

## Ohio Two-Day Fall Assembly – October 16-17, 2021 on Zoom

12:30 Chair Theresa M reminds attendee of naming procedure: V-first name, last initial, GR (or proxy), DR, other area position. Prayer, Steps, Traditions are eliminated due to time constraints.

**Approval of 2021 Spring Assembly Minutes** – Consensus majority approved the minutes as they stand.

### **Budget Committee Report- Cherryl C**

Think big about what projects you would like to do during this panel (2021-2023)!

1. What you would like to accomplish in your positions for our members? Remember, we budget based on Contributions which have been less than what we would have needed for In-Person meetings these past two years.

2. However, we do have an Ample Reserve that we can use which is always based on the three previous years Expenses. We are not obligated to lower that (cash out a CD). However, we certainly can if needed so that we can serve our members.

3. We are looking forward to your input on how our groups want to consider electronic groups and the possibility of holding hybrid Area meetings in the future.

4. Send project funding requests and/or questions to: [budget@ohioal-anon.org](mailto:budget@ohioal-anon.org)

Respectfully submitted, Cherryl C

### **Treasurer's Report - Merri G**

BALANCE 12/31/2020	\$	50,754.94
INCOME		14,330.64
EXPENSES		(6,199.33)
BALANCE 10/03/2021	\$	58,886.25

Question from a member: if a group or committee doesn't spend allowance within the budget year does it roll over? Yes. Another member asked a question about reimbursements and was directed to the form page of the website. Archivist asked treasurer for a copy of her report for the archives.

### **Delegate's Report - Ann F**

Welcome to Fall Ohio Area Assembly. I am Ann F and just about a month ago I became your Ohio Area Delegate, for Panel 61.

Prior to becoming your Delegate, I was your Alternate Delegate and AI-A-Notesnewsletter editor.

#### World Service Office (WSO) Update

I hope all of you are subscribed to our World Service newsletter, In the Loop. If not, I strongly recommend that each of you, and all group members sign up. The sign up is on the [alanon.org](http://alanon.org) website, under the Members tab.

That being said, everyone who was signed up should have received an email in August from our Chairman of the Board (COB) of Trustees, Lynette K.

You can take the time to read this yourself, but I wanted to take a couple of minutes and review the finance update from Lynette's letter. And I quote:

**“Finance Update:**

The Board approved the Revised 2021 Budget. Even though expenses continue to be cut wherever possible, the Revised 2021 Budget has a \$233,753 deficit. Although year-to-date literature sales are above the YTD budget by \$86,831, literature sales have still not returned to pre-pandemic numbers. Year-to-date contributions are below budgeted expectations by \$111,557. We continue to need members’ contributions in order to meet the Revised Budget! (Please see the Finance Update attached to this letter.)”

This shortfall is a direct result of significantly decreased donations over what was expected for 2021.

I urge you to take this information back to your groups. If you are meeting in person, consider passing an envelope for personal donations to WSO. If you are still meeting electronically, perhaps consider setting up a PayPal or VENMO account, or asking for donations to be mailed to your group treasurer. As an individual you can go to the Contributions tab on the [alanon.org](http://alanon.org) website and donate via credit card, or PayPal.

**Job Openings**

Two positions are available at WSO Headquarters in Virginia Beach, Virginia. They are Agile Project Manager and Copy Editor. Neither position will be considered for remote employment.

Information of these openings is on the WSO [al-anon.org](http://al-anon.org) website, Under Employment.

**Electronic Meetings to Al-Anon Family Groups - Ohio Area Electronic Meeting Work Group (EMWG)**

At the invitation of our Past Delegate, Jo S, I was able to attend the Panel 61 update meeting as your Alternate Delegate. It was held via ZOOM, on August 1, 2021. The topic of the meeting was Electronic Group updates. Approximately 15 Delegates attended. Each Delegate shared their experience as to how their Areas are working to incorporate Electronic Family Groups into their Area structure.

Our Ohio Area has had a Work Group focused on presenting this information to Assembly and what needs to happen to move forward.

**Definitions/Acronyms**

**WSO - World Service Office**

**WSC - World Service Conference AFG - Al-Anon Family Group**

**Prior to 2021 WSC:**

**EM - Electronic meeting**

**PEM - Permanent Electronic Meeting After 2021 WSC:**

**EG - Electronic Group**

**Electronic Groups Structure Questions**

Things to consider for Ohio Area service structure with respect to Electronic Groups. These require informed group consciences probably best done with KBDM process as in our Handbook.

**Background:**

At the 2021 World Service Conference, (WSC), Electronic Meetings were recognized as Al-Anon Family Groups. A motion was passed to remove the Electronic Meetings section, page 88-89 from our Service Manual.

The following relates to permanent registered groups which meet only electronically. (Groups meeting temporarily via Zoom, conference call, or hybrid are NOT permanent electronic groups)

If recognized at the 2022 WSC, a newly paneled electronic Area will be formed to include these Electronic Family Groups.

Once that happens, EG's may then request to move into other Areas and Districts.

At this point, the Ohio Area will have the opportunity to welcome these EG's into our Area.

Before EG's can be included into our service structure, our Area will need to decide if and how we can include them in a way they can fully participate.

AREA

Do we wish to include EG's in our structure?

Yes – Will require a change in our By-Laws. Article III-Section A, Policy 5. Territorial Definition: Ohio Area Assembly participation is limited to groups meeting with the boundaries of the State of Ohio.

No

Not at this time. Consider at a future time.

If we move forward with welcoming EG's, considerations will need to be made regarding the Area providing a format and requirements for participation.

Only after EG's become part of Ohio Area, can Districts and Area Information Services (AIS) invite them into their service structure. The same decisions being discussed at the Area level will need to be made at the District and AIS level.

Group Representatives are responsible for making all these decisions

AI-A-Notes

The Fall Edition of AI-A-Notes was published in September, following our AWSC meeting. It was sent to all AWSC members, current GR's and CMA's, by email and is on the Ohio Area website. Subscription copies were mailed via snail mail

Yours in service,

Ann F

Ohio Area Delegate Panel 61

Discussion: Ann encourages all and all members to subscribe to the WSO's electronic newsletter "In The Loop" using this breadcrumb trail: [al-anon.org](http://al-anon.org) > Members Tab > Subscribe. Question about GR's for EM's – that is being decided autonomously by the groups. A member brought up TEM = Temporary Electronic Meetings (the form for which is available on [al-anon.org](http://al-anon.org)). Does Ohio area want to accept the EM's as part of our geographic area? We will need a consensus vote and to remove or rewrite handbook pages 88-89 "Electronic Meeting" section. A member points out the needed protocol to determine this starting with "Thought Force". Another member points out possible dilution of our area autonomy as members of any EM can be from anywhere.

Volunteers were accepted for Ongoing Work /Group Thought Force on EM's: Jeff D, Robin V, Jackie B, Margaret H, Doreen K, Sue W, Cathy C, Pam S, Darla, Sheri B, Irena H, Mary S, Carin S, Carolyn D, Sandy D, Ramona W, Daryl H, and Rose R.

## **Public Outreach - Sheri B**

### **PSA Update**

The 2021-2022 Public Outreach campaign officially kicked off in August with the release of a new PSA titled 'Benefits of Recovery'. You can view the new PSA, as well as the 2020 'Are You Worried about Someone Else's Drinking?' PSA at

- Al-Anon.org at <https://al-anon.org/media-kit/public-service-announcements/>
- Al-Anon's You Tube site at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRP2-e3CnVpa-Vg5Praa9Vw>.

WSO encourages those that are comfortable with sharing either the You Tube or Al-Anon hosted PSA on social media to help share hope and help with others.

WSO is also continuing to encourage us to contact smaller public, college and religious radio stations to encourage them to air the PSAs. To have a PSA sent to a station, please provide the contact name, station name / call letters, and contact email address to [media@al-anon.org](mailto:media@al-anon.org). WSO is also considering developing resources for movie theatres.

### **211 Information Updates**

The WSO is encouraging districts to ensure their 211 information is up to date. Local United Way organizations maintain a database of resources for those in the community that require assistance. You can start at [211.org](http://211.org), click 'Get Help', and enter your zip code to identify the agency that hosts the service in your area. You can then contact that agency to make sure they have up to date Al-Anon information to provide to individuals that call for help in your area.

### **District Level Efforts**

Our district level outreach committees are doing an incredible job of sharing the Al-Anon message in their communities.

**The Public Outreach Committee in Toledo** is focusing on communicating the message of Al-Anon to and through Employee Assistance Programs, Alcoholism Treatment Centers, Schools and Courts. Using funds provided by the district, they have:

- Created folders of materials to be shared with contacts made in each of these areas of focus.
- Met with WYCA Domestic Violence Coordinator of the YW Apartments and some of their residents and provided them with a poster, literature and meeting schedule.
- Met with individuals of the Domestic Court and provided a poster and folder of materials.
- Mailed fact sheets to local agencies working with alcoholics.
- Provided folders of materials to local treatment facilities, churches and family practices offices.

**The Akron Public Outreach Committee** embarked on a wide-reaching effort to share the Al-Anon message earlier this year. They resized the "Not Everyone Trapped by Alcohol is an Alcoholic" poster to fit on 8.5x11 card stock to make it convenient to hand out and pin on bulletin board and have encouraged local members to post them in public locations, including: Laundromats

- Restaurants
- Sr. Citizen centers
- Churches
- Bowling alleys

- Golf Courses
- Medical Offices
- Gyms
- Community Centers
- Schools
- Local grocery stores
- Churches
- Professional organizations
- Other Support Groups
- Schools We are fortunate to have so many dedicated and creative districts in our area! Please continue to share your outreach projects and success stories so that we can share them with others looking for new ways to serve their communities

Other things we can do to help educate professionals and others in your communities about AI-Anon include:

- The WSO continues to develop and post electronic materials we can easily customize and use locally at <https://al-anon.org/for-members/public-outreach/>.
- Email our contactless flyer to professionals and organizations in your district.
- Use our printable wraps for distributing AI-Anon Faces Alcoholism to professionals and organizations.
- Adapt our public outreach posters for use locally.
- Use our printable contact cards to share your contact information with newcomers or professionals
- Email electronic materials to professionals and organizations. Materials can be downloaded at no cost at <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/downloadable-items/>
- Mail or drop off print materials where appropriate. The WSO is still offering shipping rates of \$5 for individual orders of up to \$50 to make it more economical to order and share literature.
- Encourage colleges, school districts, community organizations, and other non-media related groups to publish our PSAs. 15 second, 30 second, and 60 second versions are available at <https://al-anon.org/media-kit/public-service-announcements/>.

### **Election of Alternate Delegate & AI-A-Notes Newsletter Editor**

Rose R has been GR from Genoa Giving & Getting AFG, DR for #6, and an Alateen sponsor for 17 years. She was state Alateen Coordinator 08-11 and Forum Coordinator 04-07. Rose R is elected as alternate delegate by 29 yes votes and one abstain.

**Voting** (motions were not first or seconded and were described by chairperson)

### **Quorum Motion**

Theresa M announces 35 voting members – 23 is 2/3. Phil said if the first motion passes a note needs to be made in the minutes to revisit this issue in five years. The quorum of 50 was established in 1992. These two motions will be revisited and done correctly and completely in 2026.

On a five (5) year trial basis a quorum shall be the number of voting members registered and present at the beginning of each Ohio Area Assembly Meeting - substantial unanimity vote is always 2/3 or 66%- a majority vote is 51% or any number or half - effective immediately.

Substantial Unanimity (votes needed): 23 and two thirds  
 FOR: 29      AGAINST:0      ABSTENTION:1 - PASS: Yes:

### **This is Motion 2021/10 - # 03**

**Motions from Task Force: Cooperation with AA (2021 Spring Assembly Minutes)**

NAME OF ORIGINATOR: Task Force: Cooperation with A.A.  
NAME OF SECOND: Ann F

MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION: Adding a new position titled, Area A.A. Liaison, to the By-Laws For Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc.

<https://www.ohioal-anon.org/documents/BY-LAWS-OAA.pdf>

WORDING OF SPECIFIC MOTION TO BE MADE:

Add as #8, under Article VI - Committees, Section B, Special Standing Committees the title, Area A.A. Liaison. (Page 6, October 2020, By-Laws)

Motion for: Bylaws  
Substantial Unanimity (votes needed): 23 & two thirds  
FOR: 29 AGAINST: ABSTENTION: 1 PASS: Yes:

**This is Motion 2021/10 - # 04**

**Motions from Task Force: Cooperation with AA (2021 Spring Assembly Minutes)**

NAME OF ORIGINATOR: Task Force: Cooperation with A.A.  
NAME OF SECOND: Ann F

MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION:  
Create a new position titled, Area AA Liaison. This would be a 3 year appointed Special Standing Committee Chair, and listed as such in our Handbook, Section XI - Special Standing Committees, ( October 2020, page 15) as #8.

To revise Section XV of the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures for Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc., October 2020, page 22.

WORDING OF SPECIFIC MOTION TO BE MADE:

1. Under Section XI - Special Standing Committees, A., of the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures For Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc., add as #8, the title, Area A.A. Liaison.
2. Under Section XI - Special Standing Committees, B. Descriptions of Committees and guidelines, as #8, add:
  - Establish and maintain contact with the Delegates of the four AA Areas (53, 54, 55, 56).
  - Assist the Al-Anon Area Delegate in appointing a local Al-Anon Committee Chair- person for each State AA Convention.
  - Serve on the Al-Anon Committee planning for the AA Convention.
  - Provide the local Al-Anon Committee Chairperson for each AA convention with the tools and information (i.e. Guideline G-7) necessary for the planning committee.
  - Report to AWSC and the Area Assembly with timely AA information.
  - Facilitate Al-Anon cooperation as requested by AA.
  - Extend invitation to AA to participate in Ohio Area Convention (OAC).

3. To revise Section XV of the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures for Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc., October 2020, page 22, to read:

Section XV - Ohio State AA Convention

1. Committee: The Area AA Liaison shall assist the Area Delegate to appoint a local Al-Anon Committee Chairperson for each State AA Convention. The local Chairperson shall reside near the A.A. Convention location and will recruit other Al-Anon members to make up the local Al-Anon planning committee for this event.

2. The Area Delegate and Area AA Liaison shall be members of the local Al-Anon planning committee for this event.

3. Funds: Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc. donates up to \$400 to the local Al-Anon planning committee. These funds are to be used at the discretion of the committee and may include such items as a hospitality room (rent and/or supplies), speakers registration fees or expenses, publicity and outreach expenses, or other expenses as approved by the local committee.

FOR: 31      AGAINST:1      ABSTENTION: 0      PASS: Yes:

**This is Motion 2021/10 - # 05**

**Meeting Improvement – Ginny**

**KBDM: Task Force: Meeting Improvement**

**Topic:** Meeting Improvement

**FRAMING:** As attraction, not promotion is fundamental principle in Al-Anon, this Task Force is focused on how to attract more attendance to Area meetings. Attendance has been sporadic at AWSC and Assembly meetings, and we have in the past few years had problems filling positions at Area level. We wish to create an environment where GR's and DR's can feel welcome and comfortable and want to participate in the business and discussions of Al-Anon. This Task Force is about getting members involved and keeping them involved by listening to their ideas and needs and valuing what they can bring to the table. This Task Force is intended to develop some changes to the way Area business is conducted and to the content of the meetings.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

**Historical perspective:**

A discussion took place at the Spring AWSC 2019 on "How can we make the AWSC fun and interesting?" which led to the development of the Thought Force: AWSC Improvement. During the Fall AWSC 2019, a walk about activity was done to generate answers to "What dream would you like to accomplish in the Area?" Among many ideas to increase participation were more interactive elements (breakouts, workshops, open discussions) at both spring and fall assemblies and have reports available and sent to members BEFORE assembly so that coordinators and others just offer highlights or times for questions. During the Fall Assembly, these and various ideas were voted upon with the dream of "every Group has a GR – who attends Assemblies or sends an alternate" being the top ranked.

The Thought Force: AWSC Improvement was completed by the Fall 2020 AWSC and generated several good ideas. During that meeting and the subsequent Two-Day Fall Assembly, it was suggested and decided to broaden the scope of the next Task Force to encompass AWSC and Assembly meeting improvement in general. The officers further discussed the charge and adjusted it to encompass some of the various ideas that would better provide support to our trusted servants. The focus became on changes that could strengthen the links of service by having more District Representatives more active in the 'AWSC and Assembly Meetings. Some of the ideas include having electronic media/components to our business meeting even when not forced to do things electronically (make meetings more hybrid); shorter but more frequent meetings; more time for questions and answers rather than just presentations.

The charge of this Task Force is:

1. Review ideas generated by the Thought Force: AWSC Improvement for possible implementation at the AWSC and the Assembly Meetings
2. Complete a KBDM which may lead to generating new policies if needed.
3. Develop a skit to be presented at the 2021 Two-Day Fall Assembly

**Existing Motions that appertain to this topic:** Motion 2019-10/02 and Motion 2019-10/03 pertained to dissolving the Action Committees which were part of the Assembly meetings.

**What do we know about our member's or prospective member's wants, needs, and preferences that are relevant to this discussion?**

- Our member wish that our meetings are organized, informative and a setting to discover more about how AI-Anon works in our business meetings
- More discussion, interaction, and involvement at meetings
- More loving interchange and a chance for connections/fellowship
- Want to feel needed and valued
- Want to understand how the AWSC and Assembly work

**What do we know about the capacity and strategic position of the organization relative to this issue?**

- We have experienced trusted servants
- Area meetings are a venue for its members to work together and to share information to foster greater unity.
- We have many members who are willing and eager to serve and lead in sharing how to carry our message of help and hope.
- Area meetings provide a forum to study the principles in our three legacies.
- Participation in Area meetings can encourage sharing of this new knowledge and understanding of our Three Legacies back to our districts and local groups.
- Participation in Area meetings can help our trusted servants grow in their recovery.
- Area meetings offer a place for long-time members to provide encouragement and support to newer members and to members assuming new positions.

**What do we know about the current realities and evolving dynamics that are relevant to this discussion?**

- The disruption caused by the COVID pandemic has forced the Area to use electronic meetings for AWSC and Assembly.
- Some of these new means of communication and meetings could be used in the future. For example, having a hybrid meeting.
- Fewer members are stepping up to service.
- Many members are unfamiliar and uncomfortable with electronic platforms or phone meetings
- Members with technological comfort have stepped up to service.
- Members are more isolated due to the pandemic.
- Rather than attend a phone or electronic meeting, some members are complacent and resistant about attending meetings at this time.
- Alcohol abuse has increased, and electronic and phone meetings are seeing large numbers of newcomers. Answering services are having increased calls of both returning members and newcomers looking for meetings.
- Members have discovered new ways of attending a meeting (phone or electronic)

What are the ethical implications of our choices (pro and cons)? This includes consideration of how the Legacies apply. Identify both pros and cons.



1. More Workshops and /OR Discussions  
*Principles/Legacies – participation, collaboration, cooperation, minority opinion heard*
2. Area assigned mentors to DR's  
*Empowers both mentors and mentees with leadership skills, principles above personalities, fellowship, fosters mutual trust and respect*
3. DR Training (s)  
*Fellowship, mutual trust, leadership*
4. Generic Emails for DR's  
*Encourages more collaboration and fellowship between DR's  
Empowers groups with easier contact information that would always be correct*
5. Changing the format of the meetings and number of meetings  
*Respect of members time, allow more collaboration discussion, minority viewpoint*
6. Meetings with reports previously sent via email.  
*Delegation of responsibility empowers leadership. Efficient time management encourages participation and shows mutual respect.*
7. Members email questions regarding the reports prior to the meeting  
*Mutual respect, efficient use of time*
8. Have a Technical team  
  
*Avoids double headed management during the meetings*  
  
*Gives more opportunity for participation for this much need service- frees up other trusted servants to concentrate on discussions and reports*
9. Welcome New and Existing Groups Without DR's (Alternate Delegate)  
*Fellowship, respect, unity*
10. Discussion Topics suggested by DR's and GR's ahead of time, i.e. submit topics or questions  
*Mutual respect, minority opinion, efficient use of time, sharing of ESH*
11. Have District concerns and successes discussion earlier in the meeting  
*Expands recovery by hearing other's ESH*  
*Reduces isolation, Increases Unity*  
*Creates an environment for sharing and asking for help*  
*Fosters fellowship*

Pros in general:

- Unity and welfare of others
- Mutual respect
- Cooperation
- Addresses pertinent topics in a timely manner
- Participation is the key to harmony
- Facilitate willingness to serve
- Encourages good personal leadership
- All the active DR's are getting accurate information

## **What do we wish we knew, but don't?**

1. We don't know how the process of assigning DR mentors will work.
2. Will these efforts encourage more participation?

**Presented By:** Ginny C., Chair Task Force: Meeting Improvement

### **Questions/ Concerns:**

Cecilia shared idea about attending Zoom meetings in a group and gives the example of viewing assembly in small groups from a meeting spot or someone's home. Doreen K brings up that assemblies being on Saturday and Sunday precludes certain religious groups (Orthodox Jews, 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventists, Muslims) attending. Darla asks a question about using an alternate for voting. MJM asked about election of newsletter editor. Cheryl B suggests starting Zoom earlier in the morning – a longer Saturday assembly could eliminate Sunday meeting. Margaret's district does not have a rep – she thinks her district has never had a rep - she doesn't even know what groups are in her district. Theresa suggests asking Shelly for that information. Ann F points out that a term "two-day meeting" is in the handbook. Ramona appreciates the Zoom and electronic meetings, mentioning finding being able to find all times of day & week. She thinks that through Zoom & electronic participation in AI-Anon is truly expanded. Steve is a GR and speaks to the issue of attendance – 25 on Zoom vs. 3 or 4 (now) in person. Cheryl B suggests doing a one-day assembly on a trial basis. Sandra F speaks to starting assembly starting after noon dealing with traveling issues. Merri G also thinks a one-day assembly on a trial basis is a good idea. Ginny talks about going over five hours – getting "zoomed out". Sue W suggests going to healthy meetings that have representation to improve attendance. Theresa says as we get closer to the meeting in March, she will be in touch with DR's asking them whether or not we ought to do Zoom and what time to start.

### **Insurance Renewal - Ginny C**

Task Force Insurance Renewal-Final Report

Apparently, the insurance company is not requiring us to complete an application. Thank you everyone for your time and energy in participating in this task force. On the positive side, it helped us to assess our weaknesses as an organization regarding security regarding money.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ginny C.

### **Task Force IT Position – Cecilia S**

#### **KNOWLEDGE BASED DECISION MAKING**

Topic: Information Technology Chair Job Description

- To develop a job description for the Information Technology Chair for the Handbook.
- To examine what the specific duties would be
- Determine if there is a need to have a paid position as well as a team of people to oversee both AWSC and Assembly Meetings

FRAMING: BACKGROUND INFORMATION: What we know:

Historical perspective: As shown below, IT

Section XI A – 7 Special Standing Committee of Web Master is listed

Section XI B – 7 Web Master Description and Guidelines

A committee will be put together, comprised of members from all of the Host Districts in Ohio, to formulate a plan to develop an area website that will contain meeting lists, Al-Anon Information Service office addresses and phone numbers and any other information which will help provide up-to-date information to members of Al-Anon and others. (Motion 2001/10 - # 4)

#### Section IX J Website

1. A budget item of three-hundred dollars (\$300.00) to be approved to establish the website for [www.ohioal-anon.org](http://www.ohioal-anon.org). This money will go towards the coverage of expenses, such as web hosting fees and domain name registration. (Motion 2002/05 - # 6)
2. In addition, establish a domain name of [www.ohioalanon.org](http://www.ohioalanon.org) to be linked to the current website, [www.ohioal-anon.org](http://www.ohioal-anon.org). (Motion 2016/11 - # 06)

SECTION XIV – EXPENSES & MOTIONS In addition to the Delegate’s Equalized Expense fund, as described in the Al-Anon / Alateen Service Manual, the Area Treasurer will be responsible for the following, per Budget Committee recommendations:

#### Part E-3

8. Establish a one-thousand, five-hundred-dollar (\$1,500.00) Equipment Fund for maintenance, repair, and eventual replacement of equipment. (Motion 1994/03 - # 2)
  - a. Add five percent (5%) annually in the budget, based on previous year income.
  - b. Cap the Equipment Fund at three-thousand, five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00). (Motion 2003/05 - # 5)

Note: The Ohio Convention details makes no mention of IT

The Ohio Spring Assembly and Two Day Fall make no mention of IT details although historically IT provides onsite support of equipment, projection, and other technical areas. Currently scope of the Web Master in the Handbook focusses on listing meetings online and “any other information which will help such as service office addresses”.

What do we know about our member’s or prospective member’s wants, needs, and preferences that are relevant to this discussion?

Our member’s needs are best seen in the areas in which the website has expanded:

- Area handbook
- current and archived AWSC Minutes
- current and archived Delegate Reports
- current and archived AI-A-Notes
- forms to subscribe to AI-A-Note
- WSO Guidelines (including 14 links to allow easy access to specific guidelines)

The entire Service Manual plus links to brochures and pamphlets related to service,

Links Public Outreach resources, GR packets, service forms.

The website also offers the ability to make contributions online (in both US\$ and CA\$)

The website contains a newcomer’s page filled with information, plus links to other pages for: spouse/partner, child, parent, sibling, grandchild in home, friend.

The opening page contains links for: more information, a self-quiz and a special section for teens.

Additionally, while the Treasurer reimburses current webmaster for equipment expenses, there is quite a bit of Area-owed equipment including: laptops, printers, projectors and power connections. Additionally, there are software licenses residing on both Area hardware and member hardware which need to be tracked, renewed and controlled.

The webmaster maintains a list of generic email addresses so that mail can be sent to generic "secretary" address which then forwards mail to specific person.

The website includes an area calendar with the ability to add an event to calendar right from the webpage. The management of all of these areas of technology – both responding to requests and making suggestions for use of new technology - is quite a responsibility in and of itself. Support of these areas is another burden of responsibility.

Existing Motions that pertain to this topic: None

What do we know about the capacity and strategic position of the organization relative to this issue?

The strategic position of the Area

- Considering internal matters, recent technology and social environment changes have sparked a revolutionized in the ability of people from across the area to participate in meetings together in committees, convention and assemblies.
- Considering external matters, the reach of Ohio AI-Anon now easily goes beyond our state borders and surrounding areas and includes banks, etc.
- Keep in mind that the ways in which technology connects our Area, the districts within our Area, WSO, and financial institutions will continue to evolve – in many cases by entities outside of our control (WSO, banks, etc.)
- The way in which our members will connect to us will also evolve – younger members use Facebook, Instagram, etc. How can these capabilities be leveraged and controlled? Think about new apps for smart phones. Who would have foreseen an AI-Anon app?

The capabilities of IT in the Ohio Area: the current area is maintained by handful of people – primarily two.

What do we know about the current realities and evolving dynamics that are relevant to this discussion?

The responsibilities and capabilities of IT in the Ohio Area has grown organically (a little bit at a time) and explosively.

We run the risk of burning out these resources and / or having what we've built begin to break. Many organizations and even businesses exist for which website links do not work, posted information is outdated, licenses expire, and inventory is lost.

We run the very real risk of losing IT environment if one or two people are no longer able to carry the load. Important to have systems documentation and cross training so our investment in the technology is not lost.

What are the ethical implications of our choices (pro and cons)? This includes consideration of how the Legacies apply. Identify both pros and cons.

Traditions 7: Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

COMMENT: We would never expect one member to shoulder excess responsibility for a group – whether it be related to finances, group leadership, or meeting set-up, etc. Do we want to continue in an environment where one or two people provide IT support for all of Area 44?

Tradition 8: Al-Anon Twelfth Step work should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

COMMENT: Clearly this is an area where “special workers” could be employed if approved by the Area.

Concept 10: Service responsibility is balanced by carefully defined service authority and double-headed management is avoided.

COMMENT: It is important that the handbook definition of website responsibilities match reality.

#### WHAT IS OFFERED BY THIS TASK FORCE:

A new definition of an IT Technology Chair:

- The definition is written to be understandable by the average member.
- The definition is as “technology-independent” as possible. That is, we refer to email (not Gmail) and office tools such as spreadsheets (not Excel)
- The definition includes providing strategic direction and recommendations to Area 44.
- The definition describes the Chair as “providing for” rather than doing. This allows the Chair to delegate duties where applicable. The Chair’s job is to see that responsibilities are met.
- The definition is kept at a high level with these divisions:
  - o Introduction
  - o Requirements
  - o List of Duties
    - Technology Tools
    - Website
    - Equipment
    - Miscellaneous
- The definition refers to a Technical Procedures Manual which will hold all of the technical details relevant to the Area’s IT.

There is no recommendation regarding the use of outside resources on a pay-for-service basis. It would be the job of the IT Chair to make such recommendations to the Area for any such arrangement. Also, the need to hire resources will depend on the skills and availability of member or volunteer resources as well as the development of technology itself

#### PROS:

- High level definition provides umbrella of duties, is understandable and covers all the bases.
- High level definition includes items such as strategic planning and recommendations to the Area
- Generic responsibilities ensure that handbook will not go out of date when technology changes.
- The IT Chair’s responsibility to “provides for” grants authority to delegate where appropriate.
- Any use of outside resources would be decided by the Area.
- The use of outside resources could
  - o ensure responsibilities are better met
  - o increase expertise
  - o provide backup to existing resources (that is people)

#### CONS:

- Effort to organize efforts in a new way requires time and effort which at this point places a burden on already strained resources.

- Delegation of duties may involve out-of-pocket cost.
- Plans and recommendations made by the IT Chair will change how this area is viewed and managed by Area 44, and change is hard.

What do we wish we knew, but don't?

In this area more than others, we are affected

- by changes outside of our control: development of technology (and the ways our membership and other sick and suffering use technology)
- by changes in WSO, its app and the way in which group records are maintained
- by changes in business partners such financial institutions through which we can receive donations.

The goal of the proposed Area Position Guideline is outlining a position providing leadership and expertise. This will allow us to leverage technology to fulfill our responsibility as stated in our Declaration.

Presented By:

Cecila S

## **Ohio AI-Anon – Area 44 Area Position Information Technology Chair**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Area Information Technology (IT) Chair is responsible for implementing and managing technology resources for the benefit the Area. This includes:

- Provide strategic direction and recommendations to Area 44 regarding technology; serve as advisor to Area volunteers.
- Arrange for design/build/maintenance of the Area's Website including content management
- Arrange for selection, deployment and support of a software toolset used to support Area-level business
- Arrange for management of technology hardware
- Arrange for education, encouragement and technical support to other AWSC members, AI-Anon members and AI-Anon/Alateen groups within the Area to facilitate the use of the Area's resources.
- Arrange for the development of technical procedures manual to contain detail information to necessary to maintain Area software and hardware assets. This manual is to be a living document, updated and kept current as changes occur.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

1. Computer with Internet access.
2. Ability to arrange the resources required to support software and hardware with an emphasis on WILLINGNESS TO LEARN.
3. Ability to arrange training of technical and non-technical users.
4. Ability to manage Area hardware and software assets.
5. Working knowledge of AI-Anon principles and Traditions, especially related to anonymity, service and leadership.

## LIST OF DUTIES

### TECHNOLOGY TOOLS

1. Arrange for the selection, implementation and support of tools which best support Area business processes,
2. Particularly arrange for support AWSC and Area Assemblies by
  - a. Attending all meetings and ensure equipment necessary for these meetings is set up and ready.
  - b. Providing for coordination and training to AWSC and Conference Committee on the technology use and best practices.
  - c. Encourage information exchange among users
3. Arrange for protection of admin login credentials for all technology tools, providing documentation internally as appropriate for backup.
4. Ensure the toolsets are maintained and managed. Significant changes to toolset should be brought before AWSC.
5. Such tools currently include but are not limited to: website hosting and maintenance, domain names renewal, email accounts, virtual meeting software, content management and office tools (spreadsheet, word processing) and the Google Apps Suite (Google Docs, Google Calendar and Google Forms).

### WEBSITE

6. Arrange for management of Web site design through implementation and support.
7. Seek to ease maintenance of frequently changing data through content management when possible.
8. Recommend and follow principles of posting content on public website in line with WSO and Area Guidelines. Content may include but is not limited to Area calendar, list of meetings, member resources and group records.
9. Arrange for stability of website.

### EQUIPMENT

10. Arrange for the selection, implementation and support of hardware which best support Area business processes.
11. Arrange for asset management procedures which protect Area hardware investments.
12. Ensure hardware is maintained and managed. Significant changes to hardware should be brought before AWSC including selection, storage.
13. Arrange for hardware set up, training, use and tear down.

### MISCELLANEOUS

11. Attend all AWSC meetings and Area Assemblies and present brief written and oral reports on:
  - a. performance and status of hardware and software.
  - b. performance of website with an eye toward increasing usage.
  - c. Provide update on current projects.
  - d. Provide ideas for how to use technology to support and grow the Area Web site use statistics.
12. Participate in budget process; keep accurate records and provide receipts. Follow Area policy on covered expenses.
13. Transfer all asset access and records to successor, being a Service Sponsor.

Sunday Morning Serenity Pray – these three things were not done – Serenity Prayer, no first & second motions and the secretary reading the final motion prior to voting.

## **2021 Ohio Area Convention Report – Cheryl B**

### 2021 OAC FINAL REPORT TO AWSC & 2-DAY FALL ASSEMBLY

#### CONVENTION THEME & FOCUS – [\*“Stepping Stones to Recovery – 70 Years of Finding Healing & Hope”\*](#)

Youngstown Districts 4 & 9 hosted the 2021 Ohio Area Convention (OAC) via Zoom on June 26, 2021. It was originally suggested that we plan for an in-person convention, but the rise in Covid-19 numbers forced us to cancel the hotel accommodations and focus on a virtual platform. This was possible due to the inclusion of a Force Majeure clause referencing the Covid-19 health issue specifically. The Planning Committee voted to hold a 1-day convention, instead of the traditional Friday night, Saturday & Sunday morning event, to Keep It Simple for the first OAC Zoom venture. The event opened Sat. at 8:30 a.m. and closed at 9:00 p.m. To highlight Al-Anon's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, activities were included to introduce and reflect on significant contributions of our Co-Founders and the Pioneers of our program. The goal was to allow participants to experience, as much as possible, the wisdom, passion and efforts of Lois W. and the earliest Al-Anon members who developed our program of recovery. And hearing the personal experiences of 3 long-timers who had known and worked with Lois helped us experience her contagious enthusiasm and passion, fueling our gratitude even more. We offered 8 different workshops and many unique opportunities to hear the actual voices of Lois W. (our co-founder) and the pioneers as they reflected on their efforts to organize and serve the Al-Anon Family Groups. Their dedication and unselfish efforts should be an inspiration to all of us who follow in their footsteps.

#### CHANGE FROM FACE-TO-FACE CONVENTION TO A ZOOM PLATFORM

After cancellation of the Holiday Inn-Boardman hotel contract in late Fall 2020, we accepted the challenge of using a Zoom platform for the first time, which required much more technical support. Since the Ohio Area does not have a dedicated Zoom account to use for Area events such as Convention, I requested that the Youngstown Districts obtain a Debit Card for their checking account and then set up a Zoom account to be used for Districts events and meetings, as well as the Convention and planning meetings. AFG of Ohio reimbursed Youngstown Districts for the cost of Zoom for the 2-month period May and June. The Planning Committee held weekly planning meetings via Zoom, since members were from various towns in the Districts and Covid precautions were still recommended. Thanks to the dedication of just 8 committed members at various stages of recovery, we were able to plan the program for this year's Convention. Using the slogans plus an abundance of reliance upon our Higher Power, the agenda ideas and planning flowed fairly smoothly. A written and emailed plea was extended to all AWSC members, DRs, GRs and CMAs to locate Ohio members with significant Zoom experience to handle anonymity issues and to assist Chairpersons in the workshop sessions. Due to the pandemic, most regions of the State had switched to Zoom sessions to continue their group meetings and workshops. Locating these virtual talents posed a significant challenge. Special Zoom sessions were scheduled by our Chief Zoom Tech to coordinate efforts and assignments among the 5 additional tech assistants to assure a smooth presentation. They worked efficiently and in a true spirit of cooperation, despite being from various parts of the State and, for the most part, unknown to each other.

#### NEW AFG of OHIO, Inc. CONVENTION/EVENTS CHECKING ACCOUNT & PAYPAL OPTION

Since Ohio Area did not have an online payment option in place even to accept State donations from groups and districts, I asked our AWSC Treasurer, Merri G., to request permission from AWSC officers to set up a separate AFG of Ohio/Events checking account (under the umbrella of our main checking account) to segregate not only the convention income and expense activity, but also the 2-Day Fall Assembly finances, since seed money is involved. They also authorized setup of a PayPal account and Debit Card limited to the new Events checking account. Merri and I agreed to utilize the payment receipt feature only, no refunds, to avoid extra fees. One duplicate registration was issued a refund check from the account instead and, fortunately, we received no NSF checks. As Conv. Chair, I was granted only viewing access to PayPal transactions but could print reports as needed. The PayPal account will remain open, but the AWSC Treasurer may change the password as needed after each event. A tidy PayPal button feature still needs to be created. For the sake of time, we used the URL in the Google Registration form on the acknowledgement page but also offered the option to mail payment to our P.O. Box, if preferred. New checks were ordered for reimbursement purposes and can be used for any



future Area event. The 2021 OAC expensed the full cost of these checks. Past practice was that many host districts would choose a Convention treasurer, set up a separate checking account, and order checks or use an existing District's checking account, which is not recommended. The new AFG of Ohio/Events account will eliminate this process, cut costs, and will remain open and available for all future events.

### GOOGLE REGISTRATION FORM – P.O. Box – PAYPAL – DROPBOX FILE STORAGE

Planning a virtual Convention, we decided to utilize both a Google Docs online registration form which provided easy tracking of responses, as well as a separate print/mail-in registration form. These forms and links were available on the Ohio Area webpage. We encountered a small problem on the Calendar page with some members confusing the registration link for the Friday night Delegate's Report Zoom meeting with the Convention Registration link for Saturday. We caught the issue and were able to resolve it in time. Per Mike K., our current front-page platform is not conducive to inserting an event button as a direct link to registration, since it is primarily geared to the find-a-meeting feature. We rented a local P.O. Box to accommodate all mail-in registrations plus online registration payments that opted not to use the PayPal credit card feature. I set up a free Drop Box online file storage account to receive authorized Stepping Stones Foundation and WSO audio files, as well as to share all workshop files, misc. photos, etc. for use by our Zoom chief, Zoom workshop assistants, and other miscellaneous Zoom monitors during the Convention. I have since closed the Drop Box.

### REGISTRATION & RAFFLE

A suggested registration donation of \$10 was requested, but no one was turned away for non-payment. An additional \$10 donation was suggested to participate in the Raffle, and participants were given the option to choose chances on any or all of the items offered. We decided on 5 small raffle gifts with the intent to keep mailing costs to a minimum. Efforts were made to invite many Youngstown area speakers to reduce the cost of mailing speaker gifts as well. Registration also included the option for a Miscellaneous Donation, if desired, and we gratefully acknowledge the amazing generosity of our members. Interest in the raffle items was about 50% - 20 for the *Serenity Prayer* Quilted Wall Hanging, 23 for Slogans Pillows (14 available for drawings), 15 for "*Having Had A Spiritual Awakening*" (hard cover edition, now available only as an eBook), 14 for "*As We Understood*" (discontinued hard-cover edition), and 21 for a chance to win 1 of 2 \$50 Vouchers to attend the 2023 AI-Anon International Convention in Albuquerque, NM. A virtual raffle wheel for each prize was used and performed well for the drawings after dinner. While the OAC is not a for-profit event, our goal was to avoid a deficit for holding a Zoom conference. There was a total of 95 OAC registrations – 71 online and 24 mail-ins. We received registrations from 14 other states besides Ohio due to Zoom connections within the fellowship established during Covid. We emailed the 4 non-paying registrations but received no reply or payment. They were still granted access to the Convention but were not entered in the raffle. A confirmation email was sent to all OAC registrants and included Zoom Protocol, an agenda with all speaker names, and a commemorative bookmark. A separate email followed a few days before the Convention with the Zoom meeting login information and password. Only registrants received the Zoom meeting info which was a safeguard against Zoom bombers. One tech assistant was designated (with phone #) to assist with any log-in issues the day of the Convention. We had 2 more same-day late registrations, so the Google registration form was turned off at the start of the Convention, since names had to be entered on Raffle wheels as well. An in-person convention with on-site registration for walk-ins and a Ways & Means room could handle these matters easier.

### SPEAKERS & GIFTS

Mary Ellen R. (Masury) was the Adult Child lead. Kaiden C. (Sylva, NC) was the Alateen lead. Ron M. (Allison Park, PA) was the AA lead. The Spirituality Panel included 3 speakers with the theme "Love Of...". Nicole S. (Warren) spoke on *Love of God*; John A. (Hermitage, PA) spoke on *Love of Self*; and Patti B. (Salem) spoke on *Love of Others*. Literature for the speaker gift boxes and raffle prizes were mostly donated, plus one local group donated \$33 towards the cost of *Forum* subscriptions for our 3 Spirituality Panel speakers. All speaker gift boxes also included 1 doz. Buckeye cookies, a slogan pillow, a special piece of literature, and a bookmark commemorating the 1<sup>st</sup> Zoom OAC and our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Adult Child speaker also chose a *Forum* subscription. The Alateen speaker received "*From Survival to Recovery*." The AA speaker received "*Daily*

*Reflections: by AA members for AA members.*” We were privileged to have 3 long-timers speak on their personal experience knowing and working with Lois W. – Dennis K. (Centerville), Claire R. (Virginia Beach, VA), and Myrna H. (W. Palm Beach, FL). The *Memories of Lois* speakers did not receive a gift box. All of our speakers had FREE registration; however, some generously supported the Raffle and gave a Miscellaneous Donation as well. We have received excellent feedback on all of our speakers, with a few requests for contact information to invite them to speak in their area or state.

### MISCELLANEOUS AUDIO & VIDEO PRESENTATIONS & OTHER GRAPHICS

Permission was received from Stepping Stones Foundation for a one-time use of a 3-minute audio of Lois W. to open the Convention, and their staff also presented a 45-minute virtual tour of Stepping Stones, the home of Lois & Bill W. in New York, at no charge. Additional audio interviews were presented as an option during the lunch and dinner breaks. These audio links and a final Forum reflection from a pioneer were available on the WSO website free of charge. The Stepping Stones Foundation also granted us special permission for a one-time use of Lois’ pencil drawing of their NY home for our publicity flyer. Drawings used in the workshops and other photos were provided through the talents of our members.

### WORKSHOPS & MATERIALS

The Planning Committee settled on 8 different workshop topics (see AGENDA attached). Each Committee member invited their home group members to volunteer to provide the workshop reflections/activities and materials for one of the sessions. This proved to be a great opportunity to include local members at any stage of recovery in the discussion and development process. A Zoom tech assistant was recruited and assigned to each workshop to facilitate discussion and participation in cooperation with the volunteer chairperson. Again, locating sufficient tech support took much time and effort, but it worked out in the end.

Rose R., DR from Toledo, and I have been in contact, and I am willing to share any relevant information with them if they should decide to host another virtual Convention in 2022.

There were many new in-roads hosting Ohio Area’s first Zoom convention. Asking for help and seeking guidance from Al-Anons both here in Ohio and in many other states, became the standard at every level of planning, right up to the day of the Convention. During this special anniversary year, I truly believe the spirit of Lois was our inspiration to push on, work hard, keep an open mind, and believe that everything would be okay...and it was...to our amazement. God is so good. And so we close the book on another Ohio Area Convention. What an honor...what a ride!! Great job Youngstown Districts Planning Committee! There is no doubt that each of you has grown as an individual and as a member of the Al-Anon Family Groups. Thank you for the opportunity to do service...TOGETHER.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

(see Audited Financial Report attached) Income \$3,905 - Expenses \$2,572.67 (includes \$100 held in reserve for the 2 - \$50 raffle prize vouchers for the 2023 AFG International Conv.) = Net Profit \$1,332.33 thanks to the generosity of our members.

If there are any further questions or comments, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl B, 2021 Convention Chair

# Stepping Stones to Recovery

2021 OHIO AREA CONVENTION

JUNE 26, 2021

(70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration)

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## AGENDA – 2021 Zoom OAC

### SATURDAY – June 26, 2021

8:30 – WELCOME – Greeting

9:00 – In the Beginning – Reflections on the 12 Steps *(by members of the Planning Committee & others)*

9:25 – “A Word from Lois W.” *(Stepping Stones Foundation Audio Archives)*

9:30 – SPEAKER – (Al-Anon Adult Child) Mary Ellen R. - OH

10:15 – Breakout Sessions

Finding a Higher Power THAT WORKS!!!

Finding H.O.P.E. in the Midst of Chaos  
Hang On!! Pain Ends...

11:00 – SPEAKER – (Alateen) Kaiden C. - NC

11:45 – Breakout Sessions

Let's Play JEOPARDY (It's a WIN-WIN Situation)

RECOVERY ROAD TRIP  
Potholes, FREE ways & Tourist Attractions

12:30 – 1:30 LUNCH BREAK *(WSO Audio Archives – “Interview w/ Lois W.”)* OPTIONAL

1:30 – SPEAKER – (AA) Ron M. – Sharpsburg, PA

2:15 – Breakout Sessions

SO, YOU LOVE AN ALCOHOLIC....

ASKING FOR HELP – Learning to Trust  
God, Ourselves & Others

3:00 – Virtual Tour of Stepping Stones (NY) – Where It All Began *(Stepping Stones Foundation presentation)*

4:00 – Breakout Sessions

I WAS WRONG – Fessin' Up & Moving On

Lost & Found – TRANSFORMING OUR LOSSES  
Past, Present & Future

4:45 – Memories of Lois – Our Members Remember (Claire R.-VA, Dennis K.-OH, Myrna H.-FL)

5:30 – 6:30 DINNER BREAK (*WSO Audio Archives - “A Visit with Our Pioneers” – Henrietta S., 1<sup>st</sup> General Secretary of the Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters; Margaret D., 1<sup>st</sup> Forum Editor; & Lois W.*)  
OPTIONAL

6:30 – RAFFLE DRAWINGS

7:00 – SPIRITUALITY PANEL – 3 SPEAKERS

Love of God – Nicole S. (OH)

Love of Self – John A. (PA)

Love of Others – Patti B. (OH)

8:00 – Gratitude & Reflections ... From You Our Members

8:45 – A Final Word from Hildegard V. (*Past Forum Editor*)

9:00 – CONVENTION CLOSING – Serenity Prayer & Declaration

### **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!!*

---

**KEEP COMING BACK – IT WORKS WHEN YOU WORK IT.**

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**Watch the Ohio Al-Anon webpage for more details on the “2022 OAC” hosted by Districts of Toledo.  
(Date & format to be determined)**

Discussion: Ohio AFG reimbursed Youngstown districts for two months of Zoom. Online payment option was created and is available for other events (separate checking account for convention, PayPal, and debit card) plus a local PO box was created. Chair for 2022 Toledo Ohio Convention is Shelly C.

## Archives Coordinator Report – Darla H

Hello, my name is Darla H., I'm the Ohio Archive Coordinator. When I was driving to the main office to pick up the totes of the history of Ohio's Al-Anon history, I was so happy to know that I was going to be a part of this. Then when I got to the office, I met Sandy We talked for a little bit, and I bought 2 books I wanted from her. Then she helped me put them on a cart so I could get them to my car I was driving.

I bought things I needed to be able to do my job. I want to interview people with a long time in program, but I need names of people. If you could help me with a list of names and send them to me at [husendarla@yahoo.com](mailto:husendarla@yahoo.com). I would really appreciate if you all could help me with this. Also, I'm concerned about having the history of Al-Anon in my home, because tornadoes hit out here all the time. I want to talk with the AA Archive person in Ohio and see if we can share the same place they use.

I also got to help others, by looking up the information they needed. Love going to the meetings knowing we will be taking part of the Al-Anon history. Also seeing behind the scenes how votes take place, decisions are made, we just need more people to get in here to help on the discussions so that informed group decisions can be made

If you all could help me, I need some help with questions to ask when I'm talking with us old timers. One day I was going through some of the files looking for information in the meeting minutes for someone. Then I remembered that had to write something to share with you all tonight. So, I went to the first one in the folder, November 1, 1964.

Virginia B. asked that, we give so thought to the state Alternate Delegate to be elected at the next meeting. Jimmie made a motion that, if the Alternate Delegate for some reason had to leave her office, the State Secretary will be emergency Alternate Delegate until such time as an assembly meeting was held to elect a new Alternate Delegate. Evie second the motion was carried.

It was very nice to see how things got started 57 years ago. It is going to be nice to read more from our past how things got started. I can't wait to look up more things.

Thank you all for allowing me to serve as your area archivist.

Darla H.  
One Day At A Time In Al-Anon

## Forum Coordinator Report – Cathy C no official report submitted.

## Group Coordinator Report - Shelly C

As of October 4, 2021, according to the Ohio Database there are:

395 active groups

124 inactive groups

592 meetings listed

- 448 active meetings
  - 103 beginners' meetings
  - 350 AFG meetings

In Area 44 (Ohio Database) there are:

8 meetings in No Mail Status

- |                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| • Courage to Change Niles OH   | District 09 |
| • Corryville AFG, Cincinnati   | District 14 |
| • New Beginnings, Gallipolis   | District 18 |
| • Paradise AFG, Cuyahoga Falls | District 25 |

- Friday Freedom for Pastoral Leadership District 45
- Rainsboro Sat Am District 17
- Courage to Be Me, Barberton District 51
- Step Into Serenity District 31
- 

6 meetings in Bounced Email Status

- Step by Step, Lancaster District 33
- Jardin de Esperanza District 28
- Faith Hope and Love, Cleveland District 05
- Women’s Choice District 26
- Tuesday Night District 26
- Tuesday Noon District 56
- 

2 meetings report Not Meeting

- Uniontown AFG District 48
- Burton Thursday District 45

In addition, there are:

- 66 meetings that have no current CMA email address
- Out of 406 active groups only 244 have a GR

Respectfully submitted,  
Shelly Cassidy, Area Group Records Coordinator

**Literature Coordinator Report** – Irena H no report. The electronic form of newcomer information and large print ODAT and CTC are back ordered.

**AAPP Coordinator Report** – Carmen I

50 registered AMIAS. 14 active Alateen groups. One with no mail status one reported not meeting.

**Review Coordinator** – Terri N. a group will review the OAC convention and the books the treasurer keeps.

**Handbook Committee** – Ginny C

Paragraph B 2021 Fall Assembly 5 year trial period  
Handbook and Bylaws

The changes were made to the Handbook to incorporate the motions passed at the 2021 Spring Assembly. The most recent version of the Handbook is posted on the website under documents and forms, and it is dated May 2021. No changes to the By-Laws have been made since October 2020. An editing error was found in that version, i.e. there are two Article VII listed. That edit will be made following the Fall Assembly 2021 in case there are any other edits to be made. The prementioned proposed edits to the AMIAS packet have been sent to WSO for final approval.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ginny C.

## **Two Day Fall and OAC Advisor - Sandra F**

The Task for the Rotation of Ohio Area Convention and Two-Day Fall Assembly has worked on a possible new rotation for these events.

The current schedule is as follows

2022 OAC is being hosted by the Districts of Toledo. Their committee has formed and is currently working on a location and date with consideration of the being held virtually.

2022 Fall Assembly is to be hosted by the Districts of Youngstown.

2023 There will not be an Ohio Area Convention as it is an International Convention year and the event will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico June 29<sup>th</sup> through July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

2023 Fall Assembly is an election year, in Election years the fall assembly is hosted by the District of Columbus. They are in talks with possible location.

New rotation takes effect in 2024. Changes will be presented in spring for voting.

Discussion: The schedule is in the two day fall schedule by-laws. Change would have to be made in the handbook. Phil H asks about a change in rotation schedule after the international convention. The handbook change will be presented for a vote in spring. 2024 would be the first year for a new rotation. Phil H finds two day fall schedule in the bylaws as well. Research Sandy & Ginny did find in the paper copies Sandra had that the bylaws addition was made in the latest bylaw revision. Archives has older editions of the bylaws.

## **Webmaster Report – Mike K**

Attached at the end of these minutes.

## **2021 Ohio AA Convention with AI-Anon Report – Rose, Cecilia, Joyce**

Convention next year will be in Dublin, OH in August

## **2022 Ohio Area Convention**

Discussion: In the year of an international convention, there would not be an Ohio convention. The rotation was affected as the years progressed and it is difficult to form committees to chair the conventions. Ginny C shares on the screen the KDBM and motion that she did not send in ahead of this assembly. Sandra F reads both reports out loud. Theresa says we must address the bylaws issue. Next year Toledo will have OAC and Youngstown 2 Day Fall. Sandra F reminds we will vote on this in spring. Ginny asks archivist to provide information on this.

Theresa M points out we have a new position open: AA Liaison and appeals for volunteers.

The AA Liaison position may only be filled by an AI-Anon member (and not a dual member).

Joni encourages Alateens to submit for the Just For Tonight Alateen bookmark.

Close with the AI-Anon Declaration.

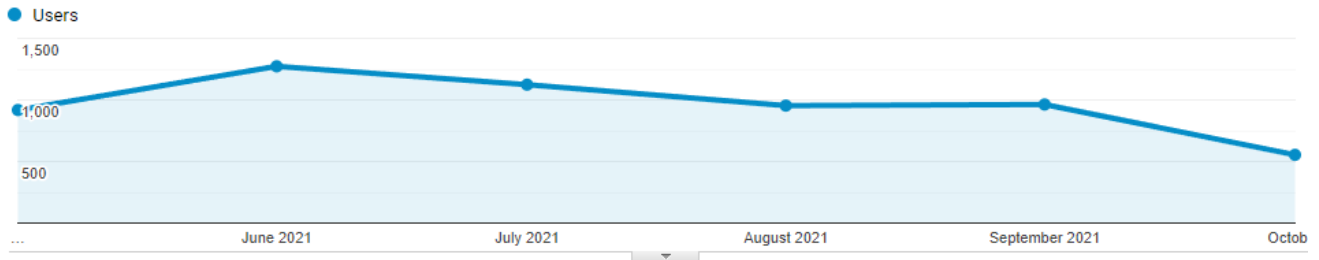
## **2022 IMPORTANT DATES – any of these may be virtual depending on the pandemic**

- USNCRDM 3/11-13 (attended by Delegate, Alternate and Past Delegates)
- **Spring AWSC 3/19** (Officers, Coordinators, Standing Committee, ad hoc Committees)
- WSC APRIL 26-30 (NYC, attended by Delegate)
- **Spring Assembly 5/21**
- OAC - ? June Toledo
- KOMIAC last weekend in JULY
- **Ohio AA convention 8/5-7** in Dublin, OH
- **Fall AWSC 8/20**
- **Fall Assembly**– October date depends on Road Trip
- Road trip after October Board meeting

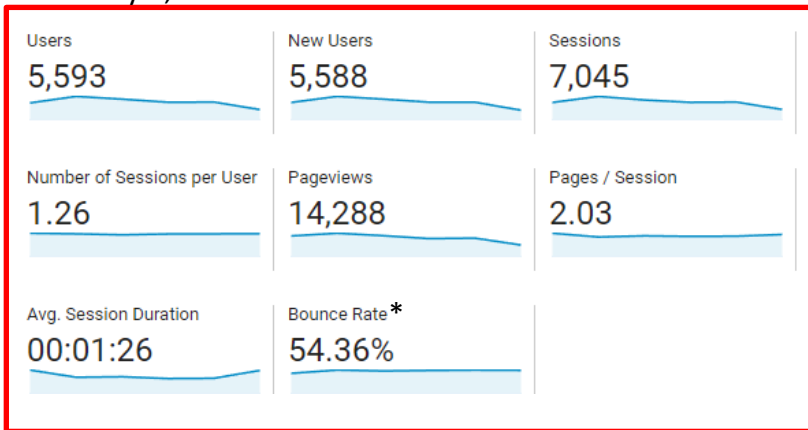
# FALL ASSEMBLY WEB REPORT – Oct 16-17, 2021

RECAP: Back in May's Assembly, we reported that the website was successfully transferred to our new web hosting vendor Dreamhost with minimal interruption. Web stats from our new hosting vendor started coming in the end of April of this year. The statistics (below) represent activity between May 1 and Oct 15.

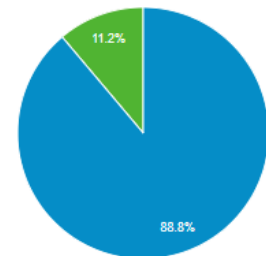
We have a high bounce rate\* and low visit duration - these are explained in the footnote (below). We are not concerned about this as this is to be expected with our meeting search tool page.



Since May 1, 2021



■ New Visitor ■ Returning Visitor



## User Devices

1. mobile	<b>3,261</b> (58.31%)
2. desktop	<b>2,095</b> (37.46%)
3. tablet	<b>237</b> (4.24%)

## User Operating Systems

1. iOS	<b>2,135</b> (38.17%)
2. Windows	<b>1,389</b> (24.83%)
3. Android	<b>1,359</b> (24.30%)
4. Macintosh	<b>543</b> (9.71%)
5. (not set)	<b>75</b> (1.34%)
6. Linux	<b>47</b> (0.84%)
7. Chrome OS	<b>44</b> (0.79%)
8. Xbox	<b>1</b> (0.02%)

## User Browsers

1. Safari	<b>2,317</b> (41.43%)
2. Chrome	<b>2,241</b> (40.07%)
3. Edge	<b>352</b> (6.29%)
4. Firefox	<b>122</b> (2.18%)
5. Samsung Internet	<b>107</b> (1.91%)
6. UC Browser	<b>102</b> (1.82%)
7. Amazon Silk	<b>90</b> (1.61%)
8. Internet Explorer	<b>78</b> (1.39%)
9. Mozilla Compatible Agent	<b>55</b> (0.98%)
10. Android Browser	<b>41</b> (0.73%)

## Popular Pages

	<b>14,288</b> % of Total: 100.00% (14,288)
1. /alalist.html	<b>4,996</b> (34.97%)
2. /	<b>4,237</b> (29.65%)
3. /calendar.html	<b>1,635</b> (11.44%)
4. /meeting_search_tool.html	<b>963</b> (6.74%)
5. /documents.html	<b>560</b> (3.92%)
6. /contactus.html	<b>395</b> (2.76%)
7. /index.html	<b>276</b> (1.93%)
8. /area_information_services.html	<b>253</b> (1.77%)
9. /12steps.html	<b>203</b> (1.42%)
10. /alateen_about.html	<b>171</b> (1.20%)

\* Bounce rate is an Internet marketing term used in web traffic analysis. It represents **the percentage of visitors who enter the site and then leave** ("bounce") rather than continuing to view other pages within the same site. The most likely reason this is happening is many users are going directly to the meeting search page via a bookmark (example: alalist.html). They then get the meeting information they need and leave.

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Stats by Google Analytics