

Iowa Area AWSC
Hotel Kirkwood – Cedar Rapids, IA
August 14, 2016

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 8:35 AM. Total in attendance was 25, 18 of which were voting members.

Secretary Report: The Secretary read the minutes of the June 4, 2016 Assembly. Minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer Report: The Treasurer read the financial statement from June 2 – August 10, 2016. Balance brought forward was \$22,951.89. Total receipts for the period were \$12,463.70. Total disbursements for the period were \$11,502.51. Balance brought forward on August 10, 2016 was \$28,543.43. Group donations for the year were attached to the financial statement. There were some calculation errors found in the statement. The Treasurer will resend the corrected statement.

Delegate's Report: The Delegate shared on the following:

TEAM – Thanks for the Committee and all who helped and attended the TEAM event. Also thanks to the LDC/AIS for making literature available. It was a great success.

Elections – At the Group, District and the Area level! Please share and review with the GR's the resumes found in the August Newsletter. This will help to make an educated, informed vote at the Fall Assembly. Let's encourage each other as we become willing to stand for our intended service positions and support one another as we continue our Spiritual Journey in Service.

2016 World Service Conference Summary (P46) is hot off the press and included in the packets. You can order yours for only \$5.00 or download on the Member's website. This a valuable reference for detailed information of discussions at the World Service Conference.

Employment Opportunities – the WSO is seeking to fill the Director of Finance position. AI-Anon and AA members are not eligible to apply. Please forward this information to non-members who may be interested. Contact the Delegate for the job description if interested.

Serenity 65 – The 2016 Iowa Area Serenity Weekend is Sept 23-25 at Twin Lakes Christian Center, Manson, IA. Don't miss the August 31st deadline. Information and registration flyers are available on the Iowa website or through your GR/DR or Delegate.

US North Central Regional Delegates Meeting – The 2017 meeting will be held in Kalamazoo, MI on March 17 – 19, 2017.

2017 World Service Conference – Will be held in Virginia Beach April 24-28. The conference theme is "Our Hope for the Future".

Note: The 6th Al-Anon International Convention will be held July 6-8, 2018 in Baltimore.

Alternate Delegate's Report: The Alternate Delegate reported the following:

TEAM event went well – great job everyone for their hard work to make this a terrific event.

The 2016 Spring Assembly – A big thanks to District 11 and the co-chairs for hosting this Assembly. There was a great workshop on the Concepts.

The 2016 Fall Assembly will be held October 14-16, 2016 (less than two months away) in Waterloo, IA at the Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center. The Al-Anon luncheon speaker will be the Associate Director of Member Services at the WSO, and a local member from District 4 will be the Sunday morning spiritual speaker. The Alateen speaker is from District 3 (Ames). The co-chairs are working with committees and lining up volunteers. This will be the last Assembly for this term and remember it will be a voting Assembly.

There was a great turnout of resumes turned in, with lots of years of experience. Please study and analyze each resume as it is your responsibility to vote. The Higher Power will be at work – with humility and grace in action.

The 2017 Spring Assembly will be held in Spencer, IA at the Clay County Events Center June 2 – 4, 2017. The theme will be “We Are Not Saints”. The luncheon speaker will be the North Central Regional Trustee and Chairperson of the Board. Iowa’s current delegate will be the Spiritual Speaker. The Alateen speaker is yet to be announced. The committees are finalizing the details of the flyer.

The 2017 Fall Assembly will be held in Sioux City on October 13-15, 2017.

Forum Report: Did you see? There were several members from Iowa with articles published in the July and August editions of the Forum. Check it out. Also check out the Forum display at the Fall Assembly. There will be a map tracking what states articles have been submitted since January 2016.

Coordinator Reports:

Alateen: Public Outreach has a new Alateen PSA. P67 – Dear Mom and Dad has been renamed “Alateens Share with the Adults in Their Lives”. The content is the same, only the title was changed.

July 20th AAPP’s were notified of a new online designation that can/will occur “reported not meeting”.

WSO is asking for help –

- Add signage inside of meeting places so that the meeting can easily be found.
- Leave a note on the door if a group is not meeting on a specific day.
- Notify the Area when the meeting location changes or the group no longer exists.

Please let the Coordinator know if there are any changes in Alateen Group GR or Alt GR by **Sept 1st**. Encourage them to attend the October Assembly and vote for the next officers, ages 12 and older. The Fall Assembly Alateen speaker will be from District 3 – Ames.

July 15-17 – Coordinator took several Alateens from District 7 (ages 8-15) to the Kansas Alateen Round Up. It was a great time and Alateens from Missouri, Arkansas and Kansas were there. The event was similar to the Serenity Weekend.

AMAC is Thanksgiving weekend (Nov 25-26) in Topeka, KS, which is about 4 hours from Des Moines. The cost will be \$25. Registration information will be sent to each group AMIAS once it is available.

According to an Alateen survey, Alateen events are 3rd in regard to the importance of Alateen success.

Chat Room – every Wednesday, at 5:30 pm. <https://chat.alateen.net>

Archives: (Report was read in Coordinator's absence) Has been cleaning out the cabinets and hopes to combine three cabinets down to two. Minutes and financials have been sorted by date from 1962 to present. Was able to find a copy of each one that was missing from 2005 to 2013. There are some minutes from the 60's and 70's that are missing. The Iowa Reaches Out Newsletters have been added and are up to date from 1972 to present. Flyers from Assemblies, Service Workshops and Serenity Weekends have been put in acid-free sleeves and placed in a notebook. Nothing has been disposed of. There is a list of items missing of which each AWSC member will be asked to see if they have any needed items. Many of the items belong to the Districts and the impression is that they should be given back to the Districts.

In the past, WSO sent archive materials to a previous Archives Coordinator. There are sharings from members that were sent to the WSO in regard to the 50th Anniversary of Al-Anon. A paper was shown as to what this looked like. Do Districts want this information back as it probably does not belong in the Area Archives?

There is also a large amount of literature in the Archives, which does not belong there. A listing will be emailed.

Group Records: Area has new groups and groups closing. Several of the meetings/contacts/information has been cleaned up overall.

WSO sent out a notice about purging the groups "marked for deletion". This would be the records that have an inactive date of 2012 or earlier. A list was distributed – please take a look. If you do not feel this is correct, please contact Group Records.

Also a status of "reporting no meeting" status was discussed. These are flagged when a member calls in and advises that there is no meeting in that specific location. These meetings have been flagged so that they are temporarily removed from the WSO information toll free meeting line. We have 30 days to respond to WSO. All DR's need to contact groups in their District to be sure they are meeting and have current contact information. Keep in touch with your groups.

Upcoming elections – be sure to check over the list to ensure that Group Records has correct information in regard to GR's and Alt GR's.

Literature: (Report was read in Coordinator's absence) There are free downloadable pamphlets about CAL available on the website. They include: Why Conference Approved Literature (P35) and Group Inventory: Use of Conference Approved Literature (S62).

Revisions to the following publications are now in print: Alateen Share with Adults in their Lives (P47), Information to the Newcomer (S4), Lois Remember (B7) includes changes to the historical timeline in the back of the book.

WSO continues to request sharings for the new Daily Reader, Intimacy Book, and the Grandparent Pamphlet. There is always a need for sharing in regard to how CAL has helped members with their recovery.

Newsletter: (Report was read in Coordinator's absence) Newsletter finally went out after a few internet glitches. The usual 8-page newsletter was 22 pages long, which included 12 resumes submitted by those willing to stand for an Officer or a Coordinator. It also included flyers for TEAM, Serenity Weekend and the Fall Assembly. All mailed copies were mailed at \$.89/each.

Public Outreach: (Report was read in Coordinators absence) There was a summer public outreach conference call, but was not able to participate, but read about it on AFG Connects. Many people were unable to access the PSA's on the member's website, which was the major topic of the conference call.

The poster contest has ended. However they are still accepting sharings for any potential poster contests in the future.

The 2017 Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism is available for public outreach use. You may still use the old issues. Simply put a label over the date with your local contact information for newcomers.

If you would like to share your public outreach projects, please contact Public Outreach.

Web Page: What has been done: The new Iowa page is up and running. All content is the same, but has a new look and address – <http://iowa.al-anon.org>. The old address will reroute to the new address. The new site is easier to navigate on smartphones and tablets and includes map links to Area Events on the Calendar page. It is built with WordPress and is easier to maintain.

What is next: After completing the transition, we will:

Add the ability to have searchable meeting lists and maps

Evaluate options for meeting list integration with Area Group Records and consult with the AWSC before making any changes. This would begin in the process of instant updates to the Web Page.

Review the Web Page Coordinator requirements and make recommendations to the Iowa Policy Committee where changes are needed.

District meeting schedules – There are two District meeting schedules that have not been updated prior to 6/2015. They have been replaced with links to the Area Meeting List filtered for those Districts. This can be switched back to the District schedule once an updated schedule is received by the Web Page Coordinator.

District Reports: Reports were read from the following Districts: 1 (absent, read by another, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 (read by Alt), 15. There were no reports from 5, 6, 9 (absent), 12, 14 (absent).

District Representatives, please remember to send the Chairperson your report if you are not able to attend Assembly or AWSC meetings.

Old Business:

2016 Spring Assembly: Co Chair provided attendance numbers. 189 AA, 112 Al-Anon, 16 Alateen for a total of 317. The Alateen participation was higher than usual. The bottom line was a positive \$1,216.15. The Treasurer's Report was emailed to the Alt Delegate.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make this a successful Assembly. Also thanks for all the food and financial donations. The dance was well attended.

2016 Fall Assembly – the Fall Conference will be held in Waterloo, IA on October 14-16, 2016. There has been great AA and Al-Anon cooperation and are meeting monthly. Coordination of volunteers has begun. Registration is due by 8/31. Remember this is a voting assembly.

The speakers will be the Associate Director of Member Services at WSO. A local member from District 4 will be the Sunday morning spiritual speaker.

AWSC Agenda Task Force – Three different agenda formats were discussed (mild/moderate/out of the box). It was mentioned that the new agenda can be a "trial" for a short period of time. It was decided that the Task Force would take some of the items from each agenda and come up with "the best of the three agendas" format possibly for the January 2017 AWSC. The current and new Officers could meet after the Fall Assembly to decide. This would affect the AWSC again only, not the Assembly Agenda. Discussion of moving the AWSC to Saturdays took place.

Legal Considerations for AWSC – No word yet from the attorney. It was suggested to get another attorney. There is a template for the by-laws on the WSO website. The Chairperson will work on getting this document in place and will send to the AWSC for review. A consensus vote was taken that once this document was created, it could be taken to the attorney's office, along with \$500. All were in favor and no one opposed.

Area Serenity Weekend (Route 65 to Serenity) – The Delegate reported the dates for the Serenity Weekend are September 23-25, 2016 – Confirmation of registrations will be sent from the Treasurer. August 31st is the drop-dead deadline to register. Be sure to see what you have signed up for. Check out the flyer on the website or the one in your packet.

TEAM Wrap Up – 72 attended, including 7 Alateen. Expenses - \$3,495.60. There was a profit of \$62.64. The District 7 Literature Depot profited \$710.25.

New Business:

Service Workshop – The theme will be MASH (My Al-Anon Service Help). Workshops are as follows: GR Bootcamp – D4, Drop and Give me 12 (Traditions) – D11, Survival Training (Healthy Groups) – D2, Alpha, Brava, Charlie (Basic Training / Group Business) – D8, Be All You Can Be – D7, Forward March (Transition) – Officers.

Iowa Policy Updates – Secretary – tabled until January 2017 AWSC.

Area Calendars - A member from D15 has agreed to complete the calendars.

Alateen Policy Regarding Age – Tabled until January 2017 AWSC.

Web Page Policy regarding anonymity – Web Page Coordinator presented options to ensure that member’s anonymity is protected on the website, as requested by WSO. Discussion was held in regard to possibly using Gmail with emails and phone number provided by Google. It was agreed that in all areas, email addresses would be used instead of names as much as possible going forward. The Secretary will start immediately to not list names in the minutes and refer only to the service position.

Meet The Board – Will be held in Fayetteville, Arkansas on October 22, 2016. The 2017 event will take place on October 21, 2017. D7 will submit a bid for this in Des Moines.

Al-Anon International Convention – Survey are out in regard to possible interest in taking a bus to Baltimore. Once completed, please return to the Delegate. They will also be available at Serenity Weekend and the Fall Assembly. There was a consensus vote that Iowa would not submit a bid to host the next international convention.

Spring Assembly 2017 – will be held in District 2 in Spencer, IA. Reserve rooms early. The hotel is not connected to the event center. Flyers are available on the website.

Fall Assembly 2017 will be held in Sioux City, IA, October 13-15, 2017. More details to come.

The meeting closed at 12:05 PM with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Area Secretary

DATES TO REMEMBER

- September 23-25, 2016 Area Serenity Weekend @ Twin Lakes, Manson, IA (registration deadline – 8/31)
- October 14-16, 2016 Fall Assembly, 5 Sullivan Brothers Center, Waterloo, IA (elections)
- November 1, 2016 "Iowa Reaches Out" Newsletter Deadline
- January 14, 2017 Service Workshop, Iowa Valley Comm College, Marshalltown, IA
- January 15, 2017 Iowa AWSC Meeting, Hampton Inn, 9:30 am, Marshalltown, IA
- June 9-11, 2017 Spring Assembly, Spencer, IA
- October 13-15, 2017 Fall Assembly, Sioux City, IA

Iowa Al-Anon Literature Depots:

939 Office Park Rd. Suite 113
West Des Moines, IA 50265
515-277-5059
www.al-anondesmoines.org

2801 Jackson St.
Sioux City, IA 51104
712-255-6724
www.afg.aiclit@yahoo.com

Iowa Information Centers:

Des Moines AIS/LDC – 515-277-5059
Ames - 515-233-6312
Sioux City AIS/LDC – 712-255-6724

New Area URL: <http://iowa-al-anon.org>