

## Minutes AWSC Meeting August 25, 2018 Jefferson City, MO

Area Chair Sue K. opened the meeting at 9:01am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Officers in attendance: Sue K, Area Chair; Sarah S, Area Delegate; Lori H, Area Alternate Delegate; Janie F, Area Treasurer; Karen G, Area Secretary

Traditions were read by Geneva D, Concepts of Service including Warranties were read by Ken (Alateen).

Sue K, Area Chair, explained Ask It Basket procedure and location of the basket for questions. She announced that our Area does not have District Representatives for Districts: 1, 3, 7, 10, 11, 12, 22, 24, 26, 27 & 28. She then presented a Welcome segment that outlined the purpose of the AWSC meeting and the plan for the day's agenda.

Group Records Coordinator, Janet O. conducted Roll Call: 34 voting members present

### Officers Reports (see Appendix A for full reports):

- Minutes from March 2018 AWSC meeting were read by Karen G, Area Secretary. Some minor corrections were made. Lori H motioned to accept as corrected, Mary R seconded. Motion passed.
- Treasurer's report was presented by Janie F, Area Treasurer. Michael C motioned to accept the report as read, Elaine M seconded. Motion passed.
- Alternate Delegate report presented by Lori H. As part of her report, Lori H asked members who attended the International Convention to come to the microphone and share their thoughts on the experience.
- Delegate Report was not presented, as Delegate Sarah S offered the time for a discussion segment on Area Inventory

### Presentations :

- Alateen Skit about Six Thinking Hats; a technique for thought and group discussion on a topic.
- Thought and Discussion session using The Six Thinking Hats technique regarding an Area Inventory
- Presentation on Committees, Thought Forces, Task Forces and Motions by Lori H, Laurie K and Karen G
- Loretta R, Alternate Archivist, showed the new Intimacy book and the anniversary edition ODAT reader.

### Motion:

Modification of 2015 Trial Basis motion on Missouri Area Alateen Intern position.

**MOTION:** To strike the "three year trial basis" from the Area Alateen Intern Motion and make the position permanent.

**EFFECT:** After passage of this motion, the 2018 modified motion would read:

*Create the position of Missouri Area Alateen Intern. The Missouri Area Alateen Intern would become an elected member of the AWSC with expenses reimbursed consistent with Coordinator expenses. The person will make reports to the AWSC and Assembly and Super Sunday in the same manner as coordinators. The duties will be assigned at the discretion of the Area Chair. The Intern will serve a one year term on a calendar year basis. The position will be available to any Alateen with eighteen months consecutive Alateen membership.*

Motion was submitted by Carissa, standing Missouri Area Alateen Intern, and seconded by Sherri E. The motion passed and will be submitted to Area Assembly for Ratification in November 2018.

**Reports:** (NOTE: The person listed with the Report is the person who presented at the Assembly.)

### Coordinator reports (See Appendix B for full reports):

Area Alateen Process Person - Ann H  
Alateen Intern - Carissa

Alateen Coordinator - Marilyn M  
Convention - Melanie E

Group Records - Janet O  
Literature/Forum - Sue B  
Procedures Committee - Amy G  
Registrar - Donna S.  
Speaker Coordinator - Geneva D  
Webpage - Jodi O

Literature Depot - Michelle M (Alternate)  
Newsletter - Cheri H  
Public Outreach - Sandi M  
Serenity Patrol - Sherri E  
St Louis AIS Liaison - Submitted, not presented

**District Reports (See Appendix C for full reports):**

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

**Ask It Basket:**

How can groups get info if they have no DR? Contact group records and ask to be included

Would someone explain what CBAT is? It is "Come Be A Teen". It is a conference/convention for the Alateens. When it started there were not enough teens to hold it, so adults were invited to "Come Be A Teen"

**Meeting adjourned 3:51pm with Al-Anon/Alateen declaration.**

## **APPENDIX A: OFFICERS REPORTS**

### **DELEGATE**

Delegate Sarah S relinquished her time to allow for a discussion of the possibility of doing an Area Inventory. See the notes on that in APPENDIX D: OTHER REPORTS

### **ALTERNATE DELEGATE**

- Thank you very much to districts 8 and 18 for hosting the Day In Service in June. The subjects were great— Taking Recovery into our institutions; Sponsorship.
  - For 2019, District 4 will be hosting the Day in Service and I will start planning as early as the last part of this year, and definitely by January next year.
- For any district that would like to volunteer for the Day In Service for June of 2020, please visit the idea at your district meetings. This would be great to have a district or districts hosting the Day in Service and have that commitment before the end of the current Panel 57.
- The AA Convention occurred in August at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City on August 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup>. It was a wonderful time and I got to connect with some fellows that I hadn't seen in quite a while. The Al-Anon speaker, Carol R., from St. Louis was awesome as she always is. What a great fellowship we all belong to. Who all attended, please raise your hands.
- Last subject is the international Conference that was held in Baltimore, MD in July.
  - Who attended? Please come up and give a couple of sentences of what your greatest takeaway was from the conference.
  - I attended an international convention for the first time what an experience! Next international will be during out next panel. I plan on going and let's get into that love parade and represent the Show Me State! My best takeaway was the feeling of being in one room with 4,000 fellows and getting to feel the power greater than us all!
- I will see you all at the convention at Inn at Grand Glaize in September!

See you all soon,  
Grateful in Service,  
Lori H, Alternate Delegate  
Missouri Panel 57

### **TREASURER**

Hello everyone, I'm Janie F, your Area Treasurer. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your trusted servant in this capacity.

My report covers the Quarterly Year-To-Date for 2018 which includes only the month of July in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Beginning balance, January 2, 2108 was \$10,418.76 and current balance as of August 1, 2018 is \$20,538.76. Operating balance is \$16,038.76, a difference of \$5,400. The Reserve Fund will mature in early September and

this amount will be added at that time. The Miscellaneous Income in July of \$948.49 was an outstanding check from 2017 that was never cashed and funds were added back into the checking account.

Contributions are averaging about \$1,219 per month, this does not include the \$9,000 donation we received in March. The following are some of the upcoming expenses: AWSC expenses will include mileage for AWSC members and hotel for officers; Literature expenses to be paid. Convention income and expenses will be reported at the November Assembly.

The Missouri A-Anon Area Taxes were completed. The cost was \$165.00.

When making contributions to the Area, please look in the Round Robin for your receipt. The current address to mail contributions is listed on the contribution form in the Round Robin or on the Group Treasurer Guidelines on the website. Contributions are still being mail to previous area treasurers.

If you have any questions, please send me an email or call me and I will research any issues. Thank you to everyone for your contributions. No amount is too small. The Area very much appreciates your support.

If you seek reimbursement for AWSC meeting expenses, please return your completed expense reports early so that I can write you a check before we depart. If not, I will mail your checks.

Serving with attitude of gratitude.

Janie F, your Area Treasurers. Phone (Cell) 256-426-8394; Email address: [area31afgtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:area31afgtreasurer@gmail.com)

**Missouri Area Al-Anon Quarterly Report**

**YEAR END, 2018**

|                               | <i>JULY ONLY</i>    |                      |                     |                   |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                 | <b>1ST QTR</b>      | <b>2ND QTR</b>       | <b>3RD QTR</b>      | <b>4TH QTR</b>    | <b>Total</b>        |
| Alateen                       | \$ 100.00           | \$ 3,430.04          | \$ 37.80            | \$ -              | \$ 3,567.84         |
| Assembly                      | \$ -                | \$ 1,532.00          | \$ 60.00            | \$ -              | \$ 1,592.00         |
| AW/SC                         | \$ 13.00            | \$ -                 | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ 13.00            |
| Contributions                 | \$ 12,688.22        | \$ 3,021.69          | \$ 3,139.55         | \$ -              | \$ 18,849.46        |
| Convention                    | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ 3,310.00         | \$ -              | \$ 3,310.00         |
| Day in Service                | \$ -                | \$ 507.32            | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ 507.32           |
| Literature                    | \$ 3,865.59         | \$ 5,638.14          | \$ 2,773.33         | \$ -              | \$ 12,277.06        |
| Miscellaneous                 | \$ 2,250.00         | \$ -                 | \$ 948.49           | \$ -              | \$ 3,198.49         |
| Round Robin                   | \$ 540.00           | \$ 90.00             | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ 630.00           |
| <b>Income Total</b>           | <b>\$ 19,456.81</b> | <b>\$ 14,219.19</b>  | <b>\$ 10,269.17</b> | <b>\$ -</b>       | <b>\$ 43,945.17</b> |
| <b>Disbursements</b>          | <b>1ST QTR</b>      | <b>2ND QTR</b>       | <b>3RD QTR</b>      | <b>4TH QTR</b>    | <b>Total</b>        |
| Area Group Records            | \$ 113.09           | \$ -                 | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ 113.09           |
| Alateen                       | \$ 278.68           | \$ 4,371.43          | \$ 576.37           | \$ -              | \$ 5,226.48         |
| Archives                      | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ 26.00            | \$ -              | \$ 26.00            |
| Assembly                      | \$ 400.00           | \$ 4,484.77          | \$ 71.10            | \$ -              | \$ 4,955.87         |
| AW/SC                         | \$ 1,854.68         | \$ 4.50              | \$ 2,174.31         | \$ -              | \$ 4,033.49         |
| Convention                    | \$ 130.32           | \$ 189.65            | \$ 932.17           | \$ -              | \$ 1,252.14         |
| Day in Service                | \$ -                | \$ 593.40            | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ 593.40           |
| Literature                    | \$ 1,470.41         | \$ 6,474.29          | \$ 3,912.80         | \$ -              | \$ 11,857.50        |
| Miscellaneous                 | \$ 2,232.02         | \$ 81.90             | \$ 86.80            | \$ -              | \$ 2,400.72         |
| Alt. Delegate                 | \$ 138.00           | \$ 96.99             | \$ 292.18           | \$ -              | \$ 527.17           |
| Chairperson                   | \$ 75.00            | \$ -                 | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ 75.00            |
| Delegate                      | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ -                |
| Secretary                     | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ -                |
| Treasurer                     | \$ 124.19           | \$ -                 | \$ 185.00           | \$ -              | \$ 309.19           |
| Round Robin                   | \$ 705.03           | \$ 437.24            | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ 1,142.27         |
| SCRDM                         | \$ 942.98           | \$ 438.03            | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ 1,381.01         |
| Public Outreach               | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ 75.00            | \$ -              | \$ 75.00            |
| The Forum Coord               | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ -                |
| Web Page                      | \$ 144.00           | \$ -                 | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ 144.00           |
| WSD                           | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                | \$ -              | \$ -                |
| <b>Disbursements Total</b>    | <b>\$ 8,608.40</b>  | <b>\$ 17,172.20</b>  | <b>\$ 8,331.73</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>       | <b>\$ 34,112.33</b> |
| <b>Income - Disbursements</b> | <b>\$ 10,848.41</b> | <b>\$ (2,953.01)</b> | <b>\$ 1,937.44</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>       | <b>\$ 9,832.84</b>  |
| <b>Reserve Fund</b>           | <b>1ST QTR</b>      | <b>2ND QTR</b>       | <b>3RD QTR</b>      | <b>4TH QTR</b>    |                     |
| Beginning Balance             | \$ 8,995.73         | \$8,999.06           | \$9,002.46          | \$9,004.72        |                     |
| Interest Income               | \$ 3.33             | \$ 3.40              | \$ 2.26             | \$ -              |                     |
| Deposits                      | \$ -                | \$ -                 | \$ -                | \$ -              |                     |
| <b>Ending Balance</b>         | <b>\$8,999.06</b>   | <b>\$9,002.46</b>    | <b>\$9,004.72</b>   | <b>\$9,004.72</b> |                     |

## APPENDIX B: COORDINATORS REPORTS

### AREA ALATEEN PROCESS PERSON (AAPP)

I regret I cannot be here today and appreciate Ann H for giving my report.

*AMIAS recertification* was completed on time allowing Missouri Alateen to continue. I will have some stats to present at the Nov Assembly. If you did not re-certify and desire to become active again, please check the Missouri Al-Anon Alateen Procedure Digest or Missouri Web site for information on applying as a New AMIAS and/or contact me.

*All Alateen Groups* responded to the Annual Alateen Group updates. Yay! Any changes have been completed.

*An AMIAS training session* will be held in the Kansas City Area on Sunday afternoon Sept 9, 2018. There are flyers on the table.

*The Annual SMA-ART Weekend (Feb 15-16-17, 2019) Flyers* will be emailed to all AMIAS, DRs, etc some time before the Nov Assembly and will be available at Assembly. Please remember you do not have to be a current AMIAS to attend. Save the date info is on the Missouri Web Site and the flyer will be posted when it is available.

*The main focus of my report* is on the two background checks currently required by the Missouri Procedures. During one of my WSO AAPP Conference Calls the question was asked: How do we as an Area/AAPP know if someone was CHARGED but not convicted of any child abuse or other inappropriate sexual behavior? WSO Sue Perez (Associate Director – Groups) stated that we need to verify what information is accessed and used by the background reporting companies used by our area for their reports. The 2003 Alateen Motion states under Minimum Safety and Behavioral Requirements 1. D. “not have been convicted of a felony, and not have been charged with child abuse or any other inappropriate sexual behavior, and not have demonstrated emotional problems which could result in harm to Alateen members.”

#### Missouri Area Currently uses:

FCSR (Family Care Safety Registry) maintains a computer interface with 7 different Missouri agencies to access background information which includes criminal, sexual and physical abuse etc. (see their web site for more detailed information)

I contacted the Family Care Safety Registry and explained what our organization requires. The following process was explained to me.

1. Allegations received will be investigated by the Department of Social Services (DSS). DSS will make the determination if an allegation is true. They will then put them on a Central List.
2. If the allegation is true it is possibly forwarded to the Prosecuting Attorney who would file any necessary charges.
3. If someone is on the Central List or charges have been filed it would show up on the FCSR background findings report. (This is the report that is required by the Area for new and re-certification of AMIAS)

FCSR only accesses Missouri information. Therefore, if someone has been charged or convicted of a crime in any other state it would not show up on the FCSR report. According to the FCSR the only exception would be if the person self discloses the information when moving into Missouri.

It appears that the FCSR covers all necessary WSO AMIAS requirements for Missouri convictions and charges concerning Missouri background information.

#### Family Watchdog “Is a free service to help locate registered sex offenders in your area”

- It is an online web site to retrieve information with a person’s name or address.
- It only reports Registered Sex Offenders. The offenders would be registered by state. (Typically, an individual who has been convicted of specified sex offenses and offenses against children must register)

- Individual States or ALL STATES can be entered to access data base information on a person.
- An applicant's address can be entered to pull registered sex offenders to see if anyone is listed at applicant's address. (This is currently used when an applicant's name does not come back as "No Offenders found based off the search criteria.")
- Name provided on AMIAS application form is the name entered for the search criteria. (currently using name as it is listed on the FCSR report as that name is the name used to register with the FCSR).
- If a person has multiple names due to marriage, name changes etc., no way to know what those names are.
- It does not give any other criminal or abuse convictions (felonies) for any state or at the National level.
- It does not give any charges concerning child abuse or any other inappropriate sexual behavior for any state or at the National level.

Missouri Area's current procedures require an AMIAS applicant to check by initially on the Missouri Area AFG Candidate Profile for AMIAS form the following:

#6. I have not been convicted of a felony. \_\_\_\_\_ (Initial)

#7. I have not been charged with child abuse, including any inappropriate sexual behavior. \_\_\_\_\_ (Initial)

I am asking for feedback on the following:

Are we satisfied with the current process used by the Missouri area for background checks? Is it sufficient to comply with the 2003 Motion? Does this body (AWSC) want any additional information to be researched and brought to the Nov Assembly to be reviewed by the assembly concerning National background checks and cost? Some of this information was done before but would need to be updated. As it is my responsibility to present this information, your feedback will determine if any further information/action is warranted.

Time has been allowed for some feedback today or take this information back to your Districts and Groups and forward any questions or feedback to me at 816-987-0246 or [area31aapp57@gmail.com](mailto:area31aapp57@gmail.com) before Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. I apologize for not being here to directly address questions today.

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.

Thank you for allowing me to serve the Missouri Area,

Janet W  
Missouri AAPP Panel 57  
816-987-0246  
[Area31aapp57@gmail.com](mailto:Area31aapp57@gmail.com)

### **ALATEEN COORDINATOR**

I had the pleasure of attending some of the Alateen meetings at the International Convention. I served as an AMIAS at one of the closed meetings. There were 49 Alateens in attendance at the International. It was nice to get to talk to some of the teens and AMIAS. I also attended the Day of Connecting presentation for Alateens and received a review of what the WSO has available for Alateens and AMIAS on their website. At that Alateen session we discussed how we can encourage more Alateens to transition to Al-Anon.

Information being shared on the Alateen Coordinator AFG Connects in the last 4 months includes discussions on background checks. Some Areas have only been checking for sexual offenders which does not completely meet the requirements of the 2003 Alateen motion so some were asking how other Areas are getting the information. Note that this topic comes up in the Alateen Coordinator's AFG Connects because some Areas only have one

Alateen Coordinator who also serves as AAPP. I realize that it may sound like double-headed management when I talk about it and our AAPP also discusses it so that is the reason. We have two different communication groups so we don't all get in on the discussion at the same time.

One Coordinator wanted ideas on how to make a presentation for professionals. Sergio at WSO referred her to the DVD that is available at WSO. This is a good tool to use at health fairs if you have a computer available. Sue Perez of WSO forwarded the logo for September recovery month. I will forward this logo to Jodi so she can share on the website. The Pennsylvania coordinator shared follow-up from their combined area Alateen convention NOMAAC. They connected with some of the teens and Alateen coordinator from Alaska via conference call to allow teens in a sparsely populated state to interact with other teens. Setting up guidelines for overnight traveling with transgenders continues. Suggestions for guidelines for Alateen conferences continues to be requested. Several of the Areas post their Area Alateen conferences on the AFG connect section.

Here in Missouri, we would like to encourage more adults to become AMIAS. There will be a training in Blue Springs in September. We barely had enough AMIAS for Serenity Patrol this evening at the hotel. Even if you do not want to work with an Alateen group, we encourage folks to become certified to help with travel and Serenity Patrol.

We Alateen coordinators want to see the Alateen Intern position continue and hope to see that happen. Thank you Carissa for bringing the motion forward. At Super Sunday tomorrow we will take care of last minute plans for the September Convention. There will also be other discussion but a reminder that the Step 11 Fundraiser will be coming up soon.

Thank you for your support in all that I do as well as for the Alateens. We had an awesome Day in Service collection of over \$500 thanks to all of you.

Yours in service, Marilyn M, Alateen Coordinator

### **CONVENTION**

Presented, not submitted

### **FORUM/ LITERATURE**

I hope that you have had the opportunity to purchase and read our newest CAL – *Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships* (B-33). If you haven't had the chance, by all means I encourage you to give it a try. I found it very interesting and informative and had a difficult time "putting it down" once I started reading. Al-Anon.org says in this book, "members share their challenges with all aspects of intimacy – physical, emotional and spiritual – in all relationships affected by the family illness of alcoholism."

The cost is \$11.00 for this softcover book. It is 144 pages in length and includes 6 chapters:

- Alcoholism and Intimacy
- Building and Rebuilding Trust
- Communicating Clearly
- Negotiating Boundaries
- Spiritual Solutions
- Expressing Gratitude

At the end of each chapter there are questions for the reader to reflect upon. As I read, I realized how much I've already learned from Al-Anon about improving relationships and I found more ideas to go right on learning.

### **Forum Subscription Sales Report**

- The WSO started publishing a monthly Forum subscription sales report in January, 2018



- The report is based on the actual number of copies sent out for that month's issue; e-Subscriptions are not included
- The sales information is published by state or province – plans are to publish by Area in the future
- For Missouri – March, 2018:

|  | # of Subscriptions | # of Copies* |
|--|--------------------|--------------|
| Groups   | 62                 | 74           |
| Other<br>(Individuals, Districts,<br>AIS Offices, Literature<br>Distribution Centers | 366                | 390          |

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

In 2014 the World Service Conference gave conceptual approval for development of “a new daily reader that reflects the diversity of the Al-Anon fellowship.” Sharings are still very much needed – especially on the Steps, Traditions and Concepts.

If you would like to submit an online sharing for the new daily reader or any of Al-Anon's featured publications, go to Al-Anon.org and follow this path:

- Members > Literature > Literature Resources > Send Your Sharing
- From the dropdown, select *Forum, Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism, New Daily Reader, or Alateen Talk*
- Click on “Next” to begin composing your online sharing. (You will be asked for your name and address so that if your sharing is published, you can receive a copy of that publication. You will also have to opportunity to indicate how you would like your story to be signed - either by your first name and last initial and state or simply “anonymous”

If you prefer to submit a sharing in writing and mail it, please the attached information.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue B

MO Area 31 Forum / Literature Coordinator

## **GROUP RECORDS**

At the AWSC in March and the Assembly in May, I reported on the new procedures for using the on-line WSO webpage for area groups making changes/updates to their meetings, as well as, procedures for adding new group meetings to the Area. There have been a few errors when changes have been made on-line, but mostly those errors were minor typos that got caught either at the WSO or at the Area Group Records level. One error that has occurred more than once is the choice for the “Area/State”. This is a drop-down choice on the WSO webpage and can be tricky. So, make sure you choose “Missouri”. Please pass this on to your GRs and groups.

As of August 20, 2018, the Missouri Area has registered 226 Al-Anon groups and 11 Alateen groups. With some of those Al-Anon groups meeting more than one day a week, the Area has 287 Active Al-Anon meetings per month. Since my report at the Assembly in May, the Area registered two (2) New Groups and eight (8) meetings became Inactive. The Area has one (1) group in “No Mail” status.

Of our 26 districts, 15 districts have DR's.

The Area needs DR's in districts 01, 03, 07, 10, 11, 12, 22, 24, 26, 27, and 28.

If you have any changes/corrections to the Panel 57 Officers, Coordinators/Alts. and DRs list, please e-mail me at my address below.

Respectfully submitted:

Janet A. O

MO Area 31 Group Records Coordinator, [panel57grouprecords@gmail.com](mailto:panel57grouprecords@gmail.com)

### **LITERATURE DEPOT**

Good morning, first I would like to thank Michelle for taking care of bringing the book orders for me today. I appreciate it very much and am grateful to have her help. I attended the AA Convention in early August and took a good supply of literature to sell. This year we sold a little over \$650 which was nearly \$100 more than last year. It was great to enjoy the fellowship of my fellow Al-Anons and I appreciate their help during the weekend.

I've been working with Michael on our schedule for selling books at Convention. Here are the hours that we will be available. Friday 6:30-7:00 and 10:00-10:30, Saturday 7:00-10:00, 1:00-2:30 and 3:30-5:00, Sunday 7:00-8:30, these hours may flex some, we'll see what the weekend will bring. That being said, World Service Office has offered a small quantity of the 50th Anniversary editions of the One Day at a Time book to each Literature Depot. I have purchased my allotment and will have them for sale at Convention. However, due to the limited number that we were allotted I am working to be fair in how we manage sales of the books. We will sell the books during selected times only at Convention. Sales will start for the commemorative edition on Saturday at 2:00 and end at 2:30. If there are additional books to sell after that time then sales for the special edition will be held again from 3:30-4:00 Saturday afternoon. If there are still some available after that, we will sell the balance on Sunday morning. The books are \$15.00 each and have a nice decorative cover and a cloth bookmark. PLEASE NOTE, THE BOOKS WILL BE SOLD ON A FIRST COME-FIRST SERVED BASIS.....ONE BOOK PER PERSON ONLY. I appreciate your understanding with this.

We have good news regarding credit cards. Janie has contacted our bank and they offer a service that will allow us to take credit card/debit card payments. I have spoken to the bank representative as well and he and Janie will work on getting everything set up so HOPEFULLY we will be up and running by Convention. This is not a guarantee that we will be able to take cards at Convention, but we are hopeful that we will have everything in place by then. The bank will charge a one time \$49.00 set up fee and a transactional fee of 2.65% per transaction. As we have previously discussed, that charge will be passed along to anyone who chooses to pay with a card. I've spoken briefly to Jodi about the possibility of getting some type of on-line form on the computer but at this point we may not move forward with that. However, once the credit card payment system is up and running if you want to snail mail or email your order and include your credit card # we should be able to make that work. I appreciate everyone's patience with this and particularly Janie for reaching out to the bank.

I'm sorry I wasn't able to be here this weekend and I miss seeing all of you, but I'm looking forward to seeing you at Convention. Take care.

Yours in Service

Mary L

Area 31/Panel 57

MO Literature Depot Coordinator

### **NEWSLETTER**

Cheri H presented a discussion using KBDM regarding the trial of placing the Round Robin newsletter on the Area Website. The discussion notes follow:

KBDM: Round Robin Online vs Printed

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

- a. Some groups still need paper copies III
  - b. Suggestion to email all GRs that RR is available online
  - c. Suggestion to reduce number of issues/year
  - d. Suggestion to still send only one printed copy per group
  - e. Suggestion to post by a certain date
  - f. Question about folks outside the area who paid for printed/mailed
  - g. Suggestion to post DR and other contact lists behind password protected area since some members/groups need area contact information.
2. What do we know about our resources and our vision for Al-Anon?
    - a. An example of another area's success was a quarterly, online newsletter with reminders. The RR could be emailed out in addition to posting online and then distributed from there. There were also a handful of people that had a mailed copy including WSO.
    - b. Doing this online saves area the money
    - c. Doing RR online allows for color "printing" which we can't afford if mailing.
  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?
  4. What are the ethical implications of our decision on the fellowship or on the world?  
May not receive as many contributions or event attendees as groups use the RR for information on those
  5. What do we not know about this issue that we wish we knew?

### **PROCEDURES COMMITTEE**

My name is Amy G, and I am the chairperson for the current Procedures Committee. The original committee was established on a four-year trial basis, but the committee never was officially put into practice. We were re-established at the beginning of 2018 as a four-person committee. Those members are myself, Karen G., Kathy G., and Sue B.

Our committee meets monthly, and we are making slow but steady progress revamping our Missouri Area Procedures Digest.

Some of our duties include:

- Adding clarity to existing wording
- Reorganizing parts to improve accessibility of various topics
- Recommend removal of information that is no longer pertinent
- Improve Procedures by adding clarity to and modifying content of the Duties section of the Procedures

We have developed a questionnaire that we'd like you to fill out and return. The second page of the handout is a side-by-side comparison of how the Procedures Digest is currently worded/formatted on the left side, and a proposed re-wording of that section on the right side. The committee would greatly appreciate your input and feedback.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy G

### **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

I am happy to report that the 2019 first printing of the AFA's (Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism) are in the mail and I have been notified that they should be delivered to me on Friday August 24th. If that happens, I will have one

here to share with you. This was the second largest first printing since the start of AFA's in 2011 The largest printing was in 2016. This years first printing was 219,025 issues.

Please remember that September is National Recovery Month. It's a great time to get those 2018 AFA's out and to participate in any health fairs or other events where possible to get the word out about Al-Anon Family Groups.

I am ordering 50 notepad and pen sets to be sent out to family court judges and possibly some other professionals. They are more expensive than the pens we have used in the past so we will be ordering fewer of them but we hope they will be used and make an impact on the people who receive them to send family members to our groups. The business cards and possibly AFA's will also be included with them.

I received a three part document from the WSO recently which Jodi has put on our Area website for us in the members section under Area Reports. It contains a read first page and then if you scroll all the way to the bottom of that page there are two tabs. One contains the 2017 airplay document and the other is the 2018 distribution list. It is very interesting information. If you do not see either radio or tv stations in your vicinity that you would like to see carrying these PSA's give them a call or send them an email and see if they would be willing to play them if they were to get them. If they say they are willing, send me the station name, type (radio or tv) and full mailing address and I can have the correct PSA's sent to them from the WSO and there is no charge.

Respectively Submitted,  
Sandi M  
Area 31 Public Outreach Coordinator

### **REGISTRAR**

Currently, I received 59 pre-registrations for the Convention 2018. Registrations equal \$1,181, Hospitality donations equal \$248, 43 Banquet tickets equaling \$1,204 and other donations equal \$4 for a total of \$2,637. Some forms went out prematurely with the wrong price for the Banquet on them of only \$20 instead of \$28. Other donations to the Hospitality room or the general Convention costs were used to cover the extra \$8 for the Banquet ticket on these.

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. A badge will not be pre-printed for door registrants.

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. Don't forget if you plan to register at the door, clipboards with the forms attached will be available to walk away from the registration table to complete so we don't have a traffic jam at the table.

There are Convention registration forms here today so feel free to register today!  
Respectfully submitted,  
Donna S

### **SERENITY PATROL**

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

I would like to recognize all AMIAS volunteers who help make this vital Serenity Patrol commitment possible, this weekend those AMIAS Angels are – Christina C, Jenny F, Debbie J, Challis H, and Sue K. I am so grateful to you all for your commitment.

So, if you are interested in sharing priceless time in the hall with equally dedicated night owls, or if you are going to be awake anyway, or if you are feeling the need of helping to provide support for our teens...then, Serenity Patrol might for you!!!

Thank you again for the passion you bring to our fellowship and your support for the Serenity Patrol program. I am honored to serve as Serenity Patrol Coordinator for Panel 57.

- 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 for your commitment.
- Would anyone who is interested in finding out more about Serenity Patrol and is available to help out tonight, please see me after the meeting...

Respectfully submitted.

Sherri E, Serenity Patrol Coordinator

### **SPEAKER**

We have the speakers all lined up for the Convention. I hope you are planning to be there, I think you will be favorably impressed with our panel of speakers this year.

I am currently looking for people to chair the speaker meetings and read the Steps and Traditions. I am also looking for people to host our speakers. Cheri and her husband have asked not to have hosts, but I do need hosts for the others.

Geneva D

### **ST LOUIS AIS OFFICE LIAISON**

My name is Stephanie and I am giving the Liaison Report for the Al-Anon Family Groups of Greater St. Louis, Inc. (AFG). The AFG has been directing potential newcomers to over 177 groups in the Greater St. Louis and surround areas plus Southern Illinois areas. Here are the statistics for the period of March, April and May, 2018:

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Phone calls & e-mails | 796         |
| Literature Sales      | \$10,451.10 |
| Contributions         | 5,469.00    |
| Dollars & Sense       | \$615.25    |

The Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) office serves St. Louis metropolitan area and adjacent cities including Illinois Districts 14, 17 and 18. The AIS office hours have increased to accommodate members and visitors needing evening hours. Wednesday hours are now 9am – 7pm, and the remainder of the week is 9am-3:30. The first Thursday of each month before the IR meeting the office hours are 1pm-7pm. Your AIS Staff includes two part-time staff members: Lin B and Pat D. and many priceless, dedicated volunteers.

Our current AIS Board of Director members are: Donna S., Kevin H., Annette K., Jennifer C., Helga H., Marc B. and newly elected Board member, William Becker.

The AIS office receives literature orders from our website [www.stl-al-anon.org](http://www.stl-al-anon.org) where you can easily order the literature in the convenience of your home and we will immediately mail your order directly to you. We have the new book, *Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships* along with the newest pamphlet, *Hope and Understanding for Parents & Grandparents* available

Our Public Outreach Team is accomplishing great outreach and creating incoming phone inquiries at the AIS office from people wanting to know more about Al-Anon. We currently have two co-chairs, Mary B. and Diane R. to schedule requests and outreach. Our PO Team meets once a month to plan future outreach events. If you are interested in helping spread the message please call the AIS office at 314-645-1572.

Highlights that the PO Team participated in are:

St. Charles Community College Mental Health Expo

DuBourg Class Presentation

Twillman Elementary School, Spanish Lake Youth Health Fair

10<sup>th</sup> Annual Health Fair at Mt. Bethel Church

The PO Team provided a training seminar to let Al-Anon members know what to expect

The AIS office creates the monthly publication, *Sincerely Al-Anon* and we are asking for your group history, how it started, what keeps it growing, how the group carries the message. So please do participate in sharing how your group evolved with us. Just send your group history to [aisoffice@stl-al-anon.org](mailto:aisoffice@stl-al-anon.org)! Thank you!

## **WEBPAGE COORDINATOR**

Calendar:

Please make sure to submit all upcoming events to the website. Let's populate 2019!!!

Website Stats:

Stats remain same... meetings and calendar pages see the most traffic.

Website Do Not Refer Policy Taskforce

Timeline Recap:

Spring 2017 AWSC: Recognized with Group Records Coordinator we struggled to keep up with all the following databases for area meetings and contacts:

Round Robin

Website Meetings

Group Records

WSO

January 2018:

WSO updated the online meeting search, making it more user friendly.

We started considering changing to this meeting search.

Spring 2018 AWSC:

Demonstrated the WSO meeting search AWSC

We were reminded we have a Do Not Refer policy under the website procedures.

Missouri is one of a dozen-ish areas that has a DNR policy however, at this time, the WSO does not observe any DNR policies.

May 2018 Assembly:

Demo of WSO meeting search to assembly

Recommended a task force be created to address the disconnect between the WSO technology and the area's reality including our DNR policy.

June 26, 2018: Area chair charged a task force to examine if DNR policy can be enforced given current technology being used by the World Service Office.

August 5, 2018: We held our first call regarding the DNR topic, and even had assignments on further research to come back together and discuss further.

August 8, 2018: Received COB letter containing following and more:

The Board of Trustees identified the need to take proactive action to encourage Al-Anon Family Groups to discuss safety (which may entail the distribution of service materials regarding safety to all groups), and to support Areas who have created robust "Do Not Refer" policies, particularly in matters where safety and affiliation with outside entities are involved.

Motion:

that the Board of Trustees directs the World Service Office to send a statement alerting all registered groups on the importance of discussing and creating safety guidelines.

Motion:

that the Board of Trustees direct the WSO Staff to utilize the Policy Committee criteria presented at the 2012 World Service Conference to ensure that an Area has established a fair and balanced "Do Not Refer" and "Re-Refer" policy. These criteria allow the WSO to support Area "Do Not Refer" group conscience decisions and remove group meetings from the WSO meeting list. Groups not being referred by the WSO remain active and registered.

What this means:

WSO will be sending info re: safety guidelines to all groups

The Area 31 DNR policy does not include safety

The Area 31 DNR policy will need to be reviewed by WSO before they will observe it

If a meeting is de-listed on WSO search, it will remain active and registered

Further details are coming from WSO

Next steps:

Brief task force meeting today since new information has major impact on our charge

Recommendation at November Assembly for changes to procedures.

Things like:

Minor adjustments to DNR policy wording taking into consideration:

2011/2012 WSC Summaries

July 2018 Board of Trustee meeting

Update meeting search to use WSO technology

## **APPENDIX C: DISTRICT REPORTS**

### **DISTRICT 2**

District 2 continues to provide opportunity of Al-Anon recovery with 18 AFGs. Collectively, these 18 groups provide a meeting every day of the week within the District.

Although the District has many members with a lot of good recovery, it struggles to have increased member participation beyond the Group level. Of the 18 meetings there are only 8 groups with GRs and only 5 of those GRs participate in District meetings. In an attempt to appeal to more members, the District GRs voted to reduce the District Regular Business meetings from 6 per year to 4 per year starting 2019.

The District Serenity Walk/Family Picnic is scheduled for September 30, 2018, at the Kirkwood Park, Scout Shelter. Each fellowship will be represented in having speakers from Al-Anon, AA and Alateen. District AGFs have been asked to donate a gift card for a District gift card raffle basket to be raffled off the day of the picnic as a grand prize. We hope to have a good turnout.

We continue to have discussions and interest in increasing the number of AMIAS in the District to be able to offer an Alateen meeting in District 2 at some point in the future.

I am deeply appreciative of each and every member that offers their talents, skills and time to District business and events. Steve V. has volunteered to be the District Treasurer and is doing an outstanding job of reviewing and organizing the books.

As the DR, I continually look for ways to be an encouragement and available to the AFGs members. It is my desire and passion to be instrumental in helping others develop a thirst for service work and participation at all levels of Al-Anon and am forever grateful for my own recovery and the opportunity to serve as the District Representative

Respectfully submitted.



Bonnie M, DR District 2

#### **DISTRICT 4**

District 4 includes Springfield, Branson and the Tri-Lakes Area in Southwest Missouri. We have a strong district that is able to provide two Al-Anon meetings daily; along with two Alateen meetings a week. For the second year in row, we are proud to have the Area Alateen Intern position filled by one of the Alateens from our district.

We had our annual Al-Anon Chili Supper, in February, where we had a silent auction, a live auction and a great Al-Anon speaker. I had the pleasure of attending the annual Alateen Camp, CBAT, this year for the first time. It was an amazing experience to witness Area Alateens, and special out of town guests, come together for a weekend of recovery and fellowship. Another big event, in our District, will be the Heart of the Ozarks AA Convention, on June 9<sup>th</sup> through June 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be two Al-Anon speakers at this event and a great time of fellowship with both AA and Al-Anon members. We are all looking forward to the Al-Anon Area Convention coming up in September.

We are excited to have our Missouri Area Delegate, Sarah S., attend our District meeting on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m. at Kingsway United Methodist Church, in Springfield. We hope to hear about her journey to becoming our Area Delegate and for her to share her experience at WSO. We will be taking her out for lunch at Lambert's restaurant following the meeting.

Our district is active in Public Outreach. We take Al-Anon meetings into the Greene County Justice Center every week. We provide Al-Anon meetings weekly at an area treatment center and monthly to an outpatient treatment facility. Monthly, we go to a local inpatient Psychiatric hospital, where we bring informational meetings to three of their adult units.

Blessed to Be of Service,

Jenny F

District 4 Representative

#### **DISTRICT 5**

District #5 consists of 5 counties with 7 meetings: Truman Dam AFG in Warsaw (Benton), Monday Night AFG in Clinton (Henry), Gift of Hope in Warrensberg (Johnson), Betterview AGF in Sunrise Beach (Morgan and Camden), Sedalia AFG and 12x12 Serenity Seekers in Sedalia (Pettis).

Each group will be holding elections before our October 15th District Meeting when elections will be held for District Officers. By holding elections before the November Assembly, it is our intent to have new officers, both Group and District level, become familiar with their new responsibilities. It is also an opportunity for outgoing officers to introduce them to members of our Al-Anon family.

Our groups continue to offer their experience, strength and hope using CAL literature and materials in meetings and outreach at rehabilitation facilities.

The two newest groups, Monday Night AFG in Clinton and Gift of Hope at the AA Hall in Warrensberg (replacing Good Morning AFG which folded) are growing. The other groups are maintaining and growing in attendance.

Members from our district attended the "Slide into Service" Day in Boonville. Sonja G's friend and a former member of Sedalia AFG brought a baseball bat shaped cake with baseball shaped cupcakes and green "grass" around them. It was a hit!!!! All members who attended enjoyed the day and loved the theme. Thank you, Area for a great day.

Report 2:

This is not the usual report for my District. There are two groups in Sedalia: Sedalia AFG and 12X12 Serenity Seekers. I will start by saying I have only heard one side of the story. I haven't heard anything from 12X12 since the first year I became District Representative. I send emails announcing meetings and other correspondence from area and other groups.

I have been told that the reason for two groups is a conflict over smoking in the AA Hall. A large number of AA members wanted a non-smoking building. The pro-smokers were displeased and left to start their own meeting. Their Al-Anons went with them and started 12X12 at Ditzfield Rehabilitation Center. Ditzfield was sold and the new owners allowed 12X12 to continue holding meetings for a short time.

This year the AA Hall members have seen their numbers go down and have been having difficulty paying the bills. After many meetings and discussions, the AA Hall was listed with a real estate company to be sold. Talks were being held between the two groups to see if they could reconcile their differences. During these discussions, threats of gun violence have caused some of the Sedalia AFG members to forego meetings. I was asked if they could have both groups meet in the same building. The answer is no. WSO doesn't allow it. One of the groups would have to change their group name and become one AFG group.

When Sonja went to open the building the end of July, a fire marshall was there to inspect the building. They had received a report of hazardous conditions in the building. He found two wire caps missing and they have been replaced. District #5 had scheduled our district meeting for Aug. 11 at the AA Hall. I received a call from Sonja Goff on August 4<sup>th</sup> that the AA Hall had been broken into and that they had striped the place almost bare. They even took the artificial flowers. Al-Anon was left with a small table, some chairs and the coffee pot. They also left the theater seats because they were bolted to the floor. A neighbor reported seeing a man and woman with a truck and he thought the building was sold and that they were cleaning it out. The furniture that was taken is beautiful antiques, crossed-stitched slogans, and many other valued items. Someone also had the electricity turned off. Judee got it turned back on.

Sonja called Judee who is the real estate agent and a member of Al-Anon and Judee reported it to the police. Luckily, Judee took many pictures of the rooms and contents of the rooms. The police are alerting pawn shops, antique shops and second-hand shops.

I spoke with one of the members of Sunrise Serenity AA and he mentioned that he knew about it. The AA chair told him that AA cleaned out the building and donated the building back to the church. Our reaction was "What church?" It had disbanded years ago.

The first reaction from the other groups in my district was disbelief. The AAers never contacted Al-Anon. Never gave Al-Anon a chance to take their stuff. It was even thought that perhaps the Al-Anon stuff was taken and given to the 12X12 group to furnish their meeting place. No one knows. Tradition 6 states "Although a separate entity, we should always co-operate with Alcoholics Anonymous." Isn't it reciprocal? I am at a loss as to what to do or should I even get involved and just let God handle the situation. I have offered to mediate a meeting, but no one has contacted me about it.

Other than this, three groups are going strong and growing. Two are hanging in with few members. One is so-so with fluctuation in numbers from week to week. Betterview canceled the Saturday meeting for lack of attendance. We had a really good discussion on ways to raise awareness of our meetings.

Respectfully submitted, Lorraine H

## **DISTRICT 8**

Greetings! I am Elaine M, DR for District 8.

District 8 has 8 active meetings in Holt Summit and Columbia. We hold a District meeting every other month on Sunday evening from 6 to 8 pm. We have very active members and groups in our District.

Two groups have begun inventories and another group will begin in September. A couple groups have experienced a lighter attendance through the summer. Two groups reported that membership has increased, and one group is reaching out to older members that they have not seen in awhile to say hello and let them know they are missed.

The Day in Service (Give Yourself a Gift) on June 16 was a success, with an estimated 80 in attendance which was more than expected. Lori, our Institutions Coordinator, reported that she received good comments after she spoke at the Day in Service. That it generated interest from other members. The day offered fellowship, an opportunity to learn about service and a good feed.

Our Public Outreach committee continues arranging speakers for two treatment facilities and recently Distributed pamphlets to the Columbia Police Dept, Sheriff's Dept and Public Library. The 2019 AFA's have arrived and our groups will begin distributing them in September.

We have two Flings coming up this fall, Sept 15 is the next Fling and the speaker is Marc B from St. Louis who is both Al-Anon and AA, as well as an Alateen sponsor. The theme is "Change". The last fling of the year will be November 17. A Big Event in 2019 is in the beginning planning stages. We invite you to join us.

Yours in Service,  
Elaine

## **DISTRICT 9**

District 9 is having a potluck on Sat., Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> at Arlington Methodist Church in Bridgeton. The potluck dinner begins at 6:30 PM. There will be Al-Anon, AA, & Alateen speakers. On Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the "Road to Recovery: 12 Steps & 12 Traditions" Workshop will be held at Arlington Methodist Church in Bridgeton. Carollyn G. from Garland, Texas will present her story on Fri. at 7:00 PM & will present her workshop on Sat. from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM. There will be breakout sessions & a chili & soup luncheon. The donations will be given to Alateen. Our district continues to do public outreach by speaking at Bridgeway every month.

Flo W  
District 9 Rep.

## **DISTRICT 13**

Things are going well in District 13, located in the Southwestern part of the St. Louis metropolitan area. There are 21 meetings, and at least one every day of the week. Approximately half of the meetings have GRs, but some of those are 'on paper' only. I've been trying to encourage District service as I visit meetings. Our biggest Public Outreach was sending volunteers every other month to Edgewood Treatment Center for their Family Education program. However, the meetings have been temporarily discontinued. A member makes sure the Edgewood office is stocked with literature, but very little is taken. The Public Outreach coordinator has reached out to the colleges and universities represented in our district but there has been little interest on their part.

The District is putting together a basket to donate to the Al-Anon Convention.

The 2019 version of the 'Pearls of Wisdom' calendar will be ready for distribution shortly. Our potluck is scheduled for February 23, 2019.

What are you doing on September 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>? That weekend District 13 is hosting our sixth annual workshop, entitled **Spiritual Principles-Unlocking the Mystery**. Our speaker is Sandy W. from Chicago, Illinois. There will be breakout sessions, a basket raffle, and an optional sandwich buffet lunch. Our Alateens will be selling soda and bottled water both days and will have a Bake Sale on Saturday. Early registrations must be postmarked by August 27<sup>th</sup>. Flyers are available today and are on the website.

~~Kathy G, District Representative

#### **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.

You all are invited to our Annual Fall Festival on Sunday, October 14, from 12-4pm at St. John the Baptist Parish Center in South St. Louis. Our Al-Anon speaker is Marian C and Bob C is the AA speaker. Pasta and beverages will be provided. Southside AFG will have jewelry for sale. We'll have a basket raffle and attendance prizes. Please help yourself to a flyer. (Website).

Despite the Saturday morning monsoon that settled over Tower Grove Park, our annual picnic was a success. Members drove through the big yellow and red blobs on the weather maps to hear our speakers - Lisa T from Al-Anon and Ed T from AA. Many thanks to the District 15 'Dreams Become Reality Alateen' for partnering with us to provide beverages for our picnic. 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.

Sarah S, our Delegate, visited our District meeting in July and gave a lovely synopsis of her WSC trip for those who weren't able to attend the May Assembly. We appreciate her commitment to Al-Anon and Alateen and her willingness to share with our small group. Our GRs were interested in WSO finances and wanted that info to take back to their groups.

We have a new meeting in our district - 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.

Laurie K coordinated our district's PO event at Mt. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church community -health fair. Loretta R, Chris G, and Mary B, distributed CAL and answered questions.

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

I recently made a change in our District meeting agenda by adding a slot specifically to discuss GR concerns and/or positive events. I 'borrowed' that idea from another DR 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.

Our Area has an abundance of events and workshops. I encourage my home group and GRs to attend these events, 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 'homes' 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 fellow members. This has been a good year for us. I have been able to visit more meetings in District 15. We have 24 meetings plus one Alateen and Pre-Alateen meeting.

Our Pot Luck on August 11, 2018 was successful, inspiring and self supporting. We had 3 speakers, Alateen, AA and Al-Anon. All were wonderful. We had 12 baskets from the groups and one hand made quilt from an anonymous donor for an additional Alateen raffle. We had a lot of district member participation. The decorations were beautiful and it felt like a great summer gathering.

Our District information packets were a great help with communication. It lists officer contact information, groups and district events. The groups are very receptive.

In my visits this year, I noticed more of an emphasis on conference approved literature. Word is getting around regarding this important suggestion.

Our next event will be our November holiday workshop. This is always popular and we make it a sharing with holiday activities and fellowship. This is November 10, 2018.

We are hosting a discussion on sponsorship at our District meeting January 2019. More information will be forthcoming.

Will Keep you posted and as always thank you for your support

Sincerely in Service,

Mary R, DR-15

### **DISTRICT 17**

District Seventeen continues to hold bi-monthly meetings with an attendance averaging ten members. Our meetings consist of much business and planning for future district events. We also include a talk given by members about topics from the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual. There is time for sharing after.

The district holds a spring workshop and a fall picnic. The picnic this year is on October 7 at Wapelhorst Park. There will be speakers, food and fun. Flyers are available on the website.

Participation at Bridgeway Treatment Center continues and is the main avenue for public outreach. It has been a pleasure serving Al-Anon so far this panel. I look forward to finishing the time together during the rest of Panel fifty-seven.

Joyful in service,

Barbara K

District Representative Seventeen

### **DISTRICT 18**

District 18 is in central Missouri

We have six active Al-Anon meetings and one Alateen Group. Still needing a GR for one of our Monday night meetings.

We had several members go to the Day in Service in June. I thought it was fun and inspiring. District 18 and Lori did a great job. We helped out where we could but it was just a privilege to go to the meetings and see their enthusiasm and how they worked together.

It has been a busy summer. Hoping to focus more on public outreach this fall. We are also encouraging participation in the convention.

Respectfully Submitted  
Mary N, DR District 18

### **DISTRICT 19**

We are meeting once per quarter as a district. We had 9 members present at our July meeting, which is a lot more than we have had in a long time. We are helping newer members learn about how the District and Area are structured and working on getting out information about public outreach opportunities.

We have started discussing extending invitations to other members who might want to step up as GRs or DRs for the next panel and how we can encourage and mentor people to widen their service involvement.

We are still working on figuring out what we want to do and be as a District.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robyn Q., District 19 DR

### **DISTRICT 21**

District 21 has a total of 9 groups the south of KC area. We have a total of 14 meetings each week, three 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.

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 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday in a month. District 1 is partnering with us for this project.

At our last District meeting we discussed the possibility of having a vinyl banner made to display at local ball fields, beside the other sponsor banners. We later learned that the banner would not be expensive but the placement of the banners would be cost-prohibitive. We will continue mulling over Public Outreach, as we agree that getting additional membership is a common concern in our District where 10 attendees is considered a large meeting.

In addition, District 21 will be hosting, in conjunction with the Kansas City AIS, a Serenity Walk in October. This will take place on October 20 in Lee's Summit and we'd be happy to have you join us. A flier is available on the Missouri Area website.

Our District meets twice a year for business and hosts an annual picnic each summer, with great food, fellowship and speakers. Speaking of the picnic, we just held it last Saturday and it was a huge success, with wonderful food and fellowship and brief talks by an AA member and by an AI-Anon member who is also one of our District GRs. This simple picnic is only two hours long and our membership seems to appreciate the simplicity of that arrangement. We had about 60 people present!

Our next business meeting will be held in February and at that time we will begin to look ahead to the new panel and elections, probably in August. That way the incoming DR can attend the August AWSC meeting in 2019.

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, as evidenced by the lack of active Group Representatives.

The two groups in the Joplin area are still operating in violation of our Traditions. The small group in Cassville is still hanging on. The group in Neosho continues to experience a dramatic decline in attendance due to a variety of factors.

I continue to publish newsletters, and to offer whatever support is wanted and/or needed.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Michael C  
Area 31, District 23 Representative  
858 Elk River Road  
Pineville, MO 64856-9653  
417.223.5369 jmichael.afg@gmail.com

**DISTRICT 25**

District 25 includes six counties. We have four active groups; with three of them having a GR.

We have a new meeting in Montgomery City that started on Aug. 1. The location is at the NECAC building (137 Farnen Rd) and meets on Thursdays, 7 pm – 8 pm.

Our district meetings are bi-monthly, averaging 4 – 5 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 Al-Anon message at the women's prison in Bowling Green. Ms. Linda has had help from volunteers to cover different events. These include Geneva attending the Healthy Communities meeting in July and share about Al-Anon; two members manned our literature table June 16 at the Fun in the Sun event in Troy, while some of us were able to attend Day In Service. Ms. Linda continues to attend various organizations and businesses handing out literature packets and attended the Warren County Safety Festival.

Future district events include: Sept. 9, 2018 – District 25 Picnic (speakers will be Jodi -web page coord. and her husband) 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

## **APPENDIX D: OTHER REPORTS/NOTES**

### **SIX HATS DISCUSSION ON AREA INVENTORY**

Brief description - a topic is presented. In this case "Should the Area conduct an Area Inventory". The discussion is done in parts that target specific ways of looking at the issue:



# Six Thinking Hats®

## Quick Summary

**PROCESS**



### Blue Hat - Process

Thinking about thinking.  
What thinking is needed?  
Organizing the thinking.  
Planning for action.

**FACTS**



### White Hat - Facts

Information and data.  
Neutral and objective.  
What do I know?  
What do I need to find out?  
How will I get the information I need?

**FEELINGS**



### Red Hat - Feelings

Intuition, hunches, gut instinct.  
My feelings right now.  
Feelings can change.  
No reasons are given.

**CREATIVITY**



### Green Hat - Creativity

Ideas, alternatives, possibilities.  
Provocations - "PO".  
Solutions to black hat problems.

**BENEFITS**



### Yellow Hat - Benefits

Positives, plus points.  
Logical reasons are given.  
Why an idea is useful.

**CAUTIONS**



### Black Hat - Cautions

Difficulties, weaknesses, dangers.  
Logical reasons are given.  
Spotting the risks.

Stock Number 80701 © 2008 The McQuaig Group

## Notes on each segment follow:

### RED HAT

Tired and confused

Been there, done that, exhausted

Doesn't make any difference

I have enough to do, I don't want to do anything more

Glad the officers want to do this but pessimistic

Unmotivated, lazy toward the topic

Hesitation and fear

Interested

Excited

Happy we have a chance to make great strides

Scared

It's not what you say, but how you say it

Curious and cautious

Indifferent  
Ready to start  
Overwhelmed  
Impatient  
Tired, overwhelmed  
Skeptical

### **BLACK HAT**

Mistake to take results outside the area, this is area issue  
Won't be anonymous  
People won't repeat taking an inventory  
Will it be more than just another item on the agenda? Or rinse/repeat?  
Will the results be skewed by the participation level of the people who actually fill out the survey?  
Sending results outside the area allows for anonymity.  
Respondents seemed to be those who are dissatisfied.  
Don't think people participate because of anonymity concerns  
Don't want to lose more family (AI-Anon)  
Previous group inventory experience brought up black hat (anonymity/conflict issues), but some of this didn't come true and was simply fear  
Participation concerns, people just don't do it  
Afraid feelings could get hurt  
Got results from group inventory but didn't do anything with those results  
People will put personalities above principles  
We are in denial and shouldn't be afraid of openly discussing these things, being transparent

### *Results*

Can I trust the process and people that are doing it?  
People aren't interested in performing inventory on business side of AI-Anon  
How important is it? If we do it and then nothing comes of it or it's the next panel that has to deal with it?  
Are we gonna be able to get the ?s together, out and back by November so we can act upon the results?  
Who is going to implement the changes? Group level, district level, area level, this panel, next panel?  
Are we going to stay here and not move at all?  
Did we do anything with previous results?  
We focus too much on comments, not on statistical numbers?  
Can we keep our personal recovery in check when taking inventory can keep personal comments in check?  
Can I not take things personally when receiving feedback?

### **YELLOW HAT**

End everything with positivity, complain less, don't take things out of proportion  
Never met anyone who did 4/5 steps and regretted... that's how we move forward  
This is our job, we owe it to ourselves and our area. We need to do our job.  
Participation is the key to harmony.  
By doing area inventory, we can better ourselves to make sure we're here for years to come.  
Presenting this to the district will encourage applying this to our own groups and our own recovery and practice our programs on a deeper level.  
Could provide important info on changes we've made (round robin, convention move/sign contracts) and different topics  
Best case scenario is that everyone who chooses to participate CAN have a voice in the area.  
So much we can learn, including how we've grown... don't be afraid.  
Value is that participation can increase and we can practice traditions and principles above personalities.  
Similar to personal inventory, think abundantly and what we do well.  
I hope GR participation at Assembly will increase and more groups can gain GRs. Could encourage DRs to attend assembly.  
An opportunity to let go of old thinking.  
Change our mindset... 6 hats thinking can be added to KBDM – use both.

Let go of mindset of them/us. It's a "WE".

This could have a very positive affect, we can change, grow, learn new things, come up with ideas that foster more participation, it's possible to get more people to participate in an area inventory.

If we talk to each other we can reason things out.

We CAN be capable of sunshine! At least as many yellow hat items as black hat.

### **GREEN HAT**

Use survey monkey etc to retain anonymity

Consider inventories on specific topics

Add inventory questions to business meeting evals

Throw out questions during group meetings

Do evaluations online

Offer time to do evals during business meetings (~10min)

Send email to remind us to complete evals after event is over

Short inventories, pointed questions with Y/N, easier answers, 5 questions max

Be excited about the inventory

Have questions that evoke positive response, not just ask questions for people to point out what we do wrong.

Questions focus on solutions, not problem.

Questions that lead participants to be part of the change/solution.

Feedback is a gift

Do we want to stop/start or continue doing a thing?

DRs to ask GRs to poll groups about topics we need to address at the area level. Use these for bite-size inventories.

What about a suggestion box?

Narrow feedback down to what's really important, actionable and we are passionate about it.

Is there anything online to help with inventories? An app?

Other areas? What do they do? Member explained how her previous area took an inventory every 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a panel.

### **BLUE HAT**

What do our members want us to address? Do we ask the group members what they want us to address?

GRs take surveys to meetings and have members fill out surveys anonymously

Encourage participation by respondents being entered into a drawing for something (literature, etc)

Don't have to tie the survey deadline to business meetings

*Keep it simple*

Topics: Giant post-it dot method to choose topics

Motions from previous assembly, temporary items, new items we haven't fully fleshed out could be topics.

Limit the number of questions, ballot box answers, GRs take it to groups, keep anonymity

Take 6 thinking hats to assembly and have workshop to help with thinking and generate ideas

We may need to consider a service vs member survey as members won't have same experiences as servants

Increase participation by handing out flyers

Let the process happen, let it go, let servant leaders lead and trust the process and each other

Make sure not to leave the non-techies behind if solution involves technology

Engage members not only in using technology for survey but also help those struggling with the technology to learn how to use it – not fear it.

## **PRESENTATION ON COMMITTEES, THOUGHT FORCES, TASK FORCES AND MOTIONS**

## Committee Clarification

- What is a committee?

## Thought Force

- Temporary unit of people established to brainstorm ideas
- Develops strategies on a single defined task or activity
- Uses resources available such as perspective of members of the thought force
- Not expected to have all the answers; suggested use of KBDM to uncover facts unknown
- Can offer recommendations; Objective is to complete the charge from the Chair
- Presents information to the originating body to move forward
- **IMPORTANT!**—The thought force are the “thinkers”—not the “doers”

## Task Force

- Temporary unit of people established to work on a single defined task or activity
- Develops strategies on a single defined task or activity
- Uses resources available such as perspective members of the task force
- Example: Take one of the strategies offered by the thought force and “do” it
- The task force may fulfill the recommendations made by the thought force
- Presents information to the originating body to move forward
- IMPORTANT: The Task Force is the “Doer”

## Summary Information

- None of these groups are the decision makers, but can make recommendations
- Objective is always to complete the charge from the Chairperson
- When the thought and task forces are complete, the Area is better informed to make a decision
- A motion may or may not be the result

## Where does a Motion come from?

- A motion results if the Assembly chooses to move forward with recommendations
- Another possibility is that the task force can suggest a motion
- The Chairperson can request a few knowledgeable members to create wording of a motion
- **IMPORTANT:** Motions are requested ahead of the Assembly except for those that result from the Thought Force and Task Force recommendations

---

## How to Write a Motion

- Ask Someone with more experience
  - Background part of the presentation – Proper framing of the subject
  - Motion should stand alone for adding to the procedures if necessary
  - Wording should be exact and wording can only be changed by the author
  - Motion should have positive wording
  - Careful to not include numbering but specify the section of procedures
-