

2017 SPRING ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES

The Spring Assembly meeting was held on Saturday, May 20, 2017, at the North Congregational United Church Of Christ, 2040 W Henderson Road, Columbus 43220. Chairman Buff N opened the meeting at 12:30 PM with the Serenity Prayer. Julie F, Oxford AFG, read the Twelve Steps; Shannon S, GR for Sunday Night Boardman AFG, read the Twelve Traditions; and Allison G, Alternate GR for Bethel Road AFG, read the Twelve Concepts of Service. Buff welcomed everyone and explained meeting etiquette and the voting procedures. Buff reminded everyone that elections will be held at the upcoming Fall Assembly.

Buff introduced the current Officers, Coordinators, Standing Committee chairs, the AIS Liaisons and Past Delegates. Introductions by Districts were made and the following districts were represented: 4, 9, 10, 15, 16, 24, 25, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 38, 39, 45, 48, 51, 56 and 57. Buff welcomed Amy H-C, new District Representative for district 15 and Deanna M, new Alternate District Representative for district 15.

Buff also reminded everyone of the upcoming Ohio Area Convention and TEAM event in July.

Alternate Delegate Theresa M recognized and welcomed the 15 new Group Representatives.

MINUTES: The minutes of the Fall 2016 Assembly meeting were distributed via the AFG of Ohio website. Mary Ellen R, GR for Hubbard Friday Night AFG, moved and Kathleen S, DR 6, seconded to approve the minutes as distributed. The motion passed.

TREASURER’S REPORT: - Judy A. Treasurer, presented the report. She noted that she has filed the necessary paperwork with both the IRS and the Ohio Attorney General for the 2016 accounting year.

2016 –	Beginning balance as of 1 January 2016 –	\$31,631.29
	Income 1 January – 31 December 2016 –	+25,649.53
	Expenses 1 January – 31 December 2016 –	<u>- 19,233.07</u>
	Ending Balance as of 31 December 2016 –	\$38,047.75
2017 –	Beginning balance as of 1 January 2017 –	\$38,047.75
	Income 1 January – 20 May 2017 –	+6,547.92
	Expenses 1 January – 20 May 2017 –	<u>- 3,536.92</u>
	Ending Balance as of 20 May 2017 –	\$41,058.75

Cheryl B, DR 9, moved and Charis B, GR for Thursday Night 12 Step AFG, seconded to accept the reports. The motion passed.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE & AL-A-NOTES EDITOR REPORT: - Theresa M, Alternate Delegate, presented the report –

I have been busy working with the “team” on our TEAM event – “Spirituality of Action in Recovery “and finding that there is much truth in that phrase. I hope to see many of you there in Akron in July for it as well as our convention “Together We Can Make It.” Please note that there are two separate registration forms.

And, I want to remind all that the election of new officers, coordinators, as well as Delegate and Alternate Delegate. Profile forms are on the website and on the table here.

Newsletter Editor report

I will be sending a request for submissions for a late July edition. Please send any suggestion for future editions, both for this year and the next Editors, to my email - alternatedelegate@Ohioal-anon.org

I apologize for not yet collating the Fall 2017 Survey Results. It has been a combination of events that has resulted in this delay. I will report the results in the next edition of the Al-A-Notes, as well as sending the information to our Chair and relevant Committees and Task Forces.

The membership cards are out there, but they are two cards, single sided, instead of one card, double sided. They had been requested by Membership Outreach.

DELEGATE’S REPORT: - Ginny C, Delegate, was absent, but recorded her report for presentation –

Just a few weeks ago I attended for the last time as your delegate, the World Service Conference. The theme was Our Members: Our Hope for the Future. The World Service Conference convenes annually. During this time, one elected Delegate from each Assembly Area along with the Board of Trustees, the Executive Committee, and Al-Anon administrative staff members of the World Service Office come together to discuss and make decisions on important matters affecting Al-Anon/Alateen as a whole.

The Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. vision statement: All people affected by someone else's drinking will find help and recovery in every community. The Board mission statement is Anticipate the future and Al-Anon's place in it and ensure that the necessary resources are available. The strategic plan is Al-Anon's spiritual principles permeate our policies and practices; we apply emerging technology and communication options: To increase the visibility of Al-Anon so that it is recognized as the number one resource throughout the world for helping friends and families of problem drinkers.; To empower the Al-Anon fellowship to be vibrant, inclusive and flexible; To achieve a viable future for Al-Anon Family Groups, the Board will be adaptive and strategic in its use of talents, skills, and abilities.

In just a year, the World Service Office has made some major transformations. The structure has been rearranged and new people are in the offices. There was an air of excitement and energy. The World Service Office is now fully staffed with the addition of several younger, energetic employees eager to help Al-Anon Family Groups reach all those who need help. The addition of a Digital Strategies Department has enabled us to reach out to more and more, especially younger family and friends of alcoholics. Recent additions include an Al-Anon Instagram and most recently an Alateen Instagram. The World Service Office Warehouse is run by 4 people and sends literature all over the U.S. and the world.

New Executive Director Search: Mary Gregory's job is to serve in the interim.

May 1 – June 15, 2017 Application and Resume submission period

June 26 – 30, 2017 Video conferencing Interviews

Week of July 17, 2017 Final Candidate Interviews with the Board of Trustees Virginia Beach, Virginia

September 5, 2017 Desirable start date for New Executive Director at the WSO in Virginia Beach

Finances: Tradition Seven: Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. (Including Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. and the World Service Office, its offices) Finances at Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. have drastically improved over last year. Literature Sales down from this time last year but exceeded budgeted expectations by almost \$115,000. Forum subscription income up by 9.18 %. Contributions last year up by almost 17%. The success of last year was that we each did a little and it added up to a lot. We did not receive any enormous contribution (we are still waiting!!). What we did receive was thousands of fifteen dollar checks. What if we surpass \$2,100,000 in contributions? Dare we even think of such abundance?

Thank you, OHIO!!!! Contributions from Groups increased by 42%!!! WOOHOO!!! Slight drop in contributions from other sources by 17%. Keep it Up OHIO!!!! This level of giving will help AFG and the WSO be able to provide services and support in the coming years. General Fund gained \$88,153 this period in 2017 In 2016, it lost \$361,025 this period last year. That represents an improvement of \$449,178 over this period last year. Able to pay back money taken from the Reserve fund.

WSO Revenue sources are Literature 50%, Contributions 38%, Investment Income 7% and Forum Subscriptions 5%. Expenses fall into three service areas: 56% is Programs, 28% is General Administration, and 16 % is Literature. How is your \$15 used? Communication Services, Toll Free Numbers, Member Services, Volunteer Oversight, Public Service Announcement, and the Conference.

The World Service Office would like to encourage members to seek answers to their dilemmas by talking to each other and reasoning things out with less looking to WSO to provide the "correct" answer. This starts with looking for the answer in the Service Manual. Areas have autonomy so refer to your Ohio Handbook. Where is your group copy? Do you have your own copy? Do you keep an electronic copy of the Handbook or Service Manual? They are both easily downloaded into a smart phone. One of the breakout sessions provided a handout on Empowering Ourselves by Using Al-Anon's Legacies and Policies When Seeking Solutions.

In 2018, a New Service Manual will be issued with a rearrangement of the material to help make the material more understandable as well as more user friendly. Due to some cost containment measures as well as other considerations, the printed copies will only be sent to new groups. Each group will need to purchase their own printed copy or refer to the online version (which will always be up to date). The World Service Conference worked hard to approve changes in

wording to approve changes to at least 20 pages plus the policy changes in record time, thanks to electronic communications prior to the conference. After at least a couple years of discussions, the Policy committee and the World Service Conference finally approved some much-needed changes to the policies regarding conventions and other events and announcing events.

“Conventions and Other Events: Al-Anon and Alateen events attract many members, drawing them to celebrate and share their experiences. These events can vary in size and content. Conventions: Among common Al-Anon/Alateen events are Area conventions, bringing together members from across the Area to celebrate recovery, often for a weekend. Conventions hosted by Areas for Alateen are often referred to as conferences. (See the Guidelines *Area Conventions* [G-20] and *Alateen Conferences* [G-16] for more specific suggestions on selecting organizers, planning the program, finances, etc.)”

“Workshops: An Area, district, Al-Anon Information Service (AIS), or one or more Al-Anon/Alateen groups may host a weekend, day, or evening of workshops and meetings, luncheons, or banquets. These activities are planned in keeping with the spiritual principles of the Twelve Traditions to address various topics of interest to members or for public outreach purposes. Weekend events often combine workshops and speaker meetings. Distribution of Proceeds: Excess funds are often used to establish the next convention’s “seed” fund. Since accumulating large sums of money is discouraged, in keeping with Al-Anon’s Traditions and Concepts, excess funds over and above a seed fund for the next event can be donated to the district, Al-Anon Information Service (AIS), Area, or the WSO.”

“Various types of events are held for Al-Anon and Alateen members to gather for fun and fellowship, to celebrate recovery and enhance their understanding of the Al-Anon/Alateen program. It may be helpful for members to consider the following spiritual principles when announcing these events: • Cooperation • Participation • Responsibility • Singleness of Purpose • Unity or Common Welfare “

“What to Announce at Meetings: Al-Anon/Alateen recovery and service events cultivate a sense of community. Recognizing this spiritual need to belong, the principle of participation links the membership to these events. Members often wonder if a particular event is appropriate to announce. The following should be considered when deciding what to announce at meetings: Generally, those events put on by or connected to Al-Anon service arms are announced at meetings, in our newsletters, and on local Web sites. These events bring members together to connect through experiences and discussions. “

“Al-Anon is often invited by A.A. to participate in recovery events. Almost from its beginning, Al-Anon has taken part in these events. Such participation often led to the growth of Al-Anon and an enhanced spirit of cooperation between both fellowships. While we remain a separate entity from A.A., we cooperate whenever possible. When Al-Anon participates in an A.A. event with speakers or workshops, these events may be announced at meetings, in our newsletters and on our Web sites. “

“Al-Anon does not affiliate with other organizations; neither endorses nor opposes any other philosophies, therapies, or spiritual programs. Our experience suggests that confusion arises when such events are announced in Area newsletters and Al-Anon/Alateen local bulletins, on Al-Anon Web sites, and at group meetings. The Al-Anon/Alateen name, therefore, cannot properly be used to identify or publicize any retreats, events, or activities sponsored by others. This applies when most or even all of the participants are members of Al-Anon/Alateen. Otherwise there could be a misunderstanding of Al-Anon’s purpose and function. In order to avoid any appearance of Al-Anon/Alateen affiliation, it is important to keep promotion of such events outside of Al-Anon/Alateen meetings and meeting locations.”

“Whether to announce a particular event is a matter of autonomy, keeping in mind other groups, the district, or the Area may have different criteria. For example, an Area may choose to only make announcements at Assemblies of events sponsored by Al-Anon service arms. Just as we have no opinion on outside literature, we have no opinion on events outside of Al-Anon. Members may read or attend whatever helps them in their recovery; but we keep our events focused on Al-Anon principles and topics. “

Some of the spiritual principles used in making decisions regarding financial matters are: Tradition Seven, Abundance, Anonymity, Gratitude, Responsibility, Trust, Unity. The other changes to financial matters policy will be covered in the Fall AWSC and Fall Assembly.

The World Service Conference discussed the Prayer for Today KBDM and how feedback was obtained in each Area. The general consensus was that surveyed members were evenly divided on this issue. We voted to have no more discussions at the World Service Conference at this time.

Road Trip: You and Your Board Connect is the former "Meet the Board". When: Saturday October 20, 2018. Where: OHIO?. Who: Al-Anon members, Trustees and Executive Committee members. What: WSO Program. Why: This is an opportunity for Trustees and the Executive Committee to interact with members, as well as for members to interact with Trustees and the Executive Committee. Cost: Registration fee, meals. How: Areas apply to the World Service Office using the Request Form. Area Participation: Publicize the event. Provide an Area contact person. Ohio would be responsible for publicizing the event, collecting the registration forms, checks, donations to WSO and meal payments, providing transportation between the hotel and airport if no hotel shuttle is available. In other words, this would cost Ohio very little. The Delegate has to submit the site request form by September 15, 2015. Does Ohio want to sponsor the Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect? It would mean our Fall Assembly 2018 would have to be October 13, 2018 unless another date was agreed upon in advance. This is an event that requires mainly volunteer effort and very little money. Other Areas that have done this have found increased participation in service activities after sponsoring this event.

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT: Karen S, Committee Chair, reported that there were 58 GR's registered and a total of 72 persons registered for today.

MEET THE BOARD 2018: Sandy F, Handbook Committee Chair, moved and Cindy T, GR for Barberton AFG, seconded to submit an application for the 2018 "Road Trip – You and Your Board Connect". The vote was 58 for, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions. The motion passed.

ACTION COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FELLOWSHIP COMMUNICATIONS: Kathleen S, DR 6, gave the report –

We looked over our mission, which was to come up with some new ideas for messages, to use Conference Approved Literature, encourage members to share their experience, strength and hope and to provide guidelines for the use of literature. It was brought up that there is a table-top card that is being used in the districts of Toledo, but a couple of members of our Action Committee had never seen it. So rather than re-inventing the wheel, groups should be using the Conference Approved Literature that is already available from WSO to help with this. The card has "Please keep the focus on our Al-Anon program" – it is S-24, "Al-Anon Focus/Declaration Table Card" and has helped people at our meetings stay focused and leave other affiliations, religion, our professions, other publications, other philosophies and other 12-Step programs outside. We are asking that some of these cards be purchased and made available for resale at the Two Day Fall Assembly.

GROUP SERVICES: Lindsay B, GR for Flower of Hope AFG in Sylvania, gave the report –

We chose, for our goal, recording history of the groups. Our questions included: Who is it for; What is to be done; How is it done; What will it cost; and How will it be implemented? One important thing would be to fill out a form with the date of the group's first meeting, the original location of the meeting, the founders of the meeting, why the group was created, any events or accomplishments happening in the first year, and the current GR. A form like this could be mailed to the GR's, or to the DR's who would then send it to their GR's, and sent it in to the Area Archives so we could have information on all the groups' histories. It seems that, too often, either there is no group history or only one person from a group knows the history and it can be lost if it's not written down.

MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH: Kay J, DR 56, gave the report –

We had four goals and we have pretty much accomplished the first one, which was to develop an educational / informative bookmark about opportunities for service in the group. Service through the Concepts is one of the three parts of our Legacies, so we felt that was important. What we worked on today were some means by which we could educate our group members about conventions and the value that they have, how they can aid in recovery, how they are positive, fun things and pointed out that a lot of us are fine with doing Assembly work because of our driving need to be of service and helpful. Sometimes it's a little hard to get us to "chill out, relax and have a good time". So, we were thinking about how we could go about doing this and what is it that holds people back? We are going to develop a flyer with the purpose of promoting all the attractive things about going to a convention, like "Break out of your isolation", "Feel the love", "H.A.L.T.". Someone came up with the idea of "buddying up" or carpooling, a little button with "Jump on the bus and go with us", "Together we can get this done – together we can get there". We want to develop this flyer with more

experienced members reaching out to the newer members and kind of mentoring them about the idea of going to a convention. That's our number two goal and we'll be working on that.

PUBLIC OUTREACH: Mary S, GR for Mentor Monday AFG, gave the report –

The Public Outreach Action Committee has a packet for each attendee here today and at the break, we will be handing out these packets. In the packet, you will find a sampling of literature available for groups to distribute in their location. The Public Outreach Action Committee will bring to the Fall Assembly another sampling of available public outreach materials, to include: a public outreach bookmark; a calling card; a poster; and some pamphlets. Our idea is to bring back to Fall Assembly an action plan for groups to use to implement public outreach in their group's location.

THOUGHT FORCE / TASK FORCE REPORTS:

TASK FORCE – Guidelines for Incoming Alateen Sponsors: Tina L, Alateen Coordinator, had no report to submit.

Buff inquired about the lack of progress the Task Force has made and whether or not the Task Force should be disbanded. After discussion, Sandy F, Handbook Committee Chairman, moved and Kathleen S, DR 6, seconded to disband the Task Force. The vote was 55 yes, 0 opposed and 3 abstentions. The motion passed and Buff disbanded the Task Force.

TASK FORCE – Mailing and Printing Concerns: Melanie B, Task Force chairman, was absent and Phil H presented the report –

Our committee has been using the current KBDM on re-evaluating the methods used to print and distribute communications to groups and individuals.

I still haven't gotten responses from all the Task Force members. Please share your thoughts!

For those who have responded to my emails, I apologize that a motion is not going to be made on this subject for Spring Assembly. We've received some new information on mailings, specifically it would be to 80 groups instead of the 11 we originally believed, and we did not have time to discuss that printing issue. We do have a consensus that we should have a printing company do the work rather than the board members.

We are continuing to study these issues and our plan is to have a recommendation for the Fall AWSC and Fall Assembly 2017.

COORDINATOR REPORTS:

ALATEEN: Tina L, Alateen Coordinator, presented the report –

The sponsor workshop was held on March 18, 2016 in Columbus. There were 23 sponsors in attendance with at least 5 of those being new or prospective sponsors. We started the day with a history lesson on Alateen as this year is Alateen 60th anniversary. We discussed ways Alateen could celebrate the anniversary in their area, the Alateen Safety and Behavioral Guideline (G-34) and answered questions for the newcomers. Help Alateen celebrate its anniversary, ask an Alateen to speak at your group.

The spring rally was held on April 29, 2017 in Columbus. There were approximately 52 in attendance with 24 of those being sponsors. They enjoyed a day of fellowship, workshops and a panel.

2017 KOMIAC - is being held at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN, July 28-30, 2017. Cost included \$120.00 for registration, \$14.00 for t-shirt plus a bus fee to help pay for the buses to transport them there safely. Please support your local Alateens thru their fundraisers or donations. Sometimes the only way an Alateen can attend KOMIAC is because of their fundraisers and the donations they received. Hospitality room donations are also accepted, store bought items only, no energy drinks. If your groups would like to give a donation and not sure who to contact, see me.

Please support the Alateen panel on Friday, June 9, 2017 at Founders Day Weekend, Akron, OH.

Other Alateen date for 2017 is: October 14th, 2017 – Fall Rally, location to be announced.

ARCHIVES: Judy C, Archives Coordinator, was absent and Phil presented the report –

The inventorying and cataloguing of the archives will be passed along to my successor after our Fall Assembly. A lot of progress has been made, but there is more to be done. Working with the Archives is like working the Twelve Steps – you’re never really finished with them.

A reminder – the archives are where AREA documents are stored, and those include flyers from the various AIS’s and Districts on events they are sponsoring. Please be sure that the flyer clearly states who is sponsoring the event – for example “Miami Valley AIS” or “District 24”. That helps in getting them catalogued for future reference.

There are still several empty notebooks from previous reports that were sent to the Archives. If an Officer, Coordinator, Committee Chair or Task Force Chair needs one, please let me know.

On down the road, another part of gathering the archives will be working with our webmaster to retrieve older documents that have been posted on our web site in the past. This will ensure we have that important historical copy!

And, as always, “ODAT”

FORUM: Christine T, Forum Coordinator, was absent and Phil H presented the report –

The Forum still needs more sharings! We remain very short on sharings about the three Legacies—especially about Steps Five through Twelve, and all Twelve Traditions and Concepts of Service. Also needed are sharings from Canada and from Alateen members.

- **Instant Step Meetings:** Beginning in January, the "Instant Meeting" feature of *The Forum* began to include, in addition to the two or three brief sharings on the Step of the month, several thought-provoking questions to get the conversations started. We’d love to hear feedback to know if this addition is helpful in encouraging conversation.
- **THE FORUM BOOK (working title):** So far, members have sent in over 441 titles and publication dates of *Forum* articles that they consider the best of recent years. So far, only one article from the first quarter of 2017 has been suggested. (We hope we’re doing better than that!) Please keep encouraging members to let the WSO know which *Forum* stories they want to see included in this book. And don't forget to send in your own selections!
- **The Forum Writing Guideline (F-1)** is being revised. We’ll post a .pdf once it has been designed.
- **New Writing Guide for Incarcerated Al-Anon Members:** For those Areas that have Al-Anon meetings in correctional facilities, **please see the attached writing guideline**. We’d love to include sharings from these members in *The Forum*.
- **An easier way to find the e-magazine version!** You can now find direct links for ordering the electronic version of *The Forum* magazine on the Al-Anon Online Store at al-anon.org/online_store under the “Electronic Literature” category.

Report Date:	FINAL: 1/11/17		
	SEPT 2016	DEC 2016	Gain/loss:
Total number subscriptions mailed:	22,694	1,728	(20,966)
Total number of Al-Anon/Alateen Groups:	13,803	463	(13,340)
Subscriptions per group:	1.644135333	3.732181425	2.0880

	SEPT 2016			DEC 2016			
STATE	# of groups	# of subs	sub/group	# of groups	# of subs	sub/group	GAIN/LOSS
OH	460	912	2	463	903	2.0	-9

This shows the numbers of subscriptions report from WSO from Sept. 2016 to Dec. 2016. It is the latest information due to changes in WSO staff. It is showing Ohio having a loss of 9 subscriptions for that time period.

Writing Guide for Incarcerated AI-Anon Members:

Every AI-Anon member has something to share about the AI-Anon program whether you are a newcomer or a longtime member.

AI-Anon helps us to recover from the effects of someone else's drinking, to improve ourselves and to live happier lives. The program helps us to address and respond to the sorrows, miracles, and setbacks that are part of life. Recovery is a journey. Your story is your story. You can help potential newcomers and other incarcerated members to reach out for the help and hope that is available at AI-Anon meetings in correctional facilities.

Your story doesn't have to be perfect. All you need to do is to share from your heart and keep the focus on the AI-Anon program. AI-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. staff will edit for grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

Word count:

- Standard sharing—300 to 400 words
- Short sharing—25 to 200 words

Here are some suggestions for topics:

- What were the obstacles you faced before you became willing to attend AI-Anon, e.g., denial that alcoholism affected your life, resentments toward the alcoholics in your life, already using the Twelve Steps in another program, shame, or embarrassment?
- What made you decide to attend AI-Anon?
- How does AI-Anon help you, your relationships and communications with others? Are you able to resolve or avoid conflicts better through the slogans, Steps, and other tools of the program?
- How does AI-Anon give you hope and comfort?
- Why do you feel better during and after meetings?
- How does AI-Anon literature help you?
- Other ideas or topics?

Please complete this form, including your name and address so we can acknowledge your submission. You will be notified if your sharing is published, and we will send you a complimentary copy of the AI-Anon publication in which it appears.

If your article is published in The Forum, AI-Anon Faces Alcoholism magazine, or other AI-Anon publications, does the AI-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. (WSO) have permission to post it on the internet, including WSO social media?
_____ Yes _____ No

I understand that my sharing becomes the property of AI-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. and may be used in whole or part in the development of AI-Anon material. _____ Yes _____ No

Check one:

- _____ Please use my first name, last initial, and state/province for credit
- _____ Please sign my sharing as "Anonymous"
- _____ Please use my pseudonym _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Country: _____ Zip/Postal code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

(This form can be photocopied so that other members can be asked to share their stories.)

Please submit this form and your sharing to:

AFG, Inc., Attn: Incarcerated Members' Stories
1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617
Fax: 757-563-1656; email: wso@al-anon.org

GROUP RECORDS: Robin R, Group Records Coordinator, presented the report –

435 Active Groups holding	496 meetings	23 Active Alateen Groups
3 Groups in No Mail status		29 Inactive Alateen Groups
127 Inactive Groups	134 Inactive meetings	
13 Groups with “bounced e-mail” addresses		

Robin asked for help in contacting the 3 groups in “no mail” status, to see if the groups are still meeting.

LITERATURE: Karen M, Literature Coordinator, presented the report –

Are you struggling to come up with a meeting topic? Have you thought about using a chapter in one of our Al-Anon books?

Is your meeting suffering from low attendance? Have your thought about a short term format change? Have you thought about using one of our Al-Anon books for a book study? There are many CAL books that are great meeting topics. A few to consider are: Discovering Choices, Opening Our Hearts Transforming Our Losses & Paths To Recovery Workbook.

Improving ways for members to order Al-Anon/Alateen Conference Approved Literature (CAL) e-books and audiobooks is important in the technological world we live in today. More members want to read CAL on their mobile phones, tablets, e-readers, and personal computers in addition to their print publications. Digital CAL also is a service to members who do not have CAL print publications.

Two new icons now appear in the “Books” and “Electronic Literature” sections of the WSO’s online store to identify and redirect members to our CAL e-books and audiobook pages offered by Amazon, Barnes and Noble, iTunes, Kobo, and Audible.com: A statement upholding Al-Anon’s Traditions follows the names of the electronic vendors for each digital CAL item

2017 is Alateen’s 60th Anniversary

Now you can get inspiring Alateen quotes and graphics by following and liking Alateen on Instagram. Just type Alateen WSO on Instagram or access the Alateen Instagram image located in our Public Outreach Web site: www.al-anon.org

You can also help spread the word of the Alateen message of hope by sharing this information with other Alateen members and/or teenagers affected by someone else’s drinking who may not have heard about the support that Alateen offers.

Please remember to protect your anonymity. “This announcement is informational only, and not an endorsement of any electronic media provider, reader, or other products sold by electronic media providers.” Every effort to uphold the spirit of Al-Anon’s Traditions and to adapt the WSO’s online store in to today’s technological world has been made.

Sharings still needed:

At this point, the Literature Committee has received enough sharings to proceed with developing introductory text for the intimacy book and the parents/grandparents pamphlet. However, we still need more sharings for the new daily reader, for which we have received 1,070 so far.

Forum Article or Daily Reader Sharing—What’s the Difference? The “Inside Al-Anon Family Groups” article in the January issue of The Forum addressed the difference between writing a sharing for The Forum and writing for a daily reader. If you are still wondering what the difference is, please read the attached article and pass it on!

Paths to Recovery Workbook (P-93), which was introduced in January, has been so well received that it has already gone into a second printing. Please share on AFG Connects with your fellow Literature Coordinators about what you are doing to encourage members to use this new tool. The workbook includes the same questions as the Paths to Recovery (B-24) book, along with space to write. The workbook is three-hole punched, so if more room is needed for writing, it can be placed in a three-ring binder with extra paper. French and Spanish versions will be available in April.

CAL Sample Chapter: Each quarter we post a sample chapter of Conference Approved Literature on both the Public Outreach site, www.al-anon.org and the Members' site, www.al-anon.org/members. The sample chapter for April through June will be From Survival to Recovery (B-21). From July through September, it will be Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses (B-29).

PUBLIC OUTREACH: Jane E, Public Outreach Coordinator, presented the report –

I brought 500 copies of Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2017 – please take some with you to leave at doctors' offices, churches, libraries or other public places.

As your Public Outreach person, this has been interesting year. It started in July with the Addiction Studies, where I went around and introduced myself to all the different booths and handed out information on Al-Anon meeting schedules in their areas and Forums. Sandy told me later that the Columbus area received a lot of inquiries. Everyone should take meeting schedules and Forums or Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2017 and leave them in your doctor's office, or public place. I have ordered 500 Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism for our meeting today and 800 for Addiction Studies for this year.

If you have not brought in your meeting schedules from your area, please send 200 meeting schedules to me by the end of July. You can contact me through my email, publicoutreach@ohioal-anon.org for my mailing address.

Also, I gave information 2 times to my Al-Anon friend Marsha who works at a rehab in Wooster. Then, I attended a day of recovery at the Prince of Peace church where I put out Forums on a table and when I left they were all gone.

When I was teaching high school, I'd always put a "Thought Of The Day" on the blackboard. It wasn't religious or Al-Anon, but just a thought of the day. I had one student who always came in and wrote down the thought. I eventually gave him an Alateen book and he would write a "Thought Of The Day" on the blackboard and other students would come in to see what he had written. Also, I had a "Meeting On Wheels" come out to the school and pass out literature, which was also very well received.

TEAM EVENT 2017: Theresa M, Alternate Delegate, presented the report –

The theme for the Ohio TEAM event is Spirituality Of Action in Recovery, (S.O.A.R.). What is the TEAM event? This is a partnership between Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio (AFG of Ohio) and the World Service Office (WSO) which is designed to energize members' spiritual program into action and expand members' understanding of our worldwide fellowship. The day will consist of workshops and talks by WSO members teaming up with members of AFG of Ohio. The workshops we will be presenting are on Spirituality, Action and Recovery. WSO will be sending Mary G., Interim Executive Director, Tom C., Literature and Joan S., Trustee.

The TEAM event takes place Friday July 7, 2017 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. The cost is \$15 Pre-registration or \$17 at the door. Lunch on your own. It takes place at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Akron Fairlawn, 3150 West Market Street, Akron, Ohio. S.O.A.R. into the OAC!!! Ohio Area Convention (OAC) will start right after the TEAM event.

As of today's meeting, we have 10 people registered, 3 of who are from Canada.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BUDGET COMMITTEE: Donna K, Budget Committee Chair, presented the report –

The Budget Committee met on February 26 for one day instead of staying at a hotel overnight for the budget meeting. AA Convention Hospitality, Action Committees, and Addiction Studies Institute will keep the same budget as last year. We raised the Al-A-Notes budget by \$300 to \$1100 because of the rising printing cost.

Alateen Coordinator, Alternate Delegate, Archives Coordinator, Audit/Review Committee, and Budget Committee will keep the same budget as last year.

Bulk Mailing/Return Postage was reduced by \$300 to \$1000 because most of that cost is now coming out of the Al-A-Notes budget.

Chairman and Compliance Liaison/AAPP will retain the same budget.

Delegate, we gave her back the \$50 that we deducted last year.

Delegate Equal Fund, Del/Alt NCRDM & Delegate OAC, and Forum Coordinator will all retain the same budget as last year.

Group Records Coordinator budget was reduced by \$50.

Group Rep. Orientation, Handbook and By-Laws Committee, Liability & Crime Insurance, and Literature Coordinator will remain the same.

Meeting Expenses were way over their budget this past year due to some unforeseen circumstances. We raised that budget by \$1200 to \$3000 and are hopeful that we will be able to be reduced it in the next few years.

Public Outreach will remain the same.

Secretary was raised by \$350 to \$1000 because some of the printing expenses are now being handled by that position. This may need to change next year.

Treasurer was raised by \$50 to \$500. That category was over by \$500 because some of our nonprofit Government required reports and Licenses had large penalties for not being reported and paid on time.

Travel Expenses, Two-Day Fall & Convention Liaison, Two-Day Hospitality, and Website setup and Maintenance will remain the same.

OAA 2017 BUDGET WORKSHEET

2016 Income

Assembly FUNDS

Group Donations	10,857.87	
Plea Letter Contributions	5,947.90	
Personal Donations	67.43	
Information Service & District Donations	200.16	
CD Interest	<u>618.01</u>	
TOTAL INCOME for budget & reserves	17,691.37	(2016 – 16,320.00)

Excess FUNDS

2016 Budget	14,560.00	
2016 Expended	<u>-15,512.47</u>	
	-952.47	\$0 to Excess Funds in 2017

Reserve FUNDS

Active Past Delegate Fund	<u>0.00</u>	
Convention Float	<u>0.00</u>	
Convention Reserve	<u>646.37</u>	
Action Comm/Coordinator Fund	<u>0.00</u>	
District Rep AWSC meeting 5%	<u>0.00</u>	
Equipment Fund 5%	<u>885.00</u>	
OAC Fund	<u>0.00</u>	
Transition Fund	<u>0.00</u>	
TOTAL Reserve Fund Adjustments -	1,531.37	
	17,691.37	
	<u>-1,531.37</u>	
Available for 2017 Budget	16,160.00	

2017 PROPOSED RESERVES ADJUSTMENTS & BUDGET

Assembly Funds	Balance 12-31-2016	Budget Adjustment	Balance
Active Past Delegates Fund	\$608.89	0	\$608.89
Convention Float	\$3,200.00	0	\$3,200.00
Convention Reserves	\$2,000.00	\$646.37	\$2,646.37
District Rep AWSC Meeting	\$300.00	0	\$300.00
Equipment Fund	\$402.96	\$885.00	\$1287.96
Excess Funds	\$3,473.94	0	\$3,473.94
OAC Fund	\$600.00	0	\$600.00
Project Fund	\$800.00	0	\$800.00
Transition Fund	\$50.00	0	\$50.00
SUBTOTAL OF NON-BUDGET ITEMS		\$1531.37	

BUDGET ITEMS	2017 Proposed	2016 Budget	2016 Expense	2016 Budget Balance
AA Convention Hospitality	200.00	200.00	-211.20	-11.20
Action Committee	40.00	40.00	0	40.00
Addiction Studies Institute	1200.00	1,200.00	-1,467.04	-267.04
Al-A-Notes	1100.00	800.00	-1,032.45	-232.45
Alateen Coordinator	700.00	700.00	-610.72	89.28
Alternate Delegate	50.00	50.00	-30.40	19.60
Archives Coordinator	10.00	10.00	0	10.00
Audit/Review Committee	10.00	10.00	0	10.00
Budget Committee	300.00	300.00	-236.95	63.05
Bulk Mail/Return Postage	1000.00	1,300.00	-782.02	517.98
Chairman	50.00	50.00	0	50.00
Compliance Liaison/AAPP	120.00	120.00	-25.00	95.00
Delegate	200.00	150.00	-191.05	-41.05
Delegate Equal Fund	2000.00	2,000.00	-1909.00	91.00
Del/Alt NCRDM & Delegate OAC	1000.00	1,000.00	-707.46	292.54
Forum Coordinator	10.00	10.00	0	10.00
Group Records Coordinator	50.00	100.00	-16.83	83.17
Group Rep Orientation	100.00	100.00	-74.95	25.05
Handbook and By-laws Committee	200.00	200.00	-36.88	163.12
Liability & Crime Insurance	875.00	875.00	-874.00	1.00
Literature Coordinator	10.00	10.00	0	10.00
Meeting Expenses	3000.00	1,800.00	-2,992.12	-1,192.12
Public Outreach Coordinator	10.00	10.00	0	10.00
Secretary	1000.00	650.00	-1,144.89	-494.89
Travel Expenses	2000.00	2,000.00	-1845.52	154.48
Treasurer	500.00	450.00	-951.07	-501.07
Two-Day Fall & Convention Liaison	10.00	10.00	0	10.00
Two-Day Hospitality	300.00	300.00	-292.97	7.03
Website setup and maintenance	115.00	115.00	-79.95	35.05
SUBTOTAL OF BUDGET ITEMS	16,160.00	14,560.00	-15,512.47	-952.47

Charis B, GR for Thursday Night 12 Step AFG, moved and Karen P, Compliance Liaison & AAPP, seconded to approve the budget. The motion passed.

HANDBOOK COMMITTEE: Sandy F, Handbook Committee Chair, presented the report –

All revisions to the By-Laws and Handbook approved in November 2016 at the Fall Assembly were completed in January this year and are posted on the Ohio AFG website. Scroll down to documents then click on By-Laws or Handbook. Any changes approved today will be added or changed within two months and a revision will be added to the Ohio Area website.

As I was reviewing the Handbook while making the current revisions, it seems to me the content of the Handbook is usable, but the organization tends to be a little confusing. The Handbook Committee will continue to review the Handbook and bring any recommendation to the Fall AWSC meeting.

The Handbook Committee is working on Two Task Forces: the first is to revise the wording of the Secretary's description in the By-laws on page four. The other is to reword the instructions in the AMIAS Certification Packet, page 45 of 46. This page is the instruction for sending finger prints to the FBI directly. These instructions are obsolete. Recommendations for proposed changes will be taken to the Fall AWSC meeting for consideration.

As you know the election of Officers and Coordinators will be held at the 2017 Fall Assembly. All Officers and coordinators will be elected and Standing Committee Chairman will be appointed by the Area Chairman–elect. I recommend looking in the Handbook for eligibility for the specific service position you are thinking about, just to be sure you are eligible. Then call the current person in that service position and inquire about it.

COMPLIANCE LIAISON / AAPP: Karen P, Compliance Liaison / AAPP, presented the report –

Judy, the Area Treasurer for AFG of Ohio Inc., has completed the 2016 non-profit tax filing, keeping the corporation in good standing.

The AMIAS (AI-Anon Members in Alateen Service) recertification deadline of June 1, 2017 is approaching quickly. In February, reminders were sent out by email for those who have provided an email and mailed to all others. The end of April, a letter with a copy of Form 1 and Form 2 was mailed to any AMIAS who had not sent in their recertification information for 2017. Included was a request for members who would not be recertifying to please let me know. This past week I made phone calls, left messages or when appropriate text messages to remind the few which I had not been able to recertify due to missing information.

Currently Ohio has 23 active Alateen Groups and 67 Certified AMIAS. Of the 67 AMIAS, there are still 11 who need to finish completing forms for recertification. I have been contacted by a few AI-Anon members who wish to become new Sponsors and hope to start a few more groups in the near future. I have provided them with the safety guidelines and the paperwork for certification. Also, I have provided them with the background check information for their area. I am looking forward to getting to work with many of them in the near future to help them be set up for success.

Many are looking forward to the Alateen participation at the Ohio Area Convention. Alateens will be presenting a panel, a skit, a workshop and hoping all will enjoy the 60th Anniversary Cake which will be available on Saturday night. Please consider joining our Alateens at this event in July.

REVIEW 2017 & 2016: Kathleen S, Review Committee Chair, presented the report –

I have no report as of yet. Laura B emailed me that she was going to send the 2016 report but was not able to get it to me prior to this meeting. We will have our reports at the Fall Assembly.

TWO DAY FALL / OAC LIAISON: Buff noted that this position is still vacant and asked everyone to think about this and other positions that will be elected / appointed at the upcoming Two Day Fall Assembly.

WEBSITE: Mike K, Chair, was absent and Phil presented the report – it is attached at the end of these minutes.

Phil pointed out the noticeable decline in web traffic from last year; the additional domain name, which was approved at the 2016 Fall Assembly, www.ohioalanon.org (without the hyphen); and the new remote meeting page link. Also, he demonstrated the beta version of the Area web site that Mike is working on. This site would be completely “device friendly” – that is the web site will adjust its size to the size of the user's device screen. The site address is <http://beacondelta.com/webs.OAA>. One of the features already on the beta version is the Remote Meeting feature.

Finally, Mike reported that our domain name registration fees increased to \$20 this year. The registration was renewed but Mike is looking at switching to another domain registrar for next year. Please email Mike at webmaster@ohioal-anon.org and share your thoughts on the new beta web site.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tape recording of minutes – Buff explained that the Assembly meeting is recorded by the Secretary, to ensure that the minutes are accurate. The recording is maintained only until the respective Assembly's minutes are approved at the next Assembly and then it is erased.

VOTING MEMBER COUNT UPDATE: A recount of the voting members present showed that 54 voting members were present.

KBDM – Change name on Bylaws & motion: Sandy F presented the report –

Topic: Change the name of the title for the By-Laws for AFG of Ohio

Historical Background: The titles have been the same for these documents since AFG of Ohio was incorporated in 1991.
Title of the By-Laws: BY-LAWS of the OHIO AREA ASSEMBLY FOR AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS.

Existing Motions:

What Do We Know About Our Membership's Needs, Wants and Preferences? Members want the documents to have clear titles and descriptions.

What Do We Know About Our Capacity (resources)? The proposed change would not have any effect on the line item in the budget for the Handbook Committee.

What Are The Implications Of Our Choices?

Pros: More clarity to the titles of documents. Titles match the name of the organization on page 2 of the By-Laws.

Cons: The titles would not match the name of the organization on page 2 of the By-Laws.

What Do We Wish We Knew But Don't? ???

MOTION 2017 / 05 – 01: To change the title of the By-Laws

From: BY-LAWS of the OHIO AREA ASSEMBLY FOR AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS

To: BY-LAWS FOR AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS OF OHIO, INC.

Sandy F, Handbook Committee Chair moved and Robin R, Group Records Coordinator, seconded the motion. Buff announced that all motions would require substantial unanimity. The vote was 54 for; 0 opposed; and 0 abstentions. The motion passed.

KBDM – Update By-Laws Article II Section F to match current practice & motion: Sandy F presented the report –

Background Information: Until 2005, the Handbook Committee printed a set of the By-Laws and Handbooks with all the updated information yearly for each attendee of the Fall Assembly. The Fall Assembly, in 2005, changed the printing schedule to be a full set every three years with changes only printed every year and distributed at the Fall assemblies to attendees.

When Ohio Area launched its website the By-Laws and Handbook were one of the first items to be added to the site. With the addition to the website of the By-Laws and Handbook changes were easily made and members were able to download and print an updated version of these documents themselves.

Printing of sets of the By-laws and Handbook were no longer printed for every attendee for distribution as the cost for printing had skyrocketed. Only enough sets were copies for new Group Representatives. This practice started in 2007 and continues today.

Existing Motion That Pertain To This Topic: To print complete sets of Handbook and By-Laws every three years. For the in-between years only the changes from those two intervening years will be printed. (Passed 10/21/05)

What Do We Know About Our Membership's Needs, Wants and Preferences? Members want the By-Laws and Handbook to be up to date and available.

What Do We Know About Our Capacity (resources)? Available funds for budget line items for the Handbook committee have decreased over the past several years.

What Are The Implications Of Our Choices?

Pros: updates will be available shortly after each assembly and only printing copies for new GR will help keep Area expenses down.

Cons: no change will increase Area Expenses in order to follow By-laws directive.

What We Wish We Knew But Don't? ???

MOTION 2017 / 05 – 02: To change Article II, Section F of the By-Laws of AFG of Ohio

From: To print complete sets of Handbook and Bylaws every 3 years. For the in between years only the changes from those two intervening years will be printed.

Change to read: Changes and all updates to the By-Laws or Handbook for AFG of Ohio, Inc. shall be posted on the Ohio Area Website within two months following each Assembly meeting. Printed sets of the By-Laws and Handbook shall be limited to the number of new Group Representatives from the previous year plus ten.

Sandy F, Handbook Committee Chair, moved and Kathleen S, DR 6, seconded the motion. The vote was 52 for; 0 opposed; and 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

KBDM – Revise Secretary's duties in Bylaws & motion – Phil H presented the report –

Topic: To revise the Secretary's duties in the By-Laws

Background Information – What we know

Historical Perspective –

The Secretary's duties were completely revised in the Handbook at the 2016 Fall Assembly. A portion of that revision detailed the manner in which the minutes are retained, and by whom.

The current description for the Secretary's duties in the By-Laws is now not correct.

Existing Motions That Pertain To This Topic –

Motion 2016 – 11 / 05, adopted at the 2016 Fall Assembly, revised the Secretary's duties in the Handbook.

What Do We Know About Our Members' Wants, Needs and Preferences?

We need to "Keep It Simple" and ensure we have clearly defined responsibilities.

What do we know about our capacity (resources)?

We should be mindful that our By-Laws are the legal framework for our organization. Inaccurate job descriptions can lead to unnecessary work.

What are the implications of our choices? (pros and cons) ?

Pro – Aligning the Secretary’s duties in the By-Laws with the current duties in our Handbook avoids confusion.

Con – Maintaining the “status quo” places an unnecessary burden on the Secretary.

What we wish we knew, but don't:

Questions and Clarification:

Need for motion? Yes – the motion follows.

MOTION 2017 / 05 – 03: To amend the Secretary’s duties on Page 4 of 11 in the Bylaws, as follows:

As is currently written:

Article III – Officers

F. Secretary

Takes minutes of all Assembly and Area World Service Committee meetings and records the minutes in permanent minute book, which is passed on to successors.

By deleting the last part of the sentence, as follows:

~~Takes minutes of all Assembly and Area World Service Committee meetings and records the minutes in permanent minute book, which is passed on to successors.~~

And adding the following in its place: and maintains them as specified in the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures for AI-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc.

So that the amended section reads, as follows:

Article III – Officers

F. Secretary

Takes minutes of all Assembly and Area World Service Committee meetings and maintains them as specified in the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures for AI-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc.

Phil H, Secretary, moved and Karen P, Compliance Liaison & AAPP, seconded the motion. The vote was 52 for; 1 opposed; and 1 abstention. The motion passed.

KBDM – Change name on Handbook & motion: Sandy F presented the report –

Topic: Change the name of the title for the By-Laws and Handbook for AFG of Ohio

Historical Background: The title has been the same for this document since AFG of Ohio was incorporated in 1991. Title of the handbook: HANDBOOK of General and Committee Working Procedures for Ohio Area Assembly Meeting

Existing Motions:

What Do We Know About Our Members’ Wants, Needs and Preferences? Members want the documents to have clear titles and descriptions.

What Do We Know About Our Capacity (resources)? The proposed change would not have any effect on the line item in the budget for the Handbook Committee.

What Are The Implications Of Our Choices?

Pros: More clarity to the titles of documents. Titles match the name of the organization on page 2 of the Handbook

Cons: The titles would not match the name of the organization on page 2 of the Handbook.

What Do We Wish We Knew But Don't? ???

MOTION 2017 / 05 – 04: To change the title of the Handbook

From: Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures for the Ohio Area Assembly Meeting

To: Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures for Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc.

Sandy F, Handbook Committee Chair, moved and Kay J, DR 56, seconded the motion. The vote was 54 for; 0 opposed; and 0 abstentions. The motion passed.

KBDM: Change the wording description in Handbook & motion: Sandy F presented the report –

Topic: Change the wording description in the Handbook for AFG of Ohio

Historical Background: The wording description has been the same for this document since AFG of Ohio was incorporated in 1991.

Existing Motions:

What Do We Know About Our Members' Wants, Needs and Preferences? Members want the documents to have clear titles and descriptions.

What Do We Know About Our Capacity (resources)? The proposed change would not have any effect on the line item in the budget for the Handbook Committee.

What Are The Implications Of Our Choices?

Pros: More clarity to the documents. Titles match the name of the organization on page 2 of the Handbook.

Cons: The titles would not match the name of the organization on page 2 of the Handbook.

What Do We Wish We Knew But Don't? ???

MOTION 2017 / 05 – 05: To change the wording description on the title page of the Handbook

From:

This handbook is intended to be used in conjunction with "Ohio Area Assembly By-Laws for Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc."

In all Proceedings, the latest edition of the Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual will be followed except for deviations found in this "Handbook" and "Ohio Area Assembly By-Laws".

All succeeding Ohio Area Assemblies will follow the current guidelines in this Procedure Handbook, until and unless amended.

To:

This handbook is intended to be used in conjunction with the By-Laws of the Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc.

In all Proceedings, the latest edition of the Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual will be followed except for deviation found within this "Handbook" and the "By-laws for Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc."

All succeeding Ohio Area Assemblies will follow the current guidelines in the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedure for Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc.

Sandy F, Handbook Committee Chair, moved and Eunice B, GR for Lisbon Monday Night AFG, seconded the motion. . The vote was 54 for; 0 opposed; and 0 abstentions. The motion passed.

KBDM – Listing Past Delegates as Officers in the Handbook: Sandy F presented the report –

Topic: Listing Past Delegates as officers in the Handbook as stated in the By-Laws.

Background: Past Delegates have served in a variety of service positions in the past, and are listed in the By-Laws as Officers. The experience, strength, and hope Past Delegates bring to discussions is valuable.

Existing Motions: None

What Do We Know About Our Members' Wants, Needs and Preferences? Members appreciate the wisdom brought to discussions by Past Delegates.

What Do We Know About Our Capacity (resources)? Adding Past Delegates to the List of Officers in the Handbook would have no impact on the budget as Past Delegates already have a line item in the budget.

What We Wish We Knew But Don't? How long members wondered about this topic.

MOTION: To add Past Delegates to the list of Officers on page 4 of the Handbook and a description on page 5. Currently reads:

1. Delegate
2. Alternate Delegate
3. Chairman
4. Secretary
5. Treasurer

Change to read:

1. Delegate
2. Alternate Delegate
3. Chairman
4. Secretary
5. Treasurer
6. Past Delegates

AND add to page 5 the following description:

Past Delegates

May be appointed as Area Coordinators of a special service, or may fill any position the Delegate or Assembly may desire.

Sandy F, Handbook Committee Chair, moved and Regina F, GR for Circle Of Hope AFG in Lyndhurst, seconded the motion. After discussion, Buff tabled the matter until the Fall Assembly.

PROPOSED NEW GR FLYER – WSO APPROVAL: Buff tabled this item until the Fall Assembly.

CONVENTION AND ASSEMBLY REPORTS –

2016 TWO DAY FALL ASSEMBLY: Buff tabled the report until the Fall Assembly.

2017 CONVENTION: Jo S, DR 51 & Convention Chair was absent and Karen P, Compliance Liaison/AAPP presented the report –

Will be held on July 7th, 8th and 9th (following the TEAM event)

Our theme this year is "Together we can Make it"

We will be at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel located at 3150 West Market Street, Akron, Ohio

Room rates are \$119.00 per night plus tax (which is 15.25%). You can either get 2 double beds or a king. Any room that is not cancelled by noon the day before arrival will be charged one night's rate plus tax.

If you are sharing your room (1-4 people) the hotel will be glad to split your bill for you.

You can call (330) 869-9000 for reservations or you can go to their website at

www.doubletreeakron.com/afgofohio

Be sure to use the code afgohi for your guaranteed room rate!

This lovely hotel is located west of downtown Akron with a large mall across the street.

There is an indoor swimming pool as well as a fitness center

"Free Cookies when you check in + room with 2 queen size beds

We will have three meeting rooms

The banquet on Saturday night will be buffet style and the cost is \$35.00

If you prefer, there is a restaurant in the hotel called Cafe Bricco and there are numerous other restaurants nearby.

We are excited to bring you 2 great speakers from our World Service Office (who are coming for the TEAM event and staying. Mary G. is the new Executive Director for WSO / Tom C is the Assistant Director of Communications, Literature at WSO

And there is more... there will be Al-Anon, AA and Alateen workshops and speakers all weekend

If you want to take a break on Saturday afternoon, this hotel is a very short distance from Dr. Bob's (and Ann's) house as well as the gatehouse. We are working with AA to see if we can schedule a tour, but this has not yet been confirmed.

2017 AA CONVENTION WITH AL-ANON PARTICIPATION: Louise W, Liaison, presented the report –

The 2017 Ohio AA Convention will be the last weekend in July at the Doubletree by Hilton, 175 Hutchinson Ave., Columbus OH 43235 (that's off N. High St. just north of I-270).

Registration is \$25 for the entire weekend or one event or (sorry) but includes the entire weekend, all speakers and the ice cream socials Friday and Saturday nights after the speakers (around 10). The Saturday evening dinner buffet is a separate cost of \$40, as is lodging.

We also will have a literature display with some of it for sale, and will be bunking with the AAs in a joint hospitality room. It will be open at all times except when the main speakers are on.

Our events will be:

Fri July 28, 4pm -- Early bird AFG meeting

Sat July 29 1030am -- Panel/Workshop on Alcoholism as a Family Disease

Sat. July 29 1:30pm -- AFG lead by Cathy W. of Columbus

Sat. July 29 2:45pm -- Panel/workshop on Double Winners and how AFG helps recovery in both programs

Sun. Jul. 30 9am -- Workshop/panel on Spirituality using CAL's two specific books

Everyone leading our meetings will be from Central Ohio with lots of years of recovery, so they should be good programs.

There are registration flyers (blue) and notices to post (in plastic protective covers) at LDCs (AKA Central Offices) on the information table.

2017 TWO DAY FALL ASSEMBLY: Sandy F presented the report –

Following the review of possible sites and site visits, the 2017 Fall Assembly Site Selection Committee gladly announces the Fall Assembly 2017 will be held at the Embassy Suites in Dublin, Ohio which is located at the corner of Bridge Street and Franz Road, on October 28-29, 2017. Rooms are all Suites and are for 1-6 people. Breakfast is included. The Room rate is \$124 plus tax per night.

Negotiations for the Banquet Meal are still in progress. So a flier is not ready. An electronic copy of the flier will be sent to District Representatives and all AWSC members for distribution to Group Representative and it will be downloadable from the Ohio Area website.

There will be a Hospitality Suite which will be open when there are no meetings. A light lunch will be provided before Assembly begins. A very light breakfast will be available on Sunday for those members who do not stay at the Embassy Suites on Saturday night.

Entertainment after the banquet is still in the planning stage.

2018 TWO DAY FALL ASSEMBLY – DISTRICTS OF CLEVELAND: Buff tabled the report until the Fall Assembly.

Meeting Schedule for 2017

Ohio TEAM Event – July 7, 2017 – DoubleTree Inn by Hilton, 3150 W Market St, Akron (Fairlawn)
Ohio Area Convention – July 7 – 9, 2017 – DoubleTree Inn by Hilton, 3150 W Market St, Akron (Fairlawn)
Ohio AA Convention w/ AI-Anon participation – July 28 – 30, 2017, DoubleTree Inn, 175 Hutchinson Ave, Cols.
KOMIAC – July 28 – 30, 2017 – Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN
Fall AWSC – August 12, 2017 – North Congregational United Church of Christ, 2040 Henderson Rd, Columbus
Fall Assembly – October 28-29, 2017, Embassy Suites, 5100 Upper Metro Pl, Dublin
Alateen Fall Rally – October 14 – Location TBA

CLOSE: There being no further business, Robin R, Group Records Coordinator, moved and Lindsay B, GR for Flower Of Hope AFG, seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM, with the AI-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil H
Area Secretary