

**Iowa Area AWSC Meeting  
Marshalltown, IA – March 10, 2019**

Virginia B, Chairperson, opened the meeting at 9:00 am. Total attendance was 17 of which 16 were voting members of the AWSC. Opened with reading of the Traditions and Concepts of Service, followed by the review of etiquette and the evaluation questions.

**Secretary Report (Linda A):** The minutes from the January 2019 AWSC meeting were mailed electronically earlier to be read before the meeting; they were not read during the meeting. Errors were found regarding “motions” and “consensus”. Revisions will be changed as needed. A consensus was taken and the minutes (with changes) were approved and will be filed as corrected.

**Treasurer Report (Jean L):** Read the financial statement from January 1 – February 28, 2019. Balance brought forward was \$25,763.45. Total receipts this period were \$3,373. Total disbursements were \$2,566.29. Balance brought forward on February 28, 2019 was \$26,570.16. A consensus was taken and approved for the Treasurer’s Report and will be filed as read.

**Delegate’s Report (Beth K):**

2019 World Service Conference (WSC) will be held April 13–17, 2019 at Virginia Beach. The theme is “Action is Attraction – There is no Growth in the Comfort Zone”. Cards can be sent to Debbie G, Connie H and Beth K to: Sheraton Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel, Attn: (Name of recipient), Hold for WSC 4/13-4/17, 2019), 3501 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA 23451. Make sure the cards arrive after April 10<sup>th</sup> and use the name and address of the recipient’s home address as the return address from the CMA list.

The North Central Regional Delegates Meeting (RDM) will be held March 15-17, 2019 in Madison, WI. Five officers and four past delegates will attend. The RDM will help prepare two new Panel 59 Delegates from our region for the WSC in April.

**January 2019 Chairman of the Board (BoT) letter highlights:**

- Board’s Strategic Plan, the foundation of AI-Anon’s future. Please read and share with members of the fellowship.
  - Core Purpose: Helping families and friends of alcoholics find hope and encouragement to live joyful, serene lives.
  - Mission Statement: AFG, Inc. is a spiritually based organization that helps families and friends of alcoholics connect and support each other through meetings, information and shared experiences.
  - Core Values: Spirituality Based, Honest, Transparent and Self-Supporting.

**Trustee Candidates:** Announced that Jean L was selected and will be traditionally approved as the Regional Trustee for the North Central Region (NCR) at WSC. Following traditional approval of the Board, at their Annual Meeting on the Wednesday immediately following the WSC, votes to make the nomination official. Congratulations Jean!

Debbie G has been nominated and will be traditionally approved at WSC to serve a one-year term on the Executive Committee as Chairperson. Congratulations Debbie!

Still looking for resumes for ECRPM (Executive Committee for Real Property Management). Resumes are due by 3/15/19. Several Iowa members have previously served on this committee.

WSO Volunteer Page has been created. <https://al-anon.org/for-members/board-of-trustees/>. Check out the website, as well as the electronic resume.

Road Trip! You and the Board Connect: Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 19, 2019 to be held in Seattle, Washington. The flyer and registration information will be available soon.

2019 TEAM Events: There are six TEAM events scheduled for 2019 as noted in the CoB Letter or on the calendar on the Al-Anon.org website.

Finance Committee Report: Iowa contributions for 2018 increased from 2017. Forum sales and expenses were lower than budgeted.

Policy Committee reported:

- Continued to review the “Membership and Group Meetings/Conventions” portion of the *Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies* for further clarity and describing the spiritual principles.
- Finished the revised text of “Alateen Policy” section. Delegates have been provided the proposed text to prepare for discussion and vote at Conference.
- Created a presentation to update the WSC regarding the work done by the Electronic Meetings Work Group.
- Assigned a Task Force to review the Suggested Alateen Preamble to the Twelve Steps to ensure the Preamble’s language is welcoming and it can be translated into French and Spanish.

Discussed “My Service Journey, where am I headed?” The California S Delegate shared this form. Beth revised it to reflect our Area’s information. This is a working form/tool to guide members or yourself as you consider what is next on your service journey. This is not CAL approved.

#### **Alternate Delegate’s Report (Katy P):**

The 2019 Spring Assembly – Keys to the Kingdom – Grinnell, IA – June 7-9, 2019. Registration deadline is May 31, 2019. The luncheon speaker will be Rachelle C., MN, North Delegate Panel 56 from Zimmerman, MN. Lorraine R. will be the Sunday Spiritual Speaker. The Alateen speaker will be Andrew L, West Des Moines, IA.

Dorm-style sleeping arrangements are available. Parking will be very limited, and some walking will be required. Meals will be cafeteria-style. Sunday breakfast is an additional option. Thanks to Tricia K, Lisa G and Katelynn T for co-chairing this Assembly. A link to the campus map is <https://www.grinnell.edu/sites/default/files/documents/campusmap.4.12.pdf>. The speakers will be held in Harris Hall and they are being housed in Cowles. The flyer and agenda are on the Iowa Al-Anon website. Thank you to Lisa, Tricia and Katelynn for your participation.

The 2019 Fall Assembly - Serenity Seekers & Wisdom Walkers – Carroll, IA – October 11-13, 2019. Registration deadline is October 1, 2019. The luncheon speaker will be Vali F., Executive Director, WSO. Connie H, Fort Dodge, IA will be the Sunday Spiritual Speaker. The Alateen speaker is yet to be determined.

This will be a voting Assembly and will be the final Assembly of this term. Vali F, the Executive Director of WSO, will share her personal story and lead a workshop. Thank you to Mary E and Judy V for co-chairing this Assembly.

The 2020 Spring Assembly – Buena Vista College, Storm Lake, IA – June 5-7, 2020. This Assembly will be the second Assembly in a row hosted by District 14. Thank you to Mary E and Virginia B for co-chairing.

The Forum: Check out Connie H's story in the March 2019 Forum. Mark S, Magazine Editor for The Forum, requested submittals of personal writings for the "What's Your Story" section. Submissions should range from 700 to 1,300 words. Your sharings will be edited before publication. Inspire readers with your experience, strength and hope. Questions to ask yourself: what your life was like before Al-Anon; in what ways were you affected by someone's drinking; how you heard about Al-Anon; why you keep coming back and lastly, what is your life like now and how the program has benefitted you.

Group subscriptions remain consistent over the year. There have been significant increases of individual, districts, service centers and institutions subscriptions. Follow up with your home group to ensure they have a group copy.

**Coordinator Reports: (Reports were electronically submitted to the AWSC and not read).**  
**Additional briefings were given by the Coordinators.**

Alateen – (Lorraine R) – The "Together We Can Make It" Alateen Serenity Weekend will be held April 26-28, 2019 in Indianola, IA. Deadline to register is 3/31. See the flyer to know what to bring. The flyer, along with the group registration and parental permission form, has been previously emailed out.

The Alateen Committee will be sending the needed changes for the Alateen Behavioral Guidelines to the Policy Committee.

Archives: Lori R – Has received some long-term member forms back. If you need one, please ask. Lori will be bringing some items in August to distribute.

Group Records: Becky V – There are four new registered groups in Iowa. Two are in District 5, one in District 9 and one in District 6. Two of these Districts currently do not have DR's.

Many DR's are completing their changes on-line. However, if there is an Alt-GR change, please update directly through Group Records. This information is used for voting purposes at Area Assemblies.

Remember – Please update your GR/Alt GR information 30 days before the Fall Assembly (elections).

Literature: Missy Y – Excited for the Just For Tonight bookmark (M-81); available to order for only \$.10/each.

Please consider sharing your story with WSO and Al-Anon worldwide by submitting your sharings for the New Daily Reader, The Forum or CAL Corner.

Newsletter: Mary S – the February-April *Iowa Reaches Out* has been distributed. The next Newsletter deadline is May 1 and will include the Spring Assembly agenda. Mary is working with Becky V on emails to ensure accurate delivery.

Thank you to the DR's who were able to contribute additional responses to the Newsletter survey. Currently 62 members have responded.

**Public Outreach:** Lisa G – District 7 Public Outreach is registered as a vendor and will attend the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Governor's Conference on Substance Abuse to be held on April 16/17, 2019 in Des Moines. Registration fee was \$250 (1 person). A second person is registered to attend for \$140.

District 7 is also registered for the Iowa Mental Health Counselor's Assc. Conference to be held on May 16/17, 2019 in Des Moines. Only attending for one day (\$100).

Monetary contributions, payable to D7AIS, are being accepted. Would like meeting schedules from all Districts.

**Web Page:** Hedi M – Subscription for the Iowa Al-Anon Website domain editor, domain name and privacy registration through GoDaddy was paid for three years. Deluxe package for \$450/3 years, which includes a 20% discount.

Questions were posted on the Website. Bring your responses and correct answers to the Spring Assembly to be eligible to win a prize.

Reminder – all DR's must make sure that their District meeting lists are up to date. Check revision dates as this must be done annually.

The Spanish menu item on the Website has changed to "Announcements". This page can be used for important Iowa or WSO news. Suggestions are welcome.

Forward flyers in a pdf format for posting on the Website.

**District Reports:** Reports were submitted electronically but not read by the following DR's: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 14. There were no reports from 5, 6, 10, 12, 13 or 15.

### **Old Business:**

**Newsletter Survey Updated Results** – Mary S – Due to Mary's absence Virginia B emailed the latest survey results and we are up to 62 responses. Mary S will give a final update at the Spring Assembly in Grinnell.

**Literature Presentation** – Missy Y was absent.

### **Open Discussion:**

- 1) Discussed "motions" and "consensus" votes. Motion means changing of policy or an action. Need 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> to pass and the information goes into the Motion Log. Clarification is needed to assist Secretary when taking the minutes. Possibly could use a motion form similar to what is used at the WSC. Will discuss again at August AWSC.
- 2) AWSC agenda changes – the next step would be to discuss at the AWSC to extend or end the trial period.
- 3) Discussed reading of DR and Coordinator Reports – pros and cons. Is it a disservice to DR's and Coordinators? Where is the balance. Could make sure to include DR's and Coordinators in the workshops. The body originally wanted interaction and did not want reports read to them; ensure

getting out of the meeting in a timely manner and have more educational presentations. Possibly DR's can highlight one thing specific to their District.

- 4) Virginia B to resend out a reminder email regarding Committee assignments.

### **New Business:**

**2019 Fall Assembly Agenda** – Virginia B - The theme will be “Egg-cited for Serenity”. The agenda was set. Consensus was taken that Vali's presentation of “12 Steps in 15 Minutes” will be Friday night instead of Sunday morning to accommodate her attending the “You and the Board Connect” meeting. Sunday morning will be a “meet and greet” of the incoming Officers and Coordinators.

**Serenity Weekend Planning Meeting** – Beth K - Planning meeting was held 3/9/19 and 12 were in attendance. Additional time slots were filled in as needed. Leaders are still needed for some open workshops. E-mail Beth K if you would like to volunteer.

**Treasurer Position** – Virginia B - With Jean L's involvement as the Regional Trustee, she must step down as Treasurer no later than 4/18/19. If qualified and interested, please send your resume to Virginia B by March 30, 2019. The resume can be found on-line. Discussion was held regarding qualifications, particularly AWSC attendance. A vote will need to be taken via email within a week of receiving the resumes. Virginia will email the AWSC regarding the resumes and voting process.

A motion was made by Jean L -

“I would like to make a motion to conduct a financial review prior to transferring the Area financials to the newly elected Area Treasurer in addition to the full financial review at the end of this term”. Seconded by Lorraine R. Yes – 17, No – 0, Abstention – 1. Jean L will have a financial review performed before the financials are transferred to the next Area Treasurer.

**Workshop – Area Meeting List Publication Policy/Safety** – Beth K – Broke out into four groups to discuss safety in meetings.

### **Unanswered Questions/Review Comments:**

- 1) Jean L thanked everyone for their support during the Regional Trustee process.
- 2) Things accomplished – motion/consensus/policy discussion. Several voices were heard. Great discussion about safety in meetings. Glad to hear there has been progress regarding the Alateen Behavioral Guidelines.
- 3) If qualified and interested in an Officer position for the next term, remember to declare your desire to the Secretary (Linda A) on or before the 2019 Spring Assembly.

A consensus was taken to close the meeting at 12:05.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda A  
Area Secretary

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

April 13-17, 2019 World Service Conference, Virginia Beach, VA  
May 1, 2019 Iowa Reaches Out Newsletter Deadline  
June 7-9, 2019 Spring Assembly, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA

**(Note: If interested in standing for an Officer position, notify Secretary by 6/9/19.)**

**July 1, 2019 Deadline to submit resumes to Newsletter Coordinator**

August 1, 2019 Iowa Reaches Out Newsletter Deadline  
August 4, 2019 Iowa AWSC meeting, Hampton, Inn, Marshalltown, IA  
September 20-22, 2019 Serenity Weekend, Twin Lakes, Manson, IA  
October 11-13, 2019 Fall Assembly, Carroll, IA  
November 1, 2019 Iowa Reaches Out Newsletter Deadline  
June 6-7, 2020 Spring Assembly, Storm Lake, IA

**Iowa Al-Anon Literature Depots:**

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

[www.al-anondesmoines.org](http://www.al-anondesmoines.org)

2801 Jackson St.  
Sioux City, IA 51104  
712-255-6724

[www.afg.aiclit@yahoo.com](mailto: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

**Iowa Area Website:** [www.iowa-al-anon.org](http://www.iowa-al-anon.org)