

Fall 2025 AWSC Meeting Minutes

The Fall AWSC meeting was held on Saturday, August 23, 2025, via Zoom. Area 44 Chairperson Ann F welcomed everyone to the meeting at 12:31 pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Kim S (DR 15) read the AI-Anon Twelve Traditions and Linda L (DR 14) read the Concepts and Susan H (DR 26) read the General Warranties of Concept 12. In attendance were 32 members representing districts 2, 4, 6, 7, 10, 14, 15, 26, 28, 30, 31, 34, 39, 44, 45, 47, 48, 51 within the Ohio area (Area 44) and Global Electronic Area.

After the introduction of each member, Ann F (Area 44 Chairperson) sought permission to record the session. Susan H asked how long the recording will be stored. The group decided to keep the recording of the meeting until the minutes are distributed by the Area Secretary. Ann F read the Declaration of Unity found on page 237 from *Many Voices One Journey* along with the AWSC goals which are as follows:

- Members will understand the purpose of the AWSC, relationships with the structure and be able to articulate AWSC Decisions.
- The spiritual tone of the AWSC 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, AWSC members will presume goodwill.

Ann F reviewed the etiquette for the AWSC meeting and explained who can vote on matters (Officers, Coordinators, AIS Liaisons, District Representatives and Alternate District Representatives) during the meeting. She also mentioned that all motions are acceptance motions only, to be sent to the Assembly for approval, which means a simple majority would be sufficient.

The following reports and motions were presented in the meeting which can be accessed in the link below under the year 2025 on our Ohio AI-Anon website:

<https://www.ohioal-anon.org/documents/ARCHIVES/2025-FALL-AWSC/>

Report Presentation:

1. **Spring 2025 AWSC Meeting Minutes:** Ann F sought for any corrections in this report. No corrections were brought up. Theresa M (Past Delegate - Panel 58) made a motion to approve the Spring 2025 AWSC Minutes as presented, and Linda L seconded it. The motion passed by simple show of electronic hands.
2. **Delegate Report:** Rose R (Delegate – Panel 64) presented her report highlighting all the events she has been part of in our area and beyond. Please find the Delegate's report below:

Blessings and welcome to our Fall Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meeting. I can hardly believe that it's almost September! In preparing to do this report I am filled with gratitude that I'm of sound mind and body to continue this service position. As I look around me, there are many others who are struggling just to survive daily. I am truly blessed.

I'm going to give you a brief review of what's going on in our Area and at the World Service Office (WSO) since the last report given at Spring Assembly. There was not a Chairperson of the Board (COB) presentation for April, 2025 however, we did receive the letter and had an opportunity to meet with our Trustee to discuss any questions we had regarding the letter. The next scheduled COB presentations are August 16th and November 8th. The April COB letter highlighted what

occurred at the 65th World Service Conference (WSC) most of which was reported in May to you all. This information is also posted on the al-anon.org website.

One of the items I'd like to bring to your attention is the Electronic Alateen Validation & Implementation Planning that is scheduled to be initiated in July of 2026. The proposed WSC Electronic Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements (WSO EASBR) were presented to the Conference and we were asked to bring them back to you for comments and questions. I didn't receive any questions from our Area however, there were questions from other Areas and if anyone is interested in looking them over, I have a copy that I could forward to you via email.

While attending the State Convention a few weeks ago, I had a conversation with an Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) who informed me that they sponsor a "Zoom" Alateen meeting. Please be aware that this is not approved by WSO and cannot happen until our Area meets the requirements for Electronic Alateen meetings which have not been implemented yet. The ONLY Global Electronic Alateen meetings that are approved for registration within the WSC Structure can be found on the Al-Anon Mobile App.

In regards to the Trustee application process, there were no Regional Trustee nominations put forward this year. As a result, there will be five vacant Regional Trustee vacancies on the Board for 2025 to 2026 term. I will be attending the Regional Committee on Trustees orientation meeting this week (8/6/25) to go over what responsibilities I have if and when we have Regional Trustee applications for the North Central Region. There was a Thought Force at WSC regarding overcoming barriers for the application process. They presented to the Conference on the impacts of eliminating the Regional Trustee application process. The Task Force presented three possible options for going forward with a single process for selecting members to serve as Trustee. I will have more to report on at Fall Assembly as I understand and receive more information.

Choosing a Group's Name Policy

Prior to the 2025 WSC, the Policy Committee provided the WSC members with a memo to help prepare for this discussion, a document outlining the history of the "Choosing a Group's Name" Policy conversations, as well as all the appeals to the policy that had been received by the WSO between September 2024 and March 2025.

During several sessions throughout the Conference, discussions were held to discover whether the Conference members were in alignment on how to proceed. As discussion progressed, many agreements were reached and clarifications shared, including the Policy Chairperson's declaration that it was never the Policy Committee's intention to direct Staff to enforce the "Choosing a Group's Name" Policy implementation on existing groups.

Member agreements included the importance of making sure every Al-Anon Family Group welcomes all those affected by someone else's drinking and not registering groups whose members state they will not be welcoming to all or whose names reflect affiliation with outside entities. As time ran out we could not agree on one implementation approach. Conference members considered how to implement the Policy as it applies to new group registrations and established groups' updates when the name submitted includes an identifier, such as "parents".

As it was necessary that the 2025 WSC provide clear direction on how to proceed with implementation before the Conference ended, a motion was offered that would provide guidance to the WSO Staff until the WSC reconvenes again in 2026. The approved motion allows Staff to

accept new group registrations and established groups' updates when submitted names include identifiers, as listed in the current version of the Service Manual. When I attend WSC in 2026, we will vote on implementation of this Policy.

I have not received any input on the implementation of the Choosing a Group's Name Policy. I will assume that your groups are in agreement with WSO on identifiers NOT being included in the Groups' Name.

Delegates on CLT for Agenda Development

The motion brought forth last year by Delegate members of Conference to create a task force, composed of the Conference Leadership Team and a minimum of three Delegates, with the charge of proposing how Delegates could be selected and participate on the CLT to contribute to WSC agenda development will move forward for 2026. As Delegates, we will have a voice in defining the topics selected and final agenda recommended and the ability to inform and expand Delegate contributions to the Chosen Agenda Item process.

With that being said, please talk with your Group Representatives (GR's) and amongst yourselves about what issues you see that you'd like addressed at WSC in 2026. This is where our agenda comes from. Links of service begin at the group level and it would be great to be able to submit CAI's from our Area.

In talking to members around our area I'm hearing there are some problems with bullying, dominance and disrespect in some of our meetings. There have been some postings on AFG Connects regarding these problems. I was given a skit from the KY Delegate that looks at some of these issues and I have her permission to share with anyone who is interested. There is also a great resource on this subject in Paths to Recovery on page 334 which states, in part: "We are not the authority on the right way of doing things and need to be loving and supportive of others even when our feelings and methods differ".

Growing Future Leaders - Passing it On

A project is being put together with the idea of how to ensure that fundamental service knowledge is being passed on from current to future leaders in our service structure. A proposal was made as part of the excess funds conversation to capture the experience and wisdom of past and current trusted servants, such as Delegates and Trustees, to create a comprehensive presentation that could be shared at in-person Area Assemblies. The presentation will discuss how keeping our fundamental service knowledge alive contributes to the overall success and longevity of AI-Anon Family Groups. The goal is to reignite passion for AI-Anon service and ensure members are passing on information from one generation to the next. I'm excited to be a part of this and will have more information after the Conference next year!

Save the Date: Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect

Mark your calendars for this year's Road Trip which will be held in Omaha, NE on October 25, 2025. This event gives AI-Anon members an opportunity to connect with members of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee. Registration will be open in September, and space is limited. Be on the lookout for more information.

75th AI-Anon Anniversary Celebration!

AI-Anon's 75th Anniversary Celebration was approved by the Board and announced to us at the Conference! It will take place on April 25th, 2026 (after the WSC) with a tour of the WSO and dinner. All AI-Anon members are welcome. I will have more information at the Fall Assembly. As soon as I know more, you will too!!!

2028 AI-Anon International Convention

The 2028 AI-Anon International Convention will be held on July 21-23, 2028. Yes, you are hearing that correctly, it's not the July 4th holiday weekend. We will enjoy our Welcome Committee demonstration of "Minnesota Nice" in the "City by Nature"! In terms of dates, the decision was made to move away from the holiday weekend because travel is easier, and costs are lower, and this way, the event does not interfere with member holiday parties.

This is my second year being privileged to work on the Literature Committee. There is still a great need of sharings needed for our two new pieces of literature;

1. Your Relationship with Finances in AI-Anon Recovery
2. Sponsorship and Service Sponsorship

These can be found on the al-anon.org website under:

- Members
- Members Resources
- Member Blog

Then search for: Finances piece and/or Sponsorship piece.

I also have these saved and can email you the information if you'd like.

Last but certainly not least, WSO's March 2025 financial update.

Literature sales for March were \$283,736. Contributions were \$322,271

Expenses were \$522,174

	YTD Actuals	YTD Budget
Revenue		
Literature Sales	\$633,330	\$640,117
Contributions	\$777,782	\$640,223
Other Income	\$245,087	\$225,579
Total Revenue	\$1,656,199	\$1,505,919
Total Expenses	\$1,571,030	\$1,589,949
Change in Net Assets	\$85,169	(\$84,030)

This quarter the WSO gratefully received a substantial bequest from an AI-Anon member, which contributed significantly to the increase in our net assets. Without this unexpected income, the financial results would have been different. Recognizing this places in perspective the need for the financial message of consistency shared during the World Service Conference. To most effectively maintain the many services provided by the WSO, our groups need to consistently maintain-or

increase-their regular contributions. This is one way to put our Conference theme, “Investing in Each Other to Preserve Our Legacy,” into action. Just as consistency in our working our programs is important in the process of recovering from the effects of living with the disease of alcoholism, consistency in our financial support of our links of service as well as the WSO is important in making sure that Al-Anon remains available for those who have not yet arrived in the rooms.

On a personal note, I have been meeting with Panel 64 Delegates monthly to update one another on happenings in our areas and to just talk to each other about issues, concerns and goals that we have before our last year has ended.

Ohio Area is still in need of a Public Outreach Coordinator and sadly our Alateen Coordinator is stepping down due to personal issues. Please search your heart and think about the “boost” to your recovery filling these two service positions could do! It’s only for 1 year and 4 months until our next panel is voted in. Those of us who are involved in the area Service Structure can attest that it is work but, the gifts are astronomical! Get in touch with one of us and we’ll help out in any way we can!

Additional information for AWSC Delegate report 8-23-25

Public Outreach

Carrying the message to College Campuses-Cooperating with Mobilize Recovery’s Campus Surge 2025.

Mobilize Recovery is a national nonprofit that promotes recovery education, connection, and advocacy. This fall, its Campus Surge 2025 campaign offers a unique public outreach opportunity for Al-Anon to cooperate in reaching college communities with recover-related information. The initiative runs from August 29 to November 10, with events hosted at different campuses on different dates, each tailored to the needs of that local student population.

We are fortunate to be able to participate on September 13th at Ohio State University in Columbus OH. If anyone is interested in checking this out, please get with me via email and I can forward Heather Smith’s email to you with details.

As some of you may or may not know, Heather Smith, Associate Director of Public Outreach at WSo is coming to do a presentation at our Fall Assembly in October. Since we don’t have a Public Outreach Coordinator, I have been trying to keep up to date on what’s happening and Heather hopefully can encourage us to find a person or persons to step up to service in this area. She has 3 different options for presentation. 1) a traditional PowerPoint 2) an interactive session, 3) a writing workshop. I need to respond to her so she can prepare so any suggestions to what you think would work best are welcome. Please let me know by the end of next week if you think your GR’s would prefer one of the 3 choices.

Do Not List Policy

To those of you who are not familiar with Ohio’s Do Not List Policy we do have one on pages 32-36 in our Handbook. We’ve never had to use it and at some point in time, it was submitted to the World Service Office (WSO) for consideration. I’m not sure when it was but, I have been notified that they did receive it and it has been reviewed and not accepted due to reasons that will be communicated back to us at some point in time.

Literature

New eBook release!!!!!!

Intimacy In Alcoholic Relationships is now available in eBook form in English, Spanish and French on WSO's new one-stop eBook publishing platform! This platform enables WSO to publish new titles simultaneously across all major eBook platforms. You can see a complete list of eBooks, audiobook, and other digital products and link to where you can purchase them at the WSO's online bookstore.

Sharings needed for upcoming CAL corner titles. WSO is in need of help gathering a few sharings for the CAL Corner department of upcoming issues of the Forum.

Cal Corner sharings tell how a particular piece of literature-or portion of that piece-helped you in your recovery. Titles and due dates coming up are:

- In All Our Affairs-Making Crisis Work for You (B-15) - Due September 20, 2025
- Al-Anon's Twelve Steps & Traditions, Revised (B-8) - Due October 20, 2025
- Hope for Today (B-27) - Due November 20, 2025

Please send email sharing directly to Carol C. @ literature@al-anon.org or to wso@al-anon.org with CAL Corner in the subject line.

Love and Gratitude in Service,
Rose R
Ohio Delegate / Panel 64 - "In Service We Soar"

The attendees applauded the Delegate after the presentation of her report. Gabe B (Alt AA Liaison) and Susan H expressed interest in participating in the college campus recovery surge to be held on September 13 in The Ohio State University. More information will be sent to them by Rose R. Ginny C sought clarification from Rose R regarding the Group Name policy. Ann F explained that Alateens are allowed hybrid meetings in our area as long as they have a physical meeting location. She also explained that WSO has electronic meetings for Alateens. Rose R emphasized Area level electronic Alateen meetings will go into effect if needed after it is voted on in the 2026 WSC.

3. **Alternate Delegate Report:** Merri G (Alternate Delegate – Panel 64) presented her report and shared her gratitude for the program and the growth received during the OAC (Ohio Area Convention) 2025. Merri G will be sending out the Al-A-Notes which will include the motions that will be voted during Fall 2025 OAA (Ohio Area Assembly) and Fall 2025 OAA flyer.

The attendees applauded the Alternate Delegate after the presentation of her report.

4. **Corrected End of Year Treasurer Report 2024:** Carol R (Area Treasurer – Panel 64) presented the corrected EOY 2024 report. Theresa M made a motion to accept the corrected EOY report for Approval in the Fall Assembly. Linda L seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.
5. **YTD 2025 Treasurer report:** Carol R presented the Year-to-Date 2025 report. She expressed gratitude for the support from her sponsor. Rose R made a motion to accept the YTD Treasurer's report to be sent to the Fall Assembly for approval. Sydney P (Archives Coordinator) seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **Area Alateen Coordinator Report:** Irene B read the report on behalf of Lauren B (Area Alateen Coordinator). It was reported that KOMIAC was a great success, which had 91 participants with teens outnumbering the sponsors.

The session resumed at 2:03 pm after a short break.

7. **AAPP Report:** Irene B (Area Alateen Process Person) presented her report along with updates to the Ohio recertification and minor changes to the ASBR (Alateen Safety and Behavior Requirements) document.

Irene B made a **motion to accept the WSO's minor recommended changes** to the Ohio Area 44 Alateen Safety and Behavior Requirements (ASBR), as revised by the ASBR Alateen task Force **[Motion 2025/10 - #2]**. Sandy F (Past Delegate – Panel 49) seconded it. Voting pursued and motion passed unanimously to be sent to the 2025 Fall Assembly.

8. **Registration Report:** Registration Committee chair Sue M reported that there were 28 people in attendance and 27 present were eligible to vote.
9. **Budget Committee Report:** Terri N (Budget Chair) presented her report. Sandy F asked if the CDs of the Ohio Area will be broken into smaller CDs. Terri N said they would discuss it in the next meeting and will also invite Sandy F.
10. **Area Group Records Coordinator Report:** Nancy S (AGRC – Panel 64) presented her report and encouraged everyone to use the online group records update form. Discussion pursued after presentation of the report. Sydney P asked if the Missing in Action meeting IDs will be reported in the Fall Assembly AGRC report. Nancy S promised to provide that information then and clarified that the groups are responsible for updating their records in the WSO website while DRs can assist but are not responsible for updates. Cheryl B raised concerns about GR notification and Ann F, Shelly C, Nancy S and Daisy A explained the process of group updates and that the notifications that are sent by the secretary are purely based on the group records that are available in the WSO database.
11. **OAC Advisor and 2-Day Fall Report:** Shelly C presented her report regarding OAC 2025, Fall 2025 OAA, OAC 2026, Fall 2026 OAA. Ginny C pointed out that the Fall 2025 OAA will be held in the Holiday Inn in Canton and not in Akron.
12. **OAC 2025 Report:** Sydney P (Co-Chair OAC 2025) presented her report highlighting the great success of the convention in supporting the friends and families of alcoholics. She also noted that the profit will be divided among 5 entities which are as follows – WSO, Ohio Area, Cleveland Council, Alateen and 2026 OAC. Sydney P also mentioned that OAC 2024 notebook were not passed to the Cleveland area which hosted the OAC 2025. Carolyn D (GCAIS) promised to look into it. Members applauded her after the presentation of the report.
13. **Handbook Committee Report:** Cheryl B presented 6 different motions which are as follows –
 - **Motion to Update Bylaws Article IX** – Procedure For Approval and Amendment to reflect the current approved procedure for achieving Quorum for voting purposes. Under section B, ADD paragraph #1 to read: See the Handbook of General and Committee Working procedures for

Al-Anon Family Groups Inc., Section III - Amendment procedures, Article B – Bylaws Amendments will require Substantial Unanimity vote, Item #1 for current quorum guidelines as follows: “On a five (5) year trial basis, a quorum shall be the number of voting members registered and present at the beginning of each Area Assembly meeting. Effective Immediately. (motion 2021/10 - # 3)” **[Motion 2025/10 - #3]**.

Discussion pursued the presentation of the motion. Sandy F explained that to put a motion in Bylaws we need 2/3 votes in favor. Sydney P, Theresa M, Jeff D (DR 45), Cecelia S (Area Technology Coordinator) talked in favor of the proposed motion. Voting pursued after it was seconded by Daisy A (Area Secretary – Panel 64). **Motion passed to be sent to the 2025 Fall Assembly for approval.**

- **Motion to revise for clarity Section B, #1** (under Article III – Policy of the Bylaws) to read: “The Annual Meeting of the Corporation (hereinafter called the Two-Day Fall Assembly) will be held the second or third week in October. Except for elections years, when it is to be held in the Districts of Columbus, the Two-Day Fall Assembly will rotate per the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures for Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc.” **[Motion 2025/10 - #4]**

Ann F and Rose R clarified that the order of rotation is specified in the handbook. Theresa M seconded the motion and voting pursued. **Motion passed to be sent to the 2025 Fall Assembly for approval.**

- **Motion - 2 Day Fall Rotation List delete:** Bylaws Article VIII. Delete – “ Handbook” from the title Two-Day Fall Assembly Section B – DELETE the Two-Day Fall Assembly list of Districts rotation following paragraph #1. Section B – ADD paragraph #2 – “See the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures for Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc., for order of rotation.” **[Motion 2025/10 - #5]**.

Kim S seconded the motion and voting pursued. **Motion passed to be sent to the 2025 Fall Assembly for approval.**

- **Motion - Bylaws Financing revisions:** Edit Bylaws Article III – policy, Section C – Financing Item #1 – DELETE “Assembly Expense Fund” and “the state of”. Revise Item #1 to read: “Financing of the Area Assembly shall be accomplished by the voluntary contributions of the Al-Anon and Alateen Groups in Ohio Area 44 to the AFG of Ohio Inc.” **[Motion 2025/10 - #6]**

Susan H seconded the motion and voting pursued. **Motion passed to be sent to the 2025 Fall Assembly for approval.**

- **Motion - Move from Bylaws to Handbook_Cost for Delegate Report to a District in person:** DELETE from Bylaws Article III – policy, Section B – Meetings, Item #3 – “If the districts request a report in person from the Delegate, the cost for the expense is borne by the metropolitan locale. (motion 2000/10 - #6).” MOVE to Handbook of General and Committee Workign Procedures for AFG of Ohio, Inc. under Section VII – Job Descriptions & Responsibilities – Area Officers, Article A– Delegate, ADD to list of Responsibilities: As Item #9 with this approved motion #. **[Motion 2025/10 - #7]**

Linda L seconded the motion and voting pursued. **Motion passed to be sent to the 2025 Fall Assembly for approval.**

- **Motion - Bylaws revise Alateen Service:** Bylaws Article X – Alateen Service, Section A. RETAIN paragraph #1 motion. ADD 2 additional motions re: AMIAS packet update & ASBR Requirements as follows: #2. “Motion passed Two-day Fall Assembly 2023: To update the Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) packet in the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures for Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc. to reflect the current procedure and revised AMIAS certification forms (Motion 2023/10)”;
- #3. “Motion passed Two-day Fall Assembly 2024: To accept the Ohio Area 44 ASBR as revised by the ASBR Alateen Task Force (per WSO guidelines) and revised by Ohio Legal counsel (Motion 2024/10 - #8). REMOVE sections B, C, D, and E. Insert new Section B to read: “The complete ASBR guidelines for having Alateen in Ohio Area 44 is found in the APPENDIX of the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures for Al-Anon Family Groups of Ohio, Inc.” **[Motion 2025/10 - #8]**

Daisy A seconded the motion and voting pursued. **Motion passed to be sent to the 2025 Fall Assembly for approval.**

The session resumed after a short break at 3:48 pm.

14. **DR 14 Report:** Linda L presented her report highlighting District 14’s work in the River City Correctional facility.
15. **DR 26 Report:** Susan H presented her report and sought suggestions from other attendees regarding Insurance for meetings in their districts. Many members shared their experiences. Cheryl B pointed out that one of the meetings in her district needed an Insurance but they were more than happy to have a disclaimer read at each meeting instead of insurance. Ann F suggested that this topic be brought to the Fall Assembly to seek more insights.
16. **District 28 & AA Liaison Report:** Kim R presented her report which highlighted the successful completion of the 69th AA convention held in Toledo Ohio with Al-Anon participation. She was excited to have Gabe B who has volunteered to shadow her in the role of Alternate AA Liaison. She also reported the progress of 3 goals that were set for Central Ohio’s groups in the year 2025.
17. **DR 48 Report:** Colleen F (DR 48) presented her report highlighting the great work done by her GRs regarding the Fall 2025 OAA. She explained the flyer for the event – buffet dinner, room rates and registration deadlines. Daisy A will send out the flyer with the AWSC meeting minutes to the AWSC roster and to Mike B to post it on the Ohio Al-Anon website.
18. **DR 30 Report:** Karen P presented her report highlighting the growth she has experienced in her role as a DR. She also reported that she will be focusing on financial accountability within her district. Many attendees shared their frustration in opening a checking account for their groups. Cheryl B alluded to page 55 in her Service Manual regarding financial accountability within each group. Merri G requested everyone to reach out to her for new GR packets if needed.
19. **OAC 2026 Report:** Ann F reported that Beth M (Chair for OAC 2026) is working with a committee for OAC 2026 to be held in Miami Valley and shared the flyer for the event.

New Business:

- Theresa M urged members to consider serving as a new replacement for Ohio webmaster.
- Ann F emphasized the need for a new POC (Public Outreach Coordinator) for the Ohio Area.

Rose R made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Sandy F seconded it. We closed the meeting at 4:24 pm with Al-Anon Declaration.

Dates to Remember

- October 18-19, 2025: 2- Day Fall Assembly, Belden Village, Canton Ohio
- August 7- 9, 2026: OAC 2026, Soaring Towards Serenity, Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning, Beavercreek, OH

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: August 26, 2025

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