

AWSC March 2006
Delegate Report
Barbara W.

Alateen –

- meeting must be registered before the first meeting.
- Steve A., Ohio Alateen coordinator will notify AMIIAS members of their certification number.
- Members may be certified in more than one area, however they first need to be certified in the area in which they reside.
- G-34 Alateen Safety Guidelines available now.
- G-16 Alateen Conference Guideline - all new, in process now.
- G-24 Alateen Coordinator Guideline under revision, submit comments by April 1.
- Alateen groups: Make cards in honor of Al-Anon's 55th celebrations. Send to WSO by April 15 for display at the April 29th Open House. Hundreds of members will see your cards!
- AAPP (Alateen Area Process Person) is the area “postman”. This frees up the Alateen coordinator to do workshops, not paperwork.
- Urge all members to go through the AMIIAS process, showing support for Alateen.
- AAS – Area Authorized Signature – in Ohio, this is our Alternate Delegate.
- P-86 A Guide to Alateen Sponsorship – An Unforgettable Adventure is currently under revision. Last chance to submit sharings for this book.
- New Guideline in process – a “how to” on starting an Alateen meeting.
- WSO is working on an Alateen Bulletin Board website for Alateens. This will be especially helpful for those teens that cannot attend meetings.
- The Alateen Advisory Committee has positions open: one transitioning/transitioned Alateen position, two sponsor positions and one position for an Al-Anon member who works with children or is a past Alateen Coordinator. Review the committee member qualifications (on back of resume form). For safety reasons, first priority is given to area submissions that include both Alateen and Alateen Sponsor resumes. The Alateen and Sponsor do not have to know each other; they just need to be able to travel on the same flight. Term is for one year, members can serve up to six terms if they continue to meet the AAC requirements and reapply annually. Positions will be filled beginning May 1st. Resumes should be faxed, postal mailed or scanned and emailed to the WSO before that date. Resumes will be accepted until the positions are filled. The AAC usually meets twice a year – normally the fourth weekend of July and January. Parental permission is required for all Alateens. The WSO requires all Alateens below the age of 18 to either be accompanied by a committee member who is certified through their area or to use the airline's escort service.

Literature

- G-3 Cooperating with AA – under revision. This will take awhile, as we need to connect with AA.
- Service Manual P24/27 “Groups at Work” section has been heavily revised. Check it out!
- Quarterly a sample chapter is posted at www.al-anon.alateen.org/members. This is a great way to take a peek at CAL.
- Publication of Service Manual postponed until 2007.
- New 7th Tradition pamphlet S-21 is available now.
- WSO is seeking articles from education and health care professionals on how they use AFG as a resource - for publication in Public Outreach issues of the Forum. Sharings may be 400-900 words in length.

Remaining Regional Service Seminars (RSS)

- South Central, August 4-6 at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Irving, TX. “Service is Deep in the Heart”. Registration fee is \$35.00
- Canada West, November 10-12 at the Heritage Inn, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. “Strength Through Service”. Registration fee is \$25.00

World Service Conference: April 24-28. Mail to arrive 4/20 or later Delegate's Name (hold for WSC 4/24-28) Ramada Plaza Resort Hotel 5700 Atlantic Ave. Virginia Beach, VA 23451-2236 I need LOVE GIFTS to share with the other Delegates! If you and/or your group are willing, please send to the hotel, to my attention at the above address.

I have been selected to join the Conference Committee on Trustees (CCT). This was my first choice.

My conference sponsor is Cindy M. from Arizona.

Delegates were mailed 2 copies of *Hope for Today*, in Spanish and in French. We are to report at Conference what we chose to do with this publications. I have donated the Spanish reader to a Hamilton church library that has a large Spanish-speaking congregation. If you have any ideas for the French reader, please let me know.

2006 WSC Theme SHARED LEADERSHIP – Moving forward with Confidence, Collaboration, and Clarity

Forum –

- beginning June 1 the Forum will be \$7.00 + postage, allowing the Forum to become self-supporting. (U.S. \$7.00 + \$4.00 postage = \$11.00)
- beginning with May issue, all registered groups will receive a complimentary subscription, mailed to the group's current mailing address(CMA). “Inside Al-Anon Xtra” will be discontinued in July to cover this expense.

WSO Budget

- Contributions for 2005 are up by approximately \$40,000.
- Literature sales dropped \$216,200 – reminder of 1990s, when “all we had to do was buy one book” and this worked!

Director of Communication Services Robert S was hired, effectively Feb. 27. Bob began his Al-Anon program in Massachusetts and continued his service in Kansas before relocating to Virginia Beach. He has many years of experience in the communication field as well as having held a variety of supervisory positions. He spent many years as communication director for a number of technology companies.

Al-Anon's 55th Anniversary Banquet

You may still order banquet tickets for Sat. April 29 banquet at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Ticket sales end on April 14th. Order forms can be downloaded from the members site, from a drop-down menu under WSO Seminars/Conventions: www.al-anon.org/members

Chosen Agenda Topics:

Spiritual principles and good business practices

- Is Al-Anon still a spiritual Fellowship or are we moving towards being a not for profit business?
- How do we face the inevitable changes to the program in our changing world while staying true to the Traditions and Concepts? With that, how can we best keep our focus on this being a spiritual fellowship above it being a business?
- How can we reassure those members who are concerned that Al-Anon has become focused on acquiring and protecting money and property rather than trusting our fellowship's future to a Higher Power? What spiritual principles are regularly used to ensure that there is always a balance between good business management and the spirituality of our program of recovery?

How does the fellowship help newcomers understand that Al-Anon sponsorship does not include:

- Pyramid sponsorship -
- Sponsor, grand-sponsor, great grand sponsorship
- Need for prior approval to be in a group
- Being told not to attend other meetings
- Fear of leaving a group, alienation, snubbing or ridicule

The 2004-2006 Al Anon/Alateen Service Manual in English, Spanish, and French is now on the Members Web Site! Changes approved at Conference or text errors will be updated periodically within a reasonable time period after they come to our attention.- www.al-anon.alateen.org/members - Use your group's name followed by afg as the password. This will work for the Spanish and French sections of the Member Site as well as English.

Central Ohio AFG – did everyone see the simple service idea – adopt a bulletin board – in the Winter 2005 Al-Anon Area Highlights? These business cards were printed:

CONCERNED ABOUT Someone's Drinking? Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups 614-253-2701

Regional Delegate's Meeting – The Alternate Delegate, Sandy F. and I flew in a day early, on our own nickel, to shop at the Mall of America and get to know each other better. Our conversations always went back to Ohio Area Assembly and what we can do to enhance Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio. Because the RDM was held in Minnesota, the expense for sending two was significant for OAA, but Sandy and I shared a room and it was a treat to watch Sandy awaken to the alarm set on music! We both soaked up the experiences and wisdom of the past and current delegates shared at the meetings. When with the regional members, we spread out and talked with others, carrying our knowledge back to our room to share with each other. I thank you for this opportunity to prepare for World Service Conference!

RSS – At the 2-day Fall Assembly, the GR's voted to not send their Delegate to an annual Regional Service Seminar, unless it was in the North Central Region. In the past, assembly has sent the Delegate to one RSS a year. I talked with other Areas at the Regional Delegate's meeting and I have a concern that this is limiting your Delegate's experience to Al-Anon within Ohio. When an Area sends their Delegate outside of the Area, the Area gains from that global viewpoint and vision for Al-Anon Family Groups as the worldwide fellowship that it is. Because of the 2008 International Convention, there will not be a North Central Regional Service Seminar this term. I hope there will be more discussion and thought about this, perhaps making it less of a mandate and more of a personal option for the Delegate to consider.

Action Committees – I am working with the Alternate Delegate and Chairman, and all the officers and coordinators to provide suggested topics for our Action Committees to address when they meet at 11 a.m. on May 20th.

- One concern that came from the North Central Regional Delegates Meeting was the lack of participation in the RSS held in Cleveland. I would like to ask one of our Action Committees to address this in a survey to our fellowship, and I will carry this report to the Trustee at the March, 2007 RDM.
- I would also like an Action Committee to address our voting procedures. I feel we have the committees in place, and it is redundant to appoint more committees.
- I would also like an Action Committee to address the Alateen procedure. Is the current procedure working for our Area and it's members or do adjustments need to be considered?
- There is a fabulous Alateen skit from a Minnesota member that an Action committee could perform at 2-day. The skit depicts Alateen before the safety and behavioral requirements and after.
- Lastly, (for now!) could an Action Committee, such as Fellowship Communication, assist our Secretary in getting the minutes out in a timely fashion?

Barbara W. 3/25/06
