

**Area World Service Committee
August 17, 2013**

CHAIRMAN: Sandy F began the meeting at 12:30 with the Serenity Prayer and welcomed all. Traditions were read by Eleanor T, Concepts of Service were read by Caroline S and the Warranties were read by Malinda D. We then continued with introductions. There were 25 present.

SECRETARY-Karen McK: Sandy asked if there were any additions or correction to the minutes from the March 2013 AWSC meeting. There were none. Sharon B moved to accept the minutes as presented. Susan W seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT- Robin R (interim treasurer)

Balance as of 12-31-12	\$33,698.45
Income after 12-31-12	\$10,509.96
Expense after 12-31-12	\$-9,334.77
Balance as of 08-13-13	\$33,832,35

ALTERNATE DELEGATE/NEWS LETTER: Ginny C was absent. Sandy reported for Ginny about the new edition of the AI-ANOTES .

DELEGATE'S REPORT- Rex M

I really do not have a lot to report. Have had many e-mails and phone calls. It sure keeps me busy. I brought the 2013 Summary's. Please sign for them as you take them. I also have some 2012 copies left that will be given to new DR's and Officers.

We have a few new meetings in the state. Mansfield, Ohio and Waterville, Ohio to mention a couple. Request from Georgia. Vicki L. A list of questions were submitted. I will be working on them and may need help with some from others. Going to suggest look at Ohio Website and see Handbook and By-Laws.

Literature Committee Phone Conference Call August 12th, 2013. 8PM til 9:30PM.
Updates: The new book "Reaching for Personal Freedom" well received . Sales Going well. Alcoholic Parent – in print. Intimacy and Alcoholic Relationship Has Received 900 sharings . "Parents/Grandparent" pamphlet –on its way. Design To come. Abuse pamphlet not to be taken to 2014 Conference. Talk of New Daily Reader to come up 2014 Conference.

Redistricting letter requesting to redistrict a Mount Vernon meeting from District G to District 26.

Team Event- Talks at WSC with PA. Delegate and W.Va. Delegate about low attendance at conferences and conventions. Possibly join at Team Events at other Areas? PA. had one scheduled but Ohio had conflict with date.

Thought and Task Forces Up-dates

Thought Force on Criteria for not referring new comers to groups who do not follow Al-Anon principles:

Susan W: reported on the Thought Force for Non-Referrals and said she hoped to have a full committee meeting soon to discuss the information they have collected from other Areas.

Task Force to Take Workshops to Remote Locations in Ohio Area: Carol R was absent and Karen M made the report on the Remote Meetings Task Force. She said they are making some progress and will have a report at the Two Day Fall Assembly.

Task Force to Explore Possible Changes to Ohio Area Convention: Buff N: reported they are getting some feedback from the email request and will have a report at the Two Day Fall Assembly.

Task Force Presentations:

Task Force on Electronic vs. USPS Distribution of Communications from Ohio Area:

Phil H: presented the report of the Electronic vs. USPS mail delivery of AI-A-Notes. From the surveys collected, the Task Force has determined that the majority of members prefer to receive the AI-A-Notes by USPS, the way it is now. The Task Force recommends that this be the method of delivery, along with a suggestion that the AI-A-Notes also be posted on the Ohio Area website, with the Officers information page removed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to send the Task Force recommendation to the Two Day Fall Assembly.

Task Force for Reserve Fund:

Robin R: presented a Knowledge Based Decision Making report from the Budget Committee to set an Ample Reserve for AFG of Ohio. In that report, the Committee recommends setting \$20,000 as an ample reserve and the remaining \$5,000 to be moved to excess funds. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to send the KBDM report to the Two Day Fall Assembly. A motion was made, Seconded, and passed to send the recommendation of \$20,000 as an ample reserve to the Two Day Fall Assembly, and a motion was made, seconded and passed to send the recommendation of moving \$5,000 to excess funds to the Two Day Fall Assembly.

Task Force for Budget Changes to the Handbook:

Robin R also presented a comprehensive KBDM regarding changes to the Handbook which included items on Voting, Special Standing Committees, Registration, and Expenses and Other Motions. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to send the report to the Two Day Fall Assembly.

COORDINATOR AND STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND CONVENTIONS

ALATEEN- Rose R - No Report

ARCHIVES-Caroline S - No Report

FORUM- Sharon B- No Report

GROUP RECORDS- Phil H: Phil gave a brief report on Group Records, showing the changes in the number of active & inactive groups since last year.

LITERATURE- Shirley M- No Report

PUBLIC OUTREACH- Marissa D- No Report

BUDGET- Robin R- No Report

BY-LAWS & HANDBOOK-Barbara W- No Report

REVIEW AND AUDIT- Louise W- No Report

OHIO WEBSITE- Mike K-

- Our website traffic declined slightly this year in the Spring, and leveled off in May and June, with slight gains in July. We have an average of 2006 unique visitors each month, down from 2,182 last Fall.
- Tuesdays and Thursdays are the highest traffic volume days this year. Saturday is the lowest.
- The most visited Web page continues to be the index of meeting lists throughout Ohio.
- The top 5 area meeting lists asked for on the OAA meeting directory are:

1.Remote 2.Cleveland 3.Toledo 4.Akron 5.Dayton

•The World Service Office website continues to be the largest contributor of visitor referrals to the OAA site. If anyone is interested in serving on the OAA Web Team, please contact Mike K. at: Phone: 513-847-4804 E-mail: webmaster@ohioal-anon.org

Peace and warmest regards,

Mike K. (webmaster@ohioal-anon.org)

STATS: <http://69.90.236.54:8585/awstats/awstats.pl?config=ohioal-anon.org>

Web Traffic Report www.ohioal-anon.org

COMPLAINCE LIASON AND AAPP- Janice R- No Report

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN- Eleanor T- No Report

2-DAY FALL ASSEMBLY- CONVENTIONS

Districts of Youngstown October 19-20, 2013

REPORTS:

Districts of Toledo Ohio Area Convention- Janice R announced that the 2014 Ohio Area Convention will be held June 20 – 22 at the Ramada Toledo Hotel and Conference Center, 3536 Secor Road, just off I-475, near downtown Toledo. More information will be available at the Fall Assembly

OLD BUSINESS- None

NEW BUSINESS

Sandy announced that the Board of Trustees & Executive Committee meeting held in July will go “on the road” beginning next year, on a trial basis, due to the high cost of hotels in Virginia Beach during that time of year. She asked if the AWSC would like to submit a proposal, and if so, it would have to be done ASAP. A motion was made, seconded, and passed for Sandy to prepare the proposal to send to the WSO.

District “T”, covering Champaign and Logan counties, is now being served by MVAIS(Districts of Dayton). Because of that, this district can now become a numbered district. A motion was made, seconded, passed to take this recommendation to the Fall Assembly.

The other AFG meeting in Mt. Vernon, currently in District G, has requested to be moved to District 26. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to take this request to the Fall Assembly. Final approval of the move (request) will be made by the Central Ohio AIS Council (Intergroup).

MOTIONS:

Following are the motions presented by the Budget Committee to amend the Handbook of General and committee Working Procedures for the Ohio Area Assembly Meeting under new Business:

#1) On page 3 of 28 change Voting under General Procedures from:

Voting: Group Representatives have the only vote at Assembly. A registration fee of \$3.00 per day is collected from each Group Representative at Assembly. (Fee paid by your group.) A voting member votes for only one group. (5/99 Motion #3)

To:

Voting: Group Representatives have the only vote at Assembly. A registration fee of \$5.00 per day is collected from each Group Representative at Assembly. (Fee paid by your group.) A voting member votes for only one group. (5/99 Motion #3)

Motion approved to send to Fall Assembly

#2) On page 4 of 28 change #5 Treasurer from:

5-Treasurer- Handles all Assembly funds, paying expenses approved by the By-Laws and the Budget Committee. Presents a brief written report of the status of accounts at all meetings and a complete written detailed accounting of all transactions quarterly. Sends an Appeal Letter to all groups twice a year. Is a member of and works closely with the Budget Committee, to bring recommendations to the Assembly on the use of excess funds.

Job description for **Treasurer** follows on page 12.

To:

5-Treasurer- Handles all Assembly funds, paying expenses approved by the By-Laws, The Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures for the Ohio Area Assembly and the Budget Committee. Presents a brief written report of the status of accounts at all meetings and a complete written detailed accounting of all transactions quarterly. Sends an Appeal Letter to all groups twice a year. Is a member of and works closely with the Budget Committee, to bring recommendations to the Assembly on the use of excess funds.

Job description for **Treasurer** follows on page 12.

Motion was Approved to send to Fall Assembly

#3) On page 14 of 28 change #7 Registration Committee from:

7-Registration Committee consists of two people to take responsibility for registration at Assemblies. The Committee will prepare an accurate report of all in attendance and forward it to the Area Secretary after the close of the Assembly. The committee will collect all Registration Fees and turn them over to the Area Treasurer, once the Registration Table has closed. The committee will prepare the list of eligible names for the drawing to be held at the 2-Day Fall Assembly as discussed under "**Ohio Area Convention/International Convention**", item #2, pg.16 of the Handbook. (05/11-motion #2011-2)

To:

7-Registration Committee consists of two people to take responsibility for registration at Assemblies. The Committee will prepare an accurate report of all in attendance and forward it to the Area Secretary after the close of the Assembly. The committee will collect all Registration Fees and turn them over to the Area Treasurer, once the Registration Table has closed.

Motion was Not approved.

#4) On page 15 of 28 change #2 Budget Committee under Expenses & Other Motions from:

2. Recommendation adopted: the Budget process will be based on percentage of prior year donations instead of on projected income. (10/92)

To:

2. Recommendation adopted: the Budget process will be based on the prior year donations instead of on projected income. (10/92)

Motion was approved to send to Fall Assembly.

- #5)** On page 16 of 28 change #4, #7 and #8 Budget Committee under Expenses & Other Motions from:
- 4 Recommendation adopted to establish \$2,500.00 Coordinators fund to use when coordinators expenses exceed budget amount (with Assembly approval). (10/97)
 - 7 The unused or non-used portions of approved monies from the Coordinators projects be returned to the General Coordinators Fund. (5/00 – motion #4)
 - 8 Budget committee is to have the authority to approve a maximum expense of \$300.00 out of the coordinators fund for special projects by coordinators. (10/00 – motion #10)

To:

- 4 To establish a Projects Fund for use when coordinators and/or action committees have a project to implement in the area. Expenses incurred by thought force, task force and work groups shall also come from this Fund. Fund to be increased at the discretion of the Budget Committee to a maximum of \$2500.

The Budget Committee is to have the authority to approve a maximum expense of \$300 out of the Project Fund for special projects by area coordinators, action committees, thought force, task force and work groups. Projects exceeding \$300 shall require Assembly Approval.

Monies approved but not spent on special projects by area coordinators or action committees are to be returned the Project Fund.

Motion approved to send to Fall Assembly.

- #6)** On page 16 of 28 change #10 Budget Committee under Expenses & Other Motions from:
10. To set aside \$1,500.00 from excess funds to establish a fund to be used by our past Delegates to help offset their expense to attend the annual Regional Delegates meeting, with an annual cap of \$200.00 each. This to be reviewed annually by the Budget committee. (10/03 – motion #7)

To:

10. To set aside \$1,500.00 for the Active Past Delegate Fund to establish a fund to be used by our past Delegates to help offset their expense to attend the annual Regional Delegates meeting, with an annual cap of \$300.00 each. This to be reviewed annually by the Budget committee.

Motion was approved to send to Assembly.

- #7)** On page 17 of 28 delete all of #1, #2 and #3 of Ohio Area Convention (OAC) / International Convention under Expenses & Other Motions as follows:

Ohio Area Convention (OAC) / International Convention:

1. Recommendation adopted: to allow in Regular Budget the total cost of sending the Delegate, if able and funds are available (or Alternate) to the OAC or International Convention annually.

- (5/06 Motion 64). To send the Delegate to the Regional Delegate's Conference each year (funds permitting). (10/92) Amended 05/07 Motion # 07-02
2. To allow in regular budget funds a yearly drawing (funds permitting) to subsidize 2 qualified AWSC members or Group Representatives to attend an OAC or International Convention
Qualifications: AWSC member to have attended 3 out of 4 meetings of the current, Group Representatives to have attendance at two out of 3 previous assembly meetings. Motion 08-04
 3. A person attending a OAC with Assembly subsidy does not qualify for second drawing for 3 years from time of attendance. (05/04 – Motion #4)

Motion was not approved.

#8) On page 17 of 28 #2 Reimbursed Expenses change from:

2. Traveling and living expenses can be subsidized for World Service Committee meeting (unless a Group Representative or District Representative).

To:

2. Traveling and living expenses can be subsidized for World Service Committee meeting (unless a District Representative).

Motions was not approved.

#9) On page 17 Of 28 #8 Reimbursed Expenses change from:

8. For all advances, final accounting is required. (10/93 – motion #2)

To:

8. For all advances, a written request must be submitted before an advance is granted. For all advances, final accounting is required. (10/93 – motion #2)

Motion approved to send to Fall Assembly.

#10) On page 17 Of 28 #9 Reimbursed Expenses change from:

9. Expense is considered substantiated only if enough information is submitted with the voucher (including actual invoices or receipts) to identify the specific nature of each expense and its purpose to the Assembly. (10/93 – motion #3) Exception: For payment on lost receipts for material or services for the AFG Ohio Inc. A written statement with validation by another Ohio Area Assembly member may be presented to the Chairman or the Budget Committee. (5/02 – motion #2)

To:

9. Expense is considered substantiated only if enough information is submitted with the voucher (including actual invoices or receipts) to identify the specific nature of each expense and its purpose to the Assembly. (10/93 – motion #3) Exception: For payment on lost receipts for material or services for the AFG Ohio Inc. A written statement with validation by another Ohio Area Assembly member may be presented to the treasurer and the Budget Committee.

Motion Approved to send to Fall Assembly.

#11) On page 17 Of 28 delete #10 Reimbursed Expenses as follows:

10. That travel expenses paid for active past delegates from the active past delegate fund to attend the four state meetings be subsidized equal to all officers or coordinators, as long as funds are available. (10/97 – motion #4)

And add “Active Past Delegate” to #16 Reimbursed Expenses changing it from:

16. To upgrade the May, 1996 per diem amounts for travel expenses for officers, coordinators and committee chairmen to be retroactive to Jan. 2000. (10/00 – motion #2) Table follows:

To:

16. To upgrade the May, 1996 per diem amounts for travel expenses for officers, coordinators, committee chairmen and Active Past Delegates to be retroactive to Jan. 2000. Table follows:

Motion approved to send to Fall Assembly.

#12) On page 17 Of 28 #11 Reimbursed Expenses change from:

11. Recommendation adopted to establish \$2,000.00 District Representative fund (plus 5% increase annually in budget based on income of previous year) to subsidize cost of District Representatives to attend AWSC meetings. Maximum reimbursement of \$35 per DR per AWSC meeting. (5/01 Motion 4) Put a cap of \$2000.00 on DR fund (5/03 Motion #4)

To:

11. To establish a District Representative fund to subsidize cost of District Representatives to attend AWSC meetings. Maximum reimbursement of \$50 per DR per AWSC meeting. Funding at discretion of Budget Committee with a cap of \$1000.00.

Motion approved to send to Assembly.

#13) On page 18 Of 28 #14 Reimbursed Expenses change from:

14. That the alternate delegate’s expense is paid to the regional delegates’ meeting, preferably during the first year of the three-year term. (5/98 – motion #1) Currently, the Alternate Delegate is sent to one North Central Regional Delegate’s meeting. If funds are available, Ohio Area Assembly will provide \$200.00 annually to the Alternate Delegate to attend the remaining two years of their three-year term. (passed 05/05 – Motion 10-C)

To:

14. That the alternate delegate’s expense is paid to the regional delegates’ meeting, preferably during the first year of the three-year term. (5/98 – motion #1) Currently, the Alternate Delegate is sent to one North Central Regional Delegate’s meeting. If funds are available, Ohio Area

Assembly will provide \$300.00 annually to the Alternate Delegate to attend the remaining two years of their three-year term.

Motion Approved to send to Fall Assembly

#14) On page 18 of 28 #16 and Per Diem Table from:

16 To upgrade the May, 1996 per diem amounts for travel expenses for officers, coordinators and committee chairmen to be retroactive to Jan. 2000. (10/00 – motion #2) Table follows:

	Meals	Banquet	½ Room	Travel (gas)	Total
1-day mtg: lunch & dinner	\$30.00			30.00	\$60.00
Annual 2 day mtg: lunch, brkft, lunch	\$30.00	25.00	60.00	30.00	\$145.00
1-day w/Fri mtg: add dinner & brkft	\$60.00		60.00	30.00	\$150.00
Annual 2 day w/Fri: add dinner & brkft	\$60.00	25.00	120.00	30.00	\$235.00
Dinner=\$30, Lunch=\$20, Brkft=\$10 – All are Maximum amounts allowed.					

To:

16 To upgrade the October 2000 per diem amounts for travel expenses for officers, coordinators, Standing committee chairmen and Active Past Delegates . Table follows:

	Meals	Banquet	½ Room	Travel (gas)	Total
1-day mtg: lunch & dinner	\$30.00			\$50.00	\$80.00
Annual 2 day mtg: lunch, brkft, lunch	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$60.00	\$50.00	\$175.00
1-day w/Fri mtg: add dinner & brkft	\$60.00		\$60.00	\$50.00	\$170.00
Annual 2 day w/Fri: add dinner & brkft	\$60.00	\$35.00	\$120.00	\$50.00	\$265.00

Motion Approved to send to Fall Assembly.

#15) On page 18 of 28 delete #1 Reimbursed Expenses listed below Per Diem Table (should be #17) as follows:

1. To put a cap of \$2,000.00 on the District Representatives Area World service Committee meeting. (5/03 – motion #4)

Delete this section.

Motion approved to send to Fall Assembly.

#16) Renumber sections/paragraphs as necessary per approved changes.

Motion approved to send to Fall Assembly

ADJOURNMENT

Sharon B moved to adjourn our meeting and Nancy O seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:00PM

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

Respectfully submitted
By, Karen McK
Area Secretary

KNOWLEDGE BASED DECISION MAKING FORM

Topic: Electronic Vs. USPS Communications – should the Ohio Area Assembly consider changing its method of distributing Ohio Al-A-Notes to its members?

Background information - What we know

Historical perspective – Currently, Ohio Al-A-Notes is distributed three times a year, via USPS at Non-Profit, bulk mail rates.

Existing motions that pertain to this topic – None. (Listed on page 15 of 28 in the Ohio Handbook are the only motions related to Ohio Al-A-Notes.)

What do we know about our membership's needs, wants and preferences?

The Task Force mailed out a survey in the Winter 2012 edition of Al-A-Notes and distributed additional surveys at the Spring 2013 AWSC meeting and 2013 Spring Assembly. Members were asked to rank, in order, their preference for receiving Al-A-Notes: (1) By the US Postal Service, also known as “snail mail”; (2) By open posting on the AFG of Ohio website; (3) By email sent to the Current Mailing Address (CMA) for the group; and (4) By a “password protected” part of the AFG of Ohio website. A total of 84 surveys were returned with the following results:

First Choice:

USPS – 41

Email – 28

Website – 10

Password protected (Al-A-Notes would be placed in a password protected area on the Area website) – 9

Second Choice:

Website – 28

Email – 23

Password protected– 12

USPS – 8

Third Choice:
Website – 26
Email – 16
Password protected – 14
USPS – 10

Fourth Choice:
Password protected – 36
USPS – 22
Email – 8
Website – 7

What do we know about our capacity (resources)?

Currently, we have the resources to distribute Ohio AI-A-Notes in any of the above four (4) manners.

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

(1) USPS:

Pros –

Members favored this method overall, followed by Email, Website, and Password Protected.

Mailings are delivered directly to the CMA. All that is required is for the CMA to take the Ohio AI-A-Notes to the meeting.

Cons –

USPS is the most expensive method of delivery. There are printing costs for the Ohio AI-A-Notes itself and mailing labels, and postage costs to send the mailing labels to the Ohio AI-A-Notes editor and postage costs to send the labeled Ohio AI-A-Notes to the Area Secretary for bulk mailing, as well as the actual bulk mail cost and the cost of returned mail.

USPS is the most time consuming. Once the Ohio AI-A-Notes edition is prepared on computer and printed by an outside source, the labels must be attached then bundled and sent to the Area Secretary. The Area Secretary must recheck to ensure the mailing is in the proper zip code order for bulk mailing and then take it to the Post Office.

(2) Website:

Pros –

Members favored this for both their second choice and third choice.

Once the Ohio AI-A-Notes edition is prepared, it is a simple matter to email it to the Website Chairman. They, then, would post it on the AFG of Ohio website.

Cons –

There is no way to be sure that the Ohio AI-A-Notes would be printed off and taken to the Group meetings. The Task Force did not discuss a methodology to be used to notify members that a new edition had been posted.

The “Officers Page” would have to be deleted in order to protect anonymity. Subscription and Exchange editions would need to be sent by USPS at first class postage rates.

(3) Email:

Pros –

Survey respondents ranked this third, followed by Password Protected.

Once the Ohio AI-A-Notes is prepared, it would require a minimal amount of work to email the edition to the CMA’s.

Cons –

The email addresses for 249 CMA’s (as of the Spring 2013 Assembly) would have to be maintained in a secure database.

Emails returned when a CMA changes their email address cannot be forwarded.

There would still be a requirement to USPS 206 copies of Ohio AI-A-Notes to CMA’s who do not have an email address listed. Additionally, subscription and exchange copies would have to be sent by USPS.

If the number of USPS copies would drop to less than 200, then those copies would have to be mailed at first class mail rates instead of non-profit rates.

(4) Password Protected:

Pros –

Ohio AI-A-Notes editions could have the Officer Page included.

Cons –

This was the least favored method by all respondents.

The Task Force did not delve deeply into the requirements for creating a “Password Restricted” portion of the AFG of Ohio’s Assembly website, however it would have to be more secure than the “Members” portion of the WSO website.

What we wish we knew, but don't:

Would the CMA’s be willing to print off and take the Ohio AI-A-Notes editions to the meetings? (It would be the group’s responsibility to reimburse printing costs.)

How would we notify members that a new edition of Ohio AI-A-Notes had been posted on the AFG of Ohio’s Area website? Currently, we have no methodology like “E-Communities” that is available to the WSO.

Can we continue to justify the expense of printing and mailing Ohio AI-A-Notes in the future?

What other methods of electronic communications might be available to distribute Ohio AI-A-Notes, i.e. I-Pads, Tablets, Smartphones, etc.?

Questions and Clarification - no timing or microphone limitations

The entire Task Force Summary is attached to this KBDM Report.

Need for motion? If so, use motion form provided by Chair

The Task Force recommends keeping the current method of distributing the Ohio AI-A-Notes, that is via the U S Postal Service.

The Task Force suggests that the Assembly consider adding Ohio AI-A-Notes to the Area website for all members to view with full names and contact info removed.

Presented by:

Electronic Vs. USPS Communications Task Force –

Chairperson – Phil H

Members – Ginny C, Alternate Delegate; Merri G, immediate Past Area Secretary; Mike K, Website Chairman; David L; and Karen M, current Area Secretary.

Ex-Officio – Rex M, Delegate; and Sandy F, Chairman

Task Force For Electronic vs USPS Communications – Total Survey Results

We received 30 surveys prior to the Spring Assembly. At the Assembly, we handed out blank surveys to everyone that registered and received an additional 54 back. These are the total results from those 84 surveys:

USPS Mail – keep mailing the Ohio AI-A-Notes the way we have been

41 ranked this as the first choice
8 ranked this as the second choice
10 ranked this as the third choice
22 ranked this as the fourth choice

Website – Ohio AI-A-Notes would simply be posted on the AFG of Ohio Area website (less the Officer/Coordinator page)

10 ranked this as the first choice
28 ranked this as the second choice
27 ranked this as the third choice
7 ranked this as the fourth choice

Email – Ohio AI-A-Notes would be emailed to all CMA's with a current email address (as of the Spring Assembly, that was 243 out of 449 CMA's with an email address - 54%)

28 ranked this as the first choice
23 ranked this as the second choice
16 ranked this as the third choice
8 ranked this as the fourth choice

Password Protected– Ohio AI-A-Notes would be placed in a password protected area on the AFG of Ohio Area website

9 ranked this as the first choice
13 ranked this as the second choice
14 ranked this as the third choice
36 ranked this as the fourth choice

We received the following comments on the surveys:

1 – In my opinion, I think USPS should be used even though the computer is used. Don't stop USPS. Having a computer & being on line should never stop anyone from being in service at the state level. Thanks

2 – Not every person can afford computer, server cost, copies and printing ink. I think electronic mail loses members to stay friendly and sociable in AI-Anon and come to meeting to share experience, strength and hope. I know of members who do not own computer.

3 – Our CMA is a P.O. box. This won't work (referring to E-Mail).

4 – Cuyahoga County libraries have computers for public use including free printing

5 – If you are able to offer it online, I predict the number who subscribe will drop & then you will have only a small number who want mailed copies. This happened to our Highlights Newsletter in Cleveland. Most people download it from our website, Clevelandal-anon.org and only about 25-30 request it by mail. These are stamped individually and mailed. We saved a lot of money because we could drop the bulk mail cost. And those (usually long timers) can still receive it by mail. So instead of an either/or, it's both – with the majority getting from an electronic source. Take what you like and leave the rest!

6 – Why not have a members' website that is password protected as WSO – with .afg following the member's home group? We could use District # + (dot) OAA or (dot) AFGOhio?

Recommendations for Handbook revisions regarding General Procedures: Voting, Special Standing Committees, Registration and Expenses & Other Motions, Background

This part of the Handbook has not been updated for many years. Expense motions made over the years are listed separately, throughout this section of the Handbook and can be difficult to interpret. Then we had the motion followed by discussion; now we have discussion followed by a motion if necessary. The budget committee identified inconsistencies that could be clarified and reimbursement caps which needed adjusting.

The existing motions and procedures were implemented between 1991 and 2003.

The Ohio Area must continue to operate and reimburse trusted servants in an equitable manner.

Existing Motions

Refer to the following pages in the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures for the Ohio Area Assembly:

General Procedures: Voting (page 3 of 28)

Special Standing Committees - #7 Registration (page 14 of 28)

Expenses & Others Motions (pages 15-18 of 28)

What do we know about our members' needs, wants, preferences?

Members would like budget and other expense items to be worded clearly, concisely and to be current.

What do we know about our capacity?

With the exception of raising caps on reimbursements to better meet today's reality, the proposed revisions are simply "housekeeping" items to assist the Audit & Review and Budget Committees and the Treasurer in performance of their duties. They do not change how we devise and implement the budget.

What are the implications of our choices?

Pros

Consolidate and clarify Handbook language.

Reimbursing trusted servants more fairly.

Cons

Leaving the Handbook language as is keeps reimbursement amounts backdated.

What we wish we knew but don't

What will future expenses be?

