**Iowa Area AWSC Meeting**
**March 8, 2026, Marshalltown, IA**
**Hampton Inn  Hybrid Meeting**

Our meeting opened at 9:00 a.m. with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. Chairperson Linda A welcomed everyone to the AWSC meeting. Luanne T. read the 12 Traditions, Carolyn O. read Concepts of Service, and Linda A. read the Warranties. Introductions of members in person as well as those that attended via hybrid were made. A total of 28 people were in attendance and 26 were voting members.

Linda A reviewed the Etiquette for Physical/Virtual and the Evaluation Questions for discussion later.

**January AWSC minutes** - Please visit the Iowa Website for a complete copy of the minutes. www.iowa-al-anon.org

*The minutes from the January 2026 AWSC meeting were approved by a consensus with corrections. A new CMA (Current Mailing Address) will be with March 2026 minutes.*

**Treasurer Report**- The financial statement from January 1, 2026, to February 28, 2026, was presented and discussed. Balance brought forward was $19697.01. Total receipts for this period were $1,660.79. Total disbursements were $192.59. Ending Balance on February 28, 2026, was $21,165.24. There was discussion to have items identified per line when purchased, which all members agreed. The $192.59 was for the Areas' new banner with the three legacies printed on it. This banner will be more pleasing to the eye and easier for Alt Delegate to transport and store.

*Unanimous consensus approved the financial statement.*

**Delegate Report**: Michelle K. shared her report. She attended the Chairperson of the Board meeting on February 14, 2026. After the meeting there was time for some Q&A time. The trustee assigned to Michelle is Cindy M., however Cindy could not attend the meeting, so the group was able to visit with Kathy M, the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees.

*During the January meeting, the Board continued their sentence-by-sentence review of the Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. Bylaws. The Board reviews this for the same reasons that Iowa AFG, does: to strengthen the understanding of responsibilities and capture suggestions for future consideration. During this reading, the Board reached a consensus to direct Staff, in collaboration with experienced WSO Volunteers, to evaluate and revise the WSO Committee At Large member resume, with special attention to the Requirements and Criteria sections. A revised application and appointment timeline will be brought forward by the Executive Committee for Board consideration at the July meeting.*

*The Board also approved a Preliminary Operating Budget as recommended by the Finance Committee. In addition, a motion was approved to Publish the 2026-2029 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual in eBook format, consistent with the previously approved eBooks Global Strategy.*

*The Board approved the 2026 WSO Projects Landscape as the priority framework for guiding WSO planning, resource allocation, and execution. Many strategies were carried forward from 2025 including the before mentioned eBooks Globally, new Service Manual, Refresh of AFA, Branding Guidelines for Trusted Servants, Website Redesign and 75th Anniversary Event and Public Outreach Campaign. Due to resource capacity only 1 new Strategy was approved for 2026: SharePoint Implementation Feasibility.*

*There is a lot of focus on the 75th Anniversary celebration which includes WSO Open House and Gala Banquet. While the banquet was sold out, a waitlist was established and began on February 11th. As seats become available, individuals on the waitlist will be contacted in the order they signed up and will be given the opportunity to purchase tickets. Those contacted will need to complete their ticket purchase no later than April 3rd, 2026. Please remember that joining the waitlist does not guarantee a seat, it only offers a fair and organized way to be considered for any open spots.*

***Road Trip and Board Connect***

*The Board also reached a consensus to make incremental updates to the Road Trip! You and the Board Connect agenda, focusing on increased interaction, personal sharing, and engagement. The 2026 October Board week and Road Trip! Event will be held in* ***Chicago, Illinois, October 19 – 24,2026.*** *The Board thoughtfully considered several members' requests to introduce a hybrid component to the Road Trip! Event. The Board drew upon best practice insight from event planners, who informed Trustees that creating an engaging hybrid experience would, in effect, require developing two independent programs. This approach would significantly increase the workload and detract from the spirit of the in-person connection that Road Trip! was envisioned to foster. The Board is open to exploring additional virtual opportunities to strengthen the connection with WSC Structure fellowship in the future.*

***Conference Leadership Team (CLT) Update***

*CLT has various topics on the WSC agenda, including "Choosing a Group's Name" Policy Implementation, Single Trustee Process, and Alateen electronic Validation & Implementation Planning. Also, on the WSC Agenda is a visit to the World Service Office, during which an Al-Anon meeting will be held.*
*After polling the Conference members, the consensus was reached to hold the Affirmation Process virtually in advance of WSC. Affirmation will be on Saturday, March 28, from 1:00pm – 5:00pm ET.*

***Finance Update***

*For the complete financial report, please look at the Delegate report on the Iowa webpage. There is a chart included to explain the finances.* www.iowa-al-anon.org

***Policy Committee Updates***

*The Policy Committee is hard at work on several topics. There is a current thought force on Interim Policies and Policy Revision Process.*

*There is a lot of discussion on the "Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Polices" changes necessary to support Alateen Groups meeting electronically. This has been a Strategic Plan Strategy of the Board of Trustees since 2020. The committee carried a motion to separate Alateen procedures from Alateen Policy in the Service Manual. Their revision will be brought to the WSC for approval.*

*Choosing a Group's Name Policy Implementation is big discussion with the Policy Committee. I was not given details on this, just that it will be discussed at WSC. In 2025, as part of the Branding Guideline for Trusted Servants Strategy, a third party reviewed the Al-Anon brand assets, including the trademarked name, logo, and tagline. The vendor suggested adopting a shorter tagline for memorability, clarity, versatility, impact, and differentiation. The Policy discussion was centered around our current tagline of "Help and Hope for families and friends of alcoholics." Consensus was reached to direct Staff to consider alternatives for an updated tagline based on the Policy Committee's feedback.*

*I have booked my flight to Newport News, VA, and bought a new dress for the 75th Gala Banquet. Most importantly, I am honored to be a small part of the 66th WSC. Send me all your prayers and positive vibes for uneventful travel plans.*

**Alternate Delegate Report:** Planning for the **Spring Assembly in Marshalltown, June 12 – 14**, is going very well! Please note there is a flyer and an agenda on the Iowa website. Both items have the scan code to register on-line, and it is the same scan code. I encourage you to print off the flyer and take it to your meetings or direct your members directly to the website. Laura S and Mona P, Al-Anon District Chair and Co-Chair, were able to attend the last planning meeting, held on February 15th. Laura S called me, so I was able to attend by telephone. As of that date, they have a total of 32 people registered, only one of them is Al-Anon.
Everything seems to be going well working with AA and the facility. The Trifold brochure which will be handed out at the Assembly.
February 7th, I attended my first planning meeting for the Fall Assembly via Zoom. I was able to meet most of the people I will be working with. It was a productive meeting, and I should be getting a draft of the flyer soon to add Al-Anon's agenda to it. As soon as I have the final copy, I will get it to the webpage coordinator to put it on our website.

With Michelle's help, I ordered, and received, the new banner which will be displayed at the Assemblies.

**The Forum Report**: Here are just a few highlights...In January, Iowa had a total of 343 subscriptions. In February, we dropped in number of subscriptions to 333. I want to encourage all the DRs to highlight the Forum at your District meetings. Take that opportunity to

encourage your GRs to talk about the Forum in their meetings. Did you all see on page 3 of the February Forum, one of Iowa's Alateens had their writing published! It's wonderful to see Iowa represented in the Forum!

**Coordinator Reports (Reports were electronically submitted to the AWSC and not read)**

**District Reports:** DR reports for Districts 1,3,4,8,9,11,13 and 16 were submitted. Update from District 7 was verbally shared and will have her report available on the website.

**Update/Questions on DR report**-Some districts had flyers available and they will be sent to the Area website coordinator for posting.

**Old Business**

**2026 Alateen Serenity Weekend**
Our Area Alateen Serenity weekend is also fast approaching April 10th-12th at Wesley Woods in Indianola. As of now, I have not gotten any registrations from our Area teens or AMIAS's but I have been told that typically I will not get them until closer to the deadline, which is March 21st. The flier along with the other applicable paperwork can be found on the Area website. If you are an AMIAS planning on attending or knowing one that will be, please reach out to me. I would like to set up a meeting on Zoom to game plan before the event.

AMIAS (Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service) recertification season 2026 is well under way. I appreciated how promptly our Area AMIAS's have gotten back to me and surprised so far by how easy it's been to verify it with the World Service Office's group records online. I have set April 30th as the deadline for those who have not responded yet to send their recertification sheet either by email or mail to me.

**Love Gifts**
In keeping with previous Iowa tradition, I am asking if anyone would like to donate money to WSO as a Love Gift at the World Service Conference. This can be either an individual or a group donation. If you (or your group) would like to donate, please make the check payable to AFG, Inc. and mail it to the address below:

Michelle K (Hold for WSC 4/20-4/24, 2026) Last names are not permitted in the minutes BUT please include her last name on your cards!!!!

Newport News Marriott at City Center
740 Town Center Dr.
Newport News, VA 23606

Please plan to have donation arrive after April 17th.
. Remember to include the Delegates' name and home address as the return address in case mail delivery is delayed.

**Area Service Workshop**

The Service Workshop – We Are Better Together - was a success! The workshop was on 3/7/26 – Marshalltown, IA – Rock Island Inn & Suites. This year the workshop was in a new location and well attended. There were 37 that attended in person and 7-9 virtually.

The day began with a GR and DR presentation by Dawn B, Mary H and Michelle K. Packets were handed out to take them back to your Districts. Thank you for volunteering!

Next the Past Delegates shared their experience, strength, and hope. We have so much to learn from our Past Delegates – thank you so much for sharing.

Lastly Officers and Coordinators discussed their job descriptions, growth opportunities and even fears.

**USNCRDM**

We have 47 registrants, 14 of whom are from Iowa. We have a skit based on Mrs. Wilson's Neighborhood, and while being fun, it will also highlight the history of Al-Anon and the idea that it takes more than one person to carry a legacy forward for 75 years.

Connie H., who has served as Iowa Past Delegate Panel 45, Past Trustee at Large, and Past Executive Committee member will be our Sunday morning speaker. We are so lucky to have an active member with a wide variety of service experience willing to share with us. Please keep her, our team and our attendees in your thoughts and prayers next weekend.

Our registration table opens at 5pm. Dinner will be served in the Boardroom for those that opted into the Friday fellowship meal. The J-Bar will also be available for those that didn't. We need 4 members to chair an Al-Anon meeting. We also need members to be in the skit, and to act as greeters. A reminder, plan to print the already emailed documents, or use your device.

**Presentation**

**Google Review**

Katy P and Virginia P. presented Google review The Area adopted Google Workspace to streamline document storage, enhance communication, and enable real-time collaboration. A discussion on the setup of domain emails for officers, coordinators and district representatives emphasizing the importance of using Shared Drive for secure and confidential information. The workshop aimed to familiarize members with Google. Everyone was able to participate if they brought their electronic device with them to the meeting. The presentation was highly informative and fun to learn how to navigate around using Google. It was great to have members that know how to work using this format and are willing to share their knowledge with other members. The powerpoint for the presentation is available on the Iowa website and both ladies are available to answer any questions that arise after this meeting.

## New Business

### Area Serenity Weekend

The Area Serenity Weekend will be **September 18-20, 2026,** at Twin Lakes in Mason, Ia. The theme is "Diamond in the Rough" celebrating Al-Anon's 75 years. The schedule outlines multiple sessions, breakfasts, and evening activities. Various sessions needed volunteers to lead them and many members offered to chair the sessions. A discussion regarding t-shirts resulted in black with a diamond design. Chris (Dist 9) and Lindsey (Dist 7) will collaborate on design for the t-shirts. Libby W. will manage the fun and games on Saturday night. A consensus to rent videos on the history of Al-Anon from WSO, and all agreed, to have the Delegate rent the videos if they are available for the weekend. A flyer will be available soon and on the Iowa website when completed.

### 2026 Fall Assembly Agenda

Discussion regarding "where do we go from here" and setting our intentions brought about Dawn, Christine, and Lori to prepare and present the "Sponsorship/Service sponsorship workshop for the Fall Assembly. There will be an AMIAS training at this Assembly led by Ashley C., the Alateen Coordinator. The guest speaker will be David B, Treasurer, Board of Trustees, and he will also have a workshop on Sunday morning regarding the "Links of Service.

### Questions/Suggestions

Declining participation at assemblies due to the rising costs was a concern for some members and there was some discussion. Another comment was to address the importance of coordination between different roles and suggested regular presentations by coordinators at the larger meetings.

Our meeting closed at 1:15 pm with members saying the Al-Anon declaration.

**DATES to REMEMBER**

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| **April 10-12, 2026,** | **Alateen Serenity Weekend, Wesley Woods, Indianola, IA** |
| **April 20-24, 2026** | **World Service Conference, Marriott Newport News City Center, Newport City, VA** |
| **June 12-14, 2026** | **Spring Area Assembly, Marshalltown, IA** |
| **August 9, 2026** | **Iowa AWSC Meeting, Hampton Inn, 9am, Marshalltown, IA** |
| **Sept 18-20, 2026** | **Area Serenity Weekend, Manson, IA** |
| **October 16-18, 2026** | **Fall Area Assembly, Cedar Falls, IA** |

**Iowa Al-Anon Literature Depots**:

**District 1**
2801 Jackson St.
Sioux City, IA 51104
712-255-6724
Email - afg.aiclit@yahoo.com

**Iowa Area Website**
www.iowa-al-anon.org

**District 6**
4611 South 96th Street, Suite 172
Just east of L Street East Exit off I-80/Use East Entrance)
Omaha, NE, 68127
Phone: 402-553-5033 (cell phone: ok to leave a message)
Email: omahaaisomha@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/OmahaAis

**District 7**
939 Office Park Rd. Suite 113
West Des Moines, IA 50265
515-277-5059
www.al-anondesmoines.org
Email: Literature@al-anondesmoines.org

**Iowa Information Centers:**
Des Moines AIS/LDC – 515-277-5059 Email: Literature@al-anondesmoines.org
Sioux City AIS/LDC – 712-255-6724 Email: afg.aiclit@yahoo.com
Ames - 515-233-6312