structure, then under District Resources. Check these out! The *Resources Guide* is a tool that helps members plan and host a Treatment Facilities Outreach Project workshop. It includes suggestions for enhancing a presentation with audience participation. It also includes background information about the types of treatment facilities staff and services that members may encounter when developing outreach projects and communicating with professionals. The *Presenter’s Guide* supplements the presenter’s script to the PowerPoint presentation modules. It cites the duties of the presenter, and helps the presenter to prepare for a workshop presentation. This presentation launches a new beginning for Public Outreach and Institutions activities within an Area. Your support and follow through in making announcements about the project and the Treatment Facilities Outreach Project workshop materials is critical. This brief presentation can be used to make the project come alive and to motivate members by hosting a workshop using the presentation materials and *Guides*. It is posted in the Public Outreach Community to access it.

One of our chosen agenda items involved discussing ways to inspire service in Al-Anon. Some ideas that were discussed included asking someone directly to take a position, talk about what you get back and Pairing New GR’s with old GR’s. Another idea was the 3 E’s: enthusiasm, energy and encouragement. TEAM events and getting others involved through skits.

The second chosen agenda item involved discussion of dominance issues inside the program. One suggestion was to state how you feel: “I feel really uncomfortable when you...” Other ideas included doing an inventory of your Area, District, or Intergroup, having a Workshop on Healthy Meetings and to use the Conflict Resolution Kit. Resolving these conflicts involve presuming goodwill, finding your voice, and being willing to have tough conversations.

First, the magazine delivers information that Al-Anon members’ value. Every month, 33,000 copies are distributed to individual subscribers and Al-Anon groups throughout the U.S. and Canada. And third, based on

recent surveys, it appears that *Forum* readers participate in service more strongly than the Al-Anon fellowship as a whole.

The bad news is that—even though *The Forum* is Al-Anon's largest monthly publication—it reaches only about 10 to 20 percent of the fellowship. The number of personal subscriptions is *shrinking* every month. The magazine has lost about 100 subscriptions per month, every month, since July of 2010. The sale of Forum subscriptions only pay for the printing, it is NOT enough to pay for shipping.

Forum subscriptions rallied when in 2009 this decline was pointed out. As soon as the crisis was perceived to be over, *Forum* subscriptions began to decline again, and they have been declining ever since. Based on survey results reading *The Forum* goes hand-in-hand with a strong Al-Anon program that includes participation in service.

The new Alateen Service e-Manual is on the members' website under the Alateen tab.

Resumes for Regional Trustee Candidate must be submitted to WSO by August 15.

The WSC approved after considerable discussion the new policy update regarding members of Al-Anon who are also members of AA (previously referred to as dual members). There is no actual change in the policy but rather the wording clarifies the policy using the principles of the program.

In both the Conference as a whole and in small groups we discussed various questions regarding thinking forward into the future of Al-Anon. Some of the questions included: What questions will face us as service leaders, as we anticipate and ensure Al-Anon's place in the future? How do we open our thinking in preparation for Al-Anon's 100th year? What spiritual principles and core values will guide us? What opportunities will the future present us?

A Task Force on Area Guidelines for Trusted Servants Not Fulfilling Responsibilities discussed some preventative measures and some active measures that can be taken. Some of the preventative procedures include job descriptions (which may include reasonable expectations, and an impact statement if the job is not done), use of résumés, AWSC training at the beginning of each term, Service Sponsors and clear communication paths for raising concerns. Some active measures include presuming goodwill, identifying what constitutes non-fulfillment for removal, and to have an investigative process to verify complaints. Areas could identify the responsible officers to work together, and find positive ways to approach the individual. Removal processes would include the Area officer's guidelines for how to take action, the appointment of a replacement, what is included in the communication with the removed trusted servant, and the record-keeping documentation.

Several games are now available that use the Service Manual. We tried out Al-Anopoly which was both exciting and frustrating. A simpler game is As the Group Turns. SMINGO is modeled after BINGO.

During the WSC, several skits were performed. Their scripts will be posted to the e-communities. A skit on the Importance of a Home Group was very humorous as was the skit performed to introduce the Conflict Resolution Kit.

A Thought Force presented several good ideas regarding making Technology as more Inclusive rather than Exclusive. These ideas include creating a technology coordinator, using "Go To" meetings in between Assemblies or AWSC meetings (such as for Task and Thought forces) and demonstrating on-line/webinar meetings at Assemblies and Area meetings. Furthermore, use of technology is encouraged when we share technology success stories. Other ideas include creating workshops or games to introduce members to technological problems and solutions, Utilizing telephone conference calls, conducting Delegate "live" reports via webinar, using a webinar to train AMIAS or putting QR codes on flyers.

My trip to the World Service Office was very eye opening and a moving experience. I was struck by how beautiful the building is but also by how the WSO is a relatively small operation that does a lot considering its size. They only have approximately 45 employees. The warehouse operates with just four employees! This is not Amazon, it's no wonder there are delays sometimes. I developed a great appreciation for how much they do with what they have.

One of the things I learned in the program is to make the best of things when things don't happen as you plan. The night before returning home my flights were cancelled and I was rescheduled on other flights a whole day later. When we toured the WSO before, the woman who stuffs the newcomer's packets asked us to come volunteer when we can. After the conference was over I bummed a ride to and from WSO and put in a few hours putting packets together.

Your Trusted Servant,

Ginny C., Alternate Delegate, Panel 52

REGISTRATION REPORT: Eleanor T

There were a total of 68 in attendance. The voting members were 54.

BUDGET: Robin R

The 2014 budget worksheet was explained and the 2014 proposed budget was presented along with a comparison of the 2013 and 2012 budgets with actual expenses.

THOUGHT/TASK/WORK FORCES PRESENTATIONS

Task Force to change lettered Districts to numbers: Phil H

Task Force to explore possible changes to Ohio Area Convention: Buff N

Task Force to consider liability insurance for AFG of Ohio: Judy A

COORDINATOR AND STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND CONVENTIONS

ALATEEN- Rose R:

I can hardly believe that this is my last year serving Assembly as Alateen Coordinator. Time has truly flown by. The things that I had wanted to accomplish before my time was up have slipped through the cracks of Workshops, Rally's and KOMIAC's! Ahhh, Progress not Perfection. If this position has taught me anything at all, it's been to be easy on myself and move forward one small step at a time.

The Fall Rally (held in October of 2013 and Spring rally (held in April) as was the Sponsor Workshop, were well attended by Alateens and Sponsors. During the Sponsor meetings many things were discussed from behavior at KOMIAC and meetings to concerns regarding how to handle all the new issues coming up with young people affected by this disease of alcoholism. We all agree that we need to be gentle and good listeners but, we also are finding out that we need some guidance as to what to do and when to do it when situations arise. We discussed sharing it among other Sponsors to get some feedback. It was also mentioned that we are not professionals and that's why 2 Sponsors are "suggested" in the Service Manual for every Alateen Meeting. There is safety in numbers and it's always good to have back-up when problems surface.

We formed a Task Force to discuss Guidelines for becoming an Alateen Sponsor. It seems that there is a "fear" of Alateen Sponsorship and there are areas that have different methods of training that can take the fear out of this wonderful service position. The names on this Task Force were forwarded to Sandra and if anyone is interested in giving us some input, please see me after Assembly. We hope to have something gathered and put on paper by AWSC in August.

I have final counts for K.O.M.I.A.C. 2013 also! KY-63, OH-81, MI-38 and IN-49 for a total of 213 attendees. Once again, Ohio was well represented! This year's Conference is being held in Louisville, KY @ Louisville University on July 25th - 27th. We will be taking buses throughout Ohio and Rachel R is our hero once again this year as she has secured 2 busses already. I will be asking Assembly for the \$2000 funds to help us finance them and due to the cost of travel, we will be asking the Alateens to "pitch in" again this year. I have the cost for the busses last year at \$6200. With gas prices and everything else going up, I'm sure that figure is outdated. Thank you Assembly for helping us out!

The Fall Rally location has been moved from John Knox Church to Clague Cabin in Westlake, OH due to the high cost of rental at John Knox. The cabin is only \$120 and John Knox was charging \$300. Quite a jump from last year. Gary J. graciously offered up the deposit (which will be refunded back to him) so we could secure the Cabin.

I have emailed Mike and it has been updated on the Ohio web site.

Our Sponsor head count, from the last update I received from Janice is 108 which includes 20 newbies! This count is up from the last time I reported. I believe we had about 86 or so. Wonderful news!

ARCHIVES- Caroline S:

All is well and peaceful in the Archive world. I have been invited to bring a traveling program of Archive material to the Hudson Saturday Serenity group once this winter and have helped with providing some data

on the numbers of attendance for the past OACs in preparation for the Task Force and future committee information gathering to prepare for the future 2016 Cleveland hosted (Area 44) OAC. I was pleased to be able to hand over some duplicate binders on past OACs to Jan in District 45 that don't need to be returned to Archives.

I have been offered some old conference summaries in archive material from the Akron Area Information Services office that I believe I may finally acquire at this assembly with good planning and communication. While many of these WSO objects may not be typically kept by other state archives (Seeing them as already archived at WSO and thus duplicated at the state level) I've seen some value in having these available to Ohio members rather than referring them to our WSO for data if requested.

I have a rather nice collection of Forums that go back many decades and while they are not strictly Ohio material (we do have many Ohio members who write into the forum) I've been pleased that this project of mine has benefited some Ohio members who couldn't locate a favorite article from the forum and thought to turn to me for that support and help.

I have also acquired a pair of lovely canvas 12 steps and tradition banners that were bought from our WSO when it was located in NY from one of our Ohio members, Beverly C, who had it stored in her cedar chest. She is the wife of Richard C, (property Manager of AA) and donated to our Archives 8/28/2013. I have brought to assembly to share with you all.

I continue using my "Pack rat" character trait/defect well in this service roll for our membership. All is well and peaceful in the Archive world.

FORUM- Sharon B: No report

GROUP RECORDS- Phil R:

How many of you have seen a copy of "Group E-News" at your meetings? This is emailed to the Group's Current Mailing Address, when that person has provided an email to WSO. There's always more information here, like the reminder about Alateen volunteers needing to recertify. Check to see if your group's CMA has furnished an email and, if they did, why aren't they printing this off and bringing it to the meeting. Please remember, it's the Group's responsibility to reimburse for the printing expense.

The most important item a Group Representative has, besides the Service Manual, is the GR-1 Form: Al-Anon Registration / Group Records Change Form. This is how you keep your group information current at District Level, at your Al-Anon Information Service, or AIS, here at Area level and at the WSO. You can either print the form off (and I have a good supply of them in the back) and fill them out by hand, OR you can download them to your computer from our Area website - ohio al-anon dot org - and just type in the information. I also have the instructions on how to complete the form, as well as how to save it and attach it to an email. It would be better if you send the completed forms to me, so I can recheck the information before it's submitted. If something doesn't look right, I can either email or call you to double check it before it's submitted. In addition, and this is really important, I email a copy of the updated WSO printout back to you when the changes have been made. I also send a copy of the changes to your AIS and District Rep, as well as you. That way, everyone has the most current information available. When you send it direct to the WSO, I won't find it until I run an update and your AIS & DR won't have it unless you sent them a copy.

When was the last time you looked at your AIS website? Is the information listed there correct? If so, GREAT! If not, please get in touch with your AIS webmaster to get it corrected. Remember our "target" - newcomers and first time visitors! They rely on that information about your meeting and if it's wrong, we're doing a huge dis-service to them. Please check your AIS website to ensure your meeting information is correct.

Speaking of which, how much information about your meeting is on your AIS website and in their printed meeting schedule? Do you list a cross street where the building is located? What about which door to enter through, and the specific room where your meeting is held? Is it wheelchair accessible? Do you have a separate Beginner's meeting? It's easy for US to find the way to OUR meeting - but again, what about the Newcomer or first time visitor? Please make an effort to list this information as well.

There were a total of 12 groups that were “deleted” from the WSO database earlier this year. That compares to 21 two years ago. Hopefully, this number keeps declining.

The number of active groups, though, has been holding steady over the past two years – between 439 and 451 groups. Why is this important? As our Service Manual reminds us about “Passing the Basket - At some point during the program, voluntary contributions are made following this statement by the Chairperson or Treasurer: “We have no dues or fees, but we do pass the basket to cover group expenses, including purchase of literature, support of our trusted servants, and Al-Anon service arms. According to our Seventh Tradition, Al-Anon/Alateen groups ought to be self-supporting through our own voluntary contributions. We are encouraged to contribute in gratitude for what Al-Anon/Alateen has given us. The amount is not important; what is important is that we give whatever we can.” Note: Newcomers are not required to contribute; however, they are welcome to, if they choose to do so.”

The only source of funding for the District, the AIS and the Area is the group. When the number of groups remains basically unchanged, but our expenses increase – well, it’s simple math. I’m not going to get into the budget side of things – I just want the GR’s and DR’s to be aware that it is VITALLY important to keep the support going.

Currently, we have 443 active groups holding a total of 499 meetings. Of those 443 active groups, 281 have Group Representatives listed with the WSO, which is 63%. There are 129 groups listed as “inactive” and 6 groups listed as “No Mail” status. The groups in No Mail status are a challenge because they may not be meeting, but they’re still being shown on schedules and websites. DR’s AND GR’s – please help with this. I’d love to see the number of “No Mail” groups be at zero.

LITERATURE- Shirley M:

The WSO has sold over 37,000 copies of “Reaching for Personal Freedom” (B-33) since July of last year. This book was released at the 2013 International Convention. While 25,181 were sold in the first three months, 2,511 were sold in the most recent three months. This book is a great resource to use at meetings when working on the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service.

As far as electronic sales, the e-book version of “Having Had a Spiritual Awakening” (eB-25) has sold 2,269 downloads since last March. The audio version of “How Al-Anon Works” (eA-22) has sold 731 downloads since last September. The 3-book version of “How Al-Anon Works” (e-22) which is only available through iTunes store at this time, has sold 380 English, 5 Spanish, and 3 French downloads since last November. The Forum electronic version is available for the U.S. from Nook.com, the cost for an annual subscription is \$11.00.

If you would like a copy of the electronic CAL Fact sheet, see me for a copy.

Please encourage members from minorities within Al-Anon (men, teens, gays and lesbians, parents, and others) to submit sharings for “Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships” (working title). Although there have been over 1,050 sharings received, very few have been from these portions of our fellowship. There is still no deadline date set at this time for accepting submissions.

At this point in time only 33 members have responded to our request for sharings from parents and grandparents of young problem drinkers. The guideline for sharing was included as an insert in the April issue of The Forum.

PUBLIC OUTREACH- Marissa D:

Hi everyone. I have little to report to the assembly. I have had only a few requests for meeting information, and only one so far this year. The WSO has put out 2 new PSAs. (Watch I have not yet.) I encourage you to go to the YouTube channel for Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. There are many videos that the WSO has posted, and they are all poignant and effective tools to share the Al-Anon program.

I have not received any feedback regarding the state-wide public outreach program we discussed in the fall, so I assume it’s a well-oiled machine. The suggestion was to reach out to law enforcement and other “first responder” entities to provide information about Al-Anon and perhaps bookmarks or business cards with Al-Anon contact information. The WSO Fact Sheet for Professionals is a great resource of information to provide, as is the WSO Open Letter to Law Enforcement. This “keep it simple” approach can be effective only if it’s being used.

If you will be at Founders Day June 6th to the 8th, I look forward to seeing you there! If I have not responded to your request for information, and I know at least a few requests have gone unanswered, I apologize. I took on this role just before my personal life took an incredibly chaotic and unpredictable turn. In 10 weeks I will be moving to Florida and unable to continue in this role at all. But I encourage you to consider putting your name in the running for this or any area-level service position. Share your ideas. You never know if you can do it until you try, and the actual demands of this position have not been overwhelming in the least. Even those I have taken forever to respond to have been incredibly gracious towards me, and I am very grateful for that. Thank you for allowing me to serve in this position, even if only for a while.

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Standing Committee Reports

BY-LAWS & HANDBOOK- Barbara W - Changes have been made to the Handbook that were approved at 2-day

Twenty five copies of the Handbook/By-Laws were made for the new GR Orientation.

COMPLIANCE/AAPP – Janice R There are 113 AMAIS. 62 recertified for 2014.

REVIEW AND AUDIT- Louise W- I have received financial documents from both Robin R and Theresa M for 2013 and 2014 to date. I have not completed the review; thus I have nothing to report at this time.

Two Day Fall/Ohio Area Convention Liaison Donna K – Shared some concerns with Nancy O about the brandied carrots to be changed on this years OAC. It was suggested to Nancy to change to just buttered carrots, green beans or corn.

Emailed some answers to Cincinnati about the 2015 OAC concerns.

OHIO WEBSITE- Mike K.- Our Web site traffic report for Q1 of 2014 made it clear our site became the target of hacker activity again which tainted our traffic results, making it appear as if our average volume of visitors jumped from 2,000 to 15,000 per month. Further, our web hosting company 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 that month. We made the decision to move our site to another hosting company that offered greater security at a comparable price. That move took place in mid-March. The transition took place within a 24-hour period with minimal interruption. The Web site address is the same as it was before: www.ohioal-anon.org. Our new web traffic report shows the volume is back to normal. In April, we had a total of 2,191 unique visitors.

The most viewed pages were:

-Area meeting directory page -Toledo meetings -Remote meetings -Calendar page -Cleveland meetings - Documents page -Akron meetings -12 Traditions -Dayton meetings -Columbus meetings -12 Steps

The most popular web browsers used to visit our site in April were Safari and Microsoft Internet Explorer. On average, the peak traffic period each day is around 3pm. 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 they are browsing. This defeats the purpose of building mobile specific sites. We'll be taking this into consideration in the new design.

Action Committee Reports

Membership Outreach- How do we educate members to support Al-Anon Family Groups at all levels? Some suggestions follow; In Two Day Fall Minutes. Schedule business meetings regularly. Use Warranties as a meeting topic. Emphasize how service is part of recovery. Integrate new literature. Share how we have grown spiritually through service positions.

Group Services – Topics were What is a healthy meeting, How can we deal with issues of dominance in groups and in service. Some suggestions were to hold a group conscience or inventory at least one a year, have a GR...group representation at all levels, no outside literature and should be listed in meeting directory. Where dominance becomes an issue, suggestions were...Chairperson should help guide the meeting. Members could gently curb extensive talking by possibly using a signal or comment so that all have a turn to share. Chairperson can state at beginning of meeting to please keep comments to 2 or more minutes so that all have a turn to share.

Fellowship Communications – Healthy groups were discussed. Suggestions on healthy groups are as follows: has a GR or CMA, welcomes newcomers, translates topics to Alanon concepts, no crosstalk, no reference to outside affiliations, encourages sponsorship focuses on CAL, rotation of service refrains from domination, thank members or service, have meeting guidelines, group conscience and business meetings. Some red flags are as follows: a member telling you what to do, assigning sponsors, use of outside literature, dominance by one or more members, attempting to control others.

Public Outreach – Plan is to implement Public Outreach throughout Ohio. Ordering 800 *Alanon Faces Alcoholism* pamphlets @280.00 to distribute to 7 regional areas that have AIS. Those areas include Cleveland, Akron, Columbus, Youngstown, Cincinnati & Toledo. The goal is to fill the gap to local areas that can't afford them. Elected Kathy B as project coordinator in the absence of Public Outreach Coordinator until position is filled.

Conventions and Two Day Fall Assembly Reports

2013 Two Day Fall- Districts of Youngstown- Report is being held till Fall Assembly

2014 Ohio State AA Service Convention with Al-Anon Participation- Steve F
Myself and two other people are on the committee. The agenda times of meetings has been set. Al-Anon has three times- Friday 4:30-5:30, Saturday 3:00-4:00 and Sunday 9-10 for panels. We are still meeting on the topic selection for the panels. Barbara W has accepted to be the Al-Anon speaker, speaking at 1:30 Saturday afternoon. AA has nothing scheduled at this time slot, so all may listen to Barbara's sharing. Betty T will have conferenced approved literature for sale at group cost. Because KOMIAC is the same weekend, we are assuming No alateens will be attending. In case there are alateens, I am certified to be with them. We decided not to have an alateen speaker. We have a hospitality room available, paid for by AA, but we need to supply the eats and drinks. We have been meeting, amongst ourselves and with AA planning committee, since October on a monthly basis. If anyone at assembly has any suggestions concerning our program please write them and give to our chairman Sandra F. She and I have communicated about the convention. Flyers are available to register to attend. I would ask for the budget amount of \$200.00 to supply the hospitality room at the convention, but I could not be with you today. Therefore I am submitting a voucher for the funds. I hope to see you all at the AA convention July 25, 26&27, 2014 at Holiday Inn, Perrysburg.

2014 Two Day Fall Assembly- Districts of Columbus- Eleanor T
The Host Committee for the 2014 Fall Assembly has begun it preparations for the Fall Assembly. As announced last year the location will be the Columbus Airport Marriott which is as you guessed near Port Columbus Airport just off I-670 in Columbus.
The rooms are for one to four people and are \$119 per night and that price does not include the 16.75 % tax. To reserve a room for Fall Assembly, members must call the hotel directly and when asked about the reservation code it is **AFG of Ohio – Area Assembly**.
The banquet is by reservation only. The meal will be plated and include a salad,

Roasted Chicken with herb sauce, mashed potatoes, seasonal Vegetables, and dessert. Beverages are water, tea, and coffee. The price for the banquet is \$32.00 per dinner and is inclusive of the gratuity. A vegetarian or Gluten free meal is available upon request.

AS for the evening program, WELL..... that is going to be a surprise. Remember In the fall Action Committees meet AFTER the evening program.

If you plan to bring your family to Columbus for the weekend, call Sandy and ask about possible activities in central Ohio for children and /or adults.

2014 Ohio Area Convention- Janice R/NancyO- A report was given with up-dated information about the convention. The convention is only a few weeks away.

2014 Ohio Recovery Rally -- I received an e-mail from Donna C asking AFG of Ohio to consider having an informational table once again at the event, hopefully scheduled for the first week in September on the State House lawn. Complete Details are not available yet, but the price for an information table will be \$20 and will last from 10 am till 2-pm the day of the event. I think we talked to over 200 people last year who were in recovery, but we did not talk to many professionals. However, the professionals we talked to were from the court system.

2014 Addiction Studies Institute

The Addiction Studies Institute will be held August 6th -8th at the Columbus convention Center. This will be the second year of a three year trial.

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2014 has been ordered for this event. Other literature will be ordered in June.

Assistance for the event is needed Wednesday Afternoon August 6th, All day Thursday, August 7th, and Friday Morning August 8th. Could you help at the information booth any of these times? Call Sandy at 614-717-9044 if you are available to help.

A note was received from Amanda Ferguson, Director for ASI. The price for a booth will be the same as last year at \$450 for the three days.

I have asked each of the Al-Anon Information Service and the districts to bring schedules for ASI to be given to professionals in their location. Miami Valley has sent theirs to me already. If you did not bring schedule to me today there is still time to mail them to me before the event.

ASI is an amazing service opportunity. Professionals from not only Ohio attend but also from other parts of the US. I encourage everyone to think about being someone who tells professional about Al-Anon.

This will be my fifth year as the chairman for ASI. It will be my last to act as the Chairman. I am willing to be the helper but it is time for me to rotate out of the position.

2015 Ohio AFG Convention- Districts of Cincinnati
Proposed date June 5- June 7, 2015

OLD BUSINESS

Topic #1 The Task Force to explore possible workshops to take to remote locations in the Area never came to fruition. This Task force is charged with coming up with suggestions for things we as an Area could do to get more connected with meeting locations who do not have a District Representative and are in rural settings around Ohio. Some Districts may just not have a District Representative.

The Membership Outreach Action committee talked about this topic for several meetings and recommended a Task Force. What do you think? Are you willing to be on this Task Force and come up with suggestions? Most of this service opportunity will be done by e-mail.

Our past Delegates are willing to be advisors for the KBDM process. No one showed interest in this Task Force. The topic will be brought back to Fall Assembly under Old Business.

Topic #2 The Thought Force to develop a criteria for not referring newcomers to Groups who do not follow Al-Anon Traditions also did not get started. This topic was discussed at the Area World Committee Service meeting during District concerns. As reported, Ohio Area currently has meetings who are not following The Traditions and are not using conference Approved Literature.

I have talked with trusted servants from around the US. Since I attended the World Service Conference the topic has become broader. Following these discussions I am recommending a Task Force be formed to develop a criteria for not listing meetings who do not follow Al-Anon Traditions.

What do you think? Are you willing to serve on this Task Force? Who is willing to serve?
The Task Force was formed.

Topic #3 Members have asked about having Al-A-Notes available on the website. If you remember last year a Task Force on Electron vs USPS delivery for Communications for the Area gave us their presentation. This is not suggesting electronic communication solely but rather adding Al-A-Notes to the Website.

I am forming a Task Force for adding Ohio Al-A-Notes to the Ohio Area Website. Ginny has Agreed to be the Chairman of the Task Force.

This is a short in duration task Force as it will report to AWSC in August, 2014. Are you willing to be on this Task Force?

NEW BUSINESS

Topic # 1. At the 2014 World Service Conference it was announced that once again the Board of Trustees looking for a location to hold the "Meet the Board" meeting in July of 2015. Ginny will be looking into location for this event around Akron. Ohio Area will submit a bid for this event. One of the questions asked is how many members from your Area will attend. It is open to all Al-Anon Members. Who would be interested in attending?

We did submit a bid for the "2014 Meet the Board" event but Ohio was not selected. I think over 30 Area's submitted a bid. Thank you for helping us with this event.

Topic #2. The Alateen Sponsors Workshop has requested a Task Force be formed to explore possible Guidelines for incoming Alateen sponsors. I am assigning this Task Force today. The members of the Task Force are: Rose R. Chairman, Jo Ann M, Steve A, Robyn H, and Rich S. They will have a KBDM presentation at the Area World Service Committee meeting August 16th.

Topic #3. AS of the discussion earlier today, I am forming a Work Group to assign numbers to Lettered Districts. Who is willing to be a member of this Work Group? Phil H will be the Chairman. The Wrok Group will present its recommendation to AWSC in August.

Topic #4 Another Work Group to be formed is to make changes to the Ohio Are Convention? Who is willing to be a part of this group. NO One showed interest in this Work Group. It will be brought back to Fall Assembly under Old Business.

Meeting Schedule for 2014

K.O.M.I.A.C.- July 25-26-27,2004 University of Louisville in Louisville, Kentucky.
AWSC- August 16 North Congregational UCC, Columbus, Ohio
Fall Alateen Rally- Oct 25, 2014, Clague Cabin, Clague Park, Westlake, Ohio 44145, 10:00AM-4PM
Two Day Fall Assembly- October 11-12, Columbus, Ohio Columbus, Airport Marriott

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Connie S and seconded by Debbie D.

We closed with the Al-Anon Declaration: **Let it begin with me, when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, let the hands of Al-Anon/Alateen always be there and let it begin with me.**

Respectfully submitted,
Karen MCK