

**IOWA AREA FALL ASSEMBLY**  
**Virtual Meeting – October 10, 2020**

Virginia B., Area Chairperson, opened the Saturday virtual meeting at 1:30 PM, October 10, 2020 with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. The Concepts were read by Lorraine R. Virginia B. reviewed the etiquette of the meeting along with the evaluation questions for all members to think about throughout the meeting. This meeting was held virtually due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Members and guests were asked to register electronically. The voting members were to identify their position on the electronic registration. There were a total of 105 Al-Anon members and guests that registered to attend virtually.

Please visit the Iowa Webpage for all reports at [www.iowa-al-anon.org](http://www.iowa-al-anon.org). The reports are listed under the Members tab and then using the drop down box to the listing of Iowa Area Assembly.

**Secretary Report** -The minutes from the 2020 August AWSC were approved by a consensus via virtual polling. The minutes were posted on the Iowa Webpage for prior review to the Assembly. Please visit the Iowa Webpage for a complete copy of the minutes.

**Treasurer Report** –The financial statement from August 1- September 30, 2020 was presented via screen sharing and also posted on the Iowa Al-Anon website prior to the meeting. Balance brought forward was \$27,755.85 (This balance coincides with the ending balance reported in the August 30, 2020 revised Treasurer Report) Total receipts for this period were \$1,199.44. Total disbursements were \$2,326.23, which brought the total balance forward on September 30, 2020 to \$26,629.06. The report was approved by consensus via a virtual poll.

Please visit the Iowa Webpage for a complete copy of this report.

**Delegate's Report** – The new *Al-Anon Family Groups mobile app* is now available. The app is a work in progress. WSO is working on the fixes based on our suggestions and requests. Like a new meeting, it is heartwarming to watch an endeavor grow and change to meet its members' needs.

**FINANCE:** Thank you, members and groups alike, for your generous response to the WSO's special financial appeal. June contributions were above budget expectations, year to date contributions are above budget expectations and literature sales are trending below budget. June electronic literature sales climbed, surpassing May sales. Expenses are down overall due primarily to travel elimination for IAGSM, WSC and monthly executive committee meetings with a projected deficit of \$420,000 through December 2020. Consider sending extra funds to the WSO after group and local donations have been made.

**VIRTUAL TOWN HALL:** Areas are invited to participate in a Virtual Town Hall forum with three key presenters from the WSO: Lynette K. - Chairperson-Board of Trustees, Val F., -Executive Director, and Debbie G. Chairperson-Executive Committee. A bid was submitted for Iowa to host one of the 4 Town Hall forums. The forums will be offered on November 14, 2020, December 12, 2020, January 9, 2021 and February 6, 2021. Iowa may be lucky to win a "golden ticket" so stay tuned!

**CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP TEAM:** The CLT is organizing a virtual event on November 7<sup>th</sup> to honor outgoing members of the 2020 World Service Conference. The 2021 theme, *Moving forward with Unity, Courage and Perseverance* provides principled guidance as we move back into physical interactions. The 2021 WSC will be held April 12-16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in Tarrytown, NY. On April 17<sup>th</sup>, Al-Anon will celebrate its **70th Anniversary** with a banquet at the Westchester Marriott in Tarrytown, NY.

## **WSC THOUGHT & TASK FORCE/WORK GROUPS:**

**Updates:** The July Chairperson of the Board letter notes that the work group is reviewing the definition, purpose and responsibilities of the Group Representative in electronic meetings. More updates to come. The Electronic Workgroup also discussed the role of the WSO in registering or providing electronic licensing to virtual events that are not connected to our structure through a service arm. The service arms are also called our links of service-GR, DR, Delegate, etc. Many fellowship-based events are excellent to attend, but since they are not connected through a service link, we don't include flyers or information about them on our District or Area websites or mention them in meetings. Events that are hosted through the structure, like this event or Area Serenity Weekend, or group and district events, can be presented digitally or in print at meetings. The Service Manual is an excellent resource for further information on this topic.

**Employment:** There are two positions open at the World Service Office: Group Service Specialist – Alateen and Magazine Editor. Both require five or more years of membership and service in Al-Anon. Use this link for more information about job requirements <https://al-anon.org/employment-at-al-anon>. To apply for either of these positions, please forward your resume and cover letter to [HumanRes@al-anon.org](mailto:HumanRes@al-anon.org).

**Albuquerque in 2023!!** Celebrate Al-Anon's Seventh International from June 29-July 2, 2023 in beautiful Albuquerque, New Mexico. This will be an excellent way to meet your new besties that you've only been able to 'see' through digital means.

The complete Delegate's report is available on the Iowa Webpage. Please contact our Iowa Delegate directly or via email at [iowadelegate@gmail.com](mailto:iowadelegate@gmail.com) should you want her to share her report with your district.

**Alternate Delegate's Report** – The Spring Assembly is scheduled for June 4-6, 2021 at Buena Vista University, Storm Lake. The Alateen speaker will be chosen at a later date. Our Al-Anon Luncheon Speaker will be Jean L., North Central Regional Trustee, Dubuque, IA.

**The Forum:** GR's- Please use *The Forum* in your meetings and share with your groups about it. As GR it is important that you share this monthly magazine with your groups. Iowa had a total of 436 subscriptions to *The Forum* in August 2020.

The Alternate Delegate's report was posted on the Iowa Webpage for all to review before the Assembly. Please visit the Iowa Webpage for a full copy of this report.

**Coordinator and DR Reports:** Coordinator and DR reports were posted on the Iowa Webpage before the Assembly. DR reports for Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 13 and 14 were available on the Iowa Webpage, District 11 report was read during the meeting. Please visit the Iowa Webpage for the reports.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**AREA SERENITY WEEKEND:** The Area Serenity Weekend was cancelled for 2020 due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Discussion of having an Area Serenity Weekend in 2021 included the 2 years of money loss the Area experienced having to pay Twin Lakes Campground due to lack of attendance in 2019 and the COVID 19 pandemic in 2020. A proposal of having an Area Serenity Weekend with the date of November 5-7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 was presented to the Assembly. Members shared their thoughts and concerns regarding the season of the weekend that was being offered, rather than in the usual month of September. A consensus via a virtual poll was taken and approved to have the Area Serenity Weekend November 5-7, 2021 at Twin Lakes Campground in Manson, Iowa.

**AREA SERVICE WORKSHOP:** The Area Service Workshop at the Iowa Valley Community College in Marshalltown in January 2021 has been rescheduled for March 20, 2021. The COVID 19 pandemic has changed many things and the college could not guarantee space would be available in January 2021. The theme is “*What a Concept*”. All 12 Concept workshops have been filled by different districts and the flyer is available on the Iowa Webpage. Go to the Calendar tab and find Area Events, click on Area Service Workshop link. There will be a Serenity Weekend Planning hour after the Area Service Workshop for all to participate in for the Area Serenity Weekend. Plan to attend!

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**AREA CALENDARS:** The Area Calendars for 2021 will be created by Beth K. The calendars are usually distributed at the January workshop however that date has been moved to March, so the calendars will be late getting to everyone. There was discussion of how the calendars would be delivered and if the price of the calendars should increase to \$5.00. A consensus via a virtual poll was taken and approved to increase the calendars to \$5.00 and the distribution will be decided at a later date.

**AL-ANON APP:** The new Al-Anon Family Groups mobile app allows us to experience the worldwide fellowship in a single place at the click of a button. The app is a work in progress. WSO is working on fixes to the app based on suggestions and requests. Sue P., Director of Group Services, presented a workshop earlier and was available to answer all our questions about our meetings. There is a Mobile guide on the WSO website at <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/mobile-app/> if you have any other questions.

**EQUALIZED EXPENSES:** The Equalized Expense for the Area Delegate to attend the World Service Conference in 2021 was presented to the Assembly. The full cost to send a Delegate per WSO for 2021 is \$2,381 to be held in Tarrytown, NY. A motion was made by Katy P. and seconded by Linda A. to read:

**I would like to make a motion to pay the budgeted amount of \$2,500.00 for the equalized expense for the Delegate to attend the 2021 WSC.**

A virtual poll was taken and approved to accept the equalized expense amount of \$2,500.00 for 2021.

**IOWA POLICY & PROCEDURES UPDATE:** Usually the committee meets at least twice a year but this term we were given the charge of reviewing and revising, as necessary, the complete booklet. Because of that charge, we have been meeting regularly since the beginning of 2020. At the August 2020 AWSC, we presented a PowerPoint (during the workshop time) describing our process and progress. The presentation gave everyone a vision of how our Iowa Area Policy and Procedure Manual will hopefully look in the future! The Committee is sharing this with the Assembly so that we can keep the members of the Area up to date as to what is happening with the Area Policy/Procedure manual. We also have requested from the AWSC the opportunity to have a service day in February to give members the opportunity to have discussions on all the changes before we present it to the Assembly GRs for final approval, hopefully in the 2nd year of this term. Your District Representative can keep you updated as they receive information on our progress and also about the February service day. Please visit the Iowa Webpage for the complete report from the Iowa Policy & Procedures Committee.

**VIRTUAL SERENITY FELLOWSHIP:** *Gratitude & Joy* is the theme for December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Electronic registration must be in by November 15<sup>th</sup>. The afternoon will be filled with Gratitude & Joy with speakers and breakout sessions. A flyer is on the Iowa website by going to the Calendar tab, look under Area Events and click on the link or under the Members tab, using the drop box to Iowa Assembly, scroll over to the right of the page and find Gratitude & Joy, click on the link to register electronically.

**Unanswered Questions/Review of Comments:** The Chairperson reviewed the questions we were to think about throughout the meeting today. There were comments on how well the Assembly seemed to flow and how well the break out rooms worked. There was discussion on how we can ask a question or make a comment by raising a hand symbol now that the meetings are virtual. Everyone seemed to have learned something new today.

The meeting closed with the Al-Anon Declaration at 3:30 PM.

Respectably submitted,

Becky V. - Area Secretary

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

November 1, 2020	Iowa Reaches Out Newsletter Deadline
January 10, 2021	Iowa AWSC meeting, Hampton Inn, 9AM, Marshalltown, IA
February 1, 2021	Iowa Reaches Out Newsletter Deadline
March 12-14, 2021	USNCR Delegates Meeting, Indianapolis, IN
March 20, 2021	Service Workshop/Serenity Weekend Planning Meeting
March 21, 2021	Iowa AWSC meeting, Hampton Inn, Marshalltown, IA
April 12-16, 2021	World Service Conference, New York
April 17, 2021	Al-Anon 70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Tarrytown, NY
May 1, 2021	Iowa Reaches Out Newsletter Deadline
June 4-6, 2021	Spring Assembly, BV University, Storm Lake, IA
August 1, 2021	Iowa Reaches Out Newsletter Deadline
August 8, 2021	Iowa AWSC meeting, Hampton Inn, 9AM, Marshalltown, IA

**Iowa Al-Anon Literature Depots:**

939 Office Park Rd. Suite 113  
West Des Moines, IA 50265  
515-277-5059 712-255-6724  
[www.Al-Anondesmoines.org](http://www.Al-Anondesmoines.org)  
[www.afg.aiclit@yahoo.com](mailto:www.afg.aiclit@yahoo.com)  
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)

