

AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE
MARCH 21, 2009

CHAIRMAN: Barbara M. Welcomed everyone. Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer with the Traditions read by Scott B from district 57 and the Concepts of Service read by Kay H district 27.

Reminder from Barbara: The Area World Service Committee members meet for the purpose of voicing and exploring their ideas, issues, concerns and vision related to their jobs by way of an open forum in the midst of a wealth of Al-Anon service experience, strength and hope. Service work is than enhanced as members share information and provide affirmation for one another. This meeting produces a timely agenda and many full-bodied reports encompassing both up-to-date- achievements as well as newly proposed projects, all of which are presented to the next Ohio Area Assembly.

Barbara W. read the proper etiquette rules for assembly.

Barbara discussed the importance of Knowledge Based Decision Making (KBDM) and encouraged those that had ideas to write them out using the Topic format, which gives each idea full consideration. She asked us to provide the Background Information, What we know(Historical Prospective), The existing motions that pertain to this topic- What do we know about our membership needs, wants and preferences and lastly- What do we know about our capacity(resources)? We also need to consider when bringing a motion to the table that we consider the following: What are the implications of our choices? Pros and Cons. –What we wish we knew, but do not. Questions and clarification allowed and there is no timing or microphone limitation. If you would like to present a motion, please ask the chairperson for a form. Barbara encouraged us to stay away from motion madness and to keep in mind what is the best for the greatest number and to reason ideas out with another.

Districts represented: 4,5,6,7,9,10,14,15,24,25,27,30,31,32,33,45,48,51,57

SECRETARY’S REPORT- Merri G. Everyone had an opportunity to read the minutes and offer any changes. A motion was made and seconded by Lee and then by Rose to approve the AWSC 2008 September 6th minutes as written. A sign in sheet was passed around so the group list could be updated with any changes. Due to the bulk mailing requirements in the Cleveland area, this position got off to a challenging start but because of the help and support of the committee and my sponsor problems became blessings in the end. I also want to thank Donna and Malinda who volunteered to help me with registration for the upcoming Spring Assembly.

<u>TREASURERE’S REPORT- Robin R-</u>	Balance as of 12-31-	\$33252.23	
	Income	\$1671.97	A Motion was made and
	Expenses	<u>\$-4248.29</u>	seconded to accept the
	Balance as of 3-15-09	\$33252.23	Treasurer’s Report.

Robin said the cut-off for donations was March15th 2009- All other donations will go on the next report.

Robin read a beautiful letter that came in with a donation on Dec. 21 2008 by the daughter of a deceased stepmother who could not say enough how grateful her step mom was for this program.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE: Janice R-In December Sandy F. our Delegate, brought me everything she had that pertained to the position of Alternate Delegate. I have slowly been going through things and becoming familiar with the duties of Alternate Delegate. One of the things I will be doing is attending the North Central Regional Delegate’s Meeting (NCRDM) next weekend, March 27-29th, in Des Moines IA. The purpose of this meeting for me is to become acquainted with what goes on at the World Service Conference in April and if for some reason the Delegate could not attend, I would be able to step in for her.

Also as Alternate Delegate, I am the Al-A-Notes Editor. The spring edition went to press on March 2. They were mailed to Merri G., Secretary on March 10th. Merri has had a really hard time dealing with the Cleveland area Postal Service. There were several changes that she did not know about so when she went to mail the Al-A-Notes they were rejected but I think things have been straightened out. The Al-A-Notes were printed a little differently this time. They were printed on newsprint paper. I contacted several printers in the Toledo area and the printer I went with gave me the best price. Compared to Office Max and Staples, to have 700 copies printed, it would have cost between \$250.00 and \$280.00 depending on the style. The printer I used, Welch Publishing, only charged \$140.00 for 700 copies set up in book style. That is over a \$100 savings per issue.

In January, I sent a letter to everyone on the AWSC list with a topic I chose and asked for sharing on that particular topic or on anything else, they would want to share on. I received only eight Sharing’s back. This is your newsletter. It is only as good as, what you share. A copy goes out to all members of the AWSC. If you do not receive one, check with the Group Records Coordinator. If you get a personal copy, check with me. Love & Hugs in Service your Alternate Delegate Janice.

DELEGATE’S REPORT- Sandra F-I would like to mention two items, which can be found on the members’ website. One is a blog relating to the Twelve Traditions. Go to the members’ website. Click on the Traditions blog to read the entries. New topics are entered at the beginning of each month. The concepts of Service blog is closed for contributions but can be accessed for reading and sharing’s. The other item is a letter from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees. To get to the letter, go to the member’s website. Click on Inside the World Service Office. Then click on Board of Trustees, next click on letters. A new posting will be made after each Board of Trustees meeting.

March 27-29, 2009 Janice, Barbara and I will be attending the North Central Regional Delegates meeting in Des Moines Iowa. The purpose of the meeting is to receive information about topics to be addressed at the upcoming World Service Conference. The World Service Conference also referred to as WSC, will be held in Virginia Beach, Virginia April 18-23, 2009. The theme for this year's conference is: Embrace the Legacies: **Our Spiritual Bridges to Expand the Future**. The address for the conference is announced in the latest issue of Al-A-Notes. Love gifts from groups in Ohio for the hospitality room may be sent to that address. My conference mentor is Rose Anna J. who lives in Canada. The Thought Force I will be serving on is Integrating Alateen into Al-Anon where no Alateen meetings exist. The last item I would like to mention is not new to us. I would like to remind everyone about anonymity on the internet. I encourage everyone to get an e-mail address that does not use your last name. Love in Service, Sandra F.

COORDINATOR AND STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND CONCERNS

ALATEEN- Yvonne R- We had 34 sponsors and Sandra F our State Delegate attended the workshop as well as Steve our Past State Coordinator). We started at about 9:30am and we first went around and introduced ourselves by first name only and what town we were from. We then talked about the bus transportation on how we are going to get to KOMIAC. We are going to make a final decision on April 18th at the spring rally. We have two options: 1) We take two motor coach buses which no one should drive in the state of Ohio. 2) We take one motor coach bus, and take 15 passenger vans to accommodate everyone in the state of Ohio. Then I opened up the meeting to anyone that has issues in their own individual Alateen meetings. We got a lot of feedback from all the sponsors there. It was very informative. We shared for about an hour and a half. We then broke for lunch for an hour and a half. We then resumed at about 1:30 and continued until 3:00. After lunch, I had everyone spend 2-3 minutes sharing something positive about their Alateen sponsor experience and we were able to get to everyone. It was very nice to hear all the different answers. We then closed with the Lord's Prayer. I thanked everyone for coming and announced to all the sponsors that the Alateen Spring Rally is April 18th.

ARCHIVES- Sharon B- I am not sure what to say in my report but I will say that the first time I attended assembly I was voted in as your Archivist and I received all the files that same day. She wanted us to be aware that Saint Thomas Hospital is full of Archives on Lois and the AA story.

FORUM- Shirley M- No Report

GROUP RECORDS- Judy A-Karen and I met the end of January to transition Ohio records. I also received a packet of information from WSO at the end of January. I have been reading the information and learning as I go. February 13, 2009 WSO had a conference call with the new group record coordinators from a number of different areas. It was interesting to see that I was not the only one overwhelmed at the beginning. I did not feel so alone after the call. The secretary from the Miami Valley information Service, Phil, and I met and spent an afternoon comparing records. Both of us were able to update our records with current information. I have received mailings from WSO in February and March with updated information. The mailings are sent out each month. I would like to encourage all of the groups to use an actual number and street address when listing the group meeting place. We recently received an e-mail from a frustrated person looking for an Al-Anon meeting. He could not find it because it was listed as being held at Miami & Galbraith. With a GPS it was impossible to find the meeting. The date and e-mail addresses for the list of AWSO Committee members will be updated at the next meeting.

LITERATURE- Ginny C- Since I began in January, I have been familiarizing myself with my role. One major role is passing on literature information from WSO. For example, there are some workshops and skits available on Discovering Choices and Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses. I will be happy to send via email any copies you would like. In addition, a current WSO project is creating workshops on In All Our Affairs. There is a form I have been attempting to distribute locally as well as across the state which all members can take and just pick a topic or a passage from this book and make up some questions and send them to the WSO either by fax (757-563-1655) or E-mail (wso@al-anon.org). Attn: B-15 Lit. Project. by April 15th 2009. The WSO will make sure the submissions are distributed to upcoming workshops. A few copies are available on the table or I can email this to you as well. On March 7, I participated in a conference call for all state literature coordinators. It was very exciting to hear people from as far as Florida, Hawaii, and even Canada in one meeting. It became apparent to me that the literature coordinator's duties vary from state to state. We discussed the CAL process. CAL corner submissions are needed for the forum. We discussed attracting members to read Discovering Choices and Opening Our Hearts, Transforming our Losses. E-CAL continues to be under used and we discussed reasons. Coordinators shared their experiences with the Sample Chapter Literature Project. WSO staff are contemplating a blog on CAL literature and wanted our opinions. Finally, I would like to collect district/ intergroup literature chairs' e-mail or even individual group literature chairs so I can pass on WSO information more effectively. Please sign and look at the sheets on the table.

PUBLIC OUTREACH- Vicki M- No Report

BUDGET- Steve F- Kathryn, Alan, Robin, Sandy and Barbara got together with me to design the budget for the next year based on what is taken in the previous year and what they do not have control over. I want to remind all committee members that if they know they are going to go over the budget allocated for their committee job, they need to speak to Robin or myself to discuss it prior

to exceeding the allowable pre-budgeted amount. The District Rep. funds for AWSC Meetings and the equipment fund makes up about 5% of our budget therefore, it does require a group vote.

BY-LAWS & HANDBOOK-Barbara M- No Report

REVIEW AND AUDIT- Donna K- My committee and I would like to thank you for the opportunity to be of service to the state assembly. We have grown from our experience and developed a close bond. One of the members will be continuing on with me and we are presently considering our next member. We will hopefully have the 2009 first three months audit ready for the one day May meeting. As for our current audit, the records were out of balance by \$7.15. We found a \$6.75 discrepancy in the total of Al-A-Notes subscriptions. Total was originally listed as \$95.00 and it should be \$101.75. New income is \$13,619.92. That leaves \$0.40 which I suggested that Steve subtract from his secretary's total. The new Secretary totals are: Actual expenses: \$411.95 with a budget balance of \$88.05. New expense total is \$10697.97. Total expenses are \$13072.81. The new total for the total income is \$13619.92 plus \$35281.44. The subtotal is \$48901.36 and when you subtract the new expense total of -\$13072.81 it leaves a new total in the market and checking accounts of \$35828.55.

OHIO WEBSITE- Mike K- The first 3 months from 01/01/2009 thru 3/20/2009 we received 662 hits in Akron- 968 hits for Alateen- 1904 hits for the Calendar- 617 hits for Cincinnati- 1104 hits for Cleveland- 845 hits for Columbus- 771 hits for the Concepts- 395 for contacts- 1010 hits for Dayton. 1187 hits for Hope- 250 Questions hits- 375 Quiz hits- 1103-remote hits- 1980 hits on the steps- 1773 hits for Toledo- 862 hits for the Traditions and 479 hits for Youngstown. The total number of hits for the Ohio Website for the last three months was \$16285. We have had a spam problem but there is a solution in the works to control it. Migration to a new web hosting company and what the new reduced costs will be is the challenge. So far we have spent \$95.00 with \$24.00 left over. I have not received any meeting information from Youngstown since 01/01/09. We have little information on rural areas, especially in Southeast Ohio. We received a meeting request from a woman in Hillsboro and the closest meeting found on the site was in Wilmington which was 20 miles away. I could not provide any additional information for her. I am requesting a meeting list from each district rep in their area so that I can update my records accurately. District 41 lists meetings in their Sunday paper. On the website there is now a form that can be filled out for changes to groups.

COMPLAINCE LIASON AND AAPP- Rex M- I met with Barbara M at the Brecksville McDonald's and received two boxes on AAPP. She said we would get together again for compliance. I received & sent Al-Anon members involved in Alateen service paperwork to WSO. Had calls from Valerie(Group Records) @ WSO about forms. Seems I do not have to send all forms to WSO but Only the new ones. I did an AAPP conference call and received lots of information and good comments. Merri gave me some compliance paperwork. Barbara M filled out the paper work and Merri sent it in to the Secretary of the State of Ohio so she could get certified with the Cleveland Postal Service. I talked with Yvonne our Alateen coordinator about AAPP paperwork. Hope to limit paper work. I will talk to Judy A (group records) about AAPP records.

Rose R. from Toledo district No. 6 found out that an Alateen sponsor that lives on the border of two states and sponsors a meeting in both states, must fill out a separate compliance form for each state since each state has different requirements for Alateen sponsorship

2-DAY FALL AND OHIO AREA CONVENTION LIAISON- KAREN M- The Ohio Area Convention and 2 Day Fall Committees have been hard at work. They have done everything they can to make these events both enjoyable and affordable for all of us. What we can do for them is to get all information out promptly and urge participation. They will be giving their individual reports with the details. I would like to thank all committee members for the terrific job they are doing with communication between the committee members and AWSC. The 2010 OAA 2 day fall will be hosted by Cincinnati and the 2010 OAC will be hosted by Columbus.

2-DAY FALL ASSEMBLY AND CONVENTIONS

2-DAY FALL ASSEMBLY- Districts of Cleveland- Sheila C & Alice W- The districts of Cleveland are hosting this year's 2-Day Fall Assembly at the Cleveland Airport Marriott hotel at 4277 West 150th Street in Cleveland Ohio. The dates are October 10-11. Those who would like to come up the night before on the 9th can have the room for the same price. Barbara W. also advised that Ohio has been selected by random hat drawing at the WSO to host the Alateen Advisory Committee (AAC) meeting. Four areas in the North Central Region submitted bids for the AAC with the WSO selecting our fall assembly for their meeting. Our Ohio sponsors and Alateens have been selected from their profiles submitted last fall. Mary Lou M Associate Director of Alateen will attend as well as a member of the Board of Trustees to be determined after the World Service Conference. Separate meeting room space will be available for the members of the AAC to meet during our Assembly. At our Cleveland area meeting of districts on April 13th, we will discuss this 2- Day Fall Assembly in more detail.

OHIO AREA CONVENTION-Mickie and Jenny- This convention will be held at the Oberlin College in Oberlin Ohio. The dates are June 19,20 and 21st 2009. This is known as the Fun-ship part of Al-Anon. You can buy tickets at the door if you are a commuter for meals. Registration, lodging and 5 meals is only \$120.00. You can stay at local hotels if you need air conditioning for health reasons. Publicity coordinator for convention is Kathryn M. Contact Micki G-330-810-3913 or Ginny C-330-554-9318.

53rd OHIO AA CONVENTION:- Sandy F.-This will be held July 10-12 2009 at the Holiday Inn in Worthington. Registration forms are available today for this event. The committee formed is in the process of planning an exciting schedule of panels and workshops. The AFG speaker will be Barbara W on Saturday at 1:30pm.

OLD BUSINESS: We discussed the Alateen advisory meeting and how it was chosen out of a hat from a group of bids turned into the WSO. The Cleveland area will provide a room at the 2 Day Fall Assembly for the Alateen advisory meeting. We will have an Alateen speaker in the evening after our banquet. Anonymity was brought up again concerning the use of last names in people's e-mail addresses. Some are not concerned about Anonymity so the request is a suggestion not a command. Steve F. will be speaking at the 34th Indiana convention June 5, 6 and 7, 2009.

NEW BUSINESS: We are still in need of chairpersons for the action committees for the Spring Assembly. The chairpersons are volunteers from the officers, coordinators or committee members. Barbara W. stressed that the chairperson's of the action committees do not have to take on a full 3-year term. Action committees will meet at 11:00 and the new GR meeting will be at 10:00. A topic brought up for the action committees to discuss is "What is the reserve fund that we sit on and what the groups think we should have in our reserve fund." The WSO Trustees are asking that we ask our groups and ourselves what our definition of "family recovery is". Each member can log onto the WSO members website and click on survey. Robin R. our Treasurer needs help to determine what to do with the 2 certificates of deposits that will mature in April. They will turn over automatically without a decision but it may not be at the best interest rate. The current rate we are getting is 3.5 but the roll-over rate is 1.85. We discussed putting \$10,000 in a market that would be easier to get to without penalty just for safety and a \$20,000 in a CD for one year. A money market is allowed so many hits before a penalty is given. Some discussed putting \$5000 in a money market- \$10,000 in a 1 year CD and \$15,000 in a longer CD. We voted in the end to allow the trusted servants we voted into the budget committee to make the best decisions concerning the money.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

April 18th 2009-Alateen Spring Rally-Acension Lutheran Church in Columbus Ohio

May 16, 2009 Spring Assembly convenes at 12:30p.m.
2040 Henderson Rd in Columbus, Ohio
New GR meeting orientation is at 10:00 a.m.
Action Committee meetings begin at 11:00 a.m.

Ohio Area Convention-June 19th, 20th and 21st 2009
Oberlin College in Oberlin Ohio
Call for information: 216-544-6888

July 10-12 2009-Ohio State AA Service Conf.w/Al-Anon Participation-Worthington Holiday Inn, Wilson Bridge & High St.

July 31-August 2nd 2009-K.O.M.I.A.C.
Indiana University Terra Haute, IN

August 29, 2009 Area World Service Committee (AWSC) at 12:30 P.M.
2040 Henderson R. Columbus, Ohio

October 10-11, 2009 Two Day Fall Assembly
Note: The 9th will be available at the same rate for those who wish to stay on Friday night.
Cleveland Airport Marriott
4277 W 150th St
Cleveland, OH 44135
New GR orientation is at 10:00 a.m.

COMMENTS were made by DR's as to activities going on in their areas and what has worked for them.

ATTENDANCE: Officers-4, Coordinators-5, Coor/DR-6 DR's 10, 1 chairman-1 visitor= 27 Total

Motion made and seconded to adjourn. We Closed with the Al-Anon Declaration "Let It Begin With Me".

Thanks for your love, Merri G Secretary