

Minutes Assembly Meeting May 5-6, 2018 Osage Beach, MO

Area Chair Sue K. opened the meeting at 10:03am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Officers in attendance: Sarah S, Area Delegate; Lori H, Alternate Delegate; Sue K, Area Chair; Janie F, Area Treasurer; Karen G, Area Secretary

Officers Reports:

- Minutes from November 2017 Assembly meeting were read by Karen G, Area Secretary. One correction was submitted. Dallas J. motioned to accept as corrected, Geneva D. seconded. Motion passed. Corrected minutes will be submitted to the Area website.
- Treasurer's report was presented by Janie F, Area Treasurer. Linda G. motioned to accept the report as read, Linda H. seconded. Motion passed.
- Alternate Delegate report presented by Lori H.
- Delegate Report presented by Sarah S

Trainings and Presentations:

- Orientation for GRs was held prior to Assembly on Saturday morning
- Proposed Area Budget presented by Janie F. , Lori H., and Margret A. (See Motions)
- Group Representative Workshop; presented by Alternate Delegate Lori H. and Area Treasurer Janie F.
- Alternate Workshop "Celebrating Our Differences" for DR, Coordinators and other attendees by Area Delegate Sarah S. and Area Chair Sue K.
- Voluntary Open Forums were held for GRs Saturday evening and for DRs Sunday morning.
- KBDM sessions: Karen G regarding Procedures Digest printing; Donna S and Mary L regarding accepting credit cards
- Concept 4 presentation by members of District 13
- Concept 5 presentation by members of District 15
- Archives presentation on past Delegates by Sarah M and Loretta R

Reports: For more detail, Full Minutes, including reports as submitted, will be posted on the Area Website

Coordinator, AIS Liaisons, and Committee reports:

Area Alateen Process Person - Janet W	Alateen Coordinator - Marilyn M
Alateen Intern - Carissa	Convention - Michael C
Group Records - Janet O	Literature Depot - Mary L
Literature/Forum - Julia R for Sue B	Newsletter - Cheri H
Public Outreach - Sandi M	Registrar - Donna S.
Serenity Patrol - Sherri E	Speaker Coordinator - Geneva D
Webpage - Jodi O	Kansas City AIS Liaison - Michelle T
St Louis AIS Liaison - Stephanie K	Audit Committee - Sue K
Leadership Support Committee - Ann H	Procedures Digest Committee - Amy G

District Reports:

2 - Bonnie M	4 - Jenny F	5 - Lorraine H	8 - Elaine M	9 - Flo W
13 - Kathy G	14 - Ruth S	15 - Mary R	17 - Barb K	18 - Mary N
19 - Robin Q	20 - Mary C	21 - Ann H	23 - Michael C	25 - Diane S
28 - Carol C				

Motions:

***MOTION 1:** To accept the 2018 Budget as presented by the Budget Task Force
Moved: Mary L Seconded: Sherri E **Passed**

***MOTION 2:** To accept the Bid from Inn at Grand Glaize for Assemblies and Convention for 2019, 2020 & 2021
Moved: Michael C Seconded: Sandy C **Passed**

***MOTION 3:** To accept the Bid from Inn at Grand Glaize for Assemblies only for 2019, 2020 & 2021 and present bids for Convention for 2019, 2020 & 2021 at the November 2018 Assembly.

Withdrawn -Irrelevant upon passing of MOTION 2

***MOTION 4:** This Missouri area approves the creation and use of a password protected page on the Missouri Area website.

Moved: Sarah S Seconded: Jill F **Passed**

***MOTION 5:** For a trial period until November 2018 Assembly we will post the Missouri Area Round Robin on the website behind the password protected page.

Moved: Sarah S Seconded: Michael C **Passed**

***MOTION 6:** I move that the requirement that assemblies and conventions be held within 50 miles of the center of Missouri be removed from the Al-Anon/Alateen Procedures Digest.

Moved: Dallas J Seconded: Christina C **Passed**

***MOTION 7:** Raise the Assembly registration fees to \$6.00 pre-paid registration and \$10.00 late registration; Alateen registration to remain free

Moved: Donna S Seconded: Ruth S **Passed**

***MOTION 8:** In Area Procedures, Section I., Item D, 1 to be replaced by:

The Missouri Area will print the Missouri Area Procedures Digest once at or near the beginning of the panel, timing and quantity to be determined by the current Panel Area Officers. The printing will be in a loose-leaf format to allow for issuing changes/updates as they occur during the panel. The Area requests a \$2.00 per copy donation to help offset the cost of printing.

Moved: Karen G Seconded: Val H **Passed**

***MOTION 9:** MO Area to deposit one half of the \$9000 contribution from the St Louis Al-Anon Information Service office to our Missouri Area Reserve fund.

Moved: Lori H Seconded: Donna S **Passed**

Ask It Basket Questions

Two "Ask It Basket" questions were responded to by Area Chair, Sue K.

1. Can someone who is a member of both AA and Al-Anon programs serve on Thought and Task Forces?

A: Four past delegates were consulted, and response was that a member of both programs can serve on Thought and Task Forces.

2. In regard to recommendations made by the Audit Committee in their report - what happens now?

A: The Area Treasurer will review and begin implementation of the suggestions.

Additional Information

Area Chair Sue K. announced her intention to form the following Task/Thought Forces:

Convention Thought Force

Website Task Force

AMIAS Task Force

Adjourned 12:02pm, Sunday May 6, 2018

Appendix A - Officers Reports

DELEGATE

Greetings Missouri Area Assembly,

Last week I attended the 58th annual World Service Conference (WSC) as your Missouri Area World Service Delegate. The week was jam packed full on information, excitement, fellowship, and a visit to Stepping Stones (Home of Bill & Lois Wilson). The WSC was held in West Harrison, NY at the Renaissance Westchester Hotel from April 16th – April 20th. This report will consist of an overview of what we received at the WSC. I will also present a few of the PowerPoint presentations that we reviewed at the WSC. I will try and keep this report in the same order the Conference.

I do apologize to those of you who tried to follow my updates on the Delegate's Corner. Unfortunately, there were several reasons why they were not posted. However, Geneva has put together a travel journal that contains all of the daily updates and some pictures from Conference. Each of you will receive a printed copy. Thank you all for your love and support.

I would also like to thank you for your response to the additional Love Gift Delegate Fund. The prices in New York City were relatively higher than Virginia Beach. The contributions from the fund allowed me to go in a few days early and mentally get prepared to participate in the World Service Conference. Early arrival is not included in the equalized expense and I would make a strong recommendation to the Area that we consider covering a few extra nights prior to Conference. This allows for the Delegate to get settled in, prepared for Conference, as well as could enjoy the surrounding sites for a day.

Buckle your seatbelts! I am prepared to take you on the unbelievable journey that I had the privilege of walking last week. This report will be jam-packed full of information. I won't be able to get to it all but will do my very best. If you are attempting to follow along my report with the Prezi/PowerPoint Confirmation will be recorded in this written report. I will begin with the beginning of the week and end with the closing dinner on Friday Evening.

MONDAY:

INTRODUCTION OF VALI FAYEN (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR):

Vali's Presentation to Conference:

2018 Executive Director Conference Introduction:

Good Afternoon, Conference Members. Welcome to the 58th Annual World Service Conference. My name is Vali F and I have the privilege of serving as the new Executive Director of Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. I have two home groups: one in Northern Virginia – Thank God It's Saturday at 10am in Leesburg, Virginia and one in Virginia Beach – Sandbridge AFG. And I can assure you, as would my sponsor and home group members – that I'm here because I belong. It was not that long ago that I sat in this room as a Delegate. And throughout my three-year experience, I was awed and inspired by the Conference Members' commitment to presuming goodwill and supporting each other as trusted servants seeking the highest good for Al-Anon Family Groups.

My experience as the newly hired Executive Director has been equally positive. Each day, I am graced to work with the most "dedicated and effective" Staff as we seek to serve in the WSO capacity of the clearinghouse for Al-Anon Family Groups by registering groups; answering member questions; creating and translating our literature; publishing magazines; updating and expanding the website to provide current information to professionals, members and newcomers; and balancing the needs of generations as we adapt new technology for outreach and communication. I appreciate the time offered by the Conference Leadership Team for me to provide you a little introduction of myself and to talk about how I understand my role at the World Service Office as I begin my seventh month on the job. (Won't it be interesting to reflect on this journey in ten years'

time when my service as Executive Director is finished? I know it was interesting to reflect on being a first and second year Delegate in my last year, as Panel 56 members may be doing right now. I'm certain the time will fly by – as it will for the Delegates of Panel 57 and Panel 58 and the Volunteers who serve for their specific terms.)

As Debbie mentioned, I come from a background in technology. What is curious is that for many years, I hoped continuously – continuously! – for the opportunity to leave my field for something more meaningful. During this time, my husband reports that I did mention my dream job would be to become the Executive 2018 Executive Director Conference Introduction 2 Director of Al-Anon Family Groups. (At the time, we lived in Arizona where he had come to retire and, for that matter, ultimately to be buried. In other words, the place he had no intention of EVER leaving so I truly believed I was dreaming the impossible dream.) At the time, I was giving service in the Area eventually becoming Delegate on Panel 53. I am grateful for the commitment to service and dedication to the Legacies I experienced there.

Fast forward five years and thanks to the successful completion of the last amends from my Eighth Step list and my Higher Power's guidance – I found myself living on my ancestral farm in Northern Virginia, working to help struggling retailers overcome the challenges of technology and attract the next generation of shoppers with smart apps and personalized connection, when I received a nudge from a dear Al-Anon friend to apply for the position of Executive Director. And suddenly my Higher Power's plan becomes clear – the reason I had stayed so long in my technology role. Because considering the idea of applying, I realized Al-Anon Family Groups is struggling with similar challenges to retailers and the Board of Trustees and Conference are faced with the need to make “thoughtful estimates” about the future to ensure “future progress.” You may be asking yourself how Al-Anon's current situation in any way mirrors that of a for-profit organization such as a retailer. And I'll give you my perspective. Fundamentally, retailers and Al-Anon share a similar underlying mission: to attract people – shoppers for retailers and members for Al-Anon – to fulfill their vision. Certainly, the retailers vision of success is significantly different than our own. Retailers are motivated to generate profit; whereas Al-Anon leaders are motivated to offer hope and recovery in every community. Nonetheless, to be successful – however that is defined – both organizations must attract people while maintaining our existing membership (or customer base). And that means adapting to the changing needs and expectations of our future membership while supporting our existing membership. Failure to do so ultimately leads to irrelevancy – which certainly we have seen repeatedly in the retailer environment – or as Bill Wilson described so 2018 Executive Director Conference Introduction 3 eloquently in his Leadership Essay found in the *Service Manual* under Concept Nine – to unforeseen woe for Al-Anon. Just as in the retail environment, those who successfully navigate this delicate balance between existing and future members can be seen to do so not only because they are adaptive and strategic in their use of resources but also because they maintain their underlying values, which for us, of course, means our spiritual principles. And so, it is, that I have come to Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. to **support and guide** the Staff in transforming the vision and priorities of the Board of Trustees into tangible solutions and plans while maintaining focus on our underlying spiritual principles, honoring our past while embracing our future. The Board, as you know are charged with being the visionaries for Al-Anon Family Groups, who must look at past and present experience to create ideas for not only how we can address our challenges *now* but also how we can evolve to support the next generation of friends and families of alcoholics. As a Trustee on the Board, I enjoy the extraordinary honor of participating in building the future vision for Al-Anon with this amazing group of volunteers, who give an inordinate amount of their personal time in service to our fellowship. My ability to transform this vision into plans and experiments rests, in accordance with Concept Eleven, with the World Service Office Staff whose incredible wisdom and experience is my privilege to manage. Collaborating, each of us brings to the table our collective wisdom, experience, and skills to thoughtfully consider new ideas and their implications on the fellowship, and to draft plans and trials for potential solutions to be considered by the Board of Trustees. As I have learned in the Program and from my professional experience, we can accomplish our purpose only by collaborating at all levels, for this way we learn what is needed so we can anticipate how these plans might work in the near and longer-term future. You will see a commitment to such collaboration transformed into action later this week when we invite the Conference into a conversation – initiated by the Staff, brought to the Board and expanded to 2018 Executive Director Conference Introduction 4 include all Conference Members – regarding a challenge we face at the WSO every day and which

has significant implications on not only the Areas within the WSC Structure but across the world. I'm very excited to collaborate with you all on this challenge! There is, of course, much that I'm excited about these days. In addition to my responsibility to help transform the vision of the Board into plans, I am equally responsible for encouraging the "thoughtful estimates" and ideas of Staff and ensuring they are shared with the Finance and Executive Committees and the Board with the implementation details necessary for them to make informed decisions regarding approval. I know the membership is already enjoying the benefits of some of these thoughtful estimates, for instance the fantastic Meeting Search tool, including its 'report a problem' feature, and the beautiful new, full color *FORUM* which inspired one non-member staff person to read the magazine cover to cover! Less exciting but equally important to our electronic meetings, we have simplified the registration process and eliminated barriers to registration related to conducting meetings in multiple formats. We have implemented an online process for group records changes and registration. And lest we not forget, 80% of you have joined the WSC app, which Staff hope has eased your navigation around the lovely Renaissance Hotel here in Harrison, offered an easy way to connect and share pictures – remember these stay within the app so you can snap pictures of your friends and share while still adhering to the Traditions – and even provided a little "gamification" for the competitive amongst you. (How many know who's at the top of the Leaderboard?) Staff will beg your indulgence at some point during Conference to test out the polling feature which may become a viable option in future to replace the voting clickers. But we all know it is "wishful fantasy" to believe all trials will be successful – a good example is the font size for the redesigned *FORUM* which we had to adjust – **OR** that our efforts to evolve the organization to meet the needs of the future membership will not be met with resistance. (My sponsor used to say that Al-Anon members don't just get into ruts, they move in and furnish them. ☺) This 2018 Executive Director Conference Introduction 5 is the case with *In the Loop*, which the World Service Conference conceptually approved could serve as the evolution of *Group eNews*. This new tool is designed to provide smaller chunks of information more frequently, so groups and members can stay current on what's happening at the WSO or in the world which affects Al-Anon, such as when we were notified about a recent Dear Abby column posting about Alateen and were able to share an announcement almost immediately through *In the Loop*. Part of my responsibility as Executive Director is to listen for minority opinions, while constantly seeking to balance the needs for supporting our existing membership with our goal of embracing our future membership. I recognize the peril of not doing so from my experience of watching retailers who struggled to shift from their traditional store-based to a new online-based customer. (Sound familiar? At Conference, we are ourselves talking about electronic / virtual meetings and how they might become part of our Structure.) Those who succeeded did so through balance – personal progress for the greatest number depends upon unity. Sometimes that means embracing the old and sometimes persisting through the trial of the new. I am grateful for the Executive Committee's willingness to try something old – reinvigorating their advisory role. Together we can "talk to each other and reason things out with one another" when deciding whether a plan should be delayed, overturned, or proceed considering minority opinions. (As you can imagine, since members primarily only write to the WSO when they have concerns, their emails and letters must be considered at least partially in the context of minority opinions.) That's what is so wonderful about being a part of AFG, Inc. at this point in history. Staff, Board, and Executive Committee are participating in both embracing the new and respecting the old. Isn't that an inspiring message for us as Conference Members who are only a day away from visiting Stepping Stones where so many of our foundations were formed. It was Lois who said "There is No Standing Still" -- the theme of our Conference. She was a visionary as are all Conference Members here this week. 2018 Executive Director Conference Introduction 6 We can all expect more "new" to come. As Staff, we are committed to exploring all new opportunities to reach and attract potential members, from reaching out to unregistered Facebook groups to begin conversations and seek understanding, to enabling monitored comments on social media posts. We are committed to learning, so we can make our "thoughtful estimates" and share information with the Board of Trustees in its legal and visionary role. Our previous surveys provided data that showed our membership was aging and preliminary results of this most recent Membership Survey suggest the same. We cannot deny this reality nor as Bill-W. said in Concept Nine, "cast the job of planning for tomorrow onto the fatuous idea of Providence." Within the context of our Legacies as protected through conversation with the Board and Conference, we will continue to explore new avenues to reach those who have not yet found us. So that's a little bit about me and my current understanding of the new role. As anyone who has taken on a new role in an unfamiliar industry knows, it usually feels anywhere from a bit to quite scary to be

taking on something new. You can imagine when that job involves a Program which has saved your life the stakes feel even higher. Considering the concerns about our aging membership – and despite having an enormous faith in my Higher Power – I certainly felt the stakes were high coming to Al-Anon. I did not want to mess this one up! Which is why I was very thankful to discover, upon arrival, that through the wisdom of the former Chairpersons of the Board and Executive Directors, Al-Anon relates to the American Society for Association Executives (ASAE). This organization supports profit and non-profit associations across the United States and guess what – many are struggling with an aging population and are challenged by how to overcome technology barriers to reach a younger generation. Reading their materials, I realized, with a sigh of relief, that Al-Anon is not alone. Just as when I came into Al-Anon with a distorted perception that I was all alone in my disease and found hope and recovery through shared experience, I came to understand that Al-Anon is not terminally unique and we can gain help by listening and learning from the experience, strength and hope of 2018 Executive Director Conference Introduction 7 other associations. This does not mean we give up what is unique but rather that we get to take what we liked and leave the rest. With help at hand, I can tell you that I'm grateful beyond measure for the opportunity to be of service to Al-Anon in the capacity my Higher Power has afforded me. I feel graced to work with such amazing trusted servants: Staff, Executive Committee, the Board of Trustees and the Delegates who represent your Areas. Having had the opportunity in my role of Secretary of AFG, Inc. to participate on the Nominating Committee, I am appreciative of the wisdom of the Conference which established the Conference Committee on Trustees and defined the Regional Trustee Plan. Choosing good leaders is imperative to our future and so I would ask each of you in your role of providing traditional approval for future Trustees to take time to carefully review the resume packet you have received and to give thoughtful consideration to the spiritual process which has come before. The Conference will be affirming these future leaders of Al-Anon Family Groups on Wednesday at 2:30pm. Thank you immeasurably for this opportunity. I look forward to getting to meet you all throughout the Conference and to working with you toward Al-Anon's future as we go forward.

Vali F

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Monday began with our assigned committee meetings. Each Delegate is sent a list of Committees/Tasks Force and are asked to select and rank three committees they would like to serve on. In 2017, I selected and was chosen to serve on the Conference Committee on Trustees (CCT). I was elected the 2017 chair-elect for the CCT. So, for 2018 that meant my name was being put forward for the 2018 Conference Committee on Trustees Chairman. I was confirmed and am currently serving as the CCT chairman. It is an honor and privilege to be of service to the Conference in this role. The Conference Committee on Trustees reviews, ranks, and scores Trustee resumes. This process in a completely confidential process and members of the committee are not allowed to share any details with anyone. Once the CCT chairman compiles the rankings from the committee members, the results are sent to the WSO and the work of the CCT should be concluded unless another resume needs to be reviewed. The committee is not a committee that gets to cheer and present presentations, but it's a committee that it's work helps ensure leaders for the World-Wide Fellowship of Al-Anon Family Groups.

SHARING AREA HIGHLIGHTS

Following our assigned committees, we attended the Sharing Area Highlights (SAH) session. Sharing Area Highlights is not officially part of the Conference. SAH is chaired and facilitated by Delegates selected by their peers. Each Delegates was asked to send in a sharing of their Area's Successes/Challenges. I sent an email out to the Area World Service Committee asking for input for our Successes/Challenges. Here is what we sent in for the Missouri Area:

Successes:

The following list are some of the successes of the Missouri Area:

AMIAS Background Checks/Training, Reimaged Website, Panel of forward thinking Area Officers, Great Business Meeting Attendance and Participation, Increased DR's in rural areas, Increased Alateen Participation, Alateen Intern Position, Exceptional Training at Area Business Meetings, Monthly Offices meeting which has created continuity and trust, Successful Area Inventory – Implementing Change, building on work of last Panel in the area of empowering our members to develop as leaders

Challenges:

The following list are some of the challenges of the Missouri Area:

No budget, Declining Convention Attendance and Hotel Selection, Evolving with the times, Getting younger members involved, Transitioning Alateen, Succession Planning, Defined Job Descriptions, Alateen maintaining safety while still having a recovery option for the teens, Archaic over detailed procedures which tie the hands of leadership, Holes in our service structure especially in the rural areas, A lack of knowledge in our groups about the service structure, organizing our technology and human resources wisely. Is web a part of public outreach? Is outreach a part of web? Lots of streamlining opportunistic.

OPENING DINNER:

The 2018 World Service Conference was officially opened on Monday Evening with the opening dinner. This was an opportunity for us to put a dress and heels on and celebrate the opening of Conference. The new delegates received their World Service Conference pins at Dinner. With the strike of the gavel, our 2018 World Service Conference was officially open. We enjoyed a dynamic speaker on Monday evening, Marsha Ware – Director of Programs, from the World Service Office.



TUESDAY:

Delegate Presentations:

The Delegates at past World Service Conference requested increased Delegate participation during the Conference. This year several Delegates were asked to chair a Task Force with a specific purpose. I was asked to chair a task force and I selected the task force on the Board of Trustee (BOT) goals for the WSC. The task force presented Tuesday morning were:

The Board's Goals for the Conference:

Sarah Smith (Panel 57 MO), Dave Bryant (Panel 57 SC), Beth Kirkevold (Panel 57 IA)

This team presented the goals via a PowerPoint presentation.

The World Service Conference Theme:

“Al-Anon – There is no standing still!” – This team explained the history of the theme and encouraged all members to submit a theme for the 2019 WSC.

World Service Conference Etiquette:

This team presented a PowerPoint presentation about Conference Etiquette. They also wrote a Conference etiquette rap. We had a great time rapping!

Voting Procedures:

This was a monumental task. This team explained the voting process and had us practice electronic voting with a sample motion.

All teams did an excellent job presenting to the Conference. I can honestly tell you I learned a lot! All presentations were reviewed by the Executive Committee. It was a very humbling experience and I am extremely grateful to be asked to Present to the World Service Conference.

Task Force -Celebrating our Differences:

Facing Our Biases

BIAS is partiality or prejudice, unfair preference for or dislike of something or someone. Are my own personal biases keeping me from embracing those different from myself and being open and welcoming to all?

The family disease of alcoholism thrives on keeping us isolated from each other. By using our spiritual principles, we can concentrate on our similarities, not our perceived differences. When we apply these principles, we broaden our thinking and widen our fellowship circle to welcome all who suffer from the family disease of alcoholism.

The task force presented a PowerPoint presentation that highlighted the many faces of Al-Anon. They also created a worksheet and encouraged us to take time and fill it out. It gave us the opportunity to inventory our individual behavior about biases. The worksheet is included in this report.

Framing for Stepping Stones:

We attended a session preparing us for our visit to Stepping Stones. (The Home of Bill and Lois Wilson)

The following history was shared with us about Stepping Stones:

Stepping Stones is the Wilsons' cozy Dutch Colonial, three-bedroom home built in 1920 as a summer cottage. It sits in the middle of rolling, wooded country, with its barn-like gambrel roof and cinder-block studio. The air is sweet with blooming forsythia, almost as if bread is baking inside, but no one has lived here since Lois died at age 97 in 1988. The six buildings on the eight-acre Stepping Stones homestead are intact and unified. Among the highlights:

- A large living room dominated by a stone fireplace and wall-length French doors.

- A collection of antiques, glassware, china, photographs, printed materials and musical instruments of the Wilsons, including Bill's cello and Lois's piano, which visitors were encouraged to play, but now are off limits for the sake of preservation.
- A porcelain-topped table in the kitchen where Bill W. first discussed with a newly sober friend the importance of trusting the God of one's own understanding.
- A winding stair leading to the second-floor library, which has been preserved as Lois Wilson left it when she died in 1988. Lois's desk in the home's upstairs library is where, in 1951, Lois Wilson organized the first Al-Anon groups. The house is as Lois left it: wall lengths of books stacked five shelves high scores of grandmotherly collections, a gallery's worth of photos and framed proclamations by dignitaries ranging from Pope Paul VI to President Eisenhower.

Outside:

- The garden and its surroundings include antique roses and fruit trees. Bushes and trees grace the hillside
- Bill Wilson's homemade backyard studio named *Wit's End* has a picture window and the desk where he wrote four books about the A.A. experience.
- The two-car garage is now turned into a Welcome Center, which has an orientation display, restrooms, and a gift shop. Much of the archival material previously stored in a small hallway is now on display, and the Center is a place to more appropriately welcome visitors.
- The Annual Lois's Family Group Picnic is held on the grounds every year in June (this year will be its 67th). Stepping Stones is managed by a foundation that Lois Wilson formed in 1979, eight years after Bill's death. Stepping Stones is an important historic site for Al-Anon and is designated as a State and National Historic Place.

We were asked the following questions prior to the Conference:

1. Visiting someone's home affords a personal glimpse into their life. What do you anticipate about your visit to the home of Lois W.? Any expectations?
2. Why do you think time and funds are set aside for Conference members to visit Stepping Stones, the home of our Co-founder, Lois W.?
3. What was your initial impression of Stepping Stones as you toured the house and grounds? Any surprises?
4. What evidence did you see at Stepping Stones that Lois was not standing still—that she was trying to reach all people affected by someone else's drinking and that she was, indeed, anticipating the future?
5. Is there anything about which you have a greater understanding after our visit?

ANNUAL REPORT:

WEDNESDAY:

VISIT TO STEPPING STONES:

Wednesday Morning the entire World Service Conference visited Stepping Stones. We were assigned a bus and traveled from the hotel to the home of Bill and Lois Wilson. Can you imagine being on a bus full of other Delegates, Trustees, and WSO Staff? It's a huge meeting in a bus! As we approached Stepping Stones, the conversation began to quiet down. Lois and Bill lived on a beautiful piece of property.

When we got off the bus, we were greeted by the Executive Director of Stepping Stones who gave us an overview of the property and the lives of the Wilson's. We were also greeted by some members of a local Al-Anon group who volunteer at Stepping Stones. They made Royal Iced cookies in the shape of a high heeled shoe

for all us to enjoy! Yes, I do have pictures of those. I chose to kind of separate myself for a short period of time. I wanted to feel the spiritual presence that permeated the property at the core of my soul.

I visited the garage that had been turned into a gift shop. The walls were lined with drafts of the legacies, pictures, and history about the Wilson's and our fellowship. Unfortunately, there were only a few places where we could take pictures. This wasn't one of them.

After that I headed over to Lois' home. I was assigned a number and anxiously awaited my place in line in the freezing cold. I was excited, yet very nervous. I wasn't sure how I would feel or even worse how I would respond to my feelings. Finally, it was my turn. I opened the door and began my journey through the beautiful home. Everything in the home was how Lois wanted in left for us. I immediately noticed the elevator off the side of the living room. It was an older open shaft elevator and I wondered why. Lois loved her bedroom which was upstairs. It was the place where she was spiritually grounded. As Lois' health began declining she said she was going up to that bedroom. Someone would have to figure out how to get her there. The elevator was installed, and Lois regained access to the room she loved.

I walked into the kitchen and everything was displayed just like it was all those years ago. Lois China was still in the China cabinet. The flow of the room was exactly as it was many years ago. The gentleman sharing stories about Lois asked me if I would like to sit at the kitchen table. I was truly in awe. I sat down, and he snapped my picture. I was sitting at the table where Lois used to have coffee with the wives. WOW! I am starting to feel the overwhelming emotion bubble to the surface. I proceeded through the rest of the house.

I visited the spook room. The room is full of musical instruments. You can see Lois' piano from this room. Bill's Cello and Violin are displayed in this room. Bill and Lois spent a lot of time here. After Bill died, Lois frequently visited this room. We were told a story that Lois would pull out here Ouija board with great hopes to connect with the love of her life. I had no idea Lois was into connecting with spirits.

I proceeded upstairs where every inch of the wall was lined with stories, photographs, and pictures. There were many pictures of Lois and Bill. I spent time studying the pictures because I could see and feel how much love they shared. There were many other photos on the wall. There were photos of sports figures and presidents. Whatever they loved, they wanted displayed. All their books were exactly how they left them all throughout the house. It was cool to see the different genres they were interested in.

The last room I visited before I left the house was Lois' bedroom upstairs. I could feel an unbelievable spiritual presence in that room. Lois hairbrush was still on the dresser with hair in it. I could feel the tears welling up in my eyes. I was truly humbled to be standing in the home where Al-Anon's roots began. I felt a deeper connection to Lois and the beginnings of our fellowship. That's why we go.

I concluded my visit my heading up to Wit's End, Bills workshop. I was invited to sit at the desk where the first draft of the Twelve Steps was written in addition to the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous. I was sitting at the desk where the principles were written that have truly save my life and has allowed me to get a little close to the woman God intends for me to be.

One of the other Delegates shared that if you look out of a specific window at the house, and a specific window at Wits End, your eyes will meet at the very same point. It signifies that our perspectives and our approach to recovery is different, but we can end up in the very same spot – recovering from the disease of alcoholism. We may travel a different path, but the end-point is the same; a connection to the God of our understanding. When we returned to the Conference we were given an opportunity to share about our personal experience at Stepping Stones. I will never forget this experience and I am truly honored and humbled to have had the opportunity to go.

2017 Auditor's Report:

The 2017 Auditor's/Audit Report was presented by Niketa Bailey, Director of Finance and Operations. The Annual Audit was conducted on January 22, 2018 by Dixon Hughes Goodman, LLP Audit Firm. Al-Alanon Family Groups, Inc. was issued an UNMODIFIED opinion. We were given the HIGHEST OPINION POSSIBLE.

What is an Audit?:

- Examination of financial reports by someone independent of the organization.
- Auditors ask formal questions of staff and audit committee members.
- Review accounting and financial records – example check stubs, invoices, time cards, receipts, and bank accounts.
- Obtain written confirmation of accounts by banks.
- Test internal controls.
- Observe certain procedures and processes performed.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION:

	Totals 2017	Comparative Totals 2016
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 1,307,705	\$ 823,486
Accounts receivable	178,806	156,281
Inventories of books and other literature	432,037	578,542
Deferred charges and deposits	168,583	226,453
Investments	6,601,457	5,867,546
Property and equipment, net	1,700,521	1,842,402
Intangible assets, net	124,685	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total assets	\$ 10,513,794	\$ 9,494,710

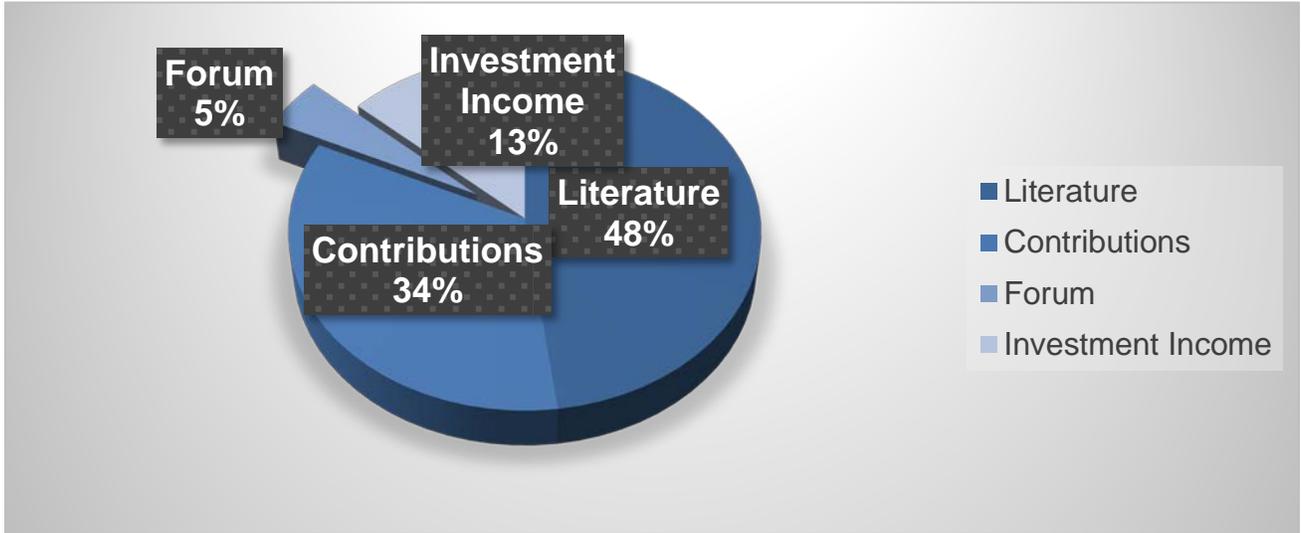
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 289,141	\$ 273,599
Accrued postretirement health benefits	791,866	1,391,736
Unearned subscription income	195,450	177,203
Unearned convention and conference income	590,503	107,611
	<u>1,866,960</u>	<u>1,950,149</u>
Total liabilities	1,866,960	1,950,149
Unrestricted net assets	<u>8,646,834</u>	<u>7,544,561</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 10,513,794</u>	<u>\$ 9,494,710</u>

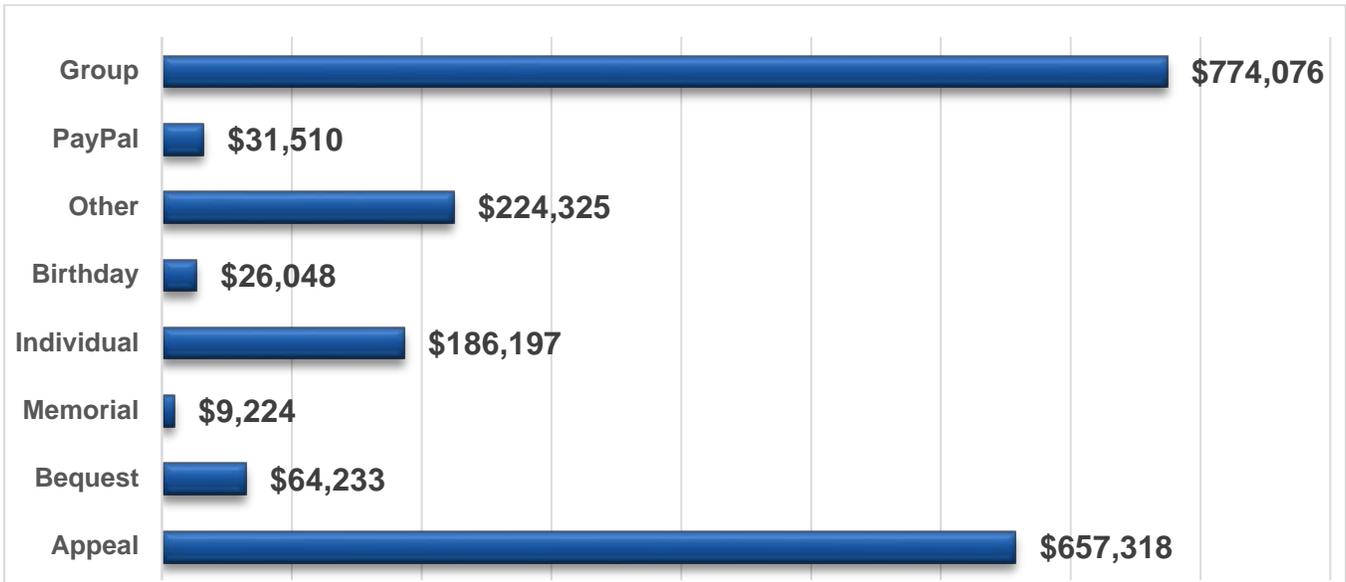
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES:

	2017	2016	\$ Change	% Change
Revenue				
Gross profit from literature	\$ 2,770,868	\$ 2,785,602	\$ (14,734)	-0.53%
Contributions	1,972,931	2,098,098	(125,167)	-5.97%
Noncash contributions	145,628	187,767	(42,139)	-22.44%
Investment income	772,673	403,623	369,050	91.43%
Forum subscriptions	264,461	251,901	12,560	4.99%
	5,926,561	5,726,991	199,570	3.48%
Expenses				
Program Services	\$ 2,830,337	\$ 3,101,427	(271,090)	-8.74%
Literature distribution services	821,661	842,177	(20,516)	-2.44%
General administration	1,172,290	1,564,841	(392,551)	-25.09%
	4,824,288	5,508,445	(684,157)	-36.26%
Change in net assets	\$ 1,102,273	\$ 218,546	883,727	-404.37%

REVENUE SOURCES:



CONTRIBUTIONS:



LITERERATURE SALES:

Top Selling Books of 2017



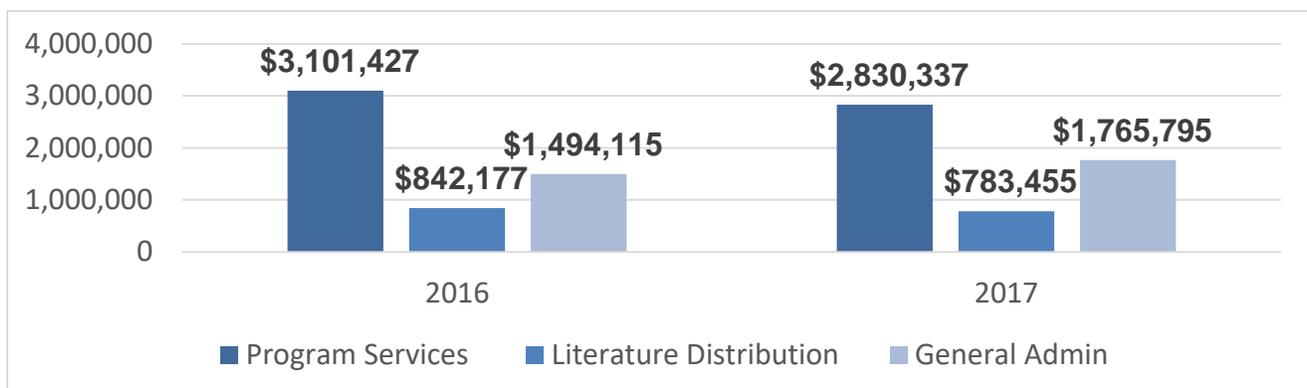
WHAT DID IT GET US?

- New Designed website launched in 2017
- Increased social media presence to attract new members
- Global protection of our trademarks being introduced in 2018
- New pamphlet and literature being introduced in 2018
- Digital version of *Service Manual*
- International meetings to fulfill Al-Anon's primary purpose
- 2018 International Convention planning
- Fully Staffed World Service Office

INVESTMENT INCOME:

- Investment performance helps to grow reserve fund
- Provides annual transfer to general fund
- Investment income \$568,900 in 2017
- Literature sales and contributions alone would not support our work
- Reserve fund currently at 10 months of operating expenses
- Board Objective – 12 months operating expenses (ample reserve – Warranty One)

EXPENSE COMPARISONS:



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

- 401k Retirement Plan – Note 3
 - o Defined Contribution plan covering eligible employees
 - o 1 year of service and 1000 hours in order to participate
- Reserve Fund – Note 4
 - o Established by Board of Trustees in 1970
 - o Objective: Maintain an amount equal to one year's operating expenses.
 - o Balance at 12/31/2-17 - \$5,139,588
- Investments
 - o Fund Managers that manage our investments
 - o Beck Mack & Oliver, Merrill Lynch
 - o Meet and consult with them throughout the year
 - o Ensure Al-Anon is invested in reputable equities
 - o Income helps to grow reserve fund
 - o Fair value vs. Cost value
- Postretirement Medical Health Benefits – Note 9
 - o The liability is carried by the reserve fund.
 - o Liability is based on future costs, age of retirees, and life expectancy
 - o Fluctuates yearly
 - o Changes to plan starting in 2018 resulted in significant reduction of liability

2017 AUDIT SUMMARY:

- Another strong year of literature sales
- Contributions consistent with prior year
- Improved investment performance during the year
- WSO fully staffed
- Resources allocated to technology and innovation
- Connections with professionals enhanced
- 2018 Membership Survey Created
- New literature being introduced in 2018

AFFIRMATION PROCESS:

Trustees:

Regional Trustees: Gail G., Canada West First three-year term Cynthia K., US South Central First three-year term Cheré F., US Northwest First three-year term Thérèse S., Canada East Second three-year term

Trustees at Large: Norman W. Second three-year term, Catherine T. First three-year term

Board Officers:

Debbie G. Chairperson of the Board, Joan S. Vice-Chairperson of the Board Joyce B. Treasurer

2018 FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

How is the Budget developed?

1. Staff – discuss and compile a preliminary budget
2. Director of Finance and Operations presents budget and necessary detail to the Finance Committee.
 - a. Finance Committee asks questions, asks for more data, if necessary, makes recommendations and changes, if warranted.
3. The Director of Finance and Operations presents the Preliminary Budget to the Board of Trustees.

4. The Board of Trustees, after review and understanding, sends along the Preliminary Budget to the WSC members.
5. In April the Finance Committee makes changes, as necessary, based on current information which becomes the Budget.
6. The Budget is then presented to the Board of Trustees for approval and on to the WSC for traditional approval as part of the Finance Report

Revenue:

Literature Sales, Contributions, Investment Income, *Forum* Subscriptions, Reserve Fund Transfer

- In projecting revenues, we have historical data, but really it is an educated guess.

LITERATURE SALES:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
<u>Estimated Revenue</u>	\$3,000,000	\$2,700,000	\$2,770,868

Literature sales less cost of printing

We are budgeting for a \$300,000 increase in net literature sales in 2018.

The literature sales number on the budget is the Gross Profit from literature sales. What we mean by that is that we are projecting sales of about \$3,600,000 but after subtracting the Cost of that literature, we have about \$3,000,000 left to spend on supporting our members and helping to reach out to potential new members and professionals to spread the message of help and hope.

New literature, in this case the sales of the new book *Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships* and the *Anniversary One Day at A Time*, both of which will be available at the International Convention, will probably produce a spike in literature revenues.

CONTRIBUTIONS:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
<u>Estimated Revenue</u>	\$2,000,000	\$2,100,000	\$1,972,931

Contributions

- **2017 Second-best year ever**
- **Looking for a new Second-best year**
- **Informed membership**

We did not surpass 2016's numbers in Contributions, but we still recorded our second-best year ever. With your help in spreading the word of the need and in informing the membership about how their expressions of abundance are spent, we are hoping for a new second-best year and \$2,000,000 in contributions.

FORUM SUBSCRIPTIONS:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
<u>Estimated Revenue</u>	\$260,000	\$250,000	\$264,461

Forum Subscriptions

We are so pleased that groups and individuals stepped up and purchased Forum subscriptions. We are hopeful this continues and would love to see this number increase further.

INVESTMENT INCOME/TRANSFER:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
<u>Estimated Revenue</u>	\$243,800	\$190,000	\$203,771

Investment Income/Transfer from

- **Income from General Fund investments**
- **Does not include Reserve Fund Income**
- **May include a transfer from Reserve**

The General Fund is like our main checking account, separate from our Reserve Fund which is like a savings account. This General Fund also has some investments which generate income which we can use to cover operating expenses shown in this budget. So, this line shows investment income from General Fund investments (not Reserve Fund) and transfers from the Reserve Fund.

According to Board of Trustees' policy, we are authorized to transfer up to 4% of the average fair value of the Reserve Fund over the prior 36 months every year, which is about \$200,000. In 2017 we did transfer \$191,600. If contributions exceed budget, it could impact how much or how little we transfer from the Reserve Fund. There is more information about policy regarding the Reserve Fund in the notes section of the Audit report.

Expenses:

Labor Costs, Occupancy, Postage, Telephone, Office Supplies, Office Services, Travel, Conference, Legal/Audit, Printing, IAGSM, PSA's, Bank Fees, Post-Retirement

TOTAL LABOR COSTS:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
--	-------------	-------------	-------------------

	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
<u>Operating Expenses</u>			
Salaries	\$3,201,972	\$3,165,000	\$3,172,159
Payroll Taxes	\$236,084	\$250,000	\$243,568
Employee Benefits	\$457,115	\$447,000	\$469,896
Total Labor Costs	\$3,895,172	\$3,862,000	\$3,885,623

The first few lines of the Operating Expenses make up the Total Labor Costs which include Salaries, Payroll Taxes and Employee Benefits.

If we compare the 2018 Budget to either the 2017 Revised Budget or the 2017 Audited Actual there is a small increase. This increase is mainly due to cost-of- living and some merit increases based on performance.

The Finance Committee, among other duties, does compare WSO salaries to those with similar skills and responsibilities in similar organizations to ensure we are paying fairly.

BUILDING OCCUPANCY:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Building Occupancy	\$265,800	\$284,00	\$266,999

Building Occupancy is \$18,200 less in 2018 than 2017.

In keeping with Traditions, The Executive Committee for Real Property Management (ECRPM) oversees the building maintenance, allowing a necessary separation which gives the Board of Trustees the freedom to focus on its mission and vision. We have the Chair of the ECRPM with us this week, disguised as the timer and bell ringer – Jeff, could you please stand up?

The ECRPM, which includes several at-large Al-Anon members, the Director of Finance and the Chair of Finance (me) meets twice a year to examine the property and discuss the needs. This committee also prepares a budget which covers these occupancy expenses, as well as a reserve for future large repairs or renovations as necessary, such as HVAC and roof replacement or repair. For the second year in a row, it was determined that there was an ample reserve for Building Maintenance and that a transfer to that reserve would not be necessary.

PACKING AND SHIPPING (NET):

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Packing & Shipping (Net)	(\$76,000)	\$80,000	\$65,779

- **Small differences in each order**
- **Does not include other shipping expenses**

Packing and Shipping is budgeted at \$75,000 in revenue, a reduction of \$5,000 from the 2017 budget.

When an order is received there is a shipping revenue offset by the actual shipping cost. Sometimes it actually costs a little more to ship the order; sometimes a little less. There are so many orders that we end up with a net revenue number. This revenue helps to cover staff and other costs involved in shipping orders.

POSTAGE:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Postage	\$198,000	\$190,000	\$187,765

- **Mailing of the complimentary *Groups At Work***
- **Appeal Letters**
- **Newsletters**
- ***Forum***

Postage is increased by \$8,000 from the budgeted amount in 2017.

As you know, after careful consideration, the decision was made to suspend mailing each group a complimentary copy of the *Service Manual*. Within that discussion it was decided to mail each group a complimentary copy of *Groups At Work* at an estimated cost of \$19,575.

TELEPHONE:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Telephone	\$51,000	\$58,000	\$50,299

Our Director of Finance and Operations carefully considers every contract and every service provided to the World Service Office to determine if that is the best use of our financial resources as provided by our members. This year's scrutiny found another savings in Telephone and Internet Services.

STATIONERY AND OFFICE SUPPLIES:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Stationary & Office Supplies	\$83,000	\$76,000	\$78,707

- **Envelopes and other office supplies**

- **Computer Supplies**
- **Catalogues**

Stationery and Office Supplies includes envelopes and other office supplies, computer supplies and catalogues.

OFFICE SERVICES AND EXPENSE:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Office Services & Expenses	\$230,000	\$196,700	\$173,430

- **Staff Training**
- **Software Support**
- **Hardware Support**
- **IVR Services**
- **Copier Lease**

Office Services and Expense includes staff training, software support, hardware support, IVR services (the phone system that delivers group meeting information) and the leases on copiers.

This line includes standard support for the office systems we have all come to rely upon. The increase reflects the needs of the Digital Strategy Team to deliver the services and support that we all are finding so vital.

REPAIRS AND MAINTENTANCE

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Repairs & Maintenance	\$7,000	\$8,000	\$8,969

- **Slight reduction from 2017**

We are budgeting another slight reduction of \$1,000 in Repairs and Maintenance costs, which mostly cover phones.

TRAVEL AND MEETINGS:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Travel & Meetings	\$191,000	\$183,000	\$209,195

- **Trustee Visits to Areas**

- **International Meetings to support other structures**
- **Board, Executive, Finance Travel**

We are budgeting an increase of about \$8,000 in Travel and Meetings, mostly due to two factors:

- The Director of Finance and Operations’ analysis enabled more accurate estimating of expenses based on Volunteer travel plans.
- The Board development of the Strategic Plan Priority & Objective to visit Areas which have not recently had a WSO Volunteer visit.

This year we are suspending TEAM events to focus on the International Convention.

Staff and Board members will visit International structures (General Service Offices) to support those structures in their outreach and to help with general service concerns. These meetings are very important outreach to worldwide structures who appreciate the help of the World Service Office in understanding the Legacies, Policies and some procedures that work well in our structure.

The Executive and Finance Committee typically meet three months by conference call. The Board of Trustees meets quarterly.

Staff attend conferences dedicated to understanding alcoholism and its treatment. Al-Anon’s attendance is crucial in making the professional community aware of what a valuable resource our program is to family recovery.

DIRECT CONFERENCE COSTS (NET):

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Direct Conference Costs (Net)	\$103,000	\$63,000	\$62,358

We are budgeting an \$40,000 increase in Direct Conference Costs for 2018, due to the Conference being held in New York and the additional exciting visit to Stepping Stones this year.

This number is derived by tallying the estimated travel costs, hotel costs, food costs and cost of supplies for all Conference members to all the World Service Conference. The costs for just the Delegates to attend is also calculated separately and is covered by the Delegates’ Equalized Expense. This net number is approximately what it costs the non-Delegate Conference members to attend the World Service Conference.

LEGAL AND AUDIT:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Legal & Audit	\$70,750	\$62,500	\$38,576

- **Audit fees remain fairly stable year to year**
- **Copyright and trademark protection**

We are budgeting an increase of about \$8,250 for Legal and Audit this year.

Audit fees have been pretty stable over the years and we do not expect any changes. Legal fees reflect the arrangement to keep attorneys on a minimum monthly retainer to support the organization after a three-month trial which proved favorable to Al-Anon.

PRINTING:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Printing	\$132,00	\$112,000	\$109,196

- **Forum**
- **Alateen Talk**
- **Flyers**
- **Le lien and En Accion**
- **Groups at Work**

We are expecting an increase of \$20,000 in printing costs for 2018.

With the positive response to the Forum, there are increased costs in printing, which we know are covered by the subscription revenues. Other printing includes that for Alateen Talk, Flyers that the office sends out, Le Lien and En Accion. Some of the increase in the budget is accounted for by the printing of *Groups at Work*.

CANADIAN OFFICE:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Canadian Office	\$2,000	\$1,500	\$1,523

- **Phone**
- **Post Office Box**
- **GST**

We are budgeting a \$500 increase in the budget for the Canadian Office in 2018.

The World Service Structure includes Canada and it is necessary and desirable for the World Service Office to have a presence in Canada. Because of technology it is no longer necessary to have a physical office, but we do maintain a post office box and a phone line which constitutes our 'virtual office'. We are also posting the GST here, a goods and services tax imposed by the Canadian Government and a cost of doing business in Canada.

GENERAL SERVICES MEETING:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual

General Services Meeting	\$15,000	-	\$1,496
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- **International Al-Anon General Services Meeting (IAGSM)**
 - o **Meets every other year**
 - o **Outreach to General Services Offices (GSO)s worldwide**

The International Al-Anon General Services meeting will meet in 2018, as it does every other year, with a budgeted cost of \$15,000.

As I mentioned when we were discussing the Travel and Meetings budget line, the International General Services Meetings meets every other year. This is a year when the IAGSM does meet, but the Zonal meetings will not take place.

VOLUNTEERS/MEMBERSHIP SURVEY:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
In-Office Volunteers	100	500	70
Membership Survey	\$2,080	\$2,300	\$750

- **Every five years**
- **Valuable information about our membership**

Due to changes in our Newcomer packet there is a reduced need for volunteers in the warehouse.

The membership survey line is down \$220 from the Revised 2017 Budget.

Due to changes in staff, we were able to bring the membership survey in house and save significantly over contracted costs of previous surveys.

PSA CAMPAIGN:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
PSA Campaign	\$102,126	\$43,000	\$43,076

- **Three PSAs in 2018**

The PSA Campaign budget is increased \$59,126 in 2018 to accommodate three PSA campaigns in 2018.

As you know, we can now deliver the PSA to radio stations through an electronic link now instead of sending a digital format such as CD, Media or DVD.

BANK AND CREDIT CARD FEES:

2018	2017	12/31/2017
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	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Bank and Credit Card Fees	\$83,000	-	\$94,003

Bank and credit card fees are more accurately posted in this line rather than elsewhere on the statement. Credit card fees are the necessary cost of accepting credit cards for literature sales as well as contributions, allowing both to be processed safely and easily on the website.

MISCELLANEOUS:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Miscellaneous	\$19,000	\$46,000	\$20,735

The budgeted Miscellaneous line is reduced \$27,000 from the 2017 budget.

Miscellaneous does not mean insignificant or unimportant, but it is for items that don't merit a separate line and are tracked and budgeted for. We have moved bank fees to its own line as it is a significant item when combined with credit card fees.

POST RETIREMENT HEALTH BENEFITS:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Post-Retirement Health Benefits	\$58,000	\$63,000	\$63,917

- **Slight reduction based on actual**
- **Benefit offered to employees who reach the age of 60 and have 20 years' employment with AFG**
- **No longer offered to new employees**

We are budgeting a \$2,000 reduction in Post-Retirement Health Benefits from 2017.

This benefit was offered to any employee who reached the age of 60 and had worked for AFG for at least twenty years. This plan was recently changed and is no longer offered to new hires.

EXPENSE SUMMARY:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Expense Summary	\$5,501,028	\$5,236,500	\$5,278,530

- **Increase of 5%**
- **Fully Staffed**

- **WSC in New York/visit to Stepping Stones**
- **Moving forward with technology**
- **One additional PSA**
- **Protection of trademarks and copyrights**
- **Additional visits/outreach to Areas**

In summary, Operating Expenses are budgeted to increase 5% in 2018.

At long last we have a technology team and technology plan that adequately supports the needs of the fellowship and is poised to offer even more.

Outreach by means of Trustee visits and PSAs strives to fulfill the Board's mission and vision.

Protection of trademarks and copyrights, while somewhat costly, is the prudent and responsible thing to do.

DEPRICIATION:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Expense Summary	\$68,000	\$66,000	\$47,512

- **Expense a portion of furniture and equipment over a number of years.**

The final expense is depreciation. Depreciation is the expensing of the cost of furniture and equipment over a number of years. For example, if we buy an expensive piece of technology for say, \$10,000, it would not make sense to expense it in one year when it will last five years, so we expense one fifth, or \$2,000, each year for five years.

Here is the total expense line that we will compare to the total revenues to see if we end the year in a surplus, when revenues are greater than expenses, or a deficit, when revenues are less than expenses, or in a situation where revenues equal expenses which hardly ever happens in real life!!

SUMMARY OF 2018 BUDGET:

	2018	2017	12/31/2017
	Budget	Revised Budget	Audited Actual
Total Estimated Revenue	\$5,503,800	\$5,240,000	\$5,212,031
[MINUS]			
Total Expense	\$5,501,028	\$5,236,500	\$5,278,530
(equals)			
Net Increase (Decrease)	\$2,772	\$3,500	\$66,499

- **Shows a small surplus**

- **Dependent, as always, on member participation**
- **Very positive outlook**
- **Exciting projects funded**

The net increase or decrease is calculated by subtracting the Total Expense from the Total Revenue.

These numbers show that we were projecting a small surplus of \$3,500 for 2017. As we all know now, actual contributions fell short of budgeted projections and we ended the year with a relatively small deficit of \$66,499.

This past year has been one of many exciting changes and we hope for the same in 2018. If we, as members, show our support as we did last year the World Service Office will be able to offer great support, outreach and more great projects that are dependent on technology and innovative outreach. We are projecting a small surplus of \$2,772 but as always, we and the success of AFG Inc. are dependent on our members. We hope we all are able to share our abundance in gratitude for what Al-Anon has given us.

Literature Committee Discussion – Just For Tonight:

Framing/Background:

During August and September 2016, the World Service Office (WSO) received three written requests (as well as several phone calls) suggesting the WSO produce a new bookmark using the “Just for Tonight” article from the August 2016 issue of *The Forum*. Below is the article, as it appeared in the August 2016 issue of *The Forum*:

Just for tonight...

By Robin T., Florida

I have used the *Just for Today* Bookmark (M-12) for many years to orient my thoughts in the right spiritual direction, and to keep me busy through difficult daytime hours. In a recent crisis, it occurred to me I also needed something to help me rest at night when I was feeling troubled. I started cataloguing and examining the thoughts and feelings that were interfering with my sleep and pairing them with the spiritual principles of the program.

Just for tonight, I will be grateful. As I prepare for sleep, I will give thanks for the passing day—its failures as well as its successes, its sadness as well as its joys, and its pain as well as its pleasures. I will take comfort in the knowledge that no event occurred, or circumstance arose today, that God could not use for my good and the good of others.

Just for tonight, I will accept that I have done the best I could, remembering that my goal is “Progress Not Perfection.” I will let go of any disappointment, shame, or guilt I feel for not having achieved perfection today, or any day in the past. I will offer up my shortcomings to God, in the belief that God can bring about

changes in me I could not bring about in myself.

Just for tonight, I will try not to solve tomorrow's problems or rectify today's mistakes. I will remind myself that I am better able to receive guidance about right actions and right amends when my mind and body are rested and refreshed.

Just for tonight, I will set aside my fears, frustrations, and aspirations. I will take a few minutes to review the abundance that exists in my life today and place my future in the care of a loving God, trusting my needs will be met at a time, and in a way, which is best for me.

Just for tonight, I will turn my loved ones over to God's care. I will free myself from trying to do the impossible—changing the actions, attitudes, or future of anyone other than myself.

Just for tonight, I will set aside all anger, resentment, envy, and hurt feelings. I will ask God to bless those whose actions I feel troubled by, and to change my attitude toward them, myself, and all other human beings to one of love, acceptance, and compassion.

Just for tonight, I will try to find a safe, comfortable place to lie down and close my eyes. I will remind myself I am a precious child of God, and that I am both deserving and in need of rest. I will look forward to awakening to the new day, feeling rested, ready to seek and follow God's will, and accept the blessings God has in store for me.

Each member making the request described the article as very powerful, and that it could be a wonderful companion piece to the *Just for Today* bookmark (M-12) already included in the Newcomer Packet (K-10). In October 2016, after considerable discussion, the Committee agreed that further discussion was needed, but that Committee members should first complete the five Knowledge-Based Decision-Making (KBDM) questions via the discussion board on AFG Connects.

MOTION: MOTION #6 – (71 YES, 17 no, 2 abstentions, 2 void) – CARRIED That the 2018 World Service Conference give conceptual approval to develop a bookmark based on an August 2016 Forum article titled “Just for Tonight” using inclusive language.

2019 ROAD TRIP – YOU AND YOUR BOARD CONNECT:

It's to bid for the 2019 Road Trip – You and Your Board Connect? Would you like to see the “Road Trip” in Missouri in 2019? If so, we have to submit a bid! I'm going to tell you how exciting the “Road Trip” is! By the end of this section, you too, will want to host a “Road Trip” in Missouri.

What is a “Road Trip”?

- Road Trip is a unique opportunity to meet all the current Board and Executive Committee members in one place, at one time.

Purpose:

- This event is an opportunity for your Trustees and Executive Committee members to share their personal recovery and their current service roles in an intimate setting with you.

The Day will be filled with:

- Personal Sharings
- Examples of Area and International Visits
- Descriptions of Board Committees
- Tour of WSO Websites
- Roundtable Discussion Topics

The Road Trip – You and Your Board Connect is an awesome opportunity for the members of the Area to work side-by-side with our Board of Trustees and Executive Committee Members. Each Delegate received an invitation with the requirements listed to submit a bid for the 2019 Event! Are you ready to host the Road Trip – You and Your Board Connect!?

THE 2018 ROAD TRIP – YOU AND YOUR BOARD CONNECT WILL BE HELD IN HOUSTON TEXAS ON OCTOBER 20,2018! Are you planning on going? Hop on the bus or train or jump on a plane! You do not want to miss the 2018 Road Trip! See you there!

AREA RESERVE FUND TASK FORCE:

How timely is this conversation since we are in the middle of many decisions about our finances in the Missouri Area? The Area Reserve Fund Task Force shared a PowerPoint and presented a workshop to us. Below is part of the workshop that was presented to us. I will provide copies of the handout as well. I believe these questions will be of great value to us and we move forward in making financial decisions.

What is an Area Reserve Fund?

- The reserve fund is defined as any funds equal to six-months-to-a-year's operating expenses, such as maintaining a significant minimum checking balance, "seed money," the budget, etc.
- Whenever we have a conversation about reserve funds it is important to look at Concept Twelve and Warranty One, which states "The spiritual foundation for Al-Anon's world services is contained in the General Warranties of the Conference, Article 12 of the Charter." Warranty One states, "that only sufficient operating funds, including an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principle."
- Our *Service Manual* on page 215 asks the question, "Does the establishment of a Reserve Fund mean that we lack faith in God's providence?" It goes on to suggest "Are we not expected to exercise a reasonable amount of foresight in the conduct of our affairs? This is certainly no denial of faith in God's providence; it is instead a willingness to shoulder our own clear responsibility."
- This is prudence. The *Service Manual* on page 211 states, "For Al-Anon, prudence is a middle ground, a channel between fear on the one hand and recklessness on the other. Prudence creates a climate of harmony, effectiveness and consistent spiritual progress. These Warranties express the wisdom of taking thought for the future based on lessons of the past. They protect us against needless errors and the natural human temptations of wealth, prestige and power."
- Now, take a look at the handout labeled "Area Reserve Fund Workshop." Please look at the section "The Purpose of a Reserve Fund." We would like to have someone answer the first question as it pertains to your Area. "In what ways is our money essentially held in reserve? E.g. savings account, checking account balance, CD, etc.?"
- Would someone like to answer our second question, "When does a reserve fund become excessive?"
- Will someone answer the third question, "Why is having an ample reserve fund considered a prudent financial principle?"

- Let's look at the goal amounts in your Area's reserve fund. In reference to their Area, would someone share their thoughts on the first question: "Why was our Area reserve fund established? When was the last time our Area reviewed the purpose?"
- The second question is "What is/are the Area's current goal(s) for the reserve fund?" Would someone else be willing to share their thoughts from their Area with us?
- Our third question is "How have Area reserve funds been utilized in the past? Was there an emergency, a special project, a substantial decline in income, or another reason?" Would someone please share on these two questions?
- Now let's look at the distribution of proceeds. "What are special projects that aren't covered by normal budgeting?" Would someone like answer question one?
- Our second question is "How can we approach our Area's financial needs from a spiritual basis, e.g. stepping away from fear and/or greed, practicing prudence, gratitude, generosity, etc.?" Would someone please share briefly?
- Question three, regarding Distribution in relation to one's Area "In what ways can our Area make better financial choices that are consistent with our primary spiritual purpose, e.g. public outreach, technology, etc.?" Would someone new please share their thoughts?
- Finally, let's look at oversight.
- Our first question is, "Who has oversight of our reserve fund?" Would someone answer question one as it relates to their Area?
- Would someone answer question two as it relates to their Area, "What is the process for withdrawing funds?"
- Would someone share their thoughts on question three, "At what point does our reserve fund become excessive thus bordering on perilous wealth?"
- Our last question is, "How does our Area use excess funds beyond an ample reserve?" Would someone share briefly?
- Now we have "open-mic time." You are invited to come to the microphone and share briefly how your Area defines, utilizes and oversees their reserve funds. Again, this can be any funds equal to six-months-to-a-year's operating expense, such as maintaining a significant minimum checking balance, "seed money," the budget, etc. We would like to hear from as many people as possible.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION/DAY OF CONNECTING:

The international convention is almost here! Area you planning on attending the International Convention? This is an event that you do not want to miss! Please join be in Baltimore as we celebrate Al-Anon Family Groups worldwide. The convention will be held from July 6th-July 8th in Baltimore!

Conference App: All convention registrants will have access to the International Convention App. We actually used the app at this year's WSC and it was awesome. It will feature a schedule with all events and locations. You can make comments on the app in a social stream like Facebook. When I receive more details on the app, I will pass them along.

Here is a tentative schedule for the weekend:

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings will be held at the Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel.

Entertainment:

- Thursday – Open Variety Show
- Friday – Ice Cream Social
- Saturday – Dance

Speakers:

- Saturday – Family Night
- Sunday – Spiritual Speaker

Language of Love Parade:

- Our opening evening meeting begins with a fun and energizing parade featuring members from around the world who wish to express the universality of our program of recovery through the creative dress and costumes that they wear. Sign up so that you and your friends can show-off costumes that illustrate your country, your culture, your state, province or Area. It is a wondrous display of worldwide unity! Please register to participate.

Pioneer Luncheon:

- Our opening evening meeting begins with a fun and energizing parade featuring members from around the world who wish to express the universality of our program of recovery through the creative dress and costumes that they wear. Sign up so that you and your friends can show-off costumes that illustrate your country, your culture, your state, province or Area. It is a wondrous display of worldwide unity! Please register to participate.

WSC Homecoming:

- The all WSC Conference Reunion has been rename the WSC Homecoming. **Current and past** Al-Anon World Service Conference Members (1961-2018) and one guest are eligible to attend. The homecoming will take place on Baltimore’s Inner Harbor Spirit Cruise Ship! I hope to see all past Conference members on July 6th when we set sail to visit beautiful Baltimore.

Commemorative edition of One Day at a Time in Al-Anon (ODAT) (B-6):

This special edition of the ODAT will be available at the 2018 International Convention and for the remainder of 2018 until supplies are gone. The commemorative edition will include a ribbon bookmark and front cover indicating “50th Anniversary.” The commemorative edition will be available in English, French and Spanish for sale starting at the 2018 Al-Anon International Convention, with a bookplate to be offered only at the Convention. A limited number of books will be printed and available for a purchase price of \$15 US each.

New Literature available at the International Convention:

- *Understanding & Hope for Parents & Grandparents* (P-94)
- *Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships* (B-33)

Day of Connecting:

2018 Day of Connecting: plans are finalized, and Trustees and Staff are excited to meet you at the Day of Connecting being held on Thursday, July 5th in Baltimore. Please keep in mind that the Day of Connecting registration is a separate fee of \$40 and will increase to \$45 after May 31, 2018.

If you are coming to the International Convention, why not come early and spend July 5, the day before the Convention, learning, sharing and deepening your understanding and commitment to our third legacy: Service. Workshops, panels, round table discussions on a variety of service topics will be hosted by the Board of Trustees and members of the WSO staff. The day promises to be a stimulating and exciting boost to your program and a fantastic way to kick off your weekend in Baltimore meeting others who share their love for service. There is a participation limit; registration is required.

The Day of Connecting will consist of the following events:

Room A – Presentations, Room B – Discussion Meetings, Room C – Panels, Room D – Leadership Talks, Room E – Round Table Discussions

Delegate Panel: You won't want to miss the Panel Speakers of Delegate's. I'm truly honored to share with you that I have been asked to share my experience as one of the Delegate Speakers. I hope to see you there. I promise you I will represent to the very best of my ability.

EPRMC REPORT:

Eighth Triennial Report on Real Property Ownership

Background:

In 1994, the World Service Conference passed Motion #12, which empowered the Board of Trustees to purchase property for Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. This purchase of real property was for a trial period of fifteen years and contingent on several conditions.

In 2011 the World Service Conference passed Motion #6, which ended the fifteen-year trial period and empowered the Board of Trustees to continue to own the current or subsequent property in the name of Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. The ownership of property is contingent on conditions enumerated in Motion #6.

One condition set forth in the 1994 Motion #12 and the 2011 Motion #6 was that the Board of Trustees "establish a separate Executive Committee for Real Property Management in order to ensure that the management of the real property be done in a prudent manner and not interfere with the day-to-day operations of the spiritual parts of the program, i.e., service to the groups, individuals, or Al-Anon as a whole."

To fulfill that condition, a motion to create the Executive Committee for Real Property Management (ECRPM) was approved by the WSC in 1995. The Bylaws were amended in January 2012 to include the Executive Committee for Real Property Management and the Amendment was presented to before the 2012 Conference. The separate Executive Committee was preferred for its simplicity and the fact that it would cut down on additional forms needed to be filed annually with the Internal Revenue Service. This Committee was established to oversee the management of real property in order to separate property maintenance and management from the day-to-day operation of the Al-Anon fellowship. The Committee consists of three at-large Al-Anon members, the Chairperson of the Finance Committee, and the Director of Business Services. The Committee first met June 15, 1996 and has met twice a year since then.

Another condition contained in the motions to purchase real property was that the Board of Trustees would "report triennially as to the financial feasibility of the ownership of real property, the compliance with the spirit and letter of this resolution, and the negative impact, if any, that the purchase of property has had on the fellowship as a whole."

The Board of Trustees reports the following:

Distributed at the 2018 World Service Conference

1. Has ownership of property been financially feasible?

The Board of Trustees reports that ownership of property has been a very good step financially. Al-Anon Family Groups Headquarters, Inc. received tax-exempt financing and thus a lower rate of interest due to non-profit status. A savings of approximately \$446,000 this year has been realized by owning property vs. leasing it in Virginia. *Now that the mortgage is paid in full, the gap between ownership and leasing continues to widen as costs of ownership decrease and costs of leasing increase.

2. Are we complying with the spirit and letter of the resolution?

The Board of Trustees concerns itself with ownership of real property to the extent that it insures that the ownership of real property is financially feasible and that the spirit and intent of the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts is maintained. The Board

affirms that with the management of the property being the business of the Executive Committee for Real Property Management, and as demonstration of mutual respect, the property management continues to be kept separate from the primary spiritual aim of Al-Anon Family Groups. The Executive Director is able to focus entirely on assisting the groups in the primary spiritual aim of Al-Anon -- helping families and friends of alcoholics. The need for staff to be concerned with the frequent search for office space and to deal with the day-in and day-out maintenance of commercial property has been eliminated.

3. Has there been any negative impact on the fellowship as a whole?

After reviewing the last eighteen years of real property ownership, the Board of Trustees has no negative impact to report. In 2004, a small minority of groups attempted to tie the Alateen requirements established by the Board of Trustees to the ownership of property. The Board of Trustees clarified that the only assets it was protecting were our name and safety of our children. The ECRPM is a Committee separate from all other committees. It operates separately from the work and business of the World Service Office, allowing the WSO to focus on the primary spiritual aim of the fellowship. This real separation is what allows ownership of property to function as well as it does.

*Please see budget line item "Occupancy" for the actual yearly costs of ownership.

Trustee Resume Solicitation Process:

How many of you have ever thought about becoming a Trustee for Al-Anon one day? There are more of you qualified than you may realize. I would like to personally invite you to consider submitting a resume for a Trustee At Large position. The World Service Office must receive all resumes by August 15th, 2018. You may be thinking – I've never been a Delegate! That is not a requirement. Are you passionate about the world-wide fellowship of Al-Anon Family Groups? Do you have specialized skills that would lend to the composition of the Board of Trustees? If so, what are you waiting for? The process is simple:

1. Ask the Delegate for a Trustee Resume. You MUST get the resume from the Delegate.
2. Fill it out and submit it to the World Service Office by August 15th.
3. The WSO will send you an extra question for you to answer and send back in.
4. WAIT – CONNECT WITH YOUR HIGHER POWER – TURN IT OVER AND LET'S SEE WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN!
5. The resumes will be scored by the Conference Committee on Trustees (CCT) and the results will be sent to the Nominating Committee.
6. After review, selected candidates will be invited to the WSO for an interview and luncheon with the Board of Trustees.
7. After all candidates have been interviewed, the BOT will select the slate of Trustees for the World Service Conference affirmation process.
8. The slate of candidates will be presented to the WSC for traditional affirmation.
9. At the Annual Board of Trustee's Meeting, (Saturday after the WSC), the affirmed Trustees will be legally elected.

2019 WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE SITE ANNOUNCEMENT:

The dates selected for the 2019 World Service Conference are Saturday, April 13 through Wednesday, April 17, 2019. Delegates are scheduled to arrive on Friday, April 12 and depart on Thursday, April 18. The Conference will be held at the Sheraton Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel, 3501 Atlantic Ave., Virginia Beach, VA 23451.

In searching for a site to hold the Conference, the availability of adequate meeting space, hotel room costs, meal costs, and dates of religious holidays were factors in the selection of the dates and location.

CLOSING DINNER:

The closing dinner was held on Friday night. This dinner is bittersweet. Each year, 2 Delegates are selected to be the next year's spiritual speakers. The dinner means we have come to the end of a long, hard week of doing the business of Al-Anon. It also means we have to say good bye to the outgoing panel. Each year at the closing dinner, the outgoing panel and outgoing Trustees are presented with their scrolls from the World Service Conference. This is always a memorable, yet very emotional moment. It must be surreal to realize your tenure at the World Service Conference has rapidly come to a close. We had the opportunity to welcome the new Delegates at the opening dinner and to say farewell to the outgoing Delegates at the closing dinner. If anyone is interested I do have the speaker CD's from the opening and closing dinner.

CONCLUSION:

WOW! Where do I even begin? I am truly humble beyond words. There was so much more that I simply don't have time to write about or report for the May Assembly. However, I will continue to post it in updates and share with you at the upcoming Area events. I am always willing to come to your District meetings or events and share my experience as Delegate as well.

This report is probably overwhelming. It's overwhelming for me and I have complied it. There are many parts of this report that are copies of documents that were passed on to us. The Missouri Area has spent a lot of money to send me to the 2018 World Service Conference and I want to make sure you have access to all the information I have been given. The truth is, I will probably never be able to share it all. It's awesome to have a written report of the week, but a written report could never display the integrity of the Conference members, the amount of respect that's displayed between members, and the overwhelming amount of passion that fills the room of the World Service Conference. That is a feeling that I will never be able to explain to anyone. You simply can't feel the depth of it until you have experienced it yourself.

I remember previous Panel Delegates used to come home from the WSC and say, "There is something spiritual that happens there." No one could ever explain to me what that was. I can't explain it either. Its magical how the process works. It's a true representation of our Legacies in action.

The 2018 World Service Conference theme was: Al-Anon – There is no standing still! Are you of have you been standing still? I have found in my recovery that when I stand still, complacency sits in. I begin to lose my passion for Al-Anon. Lois set the tone for us many years ago. If Lois would have stood still, we would be standing here now. Do you stand still when the newcomer walks in the door? Do you stand still when the phone rings and someone is anxiously awaiting for a voice to pick up on the other end of the floor? Do you stand still when there is a vacant spot in your home group meeting? Do you stand still when it is time to call your sponsor?

The founders of Al-Anon were visionaries! They dreamed big in hopes that Al-Anon would be what it is today. What about our dreams? Are we visionaries? We are so fortunate to be part of such an amazing fellowship. Upon reflection, a little willingness has provided me some pretty amazing opportunities. I am truly honored and humbled to serve as your 57 Delegate. Thank you for continued love and support. Your loving words and cards carried me through the Conference. Thank You! I hope I have provided you some insight to what happens at the largest group conscience we have, the World Service Conference. My prayer is that one day I will be able to give to others what the Conference has given to me.

Love in Service,
Sarah S
Panel 57 Missouri

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

Thank you to the Assembly for allowing me to serve the Area as Alternate Delegate, I do look forward to getting to know all of the DRs in the Missouri Area and getting the chance to help all of us understand the business side of Al-Anon much better. This morning was the first time I conducted the Assembly Orientation for the GRs.

I hope everyone can attend the Day In Service! Please grab several copies of the flyers while you're here. Please make sure to get enough flyers for your GRs in your districts. The Day In Service Planning meetings are well underway and I'm having a great time working with Districts 8 and 18. They are all very busy planning and our next tag up meeting will be two weeks before the Day In Service on a Saturday in Columbia to make sure we are tying up loose ends. Thank you to Districts 8 and 18!

Day In Service

When: Saturday, June 16th, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Where: Fairview Road Church of Christ, 201 South Fairview Road, Columbia, MO 65203

Purpose: For those that don't know, the Day in Service is to bring Al-Anon and Alateen members together to learn about our Third Legacy—Service. The intent is to encourage members to utilize this area of growth in recovery, to introduce members to the joy in service, and to encourage all members to participate in service in a fun, interactive manner, (from our Area Procedures Digest).

If you're going—please pass the word—bring a car load. The more people, the more fun!!!

AA Missouri State Convention with Al-Anon Participation

When: August 3-5, 2018

Where: Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO

The Al-Anon main speaker will be Carol R. from St. Louis. Carol will be sharing her experience, strength and hope as a long time Al-Anon member. There will be a flyer finalized at the next planning I'm attending in the next few weeks in Jeff City. I meet with the planning committee at the Capitol Plaza Hotel where the convention is being held.

For the AA Convention, I have the mini meeting chair people identified. If anyone is planning on attending the conference and wouldn't mind being a back-up chairperson for a mini meeting, please let me know. The expectation here is that you open and close the meeting and share on the topic. Thanks to those that have said yes when I asked for help!

South Central Regional Delegates Meeting (SCRDM) was on March 2-4, 2018 in San Antonio, TX

First, I'd like to say thank you to the Missouri Area for paying my way to attend the SCRDM. I've gone before on my own and enjoyed the meeting in getting to see what other Areas do and how they are represented and conduct business in contrast to the Missouri Area. Through the last couple of years of attending, I've realized that we are more similar to other Areas in our region than different.

To share a bit about the SCRDM about a workshop that was presented within the meeting. There were on three particular questions asked and we all participated in brainstorming. In keeping with the WSC theme this year, "Al-Anon—There's no standing still!", the workshops were given around the subject. The three questions asked of the group were:

- What are things that make us stand still?

- What character defects keep up from moving forward?
- What is your vision for Al-Anon in the future?

I can certainly think of my own personal input when asking myself these questions about my personal recovery. I do think the Missouri Area as a whole can ask ourselves these questions as well. I have much gratitude for being elected an officer of the Missouri Area, and also take to heart the safeguarding of the Al-Anon and Alateen program for our Area.

As the traditions say, our common goal is unity; we should have mutual respect for one another; we are all here under the same purpose; we are all allowed to be autonomous; we work with compassion and understanding for each other; we stick to our spiritual aim and don't affiliate with outside issues. We ask for help; we know our roles; we work together; we let go of outside issues; we are humble; and, we act with principles above personalities.

When we move forward with all of those traditions in mind, we can ask ourselves as an Area, are we standing still? For example, is it time to embrace the tech advances and move forward? Are we personally setting aside our character defects, not focusing on others' defects and really trying to work together for the good of Al-Anon and Alateen in our Area? We may not have the answer, but moving in a positive direction is the answer!

When we reflect on where we have been in service, especially getting the benefit of a lot of our delegates still being involved in our Area, we have that representation of how far Al-Anon has come. Right here right now--today, we are all the future of Al-Anon in the Missouri Area. When someone wants to know about us holding an officer's, a coordinator's or a district rep's position, please don't pass up the opportunity to pass along the message of service. Without service in my life, I would not have been able to learn and grow,

At the Day in Service I am conducting a workshop on Service Sponsorship and Personal Sponsorship. I will also discuss presuming goodwill in service and also conflict resolution. This afternoon at the GR training, Janie and I will touch on these subjects as well.

I am humbled to be an officer. I look forward to reaching out to all of the DRs and seeing how I can be of service to you all as well.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lori H
Panel 57, Alternate Delegate
Missouri
Area31altdelegate@gmail.com

TREASURER

Hi Fellow Al-Anon Members, I'm Janie F, your current Area Treasurer. Thank you for allowing me to be of service to you and all Al-Anon members in the Missouri Area.

The treasurer's report copies are on the table when you first come in. The front page is the first four months of 2018 and backside is the Quarterly Year End for 2017. April financials are complete and are listed on the 2018 Quarterly Year To Date.

The beginning balance on January 1 was \$10,418.76 and the ending balance at the end of April was \$22,504.31. The Area received a \$9,000 contribution during the first quarter of 2018 from the St Louis AIS. This was 71% of the first quarter contributions. Thank you STL AIS Office. Significant expenses have been CBAT, March AWSC, May Assembly and Literature. There is still some confusion on the address where contributions are to be sent. The correct address is listed the Round Robin. Some contributions are still being sent to Diane and Lori, previous

treasurers, and they have been forward those contributions to you. Thank you Lori and Diane. If you have any questions, my contact information is at the end of this report.

When your group, district, or AIS office makes a contribution to the area, they are published monthly in the Round Robin which serves as your receipt. If your group/district wants a separate receipt, please include this information when sending a contribution and a receipt will be mailed or emailed to you. Thank you groups, districts, AIS offices and individuals for your contributions. This is your area and it serves you.

An appeal letter for Area Contributions will be forthcoming either through email or Round Robin. According to the Procedure Digest, ***P 17 under General Duties for Officers and Coordinators, the Treasurer writes an appeal letter for Area contributions from groups for January, May and September.*** I am so grateful to the groups and districts that continue to contribute to the area on an ongoing basis.

The Financial Audit of the Treasurer's Books was conducted on April 14, 2018 by the Financial Audit Committee. A report from the committee chair will be read at Assembly.

Expense sheets are on the table next to me if anyone needs them for reimbursement. Please try to get them to me as early as possible as I will try to process what I can before the end of Assembly on Sunday. Otherwise, your check will be mailed to you.

Thank you again for all the contributions and support you make to your area.

Service with an attitude of gratitude

Janie F, Panel 57 Missouri Area Treasurer, 256-426-8394; email: area31afgtreasurer@gmail.com

Missouri Area Al-Anon Quarterly Report

YEAR END, 2018

	<i>APRIL ONLY</i>				
Income	1ST QTR	2ND QTR	3RD QTR	4TH QTR	Total
Alateen	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,850.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,950.00
Assembly	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
AWSC	\$ 13.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13.00
Contributions	\$ 12,688.22	\$ 932.24	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,620.46
Convention	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Day in Service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Literature	\$ 3,865.59	\$ 1,879.27	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,744.86
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,250.00
Round Robin	\$ 540.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 540.00
Income Total	\$ 19,456.81	\$ 5,661.51	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,118.32
Disbursements	1ST QTR	2ND QTR	3RD QTR	4TH QTR	Total
Area Group Records	\$ 113.09	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 113.09
Alateen	\$ 278.68	\$ 3,014.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,292.68
Archives	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Assembly	\$ 400.00	\$ 15.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 415.50
AWSC	\$ 1,854.68	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,854.68
Convention	\$ 130.32	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 130.32
Day in Service	\$ -	\$ 152.20	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 152.20
Literature	\$ 1,470.41	\$ 480.63	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,951.04
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,232.02	\$ 32.90	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,264.92
Alt. Delegate	\$ 138.00	\$ 21.99	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 159.99
Chairperson	\$ 75.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75.00
Delegate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Secretary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Treasurer	\$ 124.19	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 124.19
Round Robin	\$ 705.03	\$ 269.12	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 974.15
SCRDM	\$ 942.98	\$ 438.03	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,381.01
Public Outreach	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
The Forum Coord	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Web Page	\$ 144.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 144.00
WSD	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Disbursements Total	\$ 8,608.40	\$ 4,424.37	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,032.77
Income - Disbursements	\$ 10,848.41	\$ 1,237.14	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,085.55
Reserve Fund	1ST QTR	2ND QTR	3RD QTR	4TH QTR	
Beginning Balance	\$ 8,995.73	\$8,999.16	\$9,000.20	\$9,000.20	
Interest Income	\$ 3.43	\$ 1.04	\$ -	\$ -	
Deposits	\$ -	\$ -			
Ending Balance	\$8,999.16	\$9,000.20	\$9,000.20	\$9,000.20	

Appendix B -Coordinators and Committee Reports

COORDINATORS:

ALATEEN INTERN

Report presented, not submitted.

AREA ALATEEN PROCESS PERSON (AAPP)

In preparation for re-certification, I have attended two AAPP WSO conference calls and was able to review the online audio recording of the New AAPP WSO Conference Call that was held on Jan 27th. Two emails have gone out to all current AMIAS notifying them of the 2018 AMIAS re-certification. If you are a current AMIAS and have not received an email from me, please get with me. Another email will go out next week to any current AMIAS whose paper work has not yet been received. Re-certification paper work will need to be submitted by the May 15, 2018 deadline as stated on the Missouri Area AMIAS candidate profile form. To obtain a current copy of your background report from the Family Care Safety Registry (FCSR) call 866-422-6872 or note your social security number on the Missouri Area AMIAS candidate profile form for the AAPP to retrieve it for you. If you have questions concerning re-certification, please contact me directly by email or phone.

The WSO Annual Alateen Group updates have been sent out. If your Alateen group did not receive one, please check with me to verify that the CMA address is correct. Those need to be returned as soon as possible even if there are no changes. If there are changes, once the Alateen Group information and or changes are entered into the WSO data base, it is updated within an hour on the WSO web site. The Missouri web site will be longer.

In February the 3rd annual SMA-ART (Supporting Missouri AMIAS-Annual Recommended Training) weekend was held. It was well attended and was self-supporting. Suggestions and comments were once again positive with some great recommendations. As always, all suggestions/comments are reviewed and considered. Next years dates have been set for February 15, 16, 17, 2019, so mark your calendar to join us for a fun filled informative weekend.

Last weekend April 29, 2018 the St Louis area held their second AMIAS training on Sunday afternoon. It was hosted by Dist 15. It was very well attended with lots of interest from all attendees.

If your group or district would like to host an AMIAS training or information workshop/meeting please let me know.

Remember new AMIAS are always needed. If you are not currently certified and would like to know more about how you can be of service to the Alateens at the group, district and area levels, contact me. There are many ways to serve.

If anyone has any questions, my contact information is in the Round Robin.

Thank you for allowing me to serve the Missouri Area,
Janet W
Missouri AAPP Panel 57
816-987-0246

AREA ALATEEN PROCESS COORDINATOR

Greetings from Alateen!

I am Marilyn Medley the Alateen Coordinator. My alternate is Christina Campbell. The Alateen Coordinator is the connection between all the Alateen Coordinators and the Area. It promotes Alateen and assures that the Area is doing all that it can to support what is needed to keep Alateen groups functioning.

Please take back to your groups the gratitude that we have for gifts donated for our opening activity at CBAT. The only activity we were not able to hold due to the cooler weather was the outdoor campfire. Sherri and Marc provided some grills so that the hot dogs and s'mores could still be made under the covered entry to the building.

Also please tell your groups that WSO also posted the 2003 Alateen Motion in two places on the WSO website areas: "Alateen Participants in Events" and "Starting an Alateen Group." They asked us to share this with our Assemblies. I assume they want you all to read that motion to become more familiar with the responsibilities that Al-Anon has for Alateen.

I believe our work as Alateen Coordinators is to provide information to the Area to keep Alateen meetings healthy and continue growing, to inform you of needed paperwork, to train AMIAS so that we can have Alateen participation in meetings, conferences, Assemblies, etc. To that end, on March 17, I participated in the WSO conference call for discussion on Annual Recertification. All AAPPs, Coordinators and Area Delegates were invited. Janet and I participated from MO. It was helpful to hear about the new opportunities Areas have been given to update records on-line and other help the WSO is willing to provide.

The most recent question for discussion was asking if any Areas had an Alateen Workgroup. The Area of Georgia has a Task Force investigating starting workgroup. This would be an ongoing group to take care of Alateen business since several motions in recent years had to do with Alateen. No other Area in our AFG Connects group has shared that they have such a group. There were some who expressed interest in more information. I will keep you posted because it sounds like something Missouri could consider.

At Super Sunday the Alateens decided to participate in Day in Service and Convention. Please take back to your groups that any Al-Anon who has a small craft they have made and want to donate to the sale, Alateens would accept. Things like bookmarks, headbands, bracelets, or other items program folks could use would be appreciated

Also please invite all Area groups to come to the Day in Service on June 16 in Columbia and Missouri Area Convention in September!!

Thank you for letting me serve Missouri Area Alateen.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn M

AREA CONVENTION COORDINATOR

Good morning.

Melanie asked me to express her regrets that she could not be here with us this weekend, and she sends her fondest wishes to each of you. She wanted so badly to be here with us, but is doing the wise thing by staying at home and taking care of herself.

She told me to assure you that everything is going smoothly with the committee's preparations for our Area's 50th Convention. Our theme this year is "The Road to Recovery is Paved in Gold: Happy 50th Anniversary to Our Convention." The committee met last night to fine-tune the details of our plans, and we are very excited about the way everything is coming together. You can anticipate a weekend filled with fun, fellowship and inspiration. We're going to have incredible Guest Speakers, interesting workshops and mini-meetings, excellent raffle items ... and yes, Alateen Jeopardy! will be back.

We're also going to have great food! The main course at our banquet will be brisket, in celebration of this milestone in the Area's history. And it will be a sit-down dinner. We had to raise the price of the dinner by a couple of dollars to cover the cost of food, but we think the meal will be well worth it.

As always, we are looking for volunteers to assist with registration and the hospitality room. We are also looking for AMIAS volunteers to assist the teens at the raffle tables. Please search your hearts: if you are able to volunteer even one hour of your time during the weekend, it will be deeply appreciated. Your generous act of service will allow others the opportunity to slow down, to participate and to enjoy the celebration.

We look forward to seeing you September 21-23.

Respectfully submitted

J Michael C on behalf of Melanie E

AREA GROUP RECORDS COORDINATOR

Hello Missouri Area,

I can't believe we are half-way through Panel 57. I am happy to report that updating the group records has been a very efficient and straightforward process.

As I reported at the AWSC in March, members are now able to submit Al-Anon group changes online at al-anon.org, since the World Service Office discontinued the GR-1 form. The online form is setup to take all the necessary information to submit any type of change and then emails the information directly to the Area Group Records Coordinator. As the Area GRC, I update the WSO records using the WSO Online Group Records application and report these changes in my Monthly Group Records Changes Report to the Area Panel. The link for group changes is:

<https://al-anon.org/for-members/group-resources/group-records/changes-existing-al-anon-group/group-records-change-form/>

Members are also able to submit a registration for a "New Group" online at al-anon.org at the following link:

<https://al-anon.org/for-members/group-resources/group-records/new-al-anon-group-registration/new-group-form/>

The "Al-Anon Group Records Change Form" and the "New Al-Anon Group Registration Form" can also be downloaded and printed from the al-anon.org/members webpage, along with "Instructions" for each form. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need any support concerning these forms. Meanwhile, you can still report any changes or submit any "New" registrations to me at my email: panel57grouprecords@gmail.com. It is very helpful when you submit changes to note your Group Name, WSO ID Number, and District Number.

As of April 28, 2018:

- The Missouri Area has 229 registered active Al-Anon groups and 12 active Alateen groups. There is 1 registered group reported "not meeting". With some of those Al-Anon groups meeting more than one day a week, the Area has 290 Active Al-Anon meetings per month.
- Of our 26 districts, 15 (58%) have DR's.
We are still looking for DR's in districts: 01, 03, 07, 10, 11, 12, 22, 24, 26, 27 and 28.
- Of our 229 Al-Anon groups 147 (64%) have registered voting GRs.

Submitted by:

Janet A. O
MO Area #31; Panel 57
Group Records Coordinator
panel57grouprecords@gmail.com
Cell: 386-562-4216

AREA LITERATURE DEPOT COORDINATOR

This is a busy time of year in the Al-Anon world. The World Service Conference brought with it an introduction to a new pamphlet, *Hope and Understanding for Grandparents*. The number to use to order this pamphlet is P-94. As soon as I received the order form for the Area Literature Depots I placed an order for us. Luckily, the order arrived on Thursday. I have 295 in stock this weekend. Since this is a new pamphlet and my supply is limited I would ask that you be mindful of others who might want some as well and purchase a small amount today. I will have more coming from WSO in a couple weeks and will be more than happy to get more of them to you as soon as I can. The pamphlet is 24 pages and will cost .75 each. Also, the Service Manual is still not available in French or Spanish. We are still waiting to hear from WSO as to when that will be available. *Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships: A Collection of Al-Anon Personal Stories* will be made available at the International Convention in Baltimore. It will be available to the Al-Anon public immediately following the Convention. I expect to see an order form for that in late June or early July. The item # will be B-33. The new CAL catalogs(S-15) and order forms(S-16) will be available this summer. They will be effective from July 2018 to June 2019. How Al-Anon Works, B-22 is no longer available in hardcover. I have 1 case with me here this weekend and a few more on my bookshelf at home if you are interested.

In August and November there were two ask-it-basket questions relating to the amount of money that was spent on keeping up the literature inventory. When I got home from AWSC I completed an inventory of all items that I had on hand at the time. That report is attached here. It shows the amount of inventory on hand as of 03/17/18. I submitted a report for the Round Robin regarding this and don't want to repeat that information here, however, if you have any questions relating to the inventory report, please reach out to me and I will do my best to answer your questions.

As always, it's an honor and a privilege to serve you.

Mary L
Area 31/Panel 57 Literature Depot Coordinator
area31litdepot@ingredion.com
816-456-4086

INVENTORY AS OF 3-17-18

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COST	TOTAL	ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COST	TOTAL
B-10	Alateen One Day at a Time	26	9.50	247.00	M-13	Just for Today, Alateen Bookmark	128	0.10	12.80
B-11	Ar We Understand...	20	11.00	220.00	M-14	Al-Anon Liqueur (100 per sheet)	1	2.25	2.25
B-14	One Day at a Time (Large)	35	14.00	490.00	M-15	Alateen Liqueur (100 per sheet)	2	2.25	4.50
B-15	In All Our Affairs	18	12.00	216.00	M-18	Alateen Program Card	362	0.05	18.10
B-16	Courage to Change	16	14.00	224.00	M-26	Serenity Prayer Cards	38	0.10	3.80
B-17	Courage to Change (Large)	31	17.00	527.00	M-44	Al-Anon/Alateen I & I Nat	141	0.10	14.10
B-21	Fam Survival to Recovery	26	16.00	416.00	M-77	Al-Anon Basic Program Card	208	0.10	20.80
B-22	Hau Al-Anon Works	35	15.00	525.00	M-76	Outreach Bookmark	1198	0.00	0.00
B-23	Courage to be Me	26	11.00	286.00	M-77	Professional Referral Pad	4	0.75	3.00
B-24	Path to Recovery	28	19.00	532.00	M-78	Sponsorship Bookmark	127	0.10	12.70
B-26	Living Today in Alateen	34	13.00	442.00	M-8	"Let it Begin with Me" Declaration Card	168	0.10	16.80
B-27	Hapo for Today	39	14.00	546.00	M-80	Alateen Table Card	9	0.15	1.35
B-28	Hapo for Today (Large)	31	17.00	527.00	P-1	Al-Anon for Men	81	0.30	24.30
B-29	Opening our Hearts...	39	14.00	546.00	P-13	Purpose and Suggestions	114	0.25	28.50
B-3	Alateen-Hapo for Children...	22	7.50	165.00	P-14	So You Love an Alcoholic	68	0.25	17.00
B-30	Discovering Choices	45	15.00	675.00	P-15	Three Views of Al-Anon	186	0.30	55.80
B-31	Many Voices, One Journey	40	16.00	640.00	P-16	To the Mother and Father of an Alcoholic	62	0.75	46.50
B-32	Hau Al-Anon Works (Soft)	8	6.00	48.00	P-17	The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions	45	0.75	33.53
B-4	Dilemma of the Alcoholic Marriage	20	8.50	170.00	P-18	The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (Alateen)	121	0.75	90.75
B-5	The Al-Anon Family Groups	44	12.00	528.00	P-19	What Do YOU Do About the Alcoholic's Drinking?	73	0.30	21.90
B-6	One Day at a Time	29	11.00	319.00	P-2	Al-Anon, You and the Alcoholic	104	0.35	36.40
B-7	Let's Remember	4	11.00	44.00	P-21	Youth and the Alcoholic Parent	114	0.40	45.60
B-8	Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions	4	10.00	40.00	P-22	If Your Parents Drink too Much	27	0.50	13.50
K-10	Newcomer Packet	311	1.40	435.40	P-24	Al-Anon/Alateen Groups at Work (NEW)	0	1.00	0.00
K-18	Alateen Newcomer Packet	13	1.40	18.20	P-24	Al-Anon/Alateen Groups at Work (OLD)	11	1.00	11.00
K-21	Adult Children Newcomer Packet	64	2.00	128.00	P-24/27	Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (NEW)	9	5.00	45.00
K-23	Men's Newcomer Packet	30	2.00	60.00	P-24/27	Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (OLD)	28	5.00	140.00
K-24	Parents' Newcomer Packet	30	2.00	60.00	P-29	A Guide for Sponsors of Alateen Groups	72	0.10	7.20
K-20	Professional Newcomer...	30	1.25	37.50	P-3	Alcoholism, A Merry Go Round Named Denial	101	0.75	75.75
K-6	Alateen Discant Package	8	6.75	54.00	P-31	Sponsorship, What it's all about	113	0.40	45.20
K-70	Using Al-Anon to Resolve Conflict	7	9.00	63.00	P-32	This is Al-Anon	278	0.40	111.20
M-1	Are You Concerned about Someone's Drinking?	567	0.03	17.01	P-33	Why Anonymity in Al-Anon?	94	0.35	32.90
M-10	Just for Today, Al-Anon Wallcard	136	0.10	13.60	P-35	Why Conference Approved Literature?	135	0.10	13.50
M-11	Just for Today, Alateen Wallcard	124	0.10	12.40	P-36	Al-Anon Fact File	73	0.25	18.25
M-12	Just for Today, Al-Anon Bookmark	258	0.10	25.80	P-4	Alcoholism, the Family Disease	281	0.80	224.80
P-41	Facts about Alateen	139	0.25	34.75	S-19	Detachment	92	0.03	2.76
P-45	The Al-Anon Factor	165	0.30	49.50	S-20	Has Your Life Been Affected by... (Alateen)	124	0.03	3.72
P-46	World Service Conference Summary (2017)	16	5.00	80.00	S-21	Seventh Tradition	89	0.25	22.25
P-46	World Service Conference Summary (2016)	1	5.00	5.00	S-23	Getting in Touch with Al-Anon/Alateen	49	0.25	12.25
P-47	Al-Anon Sharing from Adult Children	76	0.75	57.00	S-24	Al-Anon Factor/Declaration Table Tent	13	1.50	19.50
P-48	Understanding Ourselves & Alcoholism	76	0.25	19.00	S-25	Did You Grow Up with a Problem Drinker?	183	0.03	5.49
P-49	Living with Sobriety	48	4.00	192.00	S-27	Alateen Sponsorship-Is It for You?	174	0.10	17.40
P-4L	Alcoholism, the Family Disease (Large)	16	1.50	24.00	S-28	Links of Service	71	0.15	10.65
P-5	Blueprint for Progress	73	4.00	292.00	S-37ES	Fact Sheet for Professionals	167	0.15	25.05
P-53	Al-Anon Spoken Here	67	0.35	23.45	S-4	Information for the Newcomer	74	0.20	14.80
P-57	The Concept- Al-Anon's Best Kept Secret	68	1.00	68.00	S-40	Attracting and Cooperating	87	0.10	8.70
P-59	Moving On! From Alateen to Al-Anon	114	0.50	57.00	S-57	Jay of Service	77	0.10	7.70
P-6	Freedom from Despair	179	0.20	35.80	S-6	Daily Checklist for Myself (Alateen)	40	0.20	8.00
P-60	Al-Anon's Twelve Traditions Illustrated	113	1.00	113.00	S-60	Fact Sheet for Al-Anon Electronic Meetings	1	0.00	0.00
P-62	Dear She Drink too Much?	44	0.30	13.20	S-64	Info for Educators: Alateen Meetings in Schools	50	0.05	2.50
P-64	Alateen's 4th Step Inventory	22	5.00	110.00	S-65ES	Alcoholic, Their Families and the Judicial System	22	0.10	2.20
P-65	Anonymity	136	0.30	40.80	S-66	FAQ for Al-Anon Web Sites	5	0.00	0.00
P-67	Alateen Share with the Adults in their Lives	2	0.30	0.60	S-67	Al-Anon's Path to Recovery (Native American & Aboriginal)	59	0.05	2.95
P-68	Alateen Talkback: Acceptance	9	2.00	18.00	S-68	Al-Anon is for All People of Color	72	0.05	3.60
P-69	Alateen Talkback: Serenity	24	2.00	48.00	S-69	Al-Anon is for Adult Children of Alcoholics	50	0.05	2.50
P-7	A Guide for the Family of the Alcoholic	150	0.35	52.50	S-70	Al-Anon is for Gay and Lesbians	32	0.05	1.60
P-70	Alateen Talkback: Slagging	9	2.00	18.00	S-71	Conflict Resolution Wall Card	29	1.00	29.00
P-73	Alateen Talkback: Detachment	8	2.00	16.00	S-72	Conflict Resolution using our Twelve Traditions	36	4.00	144.00
P-78	When I Get Bury, I Get Better	37	4.00	148.00	S-73	Talk to Each Other-Resolving Conflicts in Al-Anon	31	4.50	139.50
P-81ES	What Happens After Treatment?	111	0.15	16.65	S-9	Table Anonymity Card	12	0.35	4.20
P-82ES	Living in a Shelter?	137	0.15	20.55	SB-16	Courage to Change (Spanish)	1	14.00	14.00
P-87	Al-Anon's Cafe au Lait	88	0.50	44.00	SB-6	One Day at a Time (Spanish)	2	11.00	22.00
P-88	Service Sponsorship: Working Smarter not Harder	83	0.50	41.50	WSOD	Donation Envelope to WSO	10	0.00	0.00
P-89ES	Doubting Your Sanity?	121	0.15	18.15					
P-9	Hau Can I Help my Children?	92	0.70	64.40					
P-91	Blueprint for Progress (Large)	16	9.00	144.00					
P-92	Reaching for Personal Freedom	9	15.00	135.00					
P-93	Path to Recovery (Workbook)	66	10.00	660.00					
R-18	Parents of Alcoholics	48	1.00	48.00					
S-17	Troubled by Someone's Drinking?	124	0.03	3.72					
	SUBTOTAL			12009.48		SUBTOTAL			1775.10
						GRAND TOTAL			13784.58

AREA LITERATURE/FORUM COORDINATOR

Forum Subscription Sales Report

- In January, the WSO started publishing a monthly Forum subscription sales report
- This information is based on the actual number of copies that are issued each month
- e-Subscriptions are not included
- The information is published by state; the WSO is planning to publish results by Area in the future

For Missouri – May, 2018
Groups

of Subscriptions
60

of Copies *
79

Other (Which includes districts, 368 369
AIS offices, Literature
Distribution Centers

* Some groups, districts, etc. receive multiple copies of the Forum

New Literature

- *Understanding and Hope for Parents and Grandparents* (P-94) is now available!
- *Intimacy In Alcoholic Relationships – A Collection of Personal Stories* (B-33) is scheduled to be introduced at the Al-Anon International Convention in Baltimore in July! When we more information about how and when it can be ordered, we will let you know

How To Submit Sharings Online

It's very, very easy to submit sharings online by just following this path:

Al-Anon.org > Members > Literature > Literature Resources > Sending Your Sharings

From the dropdown, select Forum, Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism, New Daily Reader or Alateen Talk. The same page will include links to the Writing Guidelines for each publication. After you have selected the publication, click on "Next" and follow the directions.

Speaking of sharings – Look for an article in the June Forum about what happens to the sharings that you submit to the WSO.

Have You Heard About "The Loop"

This is a new email tool that you can subscribe to for up-to-the-minutes news from the WSO.

It's easy to subscribe. Just go to Al-Anon.org and click on the "Subscribe To The Loop". Provide your email address and that's all there is to it.

The April issue of the "The Loop" included an introduction to the new Service Manual and information about sending your sharings online.

AREA NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR (ROUND ROBIN)

Hello everyone my name is Cheri House and I am your Missouri newsletter editor. Since I spoke to all of you last we have been averaging about 327 issues a month about half of the group copies are paid for. Most months I have no problem with filling up 12 pages sometimes I get a little less reports and articles and I do 8 pages. So last time I stood up here I had to tell you I had some issues with the post office. The indicia on the corner of the newsletter still said St Louis Post Office and not the current post office we were using. We had been mailing it that way for a little over 3 years before anybody noticed. The April 2017 issue was not able to be mailed unless I changed the indicia on all three hundred and something copies so the decision was made to not mail them out. So now I have to tell you that the April 2018 issue did not go out, they are here at the assembly. Please go through them take yours and anyone you know in your district. The post office called to let me know that I had done something wrong, they told me that I filed manually not electronically. For me I had been doing it the same way all along. I called the post office back and I asked if she would explain this to me and she directed me to somebody else. I called with many questions and after a lengthy conversation she went into our account and she told me what I had done wrong was I did not check a box that said full service and that broke our term of agreement and if I wanted the April issue to go out it would cost \$225 which is the cost of a bulk mailing permit. So I made many calls; one to Sarah and the other to Karen and we were all had the same thought to bring the

newsletters to the May Assembly and go ahead and get the process started with a post office near me. That was something I just hadn't gotten to yet. I actually kind of enjoyed getting myself away from work for a few hours once a month and delivering the newsletters. But I need to have this close to my work so I can go there anytime there is a possible issue or problem that I need to deal with. I am in the process of doing that. Last Tuesday I went to the post office with the paperwork to get that done and the one woman at the post office who's in charge of the bulk mailing was off that day. So they did allow me to leave the paperwork on her desk, she did call me yesterday but I was not able to return her call; I will return her call Monday. So this leaves me with the May issue. It is complete. It has not been sent to the printer - that cost is over \$200. If it's not going to come out until the end of May I'm not sure if it's worth it. Hopefully, I will be able to talk to the officers and discuss this. I also need to take a look at the May issue before I send it - there are probably some things in that issue that by the time it is mailed the event will be over.

Respectively submitted,
Cheri H

AREA PUBLIC OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Part of my job as your Public Outreach Coordinator is to share information from the WSO pertaining to Public Outreach with all of you, and this time I have some exciting things to share.

I am happy to tell you that the 2019 AFA's (AI-Anon Faces Alcoholism) are now available to order through 5PM ET July 11, 2018 so get your orders in to Mary or to the WSO. And while on this subject we have been informed by Claire R. at the WSO that a total of 400,325 copies of the 2018 AFA;s were ordered and this is the first time the WSO has printed over 400,000 copies. So Congratulations members and keep up the good work!!

Also in news from Claire R at the WSO we were given information on the 6 primary professional audiences based on inquires they receive and responses from the membership survey. They are:

1. Mental health care - counselors, therapists and social workers
2. Addiction professionals
3. Middle School and High School educators - including guidance counselors, nurses and teachers
4. Medical and Healthcare
5. Spiritual leaders including Clergy and religious counselors
6. Human Resources and Employee Assistance Professionals.

The vast majority of inquiries WSO receives are from Mental health care and Addiction professionals. The vast majority of inquiries in Missouri since 2017 have been from Educational and Mental health Professionals.

I have recently been asked for and have shared information with a past Delegate from Arizona about our billboard. They are interested in looking into getting one somewhere between Phoenix and Tucson.

I hope to be making a trip down to Rolla sometime in the next couple of months to take some new pictures of the billboard and check on its' condition.

Thank you for allowing me to be your Public Outreach Coordinator.
Love in Service,
Sandi M

AREA REGISTRAR

For today's Assembly, I received 80 pre-registrations and 51 registrations at the door for a total of 128 paid attendees. Registrations and Hospitality donations totaled \$971.

I heard from 4 attendees that they had mailed their pre-registration for which I had no record. I will check the mail when I get home and if they've arrived late, I will return them by snail mail.

As always, I ask you to fill out the registration form completely. I honor postmarks to determine on-time registration until the point when I have to print the badges. Once I start to print the badges, any others received are collected until the Area event and then are treated as registrations at the door.

The Hospitality Chair relies on the figures that I gather to plan the food for our Hospitality room, so early registrations are very helpful and much appreciated.

Thanks to everyone who helps at the Registration table at each event – my friend and Alternate Amy G, Michael C and Mary R from district 15. Thanks to everyone who takes the clipboards away from the registration table to complete so we don't have a traffic jam at the table.

There are Convention registration forms on the table so feel free to register this weekend!

Respectfully submitted,
Donna S

AREA SERENITY PATROL

I continue to be excited and humbled by this position. I love that it gives all AMIAS participants the opportunity to help our teens to be involved at the Area Level.

I would like to recognize my Alternate, Audrey J, and all volunteers who help make this weekend's Serenity Patrol possible – Mary S, Jenny F, Ann H, Joe S, Margaret O, Geneva D, Robyn Q, and Bonnie M.

So, if you are curious about the mini-meetings in the hall in the middle of the night, getting to know new people and helping to provide support for our teens...then, Serenity Patrol might be for you!!!

Thank you again for your service and your support as I serve as Serenity Patrol Coordinator for Panel 57.

Respectfully submitted.
Sherri E, Serenity Patrol Coordinator

- Would all AMIAS who have worked Serenity Patrol, please stand. Thank you – you are the heroes of our commitment to our teens.
- Would all AMIAS in the room, please stand. Thank you.

Would anyone who is interested in finding out more about Serenity Patrol, please see me after the meeting

AREA SPEAKER COORDINATOR

Hello everyone! I am looking forward to this year's Convention. I'm sure you will enjoy all the speakers and the workshops and mini-meetings are always wonderful.

We have the Convention flyers available on the table in the lobby. They are also available for download on the Area website – especially nice to see the pretty gold colors! When you are filling out your registration, please note that there is a space on the form to volunteer to help in the Hospitality Room.

We still need people to host our speakers and people to do the readings before the speakers (Opening, Steps, Traditions), so if you are planning to be at the Convention and are willing to – please see me. If I don't get enough volunteers, I will start picking on you individually to help in these ways.

We are well on our way to having the speakers lined up for the 2019 Convention as well. The Alateen speaker then will be one of our own, Kenneth Williams. I have two other speakers to firm up the commitment, but otherwise think we have the line-up ready.

I hope you will all come and support this year's Convention and the speakers. We on the committee can put a lot of work into it, but you are the ones who will make it a success by your attendance.

Geneva D

AREA WEBPAGE COORDINATOR

Gave an onscreen presentation about the history of Al-Anon's communication among members and where we are today and then shared the KBDM questions and answers from March AWSC meeting on the Topic of "How can we use technology to improve communication?":

Question 1

What do we know about our needs, wants and preferences of our members that relate to this discussion?

What about needs, wants, preferences of public and newcomers?

- How do we help members to become tech savvy to use the website?
- Wants and preferences:
 - We want information accessible and fast.
 - We want to look at other ways the website could be used for communication.
 - We want it easy for Newcomers to find a meeting.
- Save money by making the Round Robin accessible on the website.
 - NOTE: Area Round Robin coordinator needs to change the permit for the Round Robin. It will cost the area \$250.
- Procedures need to be updated more regularly.
- Push notifications and emails – alert us to go to the website.
- St. Louis-AIS website could connect to Missouri website.

Question 2

What do we know about our resources and our vision for Al-Anon?

- Remember Al-Anon objective: Help friends and families of alcoholics. Website could be a tool.
- WSO has a new and improved website.
- WSO is focused on improving their Digital presence especially finding meetings and regular changes are being made.
- WSO is encouraging areas to use the WSO site to find meetings.
- Membership is getting older need to attract younger members.

Question 3

What do we know about the current reality and the evolving dynamics of our world and our fellowship that is relevant to this discussion?

- The WSO is more tech savvy.
- Need to attract younger members and our current website is not user friendly.
- Finite amount of people that will have the skillset to do web coordinator job.
 - Current coordinators will document/train new coordinators on what we are doing.
 - You do not need to be tech savvy for changes on the website.
 - We could hire a contractor to assist with changes.
- Form a website task force to assist with this job.
- Need to password protect - Personal Information (addresses, phone numbers, emails) Ref: Service manual pg 100.
- Other Ideas for Password Protected Member Only - Website:

- “Ask it Basket” questions.
- Alphabet soup
- Financial information
- District reports
- No Longer have to scrub reports with address
- Listing of who does what and how to get them

Question 4

What are the ethical implications of our decision on the fellowship or on the world?

- Could digitize the archives?
 - Something spiritual about holding a letter that Lois wrote.
 - It was noted that not everything will be digitized.
- Members with limited access or skill might have difficulty using the website
- Not to hold back on moving forward because of our fears,
 - Remembering Tradition 1
 - “Our common welfare should come first; personal progress for the greatest number depends upon unity.”

Question 5

What do we not know about this issue that we wish we knew?

- What is going to become obsolete.
- We do not know how technology will change.
- We don’t know member preferences for the meetings.
 - Do members want a paper copy of meetings?
 - Do members want a paper copy of round robin?
 - Do we know what Alateens want changed to use the website?
 - Communicate electronically
 - Things that could be improved to serve the Alateen members
 - Alateens concerned with anonymity on-line.
- A suggestion was made to do a member survey to determine preferences.

AIS LIASIONS

KANSAS CITY AIS LIASION

Hello, I'm Michelle T, a grateful trusted servant from District 1. I became the KC AIS Liaison 2 weeks ago! For those of you outside of the metro areas which I was prior to recently and wondered what the heck an AIS is, an AIS is basically a super district of 4 different districts that meet together and plan activities.

So...I'm very new to this role, however I can report that we had an excellent workshop 2 weeks ago "My group isn't perfect...is yours?" coordinated by our workshop coordinator Ann H. Lynn C-R was an invited guest presenter and panelist and led an interactive session on group inventories following a skit with several fabulous actors, some of who are in the room today, representing a group with some challenges and a bit of their group conscience. The workshop started with a yummy potluck lunch and followed the quarterly AIS meeting. The big business item for KCAIS has been working towards having a self-supporting answering service by having a business account and detaching with love from a long-time member's residential line which has been considerably less expensive.

We are planning our next workshop on October 20 in Lee's Summit which will be a Serenity Walk.

We currently have 1 district without a DR – District 1, though one of its groups is represented here this weekend.

I look forward to learning more about this role and seeing what's to come!

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle T.

ST LOUIS AIS LIASION

Good Evening my name is Steph K , I'm a grateful member of Al-Anon and the liaison from the St. Louis office.

First we are keeping our office open from 9am to 7pm on Wednesdays, these are extended to give our fellowship the opportunity to get their literature for them and their groups.

Secondly, I would like to show you the video taken of our office, to give you all an idea of what I am talking about how our office is really a place of recovery, it so much more than at 12 x 24 foot space.

We do have almost every piece of literature Al-Anon has and will ship is same day , which is a lot better that the big online retailer that wants you to pay for a membership, our membership is free. Now the shipping is not free, but it's included in the order!

Anyway there is a picture of our office, and for the Ala-teens, your liferature is displayed beautifully, like stage left.

The office is so much more than a space, it's a place to land, a place to find recovery within our literature, the office staff which works there and the divine appointments you have everytime you walk in. Please know we are here for you and you are always welcome. If any of you come to St. Louis, please hit me up .. there are four and a half coffee shops, let's get coffee and head to the office and fellowship and find some respite. God is there, He's in the literature, but most importantly, there is a sweet spirit of God and Al-Anon in Maplewood AIS office.

God bless you all and thank you.
Stephanie K

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee (Richard B. and Donna E.H.) met with the 2017 Missouri Area Treasurer (Lori H.) and the current Missouri Area Treasurer (Jamie F.) on April 13, 2018, 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM, at the St. Charles City County Library—Spencer Road Branch.

After the meeting the findings were documented, communicated to those in attendance, and modified where appropriate. The Findings Document is attached for your presentation to the Missouri Area May 2018 Assembly.

Questions or comments about the Findings Document are welcomed.

Thanks to Donna E.H., Lori H., and Jamie F. for their participation in this service to the Missouri Area Al-Anon Family Groups.

Richard B.
Missouri Area 2017 Audit Chair
richardb1935@sbcglobal.net
(314) 269-7653

2017Audit Findings Document

1. Income and disbursements were looked at (March 2017 and October and November 2017 for Convention) and found to be orderly and accurate. An insignificant number of receipts were not with the documentation.
2. In looking over the Procedures I noted that contracts are to be signed by an Area Officer and a committee member (preferably the Coordinator). See Procedures, K. Financial Management and Reporting, item 2. Further I thought that there is no central repository for signed contracts. *This suggests that the Missouri Area should have a central repository of all signed documents.* The repository could be added to an officer's duties.
3. *Under item 1, W. Reserve Fund, the term "one year's operating expenses" needs definition.* Two possible definitions are (1) total yearly expense and (2) total yearly expense minus items that are self-supporting (Convention, CBAT, and Literature). Other definitions are also possible.
4. *The MISC/YR expenses in the expense matrix (page 12) could be reviewed to see if it is necessary or needs revision.*
5. Various Treasurer Reports are to be published in the Area Newsletter. A better understanding of what needs to be communicated by the Treasurer to the Area Newsletter Coordinator and what the Newsletter Coordinator needs to publish in the Area Newsletter is needed.
 - a. Contributions have traditionally been published in the Area Newsletter and acted as a receipt for the contributions. Although provided to the Area Newsletter Coordinator, all contributions have not been published in 2017. *The requirement to publish contributions in the Newsletter needs to be added to the Treasurer's and the Area Newsletter Coordinator's duties.* Suggested frequency is monthly, bi monthly, or quarterly.
 - b. Appeal letters, separate from any other Treasurer's report, were given to the Area Newsletter Coordinator for only one of the three required months (required months: January, May, and

September) (see Procedures: A. Officers and Coordinators Qualifications and Duties, 3. General Duties of Officers and Coordinators, item 3.). Perhaps appeal letters could also be published on the Missouri Area Internet Site to make them more visible to Missouri Area Al-Anon members and groups. *The appeal letter requirement needs to be placed in the Treasurer's duties section of the Procedures.* The Finance Committee is also aware of this suggestion.

6. The 2017 YTD Detailed Financial Report was reviewed. The 2017 Convention Synopsis was included in the November Assembly minutes (showing a loss of \$961.67). A similar synopsis was not included in Area minutes for CBAT. Review of the 2017 YTD Detailed Financial Report shows CBAT total income of \$3,024.05, total expense of \$5,417.47, for a loss of \$3,024.05. *Both the Convention and CBAT are to be self-supporting. It is suggested that both the Convention and CBAT reports be included in Area minutes and that they be more visible.* We understand that Area Officers are appropriately concerned about these self-supporting events.

LEADERSHIP SUPPORT COMMITTEE

My name is Ann H and I'm currently serving as the chair for your Leadership Support Committee.

The Leadership Support Committee was established as a commitment to the ongoing support of our Trusted Servants, at Area level. Like all of Al-Anon, this committee was formed and serves in the spirit of the Tradition and Concepts, with focus on the best interest of the Area, and with the principles of compassion, respect, and the presumption of good will.

Members of the committee are myself, Laurie Kleen, Amy Gooden, Rayma Tyson, and Janet Rauckman. All of us are *past or current* District Reps or *past* Area-level Officers or Coordinators.

At this mid-point of the panel, we urge all members and especially current Officers and Coordinators to review these Leadership Support procedures and to take note of several items there. Of particular interest are some action items for all Officers and Coordinators and several things to be considered when designing agendas for AWSC meetings and Area Assemblies for next year, 2019. It'll be here before you know it!

This committee is also responsible for addressing any concerns from membership regarding Area Officers and Coordinators who are not successfully fulfilling the duties of their service position. I am happy to report that we have had no referrals during this current panel.

The committee's work is fully described in Part IV, page 28, of our Procedures Digest.

Please be sure to pick up the half-sheet print out on how to contact members of the committee, should you have a concern about an Area Officer or Coordinator.

Sincerely,

Ann H, Chair

LEADERSHIP SUPPORT COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Ann H (Chair)	moannp1953@gmail.com	816-695-1452
Amy G	aeg719@yahoo.com	314-363-9094
Laurie K	thehatlady1@yahoo.com	314-351-8545
Janet R	jmfstl18@gmail.com	314-616-9618
Rayma T		913-269-6604

The Missouri Area wants to ensure that all its trusted leaders have the support and resources they need to succeed in their roles as officers or coordinators. Section IV of our Procedures Digest describes the work of the Leadership Support Committee. The committee was established to help our Area provide helpful steps in making sure that these roles are fulfilled in a way that most benefits the Area and all our members.

On very rare occasions, the committee might be called on to respond when a member has concerns that an officer or coordinator (or their alternate) is not functioning well in her or his leadership position. Any member with such concerns can contact one of the committee members, listed above, and we will ensure that the concerns are addressed in a manner that presumes good will, is confidential, and in the best interest of our fellowship.

PROCEDURES DIGEST COMMITTEE

The Procedures Committee was originally formed in Panel 54. The original chairperson for that committee stepped aside, and no work was done. The current panel of officers as well as the Financial Review Committee have found it necessary to re-instate the committee.

Our charge is as follows:

This committee is charged with researching our current procedures and investigating if all procedure changes can be matched to motions found in past minutes. The research should include a minimum of this panel and the last two panels. As the research is done, an indexing of motions should be established along the way. If the committee finds missing procedures, etc., they have the authority to put those procedures back into the Digest. This committee should also look through the duties section of the Digest and see if there are any duties that are in fact items that should be in the procedures. While looking at the Duties, this committee should see if there is a need to have Official Duties added to the procedures section of the Digest with an additional section for best practices that are added during each panel for position. It is hoped that this committee can create a template for writing motions to change or add to the procedures. This committee should also look at best practices for the future to insure that the Procedures are maintained.

Our committee members are: Amy G. (chairperson), Karen G., Kathy G. and Sue B.

Our first meeting was held on March 27, 2018 at my home in Fenton. We reviewed our charge and set a task for ourselves to individually review the first two sections of the Digest, taking notes, writing down questions, etc. We committed to monthly meetings. Our second meeting was held yesterday (May 5, 2018). We reviewed and discussed each item, line by line.

Our task is a pretty substantial one, and we decided to eat the elephant one bite at a time. We don't have an expected "end date" at this time, as we are really just getting a feel for what the task involves. I'll keep you updated on our progress. Please feel free to contact me with any questions: amyg719@yahoo.com

Respectfully submitted,
Amy G

Appendix C -District Reports

DISTRICT 2

Report presented; not submitted

DISTRICT 4

Report presented; not submitted

DISTRICT 5

District #5 consists of 5 counties on the northwest side of The Lake of the Ozarks with an area of 3,510 square miles. We meet three times a year in Sedalia; which is 30 miles from Warsaw, 43 miles from Clinton, 30 miles from Warrensburg, 50 miles from Ivy Bend in Stover and 69 miles from Sunrise Beach. (These numbers are one way.) We are a large mostly rural district and because it takes some groups over an hour to get to Sedalia, we only meet the three times a year.

There are several trends starting to become noticeable in our district. Some groups are experiencing dwindling numbers while others are growing. Two of our groups' numbers fluctuate during the winter months because they are resort areas and/ or retirees go south during the winter months. Two groups are not sure where they will be meeting in the future. Low attendance is making it hard to pay for rent and other expenses. Other groups loose the structure larger cities use to enable everyone an opportunity to speak. By using Al-Anon literature, a Knowledge-Based Decision was reached in an informed group conscience meeting. A snowbird member couldn't find a meeting where she was. She called for help and the group set up a conference call meeting.

Our groups do outreach to local rehabilitation centers and by placing Al-Anon information in hospitals, doctors' offices and wherever they feel it would reach the most people.

Yours in Service,
Lorraine H

DISTRICT 8

District 8 includes Audrain, Boone and Callaway counties with 1 meeting in Holts Summit and 10 meetings in Columbia. We have a District meeting every other month, on the first Sunday of the month, from 6 to 8 pm at St Andrews Lutheran Church. At each District meeting, our Archivist shares a bit of history from our files – including early letters sent to and received from the first Al-Anon clearing house. A Group Representative presents a summary of one our Guidelines.

At our most recent District meeting we discussed the three questions in the Area Chairs' email of January 19, 2018 and have these suggestions:

1. What should the Area Budget look like?
2. How can we improve communication in the Area?
3. What would the GRs like to see at the next Assembly?

The Public Outreach Committee continues to be busy in Mid-Missouri. They support family day at a local women's treatment center by having members share their experience, strength and hope every other week. March is a busy month with health fairs at 4 local high schools and the University of Missouri. We continue to

carry the Al-Anon message to the public by distributing literature at appropriate locations around town. Our members assist in taking a meeting to the Vandalia Women's prison one Sunday a month.

Our first "Fling" of the year was held February 24th, the Area Literature Coordinator, Mary L. and her husband, shared their recovery stories. Two dates have been set for additional 2018 Flings, September 15, and the last one November 17. All are welcome to join us for an evening of fun and fellowship and really cool raffles.. We'll be posting these events on the Area website.

The annual Area Day in Service is June 16th in Columbia at Fairview Road Church of Christ. A flyer is being circulated. The committee has been hard at work and having a lot of fun planning the days' activities. We are looking for donations of "extraordinary baskets" for the Day in Service raffle. If you desire wrap your basket so gifts are a surprise.

We had two members become an AMAIS and attend the recommended AMAIS weekend last February. In keeping with Tradition 7, our Wednesday night Keep It Simple Al-Anon group, offered up to 3 registration scholarships to members attending the AMAIS weekend.

Yours in Service,

Elaine M

District Representative

District 8

DISTRICT 9

District 9 had our annual workshop on January 5th & 6th entitled "Restoring Sanity With the 12 Steps" led by Father Tom. There were approximately 250 people in attendance. We had a chili, soup, & salad luncheon with donations given to Alateens.

District 9 will have a Serenity Walk on Sat., May 19th at Creve Coeur Park at 11:00 AM. We will meet at Sailboat Cove.

District 9 participates in Public Outreach by speaking to family members at Bridgeway a Treatment Center each month. Also, members are working at the Spanish Lake Health Fair by informing people about Al-Anon today.

Respectfully submitted,

Flo W,

District 9 Rep

DISTRICT 13

Things are going well in District 13.

We have 21 meetings in the district, including men's focus, women's focus, adult children, newcomer, and Alateen. Unfortunately, in February one meeting was put on 'inactive' status due to low attendance after a six month trial, but this week I received confirmation from WSO of a new meeting starting in Manchester on Monday nights.

Our 'Pearls of Wisdom' calendar fund raiser was a success again this year. The planning team has already met to begin on the 2019 version.

Despite some last minute scheduling issues with our location, the 'Finding Balance in Recovery' potluck in February was well attended and successful. The food was great, and the Alateen, AA, and Al-Anon speakers all did a great job of sharing their experience, strength, and hope.

Our District Public Outreach has been busy. We ordered copies of Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (AFA) for distribution by District members. The District purchased a supply of Alateen Talks for the teens to use. Unfortunately, we recently learned that the family meetings at Edgewood treatment center (where we supplied volunteers every other month) are going on an indefinite hiatus. The District 13 Coordinator made sure Al-Anon literature was at the front desk, and will provide them with more as needed. We are also making arrangements to provide literature to a recently opened Harris House. The Public Outreach Coordinator has

contacted three colleges within the district, asking how we can be of service to them. She has not received a response yet.

Our Alateen group is small but mighty. It's heartwarming to see the teens share their experience, strength, and hope with each other. The GR for the group attended Super Sunday and is here this weekend. Alateens have spoken at several meetings and potlucks.

Mark your calendars for September 7th and 8th, when the District will be holding our sixth annual workshop *Spiritual Principles – Unlocking the Mystery*. The event is being chaired by our Alateen GR, and the speaker will be Sandy W., a Panel 55 Delegate from Illinois North. In addition to the awesome speaker and inspiring breakout sessions the day will feature an optional lunch buffet and a basket raffle. Alateens will sell soda and bottled water both days, and on Saturday will hold a bake sale to raise money.

DISTRICT 14

Greetings. My name is Connie L and I'm the District Rep for District 14 which covers St. Louis and Richmond Heights, MO. We were saddened when one of our meetings disbanded; and then heartened when 2 new meetings recently opened their doors to help families and friends of Alcoholics. T.H.I.N.K on Thursdays meets at 120 N. Central Ave. in Clayton at 12:15pm. Stay in the Moment AFG meets at 9:00am Sunday at the Union Church of St. Louis on Waterman. Al-Anon abides in our District and Area.

We're gearing up for our annual picnic on Saturday, June 9, 12-4pm. The food, fun, and fellowship will be at Tower Grove Park, Humboldt South Pavilion. Be there! It's a larger space, near the round-about in the center of the park. We just received great news that the 'Dreams Become Reality Alateen' from District 15 will have bottled water and soda available for purchase. District 14 will provide fried chicken. Our speakers are Lisa T from Al-Anon and Ed T from AA. We appreciate the opportunity to help support Alateen in our Area. My thanks to Marc B, Marge O, and the Alateens for their service and participation. An updated flyer will be posted on the MO Area website.

Laurie K coordinated our district's Public Outreach participation at the upcoming Mt. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church community/health event. Loretta R, Chris G, and Mary B, will be on hand to distribute pamphlets and to answer questions.

Our District members continue to rotate service at the Harris House Treatment and Recovery Center in South St. Louis. They participate in a meeting once a month and share their experience, strength, and hope. They also distribute CAL pamphlets.

We recently initiated a change in our District meeting by adding an agenda slot specifically to discuss GR concerns. I 'borrowed' that idea from another District Rep at an AWSC. And I borrowed the 'time limit' idea from our AWSC and Assembly leadership. Both of these changes help us stay on topic and allow everyone a voice at the meeting. As a whole we struggle with getting boots on the ground for some activities. And we don't have an active Alateen group in our District. We continue to process these issues using the Traditions and Concepts.

Our Area has an abundance of events and workshops. I encourage my home group and GRs to attend, mainly because it enlarges our community and links us to each other. We are separate meetings and districts, but we are one large family. Thanks to all the meetings and districts in our Area for inviting us into your 'home' and for visiting ours in District 14. Thanks for sharing your experience, strength, and hope.

--Respectfully submitted, Connie L, District 14 Representative

DISTRICT 15

Hello everyone. The year is going fast. We have active participation in our District at our meetings and still have a great showing of 5 GR's. We have sponsored 2 activities this year: our 11th Step Serenity Walk and the AMIA's training on April 28th and April 29th respectively. We have a new position in our district as Alateen Coordinator, Mary D. She had chaired and organized the AMIA's training and Amy G. chaired the Serenity Walk.

The Serenity Walk was beautiful with a speaker, silent meditation and a walk at Kirkwood Park. There were 10 attendees. This was a chance to reflect and practice the 11th Step.

The AMIAS training went well with about 16 attendees and Janet W. and Judy speaking. I am very glad there is so much interest in serving as AMIAS.

We still have an Alateen group, "Dreams Become Reality" which meets on Sunday evenings, 6:30 at Eliot Chapel and a Pre-Alateen group at the same time "Learning to Live and Dream". A few of our younger members have moved up to the Alateen group. An Al-Anon meeting is held at the same time.

Our Public Outreach includes distributing the AFA magazines. At one meeting 10 were already distributed. I have barely started to bring to the other meetings.

We will host our annual Pot Luck on August 12th with venue to be announced.

Again it is a blessing to serve as the District Representative and its members hold a special place in my heart.

Sincerely:
Mary R, DR-15

DISTRICT 17

District Seventeen holds bi-monthly meetings. The farthest distance a member travels to these meetings is twelve miles.

Our district remains active in Bridgeway Treatment Center sharing experience, strength and hope to family members. We also participate with the Lincoln County district by contributing financially in support of their prison visits. We had a table at a health fair at the St. Charles Community College. The activities committee plans and holds a spring workshop and fall picnic.

Some problems or district issues included the need to switch banks due to increasing fees at the previous bank. There was one group that had a problem with several members. A group conscience decision was reached and the members were asked to leave the group. These members came to the district about the situation. They were assisted by using the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, especially sections about the "right of appeal" through the concepts and warranties of service. Another group needed to switch its meeting place due to the church raising its rent after the group had been there for forty-six years. While the group was hesitant about the move, they are now in a new location and attendance is stable or possibly increasing.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara K
District Seventeen

DISTRICT 18

We are in central Missouri.

We have six active Al-Anon meetings. One of our group reps has a work conflict and we are working on finding a replacement group rep for that meeting.

We are grateful to have one Alateen group meeting.

I had a newcomer ask our group what we do with the money we collect. Some of the other members didn't seem to know the answer. At our district meeting one of the things we discussed was finances. I was surprised by how differently each group handles finances. We shared ideas and the Group Treasurer Guidelines form. Hopefully we can take the information back to the groups so someone at every meeting can answer that question.

We are also working with District 8 on The Day in Service to be available if they need any help.

Respectfully Submitted

Mary N, DR

District 18

DISTRICT 19

We are meeting once per quarter as a district.

We are discussing public outreach opportunities and trying to avoid double-headed management and duplication of work with KCAIS.

We will not be hosting an event this year.

We are working on figuring out what we want to do as a district.

We have a new group in Weston on Friday evenings

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Q., District 19 DR

DISTRICT 20

District 20 is located in the northeast corner of Jackson County, just east of Kansas City. Cities in our District are Independence, Blue Springs, Sugar Creek, Buckner, Sibley, Oak Grove, and Grain Valley. We currently have two Al-Anon Family Groups and Alateen Group which hold six meetings every week. We have several members who participate in service at the Area and KCAIS level meetings and activities.

In my report today, I would like to highlight a couple of things that have happened in two of our groups:

Our Alateen group sent five teens to the CBAT along with three AMIAS. Through fund raising efforts the Alateen group was able to pay for the full registration of all eight attendees. Three of the five teens were attending CBAT for the first time. The group also fully self-supporting of its GR who attends Super Sunday and Assembly. And, as long as we have enough AMIAS to travel, all our other teens are encouraged to attend Super Sunday and Assembly as well. Our teens are also working on a Public Outreach project which involves mailing Alateen literature to the administrators and counselors at all the middle schools, junior high and senior high schools in our District.

One of our AFGs recently used KBDM to rewrite its Statement of Purpose. It was really great watching the process at work in the group. The new Statement of Purpose is definitely a reflection of the spirit of unanimity of the group.

I look forward to bringing you more good news from District 20 at Assembly in November.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary C, District Rep

DISTRICT 21

District 21 has a total of 9 groups the south of KC area. There are a total of 14 meetings each week, two of which are daytime meetings. We also have one Alateen meeting a month at Crittenton Center, which is a residential school for troubled youth. Crittenton is geographically in our district but is sponsored by District 19. We remain grateful for that District's service.

We have a full slate of officers and we "Keep It Simple": DR, Alternate DR, Treasurer and Secretary. Everyone pitches in when needed, especially for special events.

We have a cash-only treasury and the District supports itself through the voluntary contributions of members and groups.

As part of the Kansas City AIS, we are happy to be doing some Public Outreach at a residential facility for single moms and children, Amethyst Place, in mid-town KCMO. We will be carrying an informational meeting whenever there is 5th Thursday in a month. District 1 is partnering with us for this project.

In addition, District 21 will be hosting, in conjunction with the Kansas City AIS, a Serenity Walk in October. This will be a new experience for us so if you have suggestions or ideas, please send them our way.

Our District meets twice a year for business and hosts an annual picnic each summer, with great food, fellowship and speakers. At our last business meeting, on February 11, we determined that our fifth picnic will be held on August 18, from 6 to 8 p.m. Several of our GRs agreed to take care of the details.

Our next business meeting will be held on August 11 to finalize picnic details and to wrap up any loose ends.

I am honored to serve the wonderful groups and members of District 21.

In gratitude,

Ann H, District 21

DISTRICT 23

The four groups in District 23 continue to be disinterested in participating at the District level.

The two groups in the Joplin area are still operating in violation of our Traditions. The small group in Cassville is still holding its own. The group in Neosho has experienced a dramatic decline in attendance recently due to a variety of factors including death and chronic illness.

I am in the process of encouraging each of the groups to conduct a Group Inventory, and to become involved in service.

Respectfully submitted,
J. Michael C
Area 31, District 23 Representative

DISTRICT 25

District 25 includes six counties. We have four active groups; currently only two of them have a GR. Our district meetings are bi-monthly, averaging 4 members in attendance. We continue to read and share on a concept if time allows. Our public outreach is going strong. Geneva continues to carry the AI-Anon message at the women's prison in Vandalia. Ms. Linda is doing a great job spreading the word and literature to different organizations and community fairs. After some discussion and research, we decided to purchase a canopy when doing public outreach events outside. She is planning to place our district bookmark of group meetings in three local papers. She also is trying to coordinate an informational luncheon for judicial employees in Warrenton in the near future. We have one group that is looking into a billboard project in the Troy area. Again, this year we sent love gifts (lip balm) to our Area Delegate, Sara, for this years' World Service Conference. Future district events include: Sept. 9, 2018 – District 25 Picnic and Oct. 20, 2018 – District 25 Serenity Walk. Both events will be at the Cuivre River State Park in Troy, MO. It's a privilege to be of service in District 25.

Diane S
District 25 District Representative

DISTRICT 28

A report was presented by a member of the district, but there is no district representative and a written report was not submitted.