

Spring 2026 Assembly Meeting Minutes

The Spring Assembly meeting was held on May 16, at Just North UCC located at 2040 West Henderson Rd, Columbus 43220. Ann F (Area 44 Chairperson - Panel 64) welcomed everyone to the Hybrid Assembly meeting at 12:33 pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Donna P (GR – Park Layne Tuesdays AFG) read the Twelve Traditions and Missy W (GR – Steps and Traditions AFG) read the Twelve Concepts. Margaret B (Alt GR – Saturday Morning Rise and Shine AFG) read all the General Warranties of Concept 12. In attendance were 60 members representing districts 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 14, 15, 24, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 38, 39, 45, 47, 48, 51 within the Ohio Area (Area 44) and one from Global Electronic Area (GEA).

Ann F reviewed the etiquette procedures (room and on Zoom) pertaining to the Assembly meeting. She read the Declaration of Unity found on page 107 of [How Al-Anon Works \(page 247 of Many Voices, One Journey\)](#) along with the Assembly goals which are as follows:

- Members will understand the purpose of the Assembly, relationships with the structure and be able to articulate Assembly Decisions.
- The spiritual tone of the Assembly will prevail by the demonstration of mutual respect acceptable conduct by its members.
- Knowing that our Higher Power is present in the expression of our group conscience, Assembly members will presume goodwill.

Ann F explained the speaking and voting procedures. She explained the voting members will participate in 2 different kinds of voting – **Consensus** (show of hands for meeting minutes, treasurer's report) and **Simple majority** (for all motions). She also sought permission to record the meeting for the purpose of accurate minutes in accordance with page 89 of Al-Anon Service Manual which states "Occasionally Al-Anon/Alateen meetings are audio taped by members, but as a matter of courtesy, the person doing the taping should receive permission. Al-Anon/Alateen meetings may be taped with the following suggestions: Every member is aware and approves of the taping and Anonymity is carefully preserved". Members approved the request and the Assembly Meeting was recorded.

Sandra F (Past Delegate – Panel 49) made a motion to seat Tess C (Facilities Manager) with no vote and voice only in technical matters and Sandy P (GR - Hilliard Serenity AFG) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by show of hands.

Rose R (Area 44 Delegate – Panel 64) introduced 12 new Group Representatives (GR) and an Alternate GR who are as follows at the meeting: Lisa L, Maria P, Cathy C, Debbie H, Kelli B, Eunice B, Donna P, Sue M, Sandy P, Katrena A, Cynthia B, Margaret B, Missy W.

The following reports and motions were presented in the meeting which can be accessed in the link below under the year 2025 on Ohio Al-Anon website: <https://www.ohioal-anon.org/calendar.html>.

Reports, Motion and Panel Presentation:

1. **Fall OAA 2025 Meeting Minutes:** Sandy P (GR - Hilliard Serenity AFG) made a motion to accept the Secretary's Minutes as written. Susan H (GR – Serenity and Beyond AFG) seconded the motion. The motion passed by simple show of hands (consensus voting). The minutes were approved as written.
2. **Alternate Delegate Report:** Terri N (Budget committee chair) read Alternate Delegate's (Merri G) report. Merri G thanked everyone for their sending their sharings for the recent Al-A-Notes and requested the Assembly members to apply for the Alternate Delegate position in the upcoming Fall election Assembly. She also reported that she will not be applying for the Delegate position due to personal reasons and she came to this conclusion after a long thought process and prayer.
3. **Delegate Report:** Rose R presented her report highlighting her experiences in the Word Service Conference held in April. The report is as follows:

Delegate Report - Spring Assembly May 16, 2026

Slide 1 and 2

75 Years / One Purpose was the theme of this year's World Service Conference (WSC). It was an amazing experience for me especially since this is my final year serving as your Delegate.

Since I arrived on Friday I was well rested! I even had the opportunity to visit Colonial Williamsburg before the Conference began with some other Delegates. Since a few of us drove or rented vehicles we were able to spend the day on Sunday and it was a really great experience.

Slide 3

Our first day was one of gathering together and renewing friendships. It was wonderful to see everyone face-to-face instead of on Zoom. We began at 7 AM, as we did every day for breakfast and then on to the General Session room to begin at 8 AM. Day one was pretty laid back though and some of us were wondering if we "should" have been busier! Something felt wrong since the last two years were four day Conferences and this was our first five day experience! While Panel 66 Delegates were attending orientation, Panel 65 and 64 Delegates

were meeting to complete our separate charge assigned to us by the Conference Leadership Team (CLT).

Panel 64's Task Force was charged with creating a five minute presentation on sharing healthy ways to deal with conflict in the Area. It was great to see how we all meshed together in our third year. We quickly figured out what we wanted to do and it worked out quite good. As usual, I learned a few things and hope to present something for a short skit at 2 Day Fall for us to share about.

This first day also included Sharing Area Highlights. This event is for the Delegates only although WSO staff is invited to observe. This year we took 45 minutes to move around in two circles to share the accomplishments and concerns in our Area's then the next 45 minutes to do an exercise that's like unconditional love. It's a very emotional process and always leaves an impact on all of us. This year, as in the past, it was wonderful.

Slides 4, 5 and 6.

The area around the Hotel was absolutely beautiful so during our free time on Monday, we got a lot of exercise walking around and viewing the wildlife around the pond.

Slide 7 - Day Two

The second day began with the opening and reading of the Conference Charter and right to the first task of the implementation of Choosing a Groups' Name Policy.

Slide 8

- *A brief recap of where we are and the steps that brought us here*
- *Selected Delegates whose Area's survey results reflect the identified themes that have emerged came to the mic Our Area responded with little concern for the Policy change and implementation process. I did contribute to the discussion with a few comments I received via email and talking with members.*

Slide 9 and 10

After hearing Delegates (2) each share their Area's concerns, we broke up into groups and discussed "What different perspectives can we offer to expand the collective wisdom on how we, as World Service Conference members, can proceed on this topic?"

We need to look for the similarities, not the differences. There are groups that won't welcome others outside of their identifiers.

Professionals looking at our Groups names may tend to direct their patients to certain groups that pertain to them eg: Adult children, grandparents. Our concerns need to be singleness of purpose. Educating members, groups and service members to let new people know that everyone is welcome no matter how you live your life or what your background is.

Safety in meetings is paramount. It's not about the label, it's about the disease of alcoholism. Rural areas seem to want "warm bodies" in the meeting seats and don't have a preference on identifiers. Larger Areas such as New York, California etc. have more groups with identifiers and are concerned that they will have to change their names.

After careful discussion the Conference came up with a solution and a motion was made as follows:

MOTION #4 – (74 YES, 16 no, 0 abstentions, 0 void) - CARRIED

To direct the Staff of the World Service Office to adhere to the following guidelines for implementing the "Choosing a Group's Name" Policy:

- Allow community identifiers such as men, women, parents, adult children, young adults, other gender identification/sexual orientation, etc. in group names.*
- Consistently notify the Area Delegate and Area Group Records Coordinator whenever a group submits a registration or containing a community identifier to request these trusted servants have a conversation with the group to ensure their group conscience is to welcome anyone affected by someone else's alcoholism in accordance with Tradition Three and advise the World Service Office of the result and decision regarding whether to register the group.*
- Develop a plan to increase education opportunities to share experience, strength and hope with Area trusted servants on how to be welcoming to newcomers, especially those who do not match a group's community identifier, and to have conversations with group members regarding group names and welcoming.*

Basically as a result of this motion, we will continue to allow group identifiers in new groups registering and any groups wishing to change their names however, it will be the Delegate and/or Area Group Records Coordinators (AGRC) responsibility to talk with the group within a 2 week period of contact from WSO), to make sure the group will be welcoming to ALL newcomers regardless of whether or not they meet the groups identifier. Then it will be the Delegate and/or AGRCs responsibility to notify WSO (within those two weeks time) that it's ok to register the group. If no response is received by WSO within the restricted period, WSO will contact the group and make the decision to register the group. Read page: A Little Time for Myself.

Electronic Alateen Validation and Implementation Process (EAVIP)

Slide 11

I didn't touch too much on this in the past two years because the interest in Electronic Alateen meetings didn't seem to be an issue in the Ohio Area. However, now that it has been discussed and the implementation process has been decided, Ohio needs to take another look at what will be changing for any Alateen meeting that has an electronic component.

Slide 12

The WSO is committed to:

- *Safety - WSO's attorney conducted a complete review of the 2003 Alateen Motion, the World Service Conference Electronic Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements (WSC EASBR), and the Global Electronic Alateen Safety Minimums (Global EASM), confirming that the language is internationally understandable and adaptable across different service structures.*
- *Commitment to clarity - over the last year, WSO has strengthened the processes that define AMIAS-E certification and recertification, electronic Alateen group registration, and coordination between Areas and the GEA. These refinements ensure that every Area in the WSC no matter its structure or size, can follow the same clear, consistent certification process.*
- *Commitment to preparation - to equip Areas with the knowledge and tools needed for implementation. The official AMIAS-E training will take place in August, with a second opportunity in October so every Area can be ready if they choose to opt in.*
- *Commitment to conversation - last year I talked to you all about the process moving forward and asked for questions regarding what you would like me to ask. At the time, no questions came forward.*

Slide 13

As you can see, WSO Staff has been working on this project for the last 5 years and are very excited to see it move forward. If the Ohio Area opts in to be an AMIAS-E, mandated reporting applies.

AMIAS-E Certification

- *Mandatory Reporting-is necessary for certification. What happens if your state is not required to have mandatory reporting? WSO cannot hold an Area to a legal obligation*

however, obedience to the unenforceable holds true for this and we are responsible to keep the Alateens safe.

- *AMIAS and AMIAS-E are two different training modules. At this time, WSO Staff is not comfortable doing both at once.*

- *The same background check will be required for an AMIAS-E however, every two years will be a requirement.*

- *All AMIAS-E will be mandated reporters. If they are in a meeting in another state, they are required to report in the State in which they reside. That protects the teen how? If reporting is necessary, it must be done in a timely manner and State authorities are responsible to investigate further. Once it's reported from an AMIAS-E, it's out of our hands.*

Training and Implementation Timeline

- *All areas are encouraged to attend training (for Delegates (Alternate Delegates too), AAPP and AAC) for AMIAS-E in August, 8/3/26 - 6-9 PM, 8/12/26 - 6-9 PM and 8/15/26 2-5 PM. October will also have 3 dates presumably Saturday and two evening dates also.*

- *The WSC EASBR does not become a part of the Area's ASBR. It is separate and inclusive of all AMIAS-E individuals and controlled and handled through WSO.*

- *Teens can opt in to an electronic meeting anywhere. That's why it's so important for the AMIAS-E to know and go through the interview process. Teens will no longer be able to "bring a friend" to an electronic meeting unless they have been interviewed beforehand.*

Each group and each Area is responsible to vet the teen that is entering the meeting. Area's do have the autonomy to set boundaries so only the State's Alateens can attend meetings.

- *Our Area would put procedures in place to support the WSC EASBR. We could add an appendix to our ASBR guidelines to include information regarding procedures for EASBR such as Hybrid meetings.*

- *WSO will not register any electronic Alateen groups until the form for Area acceptance of electronic groups has been signed and turned into WSO.*

- *Even if our Area doesn't opt in, our teens can still be vetted and interviewed to join other Areas Alateen meetings. But.....our Hybrid Alateen meeting would not be able to operate within our Area. Currently, Ohio has one Hybrid Alateen meeting.*

Since I believe that this is a necessary move for our Area, I have voted to move this process forward. I suggest that we (Delegate, Alternate Delegate, AAPP and AAC) attend the training

and get further questions answered. The Ohio Area must make the next decision as to whether we want to board the train or stay on the platform.

Slide 14

Motions and vote were:

MOTION #5 – (89 YES, 1 no, 0 abstentions, 0 void) - CARRIED

To recognize electronic Alateen groups as Al-Anon Family Groups.

MOTION #6 – (88 YES, 1 no, 1 abstentions, 0 void) – CARRIED

To implement the World Service Conference Electronic Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements (WSC EASBR) as the requirements for electronic Alateen groups to be registered in the WSC Structure.

MOTION #7 (88 YES, 2 no, 0 abstentions, 0 void) - CARRIED

To recognize the Global Electronic Alateen Safety Minimums as minimums, to be augmented by local geographic legislation related to minors, to allow International Structures to create their own Electronic Alateen Safety & Behavioral Requirements and begin registering electronic Alateen groups.

Slide 15 - Day 3

Our visit to WSO began with a welcome from Staff and Executive Committee members. Although we spent the previous days with a lot of the Staff and Executive members, they were still there ahead of time to greet the buses. It was wonderful to see them lined up waving and ready to hug us all and “welcome us home”!

Slide 16

Once we were welcomed inside, we had a meeting under the tent outside and it was beautiful. All of us, along with WSO Staff, participated in sharing our experience, strength and hope with each other and it was especially important to me due to not being able to attend any “extra” meetings for the entire week. We were up @ 6 AM and after skit practice from 8 PM to 10 PM, I was in no shape to make meetings!

Slide 17

Me with the “shoe”

Slides 18 - 20

Our tour included the office area where the staff does all the work for our groups to function, the video room where interviews take place, conference rooms where our ideas are brought to fruition, the warehouse where all of our literature is packaged and shipped, the Alateen showcase where you can see the scarf that was hand made by an Alateen in Canada is displayed holding the Alateen Service Manual and one of my favorite experiences, the Archive room.

The WSO visit lasted from 9 AM - 4 PM then it was right back to work! There was a great presentation from the Task Force assigned to “Applying Step Four to Encourage Area Inventories”. This was interesting as I only thought of groups doing inventories and not our Area. I realized that when problems arise within the Area, which they sometimes do, it’s very important to let everyone in service positions know that they can state their concerns and that we as an Area hear with an open mind. Too often, I assume because “we’ve always done things that way” that that’s how things need to continue. The presentation was really eye opening and if there is time, maybe we can dig into this a bit more when our new Panel begins in 2027.

Following the Task Force we went into the money report - or as Nikita (Director of Finance and Operations) says “Finance is Fun!!!”

I attended a Zoom on Friday, August 8th to better understand how to explain what happened in 2025 and hopefully to answer any questions you all may have regarding the figures presented in the Audit and Financial reports.

I’m only going to give basics because that’s all most groups want to know; however, I have the 2025 Annual Report with me if anyone would like to look at it during breaks. The Al-Anon Family Groups Financial Report is also available for detailed accounts on spending and investments. This is the basic breakdown for 2025 year end.

Slide 21

- *What was the total revenue for 2025 in the General Fund? - \$6,628,143*

Slide 22

- *How much revenue in 2025 was from gross literature sales? \$3,141,508*
- *What were the contributions for 2025? \$3,571,021*
- *Where did the most contributions come from? Groups - \$1,319,268 or 36% followed by bequests at \$614,239 or 17%*

Slide 23

● *What makes up our expenses?*

- a. Salaries and associated costs such as payroll taxes and benefits 63%*
- b. Office expenses such as postage, telephone, stationery and supplies, printing and communication with our Canadian office 22%*
- c. Occupancy*
- d. Public Service Announcements (PSAs)*
- e. Professional fees, travel*
- f. Conference costs and bank/credit card fees 15%*

● *What were some program accomplishments in 2025? We continued work on our Core Systems Overhaul project to better support our evolving fellowship. We will launch the new accounting software in May of 2026. Attendance at the A.A. International Convention, completion of the 2026-2029 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, launched the Public Outreach to Professionals-Young People Strategy by publishing in several trade journals and advanced the eBooks Globally Strategy.*

The 2026 Operating Budget includes a slight increase in total revenue due to the new Service Manual sales, Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (AFA) magazine, efforts to highlight specific literature and hopefully increased contributions from the groups.

Slide 24

The new average value received per group cost this coming year is \$358.00. It's important to remember that not every group is large enough to contribute this cost and some groups are more than capable of doing so. What I found interesting was that of 13,082 groups, 8,000 contributed in 2025 which was 62%. Is your group participating in the 7th Tradition? Can we do more?

We can help with literature and magazine sales by:

- *Using literature other than our daily readers in our meetings*
- *Subscribing to the Forum and giving subscriptions for anniversary door prizes. Use The Forum in our meeting one week out of the month. Steps, Traditions and Concepts are focused on every month and make great meeting topics.*
- *Invite members to share about what piece of literature they're reading and what book helped them the most in their recovery*

- *Remind members about the availability of online literature and The Forum*

- *Remind members how literature sales support our Seventh Tradition For 2026 WSO is projecting revenues to exceed expenses, and therefore the budget may show a light surplus of \$15,110.*

Some of the projects for 2026 are:

- *Continue upgrade of the association management software through the Core Systems Overhaul project to better support the evolving fellowship*

- *The hosting of the 75th Anniversary*

- *The 2026 International General Services Meeting (IGAM) will be held in Slovenia in September*

- *Continuing efforts to improve the technology by rebuilding the Al-Anon website*

- *A new Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (AFA) magazine for public outreach in the fourth quarter*

- *Continuing to advance eBooks Globally by posting the remaining books by September Our International Representative who attended the Conference with voice and no vote was from Mexico - Alicia M. GSO Delegate. She reported that Mexico currently has 3432 registered groups; 2432 - Al-Anon, 541 - Alateen, 296 - Adult Children and 163 Institutional*

Fourth and Fifth Days

Slide 25

Passing it on

Slide 26

Bridging the gap between membership and service.

This project came about because of the Delegates concerns regarding empty spaces in service. It was thought that some of the excess funds from WSO could be used for the purpose of educating new members with members who have past service experience. This was discussed at the 2025 WSC and now that there is a plan coming into view it's very exciting to see what is going to be happening.

Slide 27

The plan is to begin an interview process with WSO current and past staff to oversee this process. They will be looking for numerous members with the ability to be content developers to join in on this project. Applications will be forthcoming and all members are

encouraged to apply to be interviewed. WSO is looking for members who have service experience to share.

There will be no limit on years in the program. Once this interview process is complete and the implementation group is chosen, the plan is to take this project on the road to all 68 Areas to share how it works. I may have a bit more information by 2 Day Assembly.

Slide 28

The International Coordination Committee (ICC)

Slide 29

The committee was formed in 1978 as an avenue of communication between structures. Responsibilities include helping preserve World Wide Unity, advising the Board of Trustees, coordinating International Al-Anon General Service Meeting (IAGSM), reviewing activities of World Service Office for International Structures, Processing first time requests for reprinting of CAL, guiding structures in forming General Service Offices (GSO) and ensures the International voice at WSC.

Slide 30

This year the committee visited Guatemala, Ecuador and Costa Rica. I'll have the slide show presentation for Fall Assembly as it was just posted and I didn't have the time to include it in this slide show.

Single Trustee Process

For the past three years, we have discussed the problem of Regional Trustee applications coming forward. In an effort to have all Trustee positions filled, (19 total) Conference members discussed some different processes to come up with a solution. On a three year trial period, we voted to use a Single Trustee process that would involve combining the Regional and At-Large Trustee positions into one application. Since the process won't begin again until 2027, I will present this at Fall Assembly also.

Coming events

2026 Road Trip!!

Slide 31

Taking place in Chicago, IL on October 24th, 2026. More information will follow on In The Loop (WSO Newsleter) and The Forum.

2028 International Al-Anon Convention with A.A. Participation

Slide 32

Taking place in Minneapolis, MN (Minnesota Nice!) July 20th - 22nd 2028. Registration opens in September 2027. Rooms average \$249-\$259 per night with different options and lower prices within walking distance. Total costs about \$1,776. If we begin saving approximately \$68/month we can accomplish enough money to go !!! More information will be in The Forum and In The Loop also!

In closing, I wanted to show you all a few pictures of the 75th Anniversary Celebration that took place on Saturday after the conference.

Slide 33-34

I want to thank all of you who sent cards to me while I was at WSC. It meant so much to read your heartfelt messages and to know I had your support for the week.

It's been such a stressful time for me these last few months and I've wondered why I can't keep up. I guess I'm refusing to look at my age and what my expectations are of myself. That being said, if it weren't for the World Service Conference and preparing to do this presentation for you all, I'm not sure I would have been any better off. It's kept me focused on what's important in my corner of the world (which my Sponsor said all the time). This service position is more than I had ever hoped it would be. It's taught me how to keep First Things First, Let Go and Let God and probably all the rest of the Slogans that I forget to use in difficult times. It's about realizing my potential in all situations. Not knowing what was coming and trusting my Higher Power with all the outcomes. We will be needing an Alternate Delegate and a Delegate for Panel 67. I hope you all go home and take with you what this means to our Area. It's a wonderful opportunity to give back and to get so much more. Any questions, please contact me and I can give you more information on what is involved in these positions. Any other officer can help also!

Slide 35

This last slide is what we all received along with a hug during "Roll Call" at the beginning of the Conference. If you look closely, it says "I am a member of the World Service Conference".

What an honor, what an experience and with gratitude, I thank you all for allowing me to service the Area.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose R

Ohio Area

Panel 64 - In Service We Soar

Members applauded the Delegate after the presentation of her report. Kim R (AA Liaison) asked about the group name policy. Rose R explained that existing groups do not have to change names and emphasized that all groups should be welcoming to all members. Rose R also confirmed that a double winner can apply for an AMIAS – E certification/recertification. Rose R distributed the WSC summary to 5 members present in the Assembly meeting. Ann F and Rose R encouraged the members to interact with the current Area Officers and Coordinators.

The meeting resumed at 2:10 pm after a short break.

4. **Treasurer's Report:** Carol R (Area 44 Treasurer) presented the EOY (End of Year) 2025 Treasurer's report. When a member asked if the reports were distributed, Ann F explained that all the reports and motions which will be used in the Assembly are available under the calendar tab in the Ohio Al-Anon website. Eunice B (GR - North Lima Monday Discussion AFG) made a motion to accept Treasurer's report as presented and Cynthia B (GR - Lancaster Monday Night 12 Step AFG) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by consensus vote.

She also presented the 2026 YTD Treasurer's report. When a member asked about the line item pertaining to OAC was blank in page 2, Ann F explained that Fall Assembly report will capture the expenses incurred during the OAC 2026. Cheryl B (Handbook Committee Chair) made a motion to accept the Treasurer's YTD report as presented. Heidi W (GR - Willoughby 4th Step Saturday AFG) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by simple show of hands.

5. **Registration Report:** Sue M (Registration Chair – Panel 64) reported that 38 members in person and 22 members on Zoom were in attendance of them 40 were voting members in total.
6. **Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) Report:** Irene B presented her report highlighting the AMIAS recertifications that were processed in our Ohio Area. She also encouraged members to apply for AAPP in the Fall Election Assembly and reach out to her with any questions regarding the position.
7. **Area Alateen Coordinator Report and Forum Coordinator Report:** Ann F read the Alateen Coordinator report emphasizing upcoming KOMIAC (Kentucky Ohio Michigan Indiana Alateen Conference) to be held in Merom Conference Center in Indiana this

July. She also said the registration packet will be sent out by the end of May 2026. She also read the Forum coordinator's report highlighting how old forms will be displayed during the upcoming Founder's Day event in Akron, Ohio.

8. **Budget Committee Report:** Terri N (Budget Committee Chair) presented her report highlighting all the issues that were taken into consideration while making the new 2026 budget. She also reported that the left-over amount of \$1243 after Assembly Reserve funds and budget items were tallied to be donated to the World Service Organization.

Discussion pursued after the report presentation. Sandy F (Past Delegate – Panel 49) asked if the expenses incurred due to Delegate's trip to Stepping stones be split into 3 parts (over the entire panel). Ann F said that since the Treasurer gets one invoice towards Delegate's trip to WSC and Stepping Stones, it is added in 2026's proposed budget. Terri N also said the committee will discuss this issue before the Fall Assembly. Kelli B (GR - Sunday Serenity Discussion Downtown AFG) wanted to know what was Stepping Stones. Rose R explained that it was the home of Bill and Lois W in New York and that Delegate gets to visit it once during their stint. A motion was made by Lynette B (GR - Tuesday Morning AFG) to accept the proposed budget and Carol R (Area 44 Treasurer – Panel 64) seconded it. Motion carried by simple majority. [Yes – 38, No – 0, Abstention - 0]

9. **Handbook Committee Report:** Cheryl B (Handbook Committee Chair) presented her proposed changes to the Handbook which aims at clarifying section XVII pertaining to Ohio Area Convention which is based on the recommendations provided by the Cleveland OAC Committee co-chaired by Sydney P. She presented 8 motions which are as follows:

- **Motion - Article A – Definition, Items 1 and 3 for clarification as follows:** 1. Traditionally, is a 3-day event devoted to fellowship, personal growth, and sharing, to be held annually, except for years when WSO hosts the International Al-Anon Convention. The program will be primarily adult oriented, based on the Al-Anon program and principles, but shall also include programming for Alateen participants following ASBR Guidelines. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) shall be invited to participate fully but may plan a separate program for its members and guests. 3.The Ohio Area Convention shall adhere to the principles of the program and is financially accountable to the fellowship which it serves. The Convention is not to be a fundraiser. [Motion 2026/05 - #1]
- **Motion - Article B - Policy, Item 1 for clarification as follows:** 1. By Two-Day Assembly, the outgoing Convention Chairman shall provide: one (1) copy of all

minutes and records to the Area Archivist; one (1) copy to the OAC Advisor; and two (2) copies to the incoming Convention Chairman. 9. The Convention Chairman of the Area Convention becomes an active member of the AWSC. [Motion 2026/05 - #2]

➤ **Motion - Article C - Area Responsibilities, Items 1 & 3 for clarification – ADD new Items 4 & 5 as follows - then re-number former Items 4,5,6 as Items 6,7,8:**

1. Will use the Convention float fund to provide seed money for the Convention.
3. Will provide seed money for future Convention Committees, as available. ADD - 4. The OAC Advisor and the Area Chairman shall be advisory members of the Convention Committee. ADD - 5. The Area Chairman shall be the authorized signatory on behalf of Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc., on any binding contract(s) for the selected venue. Then re-number former Items 4,5 & 6 as Items 6,7 & 8. [Motion 2026/05 - #3]

➤ **Motion - Article E. Area Convention Center - The Host Districts choose the location of the Convention site:** Article E - Area Convention Venue for clarification as follows: The Host Districts choose the location of the Convention site, but shall notify the OAC Advisor and secure the signature of the Area Chairman on any Convention-related contracts as the authorized signatory on behalf of AFG of Ohio, Inc. Also revise Article E to read: Area Convention Venue. [Motion 2026/05 - #4].

➤ **Motion - Article F - Duties of Convention Committee, Items 2 and 4 as follows:**
2. Establish an amount or estimated amount to be used for principal speaker expense to be budgeted in the registration fee. 4. Follow our Traditions and the Area Handbook Convention Guidelines throughout the planning process and the Convention event. [Motion 2026/05 - #5]

➤ **Motion - Article H - Convention Secretary, Item 1 as follows:** 1. Will record all minutes of the Committee, complete enough to be of aid to future Host Districts, and provide four (4) copies of all minutes and other records to be turned over to the Convention Chairman. [Motion 2026/05 - #6]

➤ **Motion - Article I -Convention Treasurer, Items 1,3,4,5 - add new #2 as follows and change the numbering on 3,4,5:** 1. Will establish an account for receiving all registration fees and paying all approved bills for the Convention. ADD- 2. Process all Convention income and expenses through the Convention account for transparency. Expense voucher forms shall be attached to all expense receipts in order for Committee members to be reimbursed for OAC related expenditures. 3. Will come to the Assembly prepared to transfer remaining funds to the Area Treasurer by Two-Day Fall Assembly. 4. Buy necessary bonding insurance to

protect the Convention Treasurer. 5. Will have the Treasurer's books reviewed by the Area Review Committee before turning them over to the next Convention Treasurer, including documentation of all income sources, all expense vouchers and payments, bank statements, and other financial information. [Motion 2026/05 - #7]

- **Motion - Article J - Program Committee, to ADD new Item 3 as follows and then renumber the remaining Items as 4 - 9:** ADD - 3. The Anonymity Statement shall be read prior to each Convention session. (See the Al-Anon / Alateen Service Manual, Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies, Anonymity section). [Motion 2026/05 - #8]

Discussion pursued after the presentation of these motions.

Sydney P (Archives Coordinator – Panel 64) suggested that the Ohio Area should have a registration site and an account to transfer amounts to the districts that are holding the Convention every year. She also stated that handbook did not offer more guidance during the planning stages of the 2025 Ohio Area Convention and hence this section needs to be rewritten. Mary C asked if the Chairman can be replaced by Chairperson.

Cheryl B explained that an appendix may be added with more details pertaining to Area convention operations and the Ohio Area cannot have a separate account for the Convention due to already having an area account which is maintained by the Area Treasurer. Michael B (Pfeiffer Road AFG Adult Children of Alcoholics), OAC 2024 Chairperson clarified that the Cincinnati area had to set up a second independent account for OAC 2024 which worked well. Robin R (GR - Oregon Thursday Nite AFG) and Sandra F clarified that the Area chairperson must sign the OAC contract and it has been a practice for about 10 years in the Ohio Area.

Sandy F asked about the registration fees which account for the principal speaker in the convention. Cheryl B and Ann F explained that the registration fees can be determined by the convention committee to cover the principal speaker's expenses and that doesn't have to be a constant amount. The other donations cannot be relied on for covering the speaker's cost.

Daisy A (Area 44 – Secretary) and Ginny C (Past Delegate – Panel 55) sought clarification of the term “Treasurer” in item #6 of the motion 7. Ann F and Cheryl B clarified that the term “Treasurer” refers to the Convention Treasurer.

The motions 1, 2, and 3 were grouped together and motions 4, 5, and 6 were grouped together and finally motions 7, 8 were grouped together. Voting pursued and the results are as follows:

Motions 1, 2, 3: Yes - 34, No - 2, Abstention – 0 [Terri N seconded these motions]

Motions 4, 5, 6: Yes – 34, No – 2, Abstention – 0 [Angela S (GR - Chagrin Valley Wednesday Night AFG) seconded the motions]

Motions 7, 8: Yes – 34, No – 2, Abstention – 0 [Carol R seconded the motion]

All the motions passed unanimously.

The meeting resumed at 4:05 pm after a short break.

10. **Public Outreach Coordinator Report:** Cherryl C [POC – Panel 64] presented her report highlighting her efforts to increase public outreach in our area. Members applauded after the report presentation.
11. **District 30 Report:** Karen P (DR 30) presented her report highlighting the gifts she received while serving as District Representative and encouraged the members to step up to become a DR.
12. **District 10 Report:** Chris E (DR 10) presented her report highlighting her biggest takeaway from serving as a District Representative which is practicing the principles of Al-Anon in all our affairs leads to success in life.
13. **AA Liaison Report:** Kim R presented her report and encouraged members to participate in the upcoming AA conference to be held in Granville, Ohio from August 16 – 18. The flyer of the event will be sent with these minutes.
14. **2 Day Fall and OAC Advisor Report:** Shelly C (2 Day Fall and OAC advisor – Panel 64) reported that 2 Day Fall Assembly will be in Dublin Ohio which also happens to be the election year for the next panel. She also reported that 2026 OAC (Ohio Area Convention) will take place in Bergamo Center in Beavercreek Ohio and updated the status of the event planning. She encouraged members to register for the event and consider donating baskets for raffle.

New Business:

- The meeting members voted on a rounded left-over amount (\$1250.00) proposed by Terri N to be donated to WSO. Discussion pursued the motion presentation. Ginny C suggested that everyone submit their expenses on time and Kim R asked about the deadline for expense submission. A thought force was suggested to figure out how to distribute excess funds. The following members volunteered to be in the thought force – Carol R, Ann S, Sandra F, Heidi W, Theresa M, Sydney P, Terri N. Eunice B (GR - North Lima Monday Discussion AFG) seconded the motion. The motion passed by simple show of hands.
- All the current Officers and Coordinators gave their elevator pitch to encourage members to serve in the next panel.

- Ann F welcomed thoughts about Al-Anon's 75th Anniversary. Sandra F made a motion to have a budget of \$300 towards the Al-Anon's 75th Anniversary Celebration during the 2026 Fall Assembly. Sue T (GR - River East AFG) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Kim R proposed a skit and extract ideas from the archives.
- Susan H informed the members that there was an app for finding Al-Anon/Alateen meetings in our area.

Terri N made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Heidi W seconded it. The meeting was adjourned and 5:03 pm with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Dates to Remember:

June 12- 13, 2026:	Founder's Day, Akron OH
July 24 - 26, 2026:	KOMIAC, Merom Conference & Retreat Center, 8555 Phillip St., Merom, IN 47861
August 7 – 9, 2026:	OAC – Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning, Beavercreek, OH
August 14 -16, 2026:	AA convention with Al-Anon participation, Cherry Valley lodge, Granville, OH
August 22, 2026:	Fall AWSC – Zoom only
October 17 – 18, 2026:	2 Day Fall Assembly, Dublin Ohio

Respectfully Submitted,

Daisy A

Area Secretary – Panel 64

The minutes of this meeting were distributed via the Ohio Area website, due notice being sent to every registered group, on: ___May 19, 2026_____

The minutes of this meeting were then presented for approval on: _____

