

Missouri Area Assembly Meeting (AWSC) March 11, 2017

Meeting Opened: 9:01am. Lynn C-R announced housekeeping items and then opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer

Traditions read by Janie F, **Concepts & Warranties** read by Ann H, and **Obstacles to Success** read by Sue B.

Roll Call: Janet O. conducted roll call of officers, coordinators and District Representatives, and introduced all other guests and attendees. In attendance: 5 Officers, 10 Coordinators, 4 Alternate Coordinators, 15 District Representatives or Alternates.

17 Districts have a Representative; DRs still needed from 3, 7, 11, 12, 20, 22, 23, 24, 27

NOTE: The name shown in the lists of reports given is the person who presented the report and not necessarily the Officer, Coordinator or Chairperson responsible for the report's content.

Secretary's Minutes from August, 2016 AWSC were read by Karen G. Janet W. made motion to accept minutes as read. Fay W. 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report was given by Lori H. (See full report in Appendix A) Beginning Balance as of Jan 1st \$14,871.33. Ending balance March 1st 14,963.69. Area contribution checks should be made to Missouri Area AFG, please include District and Group with contributions. Linda G-P. made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Sherri E. seconded. Motion passed.

Audit Committee Report: Chair Lynn gave a report from the audit committee. (See full report in Appendix A) All records were found to be sound – well organized, detailed and accurate. Recommendations – submit expenses within 30 days of expense; cash checks promptly; if reimbursement is not wanted, fill out the expense form and note that it is to be donated back to the Area – this will help to track expenses for future planning.

Topic Discussion: Area Reporting, presented by Sue K. and Lynn C-R - presented and then discussion from floor and ideas put on wall charts – allowing for adding ideas later in the day.

Speak your report, don't read verbatim	Don't include details that could be written
DR reports model behavior	GR reports at Assembly/DR at AWSC
DRs lead breakout at Assembly for GRs	Use Round Robin for reporting
Gather "highlights" from GRs ahead of time and bring in to one summarized report	

Service Break: Donna S., Registrar, shared from *When I Got Busy I Got Better*. It helped her overcome her fears, getting involved helped her to receive much more than she gave.

Delegate Report given – Sarah S. (See full report in Appendix A).

- Chairman of the Board letter is on the WSO website.
- *Meet the Board* – is now *Road Trip: You and Your Board Connect!* – Sherri E commented on attending this experience in the past. 2017 in Aurora CO in October.
- Contributions exceeded \$2m for the first time ever in 2016. All reserve fund withdrawals have been replaced.
- Alateen Work Group – trial began 2012 and continued into 2017. Study found that the format did not add value to Alateen Services. Motion to end the trial has been made. NO effect to services if trial does end.
- Lynn C-R – closing prayer at Vancouver – they asked that it be said in each person's native language
- Conference Summaries will no longer be providing complimentary copies
- Service Manual Beginning in 2018 will no longer provide groups a complimentary copy. Groups must purchase.
- Positions being sought – volunteers to submit resume. Deadline August 15, 2017
- Also searching for 3 open WSO employee positions
- WSC agenda snapshot

- Just for Today bookmark prayer – discussion continues. Send feedback to Sarah from groups, district by April 10, 2017.
- Chosen agenda items feedback – due March 13, 2017
- SCRDM (South Central Regional Delegates Meeting attendance - to prepare for Conference
- Invite Sarah to speak at your district

Coordinator/Committee Reports: (See full reports in Appendix A) Registrar – Donna S., Leadership Support Committee – Ann H., Alateen Coordinator-Marilynn M.

Break out Groups: DR Training or Coordinator Forum

Lunch 12:15 – 1:30pm

Service Break: Ben/Alateen Intern – *Alateen, A Day At A Time*, Alateen daily reader. The view of “something bigger than ourselves” and how that attracts and attaches the membership.

Alternate Delegate Report given – Sue K. (See full report in Appendix A)

- SCRDM Meeting
- Gifts and/or cards for WSC Delegate & to share
- DR/GR Training
- AA State convention
- Day in Service

Round Table Discussion & Report

- Spiritual Emphasis – service breaks, spiritual time when things get heated, principles above personalities, listening, treat with respect, don’t cherish our own opinions, Concepts in the service breaks, Incorporate deeper learning of Concepts of Service in meetings – skits: assign to the districts, stop when you see it in action and point it out (learn by doing), read and share on a concept at each meeting
- Membership gain understanding & enthusiasm for service – Area info shared to all GR by email/in person, assure members that they can serve but will always have help, help with transport, keep my own enthusiasm when I share about service, Al-Anon works from the bottom up, not the top down, share issues, studying traditions and concepts
- Process for bringing a topic/concern to the Area without making a motion – Contact the chair, find other ways to discuss to bring it down
- Value of Sponsor/Service Sponsor – sponsor pamphlets, meeting topic, include in meeting opening, Round Robin article on sponsorship

Coordinator/Committee Reports: (See full report in Appendix A) Group Records-Janet O., Financial Review Committee – Mary L., Literature Depot – Mary L., Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) – Janet W., Serenity Patrol – Sherri E., Public Outreach – Marilynn M.

Topic Discussion: Knowledge Based Decision Making to an Informed Group Conscience (KBDM) presented by Janie F., Donna E-H. and Laurie K.

- The process - how it works
- Relating to the Twelve Concepts of Service
- Why is it a good model?
- Benefits of the process
- Using KBDM on the Board of Trustees
- Five Important Questions
 - What do we know about our member’s needs that is relevant to this discussion?
 - What do we know about our resources and our vision for Al-Anon

- What do we know about the current reality and the revolving dynamics of our world and our fellowship that is relevant to this discussion?
- What are the ethical implications of our decision on the fellowship or on the world?
- What do we wish to know, but don't?

Coordinator/Committee Reports: (See full report in Appendix A) Newsletter – Cheri H., Convention – Melanie E., Speaker – Nancy C., Forum-Literature – Sue B., St. Louis AIS Liaison – Donna S., Webpage – Jodi O.

Service Break: Mary L. *How Al-Anon Works* – reading about unconditional love as it is manifested in the fellowship.

Closed meeting with the Al-Anon Declaration

Appendix A – Officers, Coordinators and Committee Chair Reports

Delegate's Report

WOW! Where has the time gone? I can't believe its March and I am presenting my first official Delegate's Report. I have spent the first few months getting acquainted with/how to perform in this new role. I have received a plethora of information that I am going to pass on to you today. If you have any questions, please write them down and hold them to the end of the presentation. Time is limited, and some of this will be discussed at conference, so I want to be sure and deliver it to you.

2017 Chairman of the Board Letter (COB):

How many of you have seen the 2017 February Chairman of the Board letter? Each quarter, an update is posted on the website from the Chairman of the Board. Board week is held once a quarter and this letter is a synopsis of Board week. The following information has been taken from the *2017 January COB Letter, Debbie G:*

Finances: The overwhelming news for 2016 was related to contributions. For the first-time contributions reached two million, \$2,098,098 U.S. to be exact. Contributions for 2016 exceeded those received in 2015 by \$448,761 which allowed us to return any transfers from the Reserve Fund back to the Reserve Fund. Our members' response to our appeal letters affirms this year's Conference theme: Our Members: Our Hope for the Future.

Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect: Site selection for the 2017 Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect (formerly Meet the Board) was recently announced. We look forward to joining members from Colorado and perhaps a few additional members from other Areas. The event will be held in Aurora, Colorado on October 21, 2017.

Alateen Work Group (AWG): The purpose of the Alateen Work Group was to provide guidance for the activities of Alateens by identifying and articulating the needs of teenage members and to assure Alateen interests were considered.

The Alateen Work Group (AWG) was established with the intent the adults would form the Work Group and would engage teens by involving them in task and thought forces. This led to a three-year trial of the Alateen Work Group from 2012-2014. It is currently in a second three-year trial, with a tentative end date of October 2017.

Following an in-depth and nearly year-long review and study of the purpose, intent, and outcome of the Work Group by its parent Executive Committee along with the input of the WSO staff and Trustee members of the Alateen Work Group; it was determined that the format did not provide any added value to Alateen Services regularly provided by the WSO. The struggle to obtain teen participation was unsuccessful despite the varied methods that were attempted over five-plus years. As a result, the Chairman of the Board asked the Executive Committee to discuss the

strategic implication for Alateen Services should the trial end. It was determined that there would be no consequences to Alateen services since the WSO would continue to maintain the focus on Alateen members just as they do for all Al-Anon member services including AMIAs and Alateen Coordinators whose voices are heard and acted upon.

A motion came before the board as follows: *The Alateen Work Group trial period ending in October 2017 not be extended and the Alateen Advisory Committee as described in Concept Eleven be disbanded.*

The Board wishes to assure members that disbanding the Alateen Work Group will not affect current or future services provided by our WSO to or for Alateen which will remain an important and essential area of focus.

2018 International Convention: Plans continue to evolve for our 2018 International Convention, to be held in Baltimore, Maryland on July 5-8th. The Board approved the registration fees for the 2018 International Convention as follows:

Before December 31, 2017: \$130.00 U.S.

Before May 31, 2018: \$165.00 U.S.

After May 31, 2018: \$195.00 U.S.

You can stay connected to “breaking news: related to the 2018 International on the International Convention Web Site: www.al-anoninternationalconvention.org

Interim Actions of the Board: The following Interim Actions were taken by the Board of Trustees during the time period of November/December 2016:

In an effort to assist in decreasing budgeted expenses, reduce costs and to apply the use of emerging technology and communication options, the Board of Trustees approved the following recommendations from the Finance Committee:

World Service Conference Summary (P-46)

The Board voted to accept the Finance Committee’s recommendation to discontinue the complimentary printed copy of the *World Service Conference Summary (P-46)* to all World Service Conference (WSC) members, past WSC members, and Area World Service Committee members beginning in 2017. A digital copy will continue to be available on-line. Printed copies will be available for purchase for those who desire a hard copy. The *Conference Summary* will be priced to cover the costs of printing and shipping.

Complimentary printed copy of the Service Manual (P24-27)

The Board voted to discontinue the complimentary copy of the *Service Manual (P24-27)* in English, French, and Spanish to groups within the World Service Structure beginning in 2018. A digital copy of the most current version will continue to be available on-line to each registered group. Printed copies will be available for purchase. All newly registered groups will continue to receive a complimentary printed copy as part of the registration process.

How Al-Anon Works for Families and Friend of Alcoholics (B-32)

Both as an outreach tool and as a contributor to revenue, the soft cover version of *How Al-Anon Works* is considered a success. Based on these facts, the Board approved to end the trial of selling the soft cover version of *How*

Al-Anon works for Families and Friend of Alcoholics (B-32) as a Public Outreach project within the World Service Structure and to adopt printing the soft cover version in English, French, and Spanish for general sales. The price will remain at \$6 per copy and no discounts offered.

Trustee Traditional Approval: The list of nominees to be presented to the World Service Conference for traditional approval of Regional Trustees, Trustees At Large, Board Officers, and an At-Large member of the Executive Committee for Real Property Management are:

Regional Trustee:

Joyce B., U.S. Southwest Second three-year term

Trustees at Large:

Terry F. Second three-year term

John McL. Second three-year term

Therese M. First three-year term

Norm W. Last year of first three-year term

Board Officers:

Debbie G. Chairperson of the Board

Marilyn M. Vice-Chairperson of the Board

Elizabeth (Jennie) McC. Treasurer

Executive Committee for Real Property Management:

Sue C. Three-year term

Following traditional approval, the Board may elect the nominees at the Annual Meeting on Saturday following the World Service Conference.

The following resumes will be presented to all World Service Conference members for their information:

Executive Committee:

Paula B. Second one-year term

Connie H. Second one-year term

J.P. M. Third one-year term

Chairperson of the Executive Committee:

Paula B.

Chairperson of the Executive Committee for Real Property Management

Jeffrey K.

Policy Committee Update:

The following information has been taken from the *2017 January Policy Committee Update, Judy K., Chairperson and Donna E., Co-Chairperson:*

The Policy Committee finalized its work on incorporating spiritual principles into the text portions of the “Financial Matters” section of the Policy digest, pp. 95-99. This revised proposed text will be presented to the 2017 World Service Conference (WSC) for consideration.

The Policy Committee also finalized its proposed revision of the text “Conventions and Other Events,” pp.85-86, and pp. 123-124 of the Policy Digest. The revised text includes core spiritual principles that characterize Al-Anon events as well as suggested criteria by which these activities can be recognized or identified as Al-Anon. Guidelines for announcing conventions and events are also included in the proposed text.

The Policy Committee reviewed the Delegate feedback posted on AFG Connects about the “open” and “closed” designations for meetings. It will present the compiled comments to the WSC for Conference members to review and pursue any changes in terminology if desired.

The Open Policy Committee meeting at the 2017 will address two topics important to Al-Anon’s future; electronic (on-line) Al-Anon meetings and Tradition Four and Warranty Four, understanding group autonomy.

Finance Committee Update:

The following information has been taken from the *2017 January Finance Committee Update, Jennie M., Treasurer:*

The following update is based on the unaudited financial statements for the period ended December 31, 2016.

The General Fund recorded a gain of \$88,153 for this period, compared to a loss of \$361,025 this period last year. That represents an improvement of \$449,178 over this period last year. This is mainly due to an increase in contributions. Revenue from literature sales was slightly below that of 2015, but exceeded budgeted expectations by almost \$115,000. The General Fund investment income totaled \$17,000 but was offset by currency exchange costs of \$49,000. The big news is that 2016 Contributions for the year exceeded 2015 Contributions by \$448,761 which allowed us to return any transfers from the Reserve Fund back to the Reserve Fund.

Income: Literature sales were \$3,337,651 for this period, compared to \$3,415,146 U.S. at this time last year. Gross profit on literature sales was \$2,714,877 U.S. (81% of sales), compared to \$2,822,801 for 2015. Contributions were \$2,098,098 for 2016, compared to \$1,649,337 last year – an increase of 27.21% and exceeding budgeted projections by almost 17%. *Forum* subscriptions income was \$251,900 for 2016, an increase of 9.18%. This reflects the additional subscriptions purchased due to the suspension of the complimentary group copies of the *Forum*.

Expenses: Actual operating expenses were \$4,945,884 for the year, compared to \$5,115,292 last year and slightly under budget. Expenses were below budget due to some staffing changes and some cost-saving implementations during the year.

Reserve Fund: The fair value of investments in the Reserve Fund totaled \$5,135,790 at December 31, 2016.

Outlook: Having exceeded budgeted projections of contributions by such a large margin, we were able to end the year with a surplus without drawing from the Reserve Fund. If we are able to sustain this level of contributions and even increase it a bit each year, Al-Anon Family Groups and the World Service Office will be able to offer services and support those carrying the message in the coming years.

Resume solicitation for World Service Office volunteers:

The World Service Office is currently accepting resumes for the following positions:

- ✓ 3 at-Large Trustees
- ✓ 3 Regional Trustees (depending on region rotation)
- ✓ 1 at-large member, Executive Committee for Real Property Management (EPMRC)
- ✓ 5 at-large members, Forum Editorial Advisory Committee
- ✓ 5 at-large members, Literature Committee
- ✓ 5 at-large members, Public Outreach Committee

If you are interested in submitting a resume for Trustee at Large, Regional Trustee, or Executive Committee for Real Property Management, please see me for a copy of the resume. The Delegate's have access to the resumes via AFG Connects for World Service Conference (WSC) Members. Potential candidates' resumes must be postmarked, faxed, or e-mailed to the WSO on or before August 15, 2017. The requirements and qualifications for Trustees are listed on the Trustee application.

Employment Positions at the WSO

The World Service Office is looking to fill three employment Positions. If you would like to apply, please send a Resume and Cover Letter detailing relevant experience via email to Employee Resources Manager Bill Pierson at bill@al-anon.org. The full job descriptions are posted on the website under WSO-Employment Opportunities. If you like to see a copy of the job description, I do have a copy available to look at.

If you have any questions about these positions, please contact Bill at the e-mail address above. The following positions are available:

Communications Secretary – Bilingual English/Spanish: To provide support to Associate Directors in Public Outreach and Fellowship Communications. The individual will be required to perform bilingual English/Spanish functions for the section. To be successful, the individual will need to work as a team member in a project based, cross-functional work environment.

Research Analyst: The individual will be responsible for generating data-driven insights using various sources of qualitative and quantitative data. A key function of this role will be to design surveys and analyze their results.

To be successful, the individual will need to develop and maintain working relationships throughout the organization to maintain consistency and alignment of efforts. The ability to be a lead or a team member as required in a project based, cross-functional work environment is a core requirement.

Webmaster: The individual will be responsible for developing and implementing informational, membership and e-commerce websites. To fulfill those responsibilities, the individual will need to develop user interfaces using PHP, HTML, CSS3, and JavaScript/JQuery. Additionally, he or she will need to implement and customize a Content Management System, specifically WordPress, and implement responsive designs using Bootstrap and other CSS Frameworks.

To be successful, the individual will need to develop and maintain working relationships throughout the organization to maintain consistency and alignment of efforts. . The ability to be a lead or a team member as required in a project based, cross-functional work environment is a core requirement.

Snapshot – 2017 World Service Conference Agenda

Many of you may be wondering what is going to be discussed at this year's World Service Conference. The Agenda hasn't been sent out, but I will give you an idea of what we will be voting on, etc. At this time, I haven't received enough information to share in detail about what's listed. When I receive more information I will promptly pass it on to you. The items listed below will be addressed at conference:

1. Annual Report
2. Projected Budget for 2017
3. Proposed Policy Motion on Announcing Events at Meetings
4. Proposed Policy Motion on Financial Matters

The above items are in the working stages, and at this time I am not at liberty to discuss the details of these items. Rest assured, when more information is revealed I will pass it along to each of you.

Prayer for Today

We will be having part two of the discussion regarding the "Prayer for Today," which is included on the *Just for Today* Bookmark (M-12) and Card (M-10), as well as on page 101 of *How Al-Anon Works* (B-22). **The World Service Conference DID NOT make a decision about the "Prayer for Today" bookmark. We will be discussing this topic.** I need your feedback. If you have anything you would like shared during this discussion, please email me by **April 10th End-Day**. This will give me adequate time to compile your thoughts and be prepared to express those at conference.

Chosen Agenda Items (CAI's)

All members of the Area World Service Committee should have received an email from me regarding Chosen Agenda Items. The Delegates will complete a survey ranking the importance of the Chosen Agenda Items. I sent an email to each of you asking you to read through them and send me your feedback. If you have comments regarding them, please send those as well. The deadline for feedback on this topic is **March 13th End Day**. I realize that's a small amount of time, but I have a deadline to meet as well. I am your representative and would appreciate your feedback so I know what you would like to hear discussed at the World Service Conference. When all Delegates have completed the survey, the results will be tallied and announced. This highest ranking topic will be discussed on the floor of the World Service Conference. The topics that ranked two, three, and four will be discussed in breakout groups.

South Central Regional Delegate's Meeting

Last weekend I attended the 2017 South Central Regional Delegate's Meeting (SCRDM) held in Bentonville, Arkansas. The Missouri Area was well represented. There were several Past Delegates in attendance as well as some Panel 57 Trusted Servants. The objective of the SCRDM is to help prepare the new Delegates for conference. What an amazing experience! The weekend began Friday evening with the new delegates being announced. I was contacted ahead of time and was asked to share pick who would introduce me. Donna E.H. (Panel 45) introduced me with a beautiful heartfelt introduction! I am truly grateful for her words and her participation in my recovery. I then had the opportunity to share a little about my Service and Personal Recovery Journey.

The SCRDM was an experience that I will never forget. From the time I walked in, I was showered with hugs, cards, gifts, and loving comments. These memories hold a special place in my heart. The amount of wisdom surrounding me filled my spirit and fed my soul. I hope that one day I will be able to give to new Delegate's what they gave me. If I had any doubt in preparation for the World Service Conference, it was squashed during the weekend. Thank you to all the Missouri Delegate's who took part, because this is an experience I will never forget.

The weekend was composed of workshops, training sessions, and speakers that would help us get prepared for conference. One workshop allowed us to rank topics (similar to CAI's) and then discuss them. I found these topics to be very interesting. The topics we discussed are as follows:

1. Do Not Refer Committees
2. Cross Talk or Spontaneous Talking
3. Prayer on "Just for Today"
4. Maximize Unity – How to encourage new members to try service.
5. How do you train, inform, and mentor new service people?

Donna E-H (Panel 45 MO) was asked to conduct a workshop based on our World Service Conference Theme: Our Members: Our Hope for the Future! She did an amazing job presenting the workshop and gave us the opportunity to re-connect with some foundational AI-Anon principles. When we are speaking about our members, our growth begins at the "Home Group" meetings. She shared in detail about our two sections of AI-Anon Family Groups: AI-Anon "The Fellowship" and AI-Anon "The Organization". AI-Anon "The Organization" was actually created to support AI-Anon, "The Fellowship". She posed the following questions for discussion:

1. What is the "Groups" responsibility to AI-Anon "The Fellowship"?
 - a. Welcome Newcomer
 - b. Offer Hope
 - c. Keep AI-Anon Pure
 - d. Encourage Service
 - e. Spell AI-Anon correctly
2. What is the "Districts" responsibility to AI-Anon "The Fellowship"?
 - a. Study the Twelve Concepts of Service
 - b. Provide Training
 - c. Exchange of Information
 - d. Promote Unity within and among Organization
 - e. Encourage Participation
3. What is the "Area's", "Board of Trustees", "WSO" responsibility to AI-Anon "The Fellowship"?
4. What is my personal responsibility in my current service position to AI-Anon "The Fellowship"?
5. She asked us each of these same questions regarding our responsibility regarding AI-Anon "The Organization".
6. I didn't answer all the questions because I want you to be all to take this home and think about each link's responsibility to AI-Anon "The Fellowship" and AI-Anon "The Organization".

We also participated in a second workshop conducted by Sandy F., (Panel 38, AR) entitled "Hope, Faith, Action!" If you would like to see the details of it, I have a copy of the workshop with me. On Saturday evening, we enjoyed a banquet dinner and listened to Cindy K., (Panel 49 TX W) who shared her story as the Saturday evening speaker. She took us on a journey through the Twelve Steps identifying a spiritual principle relating to each step.

I am truly grateful for the awesome experience at the SCRDM. I would encourage each of you to attend and experience the magic that happens in the rooms. All members are welcomed and encouraged to attend. Please join me at next year's SCRDM in San Antonio, TX! The dates are March 2-4, 2018. If you decide to go, you need to reserve your room as early as possible. They were suggesting we reserve rooms by the end of this year! If you would like more information, please see me and I will get it to you.

Final Thoughts

I can't believe I have made it to the end of my first Delegate's Report. I am getting very excited about attending my first World Service Conference in April. Please keep me and all of the other Panel Delegate's in your prayers. We have been elected to carry the voice from each of our Areas. I am truly honored and humbled to be in this role and will represent the Missouri area to the very best of my ability.

Please consider inviting me to your groups or districts. I would love the opportunity to get to know each of you a little more. I am happy to share my report or share my experience. Thank you for your love and continued support on this life-changing journey. I can't do this job without each of you. Please don't hesitate to share your thoughts and feelings with me. I will carry each of you to conference with me.

"What we believe, we can achieve!"

Love in Service,
Sarah S.
Panel 57 Missouri

Alternate Delegate Report

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES:

Panel 57 marks the beginning of Area service for this Al-Anon member who begins this position with gratitude to the Missouri Area for this opportunity to grow in Recovery. Each report given will summarize activities done as a part of the duties for this position outlined in the Missouri Area Procedures Digest and will update the Area on actions taken or setbacks suffered in the pursuit of fulfilling those duties.

➤ SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL DELEGATES MEETING

Attendance at the South Central Regional Delegates Meeting-March 3-5 in Bentonville AR

- What it is:
 - The South Central Regional Delegates Meeting is a yearly gathering of past and present Delegates from Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas East and Texas West.
- Purpose:
 - To prepare incoming Delegates for the upcoming WSC.
- Who attends:
 - Anyone can attend the meeting however only current and past delegates have voice and vote. Alternate Delegate and Area Chair have voice.
- Most Important Agenda Item
 - Missouri's Area Delegate for Panel 57, Sarah S. along with Arkansas and Louisiana's new delegates were introduced and gave a 10 minute talk.
- Biggest Take Away
 - Missouri Area will be well represented by Sarah S. who through her 10 minute talk spoke with enthusiasm and knowledge about our Fellowship and its impact on her life.
 - To maintain the vitality and effectiveness of our Fellowship to fulfill our primary purpose of helping the families and friends of alcoholics we need to invest in developing qualified and willing trusted servants.

➤ LOVE GIFTS FOR WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

- Sarah S., will be attending the World Service Conference, April 24-28, 2017.
- Opportunity to express your gratitude to Sarah and other Delegates from US and Canada
- Send love gifts which are shared with all the delegates
- Cards & love notes with words of encouragement to Sarah.

- Postmarked between Tuesday, April 18 – Monday, April 24.
- Address to Sarah S, Panel 57 Missouri,
Wyndam Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel,

5700 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA 23451.

Mark in BOLD: Hold for 2017 WSC World Service Conference.

➤ DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE / GROUP REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION AND TRAINING

- As of time report was written 26 Districts/16 District Representatives contact information (62%)
- The first DR Training was prepared and Presented at the first AWSC Meeting March 11, 2017. A sign in sheet was began to track attendance and update the District Representative and Alternate information
- NOTE: under Duties of Alternate Delegate Missouri Procedures Digest Currently states the following page 18:
 4. Obtain contact information on all Alternate District Representatives from the Area Group

Records Coordinator, and extend an invitation to all Alternate District Representatives to attend the first Assembly of each Panel. This should be done three months prior to the Spring Assembly via the US Postal Service.-*NOTE: Most Notification is done by email. Currently there is no way of obtaining that information until the first AWSC Meeting*

5. Arrange an orientation/training for District Representatives and Alternate District Representatives at the first Assembly of each Panel. *NOTE: The Area would be better served if DR Training is done at the AWSC Meetings*

- Group Representative Training will be held at the Assembly-It is prepared and ready to go and was presented to District 13 at their District meeting.
- Optional Group Representative and District Representative Forums will continue at Assembly for sharing of concerns, ideas and celebrating successes.

➤ SERVE AS LIAISON TO THE A.A. STATE CONVENTION

- MOSC-2017-Jeff City August 4-6-I need Volunteers-if you will be attending and can give an hour of your time please let Alternate Delegate Know.
 - Al-Anon Main Speaker-Host
 - Al-Anon Mini Meetings-Facilitators
- The Missouri Area AFG has historically cooperated with the Missouri AA State Convention.
- Attended the December 2016 Committee Meeting in Jeff City with Sarah who facilitated a smooth transition. Sarah also expressed her concerns from the previous year.
- To facilitate better interaction with committee shared a ride with AA members from St. Louis serving on the committee and got in the car to bridge the gap for the last Committee Meeting.
- Cooperating with AA
 - It is in our traditions.
 - After reading Al-Anon guidelines realized Missouri Area Al-Anon could do a better job cooperating.
 - Missouri Area Al-Anon Members can suit up and show up.
 - This is 12th Step Work as there may be family members or friends joining their AA members who are not Al-Anon members.
- Concern regarding the Al-Anon Main Speaker for the 2017 Convention.
 - Back Ground:
 - The AA Convention Committee is a 2 year commitment for the members of AA who serve, however they stand for different jobs each year they serve.

Missouri Area Al-Anon Quarterly Report

1ST QUARTER, 2017

Income	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	Total
Alateen	\$ 542.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 542.00
Assembly	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
AWSC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contributions	\$ 4,222.97	\$ 2,570.06	\$ -	\$ 6,793.03
Convention	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Day in Service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Literature	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Round Robin	\$ 15.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15.00
Income Total	\$ 4,779.97	\$ 2,570.06	\$ -	\$ 7,350.03

Disbursements	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	Total
Area Group Records	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Alateen	\$ 18.08	\$ 1,460.67	\$ -	\$ 1,478.75
Archives	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Assembly	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
AWSC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Convention	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Day in Service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Literature	\$ -	\$ 3,581.08	\$ -	\$ 3,581.08
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 537.66	\$ -	\$ 537.66
Alt. Delegate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Chairperson	\$ 67.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 67.50
Delegate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Secretary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Treasurer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Round Robin	\$ 210.34	\$ 49.92	\$ -	\$ 260.26
SCRDM	\$ 65.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65.00
Public Outreach	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
The Forum Coord	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Web Page	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
WSO	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Disbursements Total	\$ 360.92	\$ 5,629.33	\$ -	\$ 5,990.25

Income - Disbursements	\$ 4419.05	\$ (3,039.27)	\$ -	\$ 1,359.78
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Reserve Fund	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Beginning Balance	\$ 8,982.25	\$ 8,983.39	\$ 8,984.53
Interest Income	\$ 1.14	\$ 1.14	\$ 1.04
Deposits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Ending Balance	\$8,983.39	\$8,984.53	\$8,985.57

Beginning Balance: Jan. 1 - \$14871.33; Ending Balance: March 1 - \$14963.69. Annual audit of the area finances was performed; everything looked good. Taxes for the Area are being processed. Thank you for including

district #, group name, and making contribution checks/money orders out to "MO Area AFG". It's a big help! On the back side of this report is the 2016 Year End Report. Please contact me with questions, concerns, or suggestions. Lori H., Area Treasurer. Area31afgtreasurer@gmail.com.

Missouri Area Al-Anon

2016 Annual Audit Report

Committee members Laurie K., Janie F. and Holly D. performed the audit with outgoing treasurer Diane S. on February 11, 2017.

The months of March and October 2016 were chosen for close scrutiny. Income and expense statements for both months are supported by back up documentation and match the detailed financial report. All records were accurate and easy to understand.

Discussion with Diane revealed a few challenges experienced during the panel and led to the following recommendations:

1. Request that trusted servants submit expense reports to the Area Treasurer within 30 days of the incurred expense. This will help to keep Area financial reports up-to-date.
2. Request that all checks be cashed promptly, as they do expire. The bank will not honor checks written more than 180 days prior.
3. Continue to encourage trusted servants who do not wish reimbursement for expenses to fill out an expense report (noting on the form that no reimbursement is requested). This will help to track potential future expenses and is noted on the Area Financial report as "*Expenses donated back to the Area*".

The audit committee found the Area Treasurer's financial records to be well organized, detailed and accurate.

Respectfully submitted by Holly D., Janie F. and Laurie K.

Registrar Report

AWSC

3/11/17

Currently taking registrations for May Assembly. Please fill in the registration form completely and indicate your positions with the Area/District/Group you are with. I am available today to take your registrations. Please let me know if you need a receipt.

All registrations can be mailed to my home address which is correct on the registration form. Please make checks payable to Missouri Area AFG and send with the form.

I will have nametags printed for the Assembly with your current name and position that is shown on your registration form.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna S.
Panel 57 Registrar, Area 31

Panel 57, Leadership Support Committee Report

AWSC
March, 2017

I am pleased to announce and introduce the members of the Panel 57 Leadership Support Committee. In accordance with our Area Procedures Digest (p 29) , the Area Chairperson has appointed two past Officers or Coordinators and 3 current or past District Representatives to serve on this standing committee. Members are: Ann H. (Chair), Amy G., Laurie K., Shelley L., and Janet R. The members' contact information was distributed during the AWSC meeting and will also be distributed at each Assembly and AWSC. It will also appear in the Round Robin frequently.

I served on the Leadership Support committee for part of the panel that just ended and truly believe that the work of this committee has been among the most spiritual experiences in my recovery. I commend the writers of these procedures for the spirit of love and compassion with which they infused the issue of concern of non-performance of Area officers and coordinators.

Please review pages 28 and 29 of the current Procedures Digest to better understand the work of our committee.

Part A of the Procedure Digest speaks of the ways in which our outgoing trusted servants will offer their help and support to the new panel of officers and coordinators. Some of these ways include compiling a checklist of duties/timelines/helpful tips, meeting in person to review responsibilities and to hand over all records to the incoming trusted servants, and establishing an on-going relationship with them for a minimum six months.

From reading the Round Robins for the first several issues of 2017, it is clear to me that the outgoing and incoming officers and coordinators have been doing this! Thanks, Everyone.

Part B of the Digest, gives very specific instructions for our committee in dealing with concerns brought to us. The traditional principles of our program are to be held in utmost regard during any discussion. Anonymity, compassion, respect, presumption of good will, as well as our Traditions, Concepts and Warranties will be our guiding principles.

There are only three possible recommendations this committee can make: dismissal of the concern, additional mentorship, or a request for resignation. These recommendations will be made to the Chairperson, but note that if it is the Chairperson who is in question, the recommendations will go to our Delegate. Details of our committee's deliberations will not be shared with anyone outside the committee.

In strict confidentiality, the committee will notify the individual or committee that expressed the concern, "that the Leadership Support Committee has resolved the concern in accordance with the spiritual principle of the Al-Anon Family Groups and in the best interest of the Missouri Area as a whole." No other information will be shared with Officers, Coordinators, or other members.

Following the recommendations being made, all written documents concerning the process will be destroyed.

I am honored to serve on the Leadership Support Committee and fervently hope that we do not need to deliberate at all during Panel 57. We are, however, ready to serve if necessary.

Ann H.
Chairperson

Area Alateen Coordinator Report for March, 2017 AWSC

Alateen activities are moving right along now. We finished the SMA-ART weekend with a good exchange of ideas along with the training. We have this meeting today and Super Sunday tomorrow. Our Area Alateen convention, CBAT, follows April 7 to 9. It is a busy time.

Being both the CBAT AMIAS chair and the Area Alateen Coordinator has been challenging to me. We have some out-of-state participants at CBAT again this year. I am sure there will be opportunities to learn more from each other about activities in our respective states and look forward to exchanging information.

If any districts brought wrapped white elephant gifts for CBAT, please put them under the table holding the handouts. Thank you for sharing those with the CBAT participants. Janet will be collecting those to take to camp.

I want to offer every district a challenge to celebrate Alateen's 60th birthday this year. You could make an Alateen poster to share with a school or church, hold an open Al-Anon/Alateen meeting in your district for professionals, have a birthday party for an Alateen group in your district, etc. Help us honor Alateen this year by educating others about how much Alateen has benefited some teens that you know. On that note, I would like to close by reading a Forum article titled "Working Through The After-Shocks," pages 12 and 13 from September 1987 when Alateen was 30 years old.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilynn M., Area Alateen Coordinator, email: whipp2010@hotmail.com

GROUP RECORDS COORDINATOR REPORT

As your new Panel 57 Group Records Coordinator, I would like to introduce myself to the Area 31 World Service Committee. I have been getting to know each of the Area's districts since beginning my service last January. I have already had many conversations either via email and/or telephone with various districts. I have also participated in two training sessions with the World Service Office Group Records Coordinator, Valerie S. However, my best training was with the previous Panel 54 Group Records Coordinator, Mary L. Mary L. kept very detailed records and for this I am very grateful. She has also agreed to be my Alternate for this panel. Now, on to the business at hand:

As of this morning, we have the following members present:

Officers:

Coordinators:

Asst. Coordinators:

Liaisons/Chairs:

DRs:

As of February 28, the Missouri Area has 232 Al-Anon groups and 12 Alateen groups.

Of our 26 districts, 14 districts have DR's.

We are still looking for DR's in districts, 03, 07, 11, 12, 14, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, and 27.

And, 146 (63%) of our 232 Al-Anon groups have GR's.

WSO has notified us that our Area has three (3) groups in "No Mail" status and eight (8) groups in "Bounced E-Mail" status. The Districts effected by either a "No Mail" or "Bounced E-Mail" status have that information at the top of their packet. Please contact the groups in "No Mail" status asap to get correct group contact information for the group's CMA's and e-mail me that information at panel57_grouprecords@gmail.com. After two years of being on the "No Mail" list, if the WSO is not notified of a new CMA or a correct group contact, the group will be considered "inactive" and callers will no longer be referred to that group. "Bounced E-Mail" is just a matter of getting a correct e-mail for either the CMA and/or GR.

I will be passing around the room today a clipboard that has the most recent contact information for all members of the AWSC (Officers, Coordinators/Alternates, DRs, etc.). Please look over your information and make any changes necessary, initial by your name, and pass on. After it circulates the room, please return it to me.

Respectfully submitted:

Janet O.

MO Area Group Records Coordinator

FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

The Finance Committee has been resurrected and its members are Laurie K., Donna S., Diane S., Holly D., Lori H., Judy J., and Mary L. Laurie K. is chairing the committee.

The charge of the Committee is as follows:

"CHARGE: The Committee is charged with determining the fiscal soundness of the Missouri Area both now and in the foreseeable future including the following four questions.

1. Review recent (at least 3 panels-current and 2 most recent past panels or more as the Committee deems necessary) financial statements to determine what fiscal practices have been and are effective.
2. What fiscal practices could be enhanced or discontinued without undue impact on the Area to support increased fiscal confidence?
3. Does the Missouri Area want or need a budget? If so, what recommendations does the committee have for development of a budget?
4. Does the Missouri Area have an ample reserve fund? If not, what recommendations does the committee have to increase the reserve fund to the appropriate level.

The target for the committee to complete its work would be by the November 2017 Assembly.

The committee will choose a secretary from the committee members. The Area Chair requests to be notified of all meetings called for the Committee. Also, the secretary of the Committee is expected to send a short report to the Area Chair detailing each meeting. Reports should also be prepared for and presented at each AWSC & Assembly meeting throughout the year until the Charge has been completed.

The committee is asked to use KBDM where applicable. The committee is also asked to use any and all information available from WSO and other Areas that may assist them in their charge. Also, confidentiality within the committee must be understood. Any questions related to the charge can be addressed to the Area Chair."

We held our first meeting by conference call on February 10. We discussed at length all of the information that was compiled by the previous committee and it was agreed that the information from that committee would be sent to all of the Committee members for their review prior to our next conference call. As it was our first call, the conversations were very broad but there were some discussion points brought up to the group. Overall, it was agreed that there is not just one or two items in our finances that are worth looking at. Our finances cover many areas and they all need to be reviewed. As a result of our conversations during our 2nd conference call on February 24 we chose to break down the Area finances into 5 smaller components to be reviewed by different Committee members. At this time the following areas, in no particular order of importance, will be reviewed for income/expense trends, excesses, etc. Area business meetings, Round Robin, Convention, Alateen and Committee meetings away and aside from other Area events. These are the items that we will be looking at first, however, this does not mean that we may not review other areas as well.

We will also be using documentation that was created by the Panel 51 Treasurer when the matrix was created and inserted into the Procedures Digest as we feel that although it is a useful tool, there are some "holes" that need to be closed in order for the Area to understand our reimbursement guidelines.

Our next conference call will be Sunday, March 12. We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the Area.

In Service,

Financial Review Committee
Mary L., Secretary

LITERATURE DEPOT COORDINATOR REPORT

It's been a busy first few months of the year. I picked up all of the inventory from Dora in December and it wasn't long before I was getting orders to fill. It's been quite a learning experience. I had no idea we had some of the literature that we have! I want to thank Sherri, Audrey and my Alternate, Michelle who helped me conduct an inventory just after the first of the year. I have most everything organized but am still looking for an easier way to sort, store and display the pamphlets. I have a few folks helping me look for solutions. If that's the only problem I have then I think it's going well. According to our software program, Inventory value is at \$7572.47. I am waiting on a couple of orders now from WSO. Since the 1st of the year, thru March 9 I have filled 42 orders including those being picked up today. Those orders total \$4016.84. As with every new position, it takes some getting used to the sales trends. I have had just a handful of backorders and should have a complete stock in the next couple of weeks. Sales for the new Paths to Recovery Workbook have been strong. I appreciate your patience in our trial of not bringing all of the literature to AWSC. It seemed that it would be difficult for me as well as you to be able to participate in the business meeting if we were buying and selling literature in a side room. I want to be an active part of the AWSC with my voice and my vote being heard and, I feel that I can do that best when I can be in the meeting room with all of you. I welcome your

comments and concerns. Please note that I have created a new email address specifically for literature orders. That email is area31litdepot@gmail.com

Thanks for your continued support.

Mary L.

Area 31, Panel 57 Literature Depot Coordinator

Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) Report

Since the First of the year I have participated in two AAPP Conference Calls with WSO and will be participating in another one on March 14. This call will be about recertification of the current AMIAS. Recertification will start after March 15th. After this call, notification will be sent to all Current AMIAS. You will be asked to have your recertification paperwork submitted by May 15th. For this year, you will be submitting two forms and one report: (1) Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service form, (2) Missouri Area AFG Candidate Profile for AMIAS form, (3) Current (within 30 days) Family Care Safety Registry back ground report. These forms and instructions can be found on the Missouri Area Web Site www.missouri-al-anon.org. Please register as soon as possible with the Family Care Safety Registry to get your first background report. There seems to be a backlog for especially paper submissions so you may want to apply online. If you have applied and not received your first background report call 866-422-6872 to check the status of your application and if needed request it to be processed as soon as possible.

There have been five new AMIAS certified since Feb 1st and there are others in the process.

Last fall I was asked a few times, what is the criteria for being certified as an AMIAS? I have spoken with the last two Missouri AAPP and I have also attended a Webinar Conference call from Validity Screening Solutions (this was one of the background companies that had been contacted for information on background checks). This Webinar was at no cost to me or the area and was titled Criminal Records "What to do when your applicant has one". The information that was presented will help to review background reports if they contain criminal information. Due to the questions asked last fall and the information from the past AAPPs and the Webinar I have drafted for my use an AMIAS certification criteria procedure. As this is a draft at this time and I continue to edit it, I am hoping it will be a guide to provide consistency in how I look at and handle all new applications and re-certifications.

Alateen Group Update Forms should be received by the middle of April. These will go to the Alateen Group CMA (which is the AMIAS on the Alateen group registration form on file with WSO). My understanding is there will be a return envelope included with my address on it. Alateen Group CMA or a Group AMIAS/Sponsor please update and return as quickly as possible. If there are no updates, still return so it can be noted the update was received.

The second Missouri Area **SMA-ART** (Supporting Missouri AMIAS-Annual Recommended Training) Weekend was held Feb 17-19 and it was another beautiful weekend for February. There were 18 registrations with 16 attendees. As of to date after all estimated expenses are paid the weekend will be self-supporting by \$115.53. The evaluations were very positive with some great suggestions for next year. Next year's dates are Feb 16-17-18. Mark your calendars and come join us in supporting our Missouri AMIAS.

Hopefully you have gotten a flyer from the St. Louis Area who will be hosting a one day AMIAS training on April 2, 2017 12 noon to 4pm at the AIS office. Information is on the calendar of events on the Missouri Web Site.

Remember new AMIAS are always needed. If you are not 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

SERENITY PATROL COORDINATOR

I would like to recognize the excellent job that Audrey J did with Serenity Patrol for the last panel. She left a legacy of sincere dedication to the safety of our Alateens.

I have published a survey to gain your input for improvements and direction of the Serenity Patrol for this Panel. Please be sure to take one today and share with your members.

We have all spots filled for Serenity Patrol for this evening and I appreciate the continued commitment of our members to ensure that this service is continued. I am open to ideas to improve our involvement.

Thank you again for your service and your confidence in me to serve as Serenity Patrol Coordinator for Panel 57.

Respectfully submitted.

Sherri E., Serenity Patrol Coordinator

Public Outreach Report

I am happy to tell you that I am enjoying working with Public Outreach this year. We have been answering requests for information from the Area website and have had help from the District 2 Representative Bonnie and the St. Louis AIS. They are awesome with public outreach and I appreciate their help very much.

I would like to ask that if your District has a Public Outreach Coordinator or committee, please let me know that and give me their contact information. So far I only know of the St. Louis AIS and District 8's Public Outreach Coordinator. Communication is really important. My email address is : Hopetoshare84@gmail.com..

A number of our requests for information seem to be asking for Alateen Meetings in places where there are none at this time. I have made sure our Alateen Coordinator is aware of this but we all need to think about stepping up to help with an Alateen group where there is none at this time. The need is out there. Please think about what you are willing to do to help if you live in a place where there are no Alateen meetings in your District.

Last month one of my committee members got word that our sign near Rolla, MO. was not in good shape. We were able to get a photo of our sign shortly after that, thanks to a member who lives near there. I am happy to report that the sign is in very good shape, with the colors bright and no rips or damage of any kind. My thanks to our member who was kind enough to take the picture for us. The sign is located on I 44 at mile marker 189.3 so if you are in the area keep an eye out for it.

I also want to thank Fay for her continuing help with any questions I have had of her. She has been more than willing to help and offer good suggestions to me and I am truly grateful.

Judy, my Alternate ,and I are grateful for the opportunity to serve the Missouri Area.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandi M.

Panel 57 Area 31 Public Outreach Coordinator

Knowledge-Based Decision Making to an Informed Group Conscience

As you have heard, Knowledge-Based Decision Making to an Informed Group Conscience is a suggested pathway to the group conscience decision which gives us some tools to use for clarity and connection to a Higher Power.

It can be used by an individual, by your group or district or Al-Anon Information Service, by our Area, our World Service Conference, and our Board of Trustees. The latter two use it on a regular basis with any question to which it can be applied.

Our Missouri Area has used what we know of it and the entire pattern was used by the committee that created our Do Not Refer procedure and the committee that came up with our Leadership Support pattern.

As use of Knowledge-Based Decision Making to an Informed Group Conscience progressed, the Conference and the Board of Trustees learned more about it and there has been lots of discussion and training in both of them. When a new delegate goes to the World Service Conference, he or she learns about it and immediately starts being a part of using it, will use it a lot in the Thought Forces or Task Forces or committees served on.

I love the fact that it reiterates what we have learned ever since we came into Al-Anon or Alateen – that we take the time to make a decision that is good for the situation as well as for Al-Anon as a whole, that every voice is heard, and that we include a Higher Power in the process. If we have forgotten or gotten lax about any of those principles, we are reminded.

The tool that I have found most useful is the set of five questions that are used to define and clarify the process (and I did find these listed as the Five Important Questions, Donna) :

Question 1

What do we know about our members' or prospective members' needs that is relevant to this discussion?

Question 2

What do we know about the resources and our vision for the organization that is relevant to this discussion?

Question 3

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

PROS:

CONS:

Question 4

What are the ethical implications of our choices?

In other words

Will our decision be consistent with our spiritual principles?

Question 5

What do we wish we knew, but don't?

This will give you the questions, including that one that makes sure our decision equate with our spiritual principles, for use as you need them. I understand Lynn, our Chairperson, plans to cover this topic further in our Area meetings and we plan an article in the *Round Robin* for all our members.

NEWSLETTER

Hello Everyone,

My name is Cheri H. and I'm your new round-robin editor my alternate is Jenn B. So some helpful information for all of you if need to send an article than you will send it to roundrobin57@yahoo.com. If you have any questions about your subscriptions or if you need to renew your subscription then you need to contact Jenn her mailing address is 12 Atwood Saint Peters Missouri 63376 or through the Round Robin email address or to Jenn's personal address which is wrkerb@yahoo.com.

So as of now we have sent out two mailings, February and March. March was sent out later than planned but I hope by now you all have gotten your newsletter. We are definitely going through a learning time but we will eventually get the hang of it, thank you for your patience also on the newsletters I forgot to add the expiration date, I will make sure to do it next time.

For the month of March we have

5 complimentary subscriptions

149 past due group newsletters

96 current group newsletters

76 personal newsletters for

March we sent out 325 for

February we sent out 326 newsletters

Again I want to thank you for your patience and for giving me the opportunity to learn something new. Although it has been stressful at times I have enjoyed being able to use my creativity.

Convention Coordinator Report

Hello ladies and gentlemen. I'm excited to serve as your Convention Coordinator. At the present moment I don't have much to report as we are working on getting committees together. As of now, I am currently in need of an Alternate Coordinator, Decorations Chair, Raffle Chair, mini meeting chair. Gee that's all. We will be having a Convention meeting tonight at Perkins following AWSC at 5:00 If anyone is interested in filling any of these positions please feel free to attend.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Marilyn, Lynn, Linda, and Geneva. These ladies have been a godsend as I learn my new position.

I look forward to bringing you a great convention. Should you have any concerns or ideas please bring them to me. When we work together we all win.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie E.
Convention Coordinator

Speaker Coordinator Report

We almost have the speaker roster for 2017 filled. We are still looking for an Alateen speaker, but have a couple of leads there.

If you attend Al-Anon Conventions in other Areas and hear a good Alateen speaker, please get a CD of their talk and bring it to us – either Geneva or Nancy, so the committee can listen to the talk. We have six people on the selection committee besides Nancy and me. In fact, if you hear any speaker you would like to have here, please bring us a CD of their talk. We do need speakers in driving distance, however, because we already have the speakers we will need to pay air fare for lines up.

Several of the people we asked to speak this year could not speak in 2017, so we have asked them to speak in other years. At this point, we have four speakers lined up for 2018 and one of 2019.

I hope all of you are looking forward to the Convention! I am really getting excited about it!

Geneva D., Speaker Coordinator

Read by Nancy C., Alternate Speaker Coordinator

Forum/Literature Coordinator Report

The first 3 months of Panel 57 have been a real learning experience. Our alternate coordinator, Patti B., and I have had some communication and are working on dividing the responsibilities of the position so that we are each involved.

The first thing we decided we'd like to do is to make sure that an article appeared each month in the *Round Robin*. I will be submitting the next article in April, then Patti in May. We plan on alternating months throughout the panel.

I also have access to the Forum and Literature Coordinator e-communities on *AFG Connects* and have been reading with interest the various posts that I see. I will be sure to share any information and news that you would be interested in. I will also keep in contact with Mary L., our Depot Coordinator, when I become aware of new literature as it is published.

Speaking of new literature, I brought a copy of the Paths To Recovery Workbook, a companion piece to the text. The questions in this new workbook come directly from the text. There isn't really room in the text itself to write down answers, thoughts, etc. The workbook has plenty of room for this! I know several sponsors use Paths To Recovery with their sponsees. If you do too, or you use "Paths" in your own recovery, the workbook could be a great resource for you.

I also have a copy of the redesigned newcomer's packet. This is a nice presentation in a booklet format and includes those pamphlets that could be of particular interest to potential members. The "Just For Today" and sponsorship bookmarks are also included and are perforated for ease of use. If you take a look inside the front cover, you'll see plenty of room for members to write their name and phone number.

One of the responsibilities of the Forum/Literature Coordinator is to encourage our members to submit writings to the Forum. I located a writing workshop from WSO on *AFG Connects* which I would be happy to share with any of you who might want to have a workshop in your district. I'll also be talking further with one of our members who graciously offered to share her experience when she held this position. If you would be interested in having a writing workshop, please contact me at (email deleted as it contains full name). I'd love to help!

In grateful service,

Sue B.

Panel 57 Forum/Literature Coordinator

Website

I am grateful to serve as your new area web page coordinator. The transition from previous coordinator is complete although I do ask for guidance occasionally (thanks Kathy and Richard). I believe all updates are getting to me and the alternate coordinator Margaret. The March Round Robin included an update with our generic email address and I also added that generic email to the contact us page on the website so it was easier to know where to send us updates.

There were quite a few calendar updates in January/February as many districts added their district meetings, and spring or summer activities to the calendar. We've even seen 3 professional outreach requests since the beginning of the year!

I'd like to share some numbers with you and I love this type of thing but not everyone does so I'll try not to sound like Charlie Brown's teacher.

Within the last month the vast majority of visitors found our site through Google. The WSO main website was next on the list to send visitors our way but that amounted to only about 15% of how many visitors Google sent us. Meaning, Google is King. Our site visitors found us most often using terms like "*missouri al anon meetings*" or "*al anon meetings*"

followed by the city name". I even saw a search for Alateen St. Louis! There were over 3,700 unique visitors in this thirty day time frame that visited over 14,000 total pages (that's a lot of pageviews!) Of the pages viewed, the meetings and calendar pages were the most viewed. Other pages in the top 10 included the newsletter, contact us, slogans and about al-anon.

One thing that isn't news to you is how important the web can be as a communication vehicle. From helping newcomers understand what our fellowship is about or to find a meeting, to an established member visiting a new area or trying a new meeting, all visitors should be able to find us, browse the site and get meeting information easily. In addition, anyone in service positions should also be able to access information online to assist in our service roles. During this panel, we'll be looking at ways we can increase our reach, improve the site, and offer the support all site visitors need.

In closing:

- I'm grateful to serve you in this way and have taken the website on as my personal responsibility. I cannot wait to see how our site will grow in the future.
- Please please please send me ideas, suggestions, concerns, questions. I'm all ears and just as I need each of you for my recovery, I now need your thoughts to help us make the site as great as in can be.
- Send us any ideas or suggestions to area31website@gmail.com. Whether you have a goal for the site we're missing now or a way to improve something we're already doing, I welcome the feedback.

Yours in service,
Jodi O

Procedures Digest Committee Report

The Chair of this committee for the first year of its existence resigned last autumn. I was a member for that first year, and at the most recent Area Assembly meeting was appointed as the new committee Chair. The Area Chair and I have been working to fill the empty spots created by others having dropped off. I very much regret that a family member's funeral is causing me to miss the March Area World Service Committee meeting. I had plans to continue the discussion the Area Chair and I have begun about both refilling the committee, and the new Area officers taking into consideration recommendations from the previous year's work. I am sure Lynn is still going to work on this a bit, along with about a thousand other little things she has been working on. It is a blessing for me to see her energy working for our program.

The committee is scheduled to be in existence for this full panel, and then a decision will be made as to whether or not it has accomplished enough to be disbanded. It is my hope that it will end up being disbanded, as many of the recommendations we might make have already been developed over the last year and ought to easily be finished and submitted to the Area Officers or Assembly for consideration well before the end of the current panel. We will not solve everything, as that was never our charge, but we will be able to submit recommendations to possibly improve the existing document and practices that might continue making improvements over time.

The use of knowledge based decision making is an important part of how this committee's work and other things in our Area can be addressed and kept in accord with Alanon traditions and their principles. I was really looking forward to the discussions you all are having at this AWSC. I hope it is a rewarding time for each of you and our Area. Our next report should come at the May Assembly, but I hope we will be submitting some more of our work to the Area officers before then too.

I walk in peace, David P., Procedures Digest Committee Chair.

St Louis AIS Office Liaison Report

My name is Donna and I am giving the Liaison Report for the St. Louis Al-Anon Information Service (AIS). The AIS has been directing potential newcomers to over 177 groups in the Greater St. Louis and Southern Illinois areas. Here are the statistics for the period of November and December, 2016 and January, 2017:

Phone Calls and Emails	645
Literature Sales	\$8,336.10
Contributions	\$5,426.42
Dollars and Sense	\$1,065.53

The AIS office serves the St. Louis and St. Louis metropolitan area including Illinois Districts 13, 17 and 18. The AIS office hours are 9:00am to 3:30pm Monday through Friday. The first Thursday of every month, the office is open additional hours from 1:00pm to 8:00pm for groups wishing to make literature purchases and contributions before the 7:00pm Intergroup Meeting. You AIS office has two part-time staff members: Lin B. and Val T., and many volunteers that donate their time and talents in the office.

Brand new in our office, just arrived from WSO, is the new *Paths to Recovery Workbook* that complements the *Paths to Recovery* book. We also have received from WSO the new booklet format of the *Newcomer Packet*. All other newcomer packets will remain in the same format.

The AIS office bestselling books the past three months have been: *How Al-Anon Works for Families & Friends*, *Paths to Recovery-Al-Anon's Steps, Traditions and Concepts* and *Reaching for Personal Freedom-Living the Legacies* is a consistent seller for groups and individuals using it as a workbook!

You can call the AIS office and have orders mailed to your home with a minimum \$25 credit card, save gas and time!!! WSO sent our order for the Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2017 with articles such as *Explaining the disease to a young child*; *Al-Anon members report improved well-being*, *Getting better faster!*

We have now received the new and improved booklet format of the Al-Anon Meeting Directories. The AIS Office sells them for \$1 each, or 10 for \$8.

The *Sincerely Al-Anon* newsletter is now in a 4-page tabloid style, so we can get all the news to your monthly! If you would like an electronic copy sent to you please phone the office at 314-645-1572.

The current Al-Anon Information Service Board consists of Mary A., Chris K., Donna S., Kevin H., Kyle C., Marc B. We have one open position on the Board. A Liaison position and a website coordinator position is currently available and the Public Outreach Coordinator will be rotating from this position in April, 2017.

The IRs unanimously passed a motion to develop an AIS website that 1) focuses on public outreach (families in need and professionals who can utilize Al-Anon as a resource); 2) an e-chat component; and 3) an e-commerce site for an on-line literature store and donations. We want to generate interaction and utilize the website as a portal to attract people to come in and starting using the site as a resource. We **have a domain name: stl-al-anon.org**. **Our new email address is aisoffice@stl-al-anon.org**

AIS participated with AA in the Alano Potluck on February 11 at Grace Episcopal Church in Kirkwood. Over 400 people attended and it was a successful fellowship event!

Our enthusiastic Public Outreach Team meets approximately once a month at the Al-Anon Office. Public Outreach highlights that we have participated in the last several month are as follows:

- Washington University
- District 15 Workshop
- Crises Intervention Team - STL Police Academy & Training
- Vista School = Mitch von Gemmingen
- South county Epidemic Fair
- Young Women's Leadership Conference
- Probation & Parole
- University of Missouri-St. Louis, Social Work
- SLU-Social Work Class

Our public service announcements (PSAs) are played on the following TV stations - we are pleased to announce that they have no end date:

- KTVI airs our PSA 2 times each night from 12 - 2 a.m. and is reaching approx. 13, 000 viewers.
- KPLR airs our PSA 3 times each night from 12 - 2 a.m. and reaches approx. 5,000 viewers.
- KMOV Ch. 4 airs our PSA 2 times each night from 12 - 2 a.m. and can reach up to 10,000 viewers.
- KMOV owns ME TV 4.1 and our PSA airs at 7 p.m.
- KMOV owns MY TV 4.2 and airs our PSA at 7 p.m. Both of these stations reach between 5,000-7,000 viewers during this time frame.
- During the time frame these PSAs are layed we reach 40,000+ viewers per day.

We have many, many more public outreach events scheduled in the future. Thank you from the bottom of our heart for supporting our AIS office. Our Team is fulfilling our mission to reach those we have not yet reached and taking responsibility for Al-Anon's future. Thank you for the opportunity to be trusted servants and to carry the message of hope to others!

Respectfully submitted by Your AIS Office.