IOWA AREA SPRING ASSEMBLY (hybrid)
Marshalltown Art Center
Marshalltown Iowa
June 12, 2026

The Area Chairperson opened the Saturday business meeting at 2:45 pm with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. The etiquette overview was shared with those present and virtually. A total of 89 Al-Anon and 2 Alateens registered for this Assembly. For the business meeting there were 33 GRs and 9 members attending via zoom. This year our Assembly was held in a different location than AA in order to accommodate both programs.

Please visit the Iowa Website for all reports at www.iowa-al-anon.org. The reports are listed under the **Members** tab and then using the dropdown box to the listing of Iowa Area Assembly

Secretary Report: The minutes from the 2026 March AWSC minutes were approved by a consensus on Friday, June 11, 2026, with a suggested correction in wording of using "members" rather than "ladies". The minutes were posted on the Iowa Webpage for prior review to the Assembly. Please visit the Iowa Website for a complete copy of the minutes.

Treasurer's report: –The financial statement from March 1, 2026-May 29, 2026, was presented and also posted on the Iowa Al-Anon website prior to the meeting. Balance brought forward was $19,697.04. Total receipts for this period are $6,730.13. Total of disbursements was $9,025.46. The ending total balance for the Area is $18,869.91. Please visit the Iowa Website for a complete copy of this report.

A consensus was taken and approved for the Treasurer's Report.

Alternate Delegate Report:
I have to start by giving a HUGE thank you to every member of the planning committee! The AA members were more than helpful and accommodating! Whatever we needed, they made sure we had it! I truly could not have asked for a better committee to work with for my first Assembly as your Alternate Delegate. A very special THANK YOU to District 3! Laura S as Chairperson and Mona P. as Co-Chair did a fantastic job!

The Fall Assembly will be held in Cedar Falls, October 16 – 18th. The planning for the Fall Assembly is moving along very nicely! Our last meeting was on May 16th. There is now a flyer available on the Iowa website with a link to register on-line. I encourage everyone to mention it to your Group members. Either direct them to Iowa's website or even print some flyers from the website to take to your meetings. Our Al-Anon luncheon speaker will be David B., a WSO Trustee from Chicago. He will also be conducting a workshop on Sunday morning for us. We are still looking for an Alateen Speaker and a Sunday morning Spiritual Speaker. The next planning meeting is June 20th, and there is a walkthrough of the facility scheduled for August 14th.

The Forum Report:
In January, Iowa had a total of 343 subscriptions. In February, we dropped in number of subscriptions to 333, and in May, that number dropped again to a total of 319 subscriptions. On June 3rd, I attended an on-line meeting held by WSO. There were only 11 of us in attendance,

but that actually made for a very intimate sharing of ideas and some great discussion! Iowa's Forum subscription numbers have dropped, but as I heard in the meeting, we are not the only Area who are experiencing this. Elizabeth from the WSO reported that she is part of a committee who are collaborating to come up with new and innovative ways to promote the Forum to all our members. They have already come up with a good assortment of ideas, and the coordinators present at the meeting were able to add to those ideas with the different things Areas are trying. Some of the ideas are having some good success. I came away from the meeting with a bunch of notes, lots of ideas, and I hope to start implementing some of the ideas here in Iowa soon. Our next meeting will be in September, and I am hoping to be able to attend. In the meantime, this is just one of things that WSO has implemented this year....
DID YOU KNOW....We can now order individual electronic issues of The Forum! Currently, they are available from Amazon Kindle, Barnes & Noble NOOK, Apple Books, and Kobo. These are individual monthly issues ONLY! If you want a monthly subscription, they are available ONLY through Barnes and Noble at this time. Please keep in mind, this information is shared for convenience and does not constitute endorsement from WSO.
o Amazon - www.amazon.com/Kindle-Store-Forum-magazine/...
o Barnes & Noble - www.barnesandnoble.com/w/
o Apple Books - books.apple.com/us/book/the-forum-april-2026/

Alateen Coordinator: Things have been busy for our Area in regard to Alateen these past few months. The biggest thing I have been working on (besides Serenity Weekend, which I will discuss later) is the Annual Recertification process for all our Area AMIAS (Al-Anon Members Involved In Alateen Service). Despite a hiccup with AFG Connects and WSO's Group Records being down for a bit, I have been able to get all but 7 of our 51 Area AMIAS's recertified as of this writing. The due date to have this completed for the World Service Office is June 15th so by the time I'm reading this out loud, it should be 51 out of 51 AMIAS recertified. I also had the benefit of attending my District's Open Alateen meeting. While it was not as well attended as the previous one this year, it was still a great opportunity for parents and a few newcomers to Alateen to see what actually happens during an Alateen meeting. Typically, Alateen meetings are closed to Al-Anon members that are not AMIAS's so this was a way for us to do some Public Outreach. If any AMIAS's have questions about conducting an Open meeting I would be happy to share more information.
Lastly, I'm very excited to hear our Alateen Speaker for this Assembly Jayden M. from Fort Dodge. I know she will do a fantastic job!

Archives: We had our first Archives Committee meeting. This includes the Archives Work Group. We had discussions on identifying the duties of the committee & work group. I think we are going to have a great term of working together. An update was given of where we are at with scanning past Archives and the need for a scanner that can convert text into searchable pdf files. We also talked about who should have access to the Archives drive and thoughts of how that is going to be managed. We will meet again in July. My Archival history for today is about the Newsletter. The first printed copy that is in the Iowa Archives is dated August of 1978. Helen W. was Delegate and Audrey S. was Regional Trustee. As I was looking through the Archives in old Newsletters it was fun to see the changes over the years. And we now have a new look and feel to our Iowa Newsletter, I hope you are all enjoying it.

Group Records: I want to thank you all for your patience with me as I steer through this new position for Area. Your kindness means so much to me. There have been many changes to groups from the beginning of the year, and I have been working on them as quickly as I can. Big, exciting news for District 7 this past month. There has been a brand-new Spanish speaking meeting that has been formed on Thursday nights at 7 pm. The name of the

meeting is Sanando un Dia a La Vez GFA. We are excited to see this new meeting formed. Remember to use the chain of service for your group's changes. If you have a District Representative (DR) in your District, give them your changes first so they can record it for their records, and they will send it to me. If your District doesn't have a DR, feel free to send me those changes so I can get them done and send them off to WSO. My email address is Grouprecords@iowa-al-anon.org.

I also wanted to address CMA (Current Mailing Address) and GR (Group Representative) differences. The CMA is the contact and address where communication goes to from WSO, Area, Forums and so forth. The GR address is that person who is the GR for the group. I do not change the CMA to the GR address or email unless it is specifically asked to do so. So, please remember if you want your GR to be the CMA then you must request this otherwise, it does not get changed. Thank you!!!

Literature: I believe this information has already been discovered about the "Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27) it is available for purchase on https://ecomm.al-anon.org/ for ONLY $11.00! That is a small price to pay for having information right at your fingertips!! You may also purchase from our Area Depots which are listed on the Iowa website.

When you buy from your local literature distribution center, you support your local services. Submission Deadline Approaching At the 2026 World Service Conference in April, we announced that a deadline has been set for submissions to the new piece of Conference Approved Literature on SPONSORSHIP AND SERVICE SPONSORSHIP. Our goal is to develop and publish this piece in time for release at 2028 Al-Anon International Convention. To accomplish this, we need your help! The deadline to submit sharings is June 30, 2026.
Here are some practical ways you can invite participation:
• Encourage Literature Distribution Centers (LDCs) and Al-Anon Information Services (AISs) in your Area to
print and distribute the Writing Guide (available here) with May and June literature sales.
• Ask Group Representatives to announce the deadline at meetings and pass out printed copies or share
links to the Writing Guide.
• Email your Area Website Coordinators and Newsletter Editors and ask them to announce the deadline
and share links to the Writing Guide on Area websites and in Area newsletters.
• Write and submit your own sharings:
o What qualities do you look for in a Sponsor or Service Sponsor?
o How did you work through the Steps, Traditions, and/or Concepts of Service with a Sponsor or sponsee?
o What is your personal sponsorship story? How has having or being a Sponsor or Service Sponsor contributed to your recovery?

Sharings can be submitted online at al-anon.org/sharing, emailed to wso@al-anon.org with SPONSORSHIP PIECE in
the subject line, or mailed to Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc., 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454

Newsletter: Released Volume 2, May 2026 Iowa Area Al-Anon Family Groups Newsletter! You should have received it via email to the email on record with Iowa Area Group Records plus anyone who has requested to receive Iowa Area information. I included all emails on record with the Iowa Area Group Records as of early May 2026. Please feel free to share this vital

communication with your members and groups. I hope you find it useful and easy to use. If anyone has any questions or recommendations, please reach out to me.

Public Outreach: No report at this time

Technology: Thanks to a member of the AWSC, I was given a great idea as to a type of mini microphone to use at AWSC meetings and possibly at Assemblies. I have tested them on several Zoom meetings and found they work pretty well. There are no microphones available at the AWSC meetings and often those who attend virtually cannot hear complete conversations, causing them to miss certain points or questions. I think these new little mics will help the virtual members to feel more included! I am excited to see how they will work in various other settings, like Assemblies.
The Technology Committee met for the first time this term. Since AFG Connects for Tech people have been discussing guidelines for Technology Coordinators over the last month or so, I thought it would be a great time for the committee to re-evaluate the Iowa Tech guidelines. We spent time reviewing and updating some processes and have developed some thoughts to send to the Policy and Procedure committee for them to review. Our Area has advanced technologically quite a bit, and I am always excited to share on AFG Connects how much Iowa is doing!

Web Page: Please submit flyers for your district events to me at web@iowa-al-anon.org I will get them posted on the calendar page so everyone can see what's happening in your district, and, possibly, join you!
Our first committee is scheduled after this report is due and before the Assembly. I'm excited to discuss our website goals for this term. I do know that the current design has not been updated for several years so maybe it's time for an overhaul. Again, remember to submit your district information so we can help spread the word! And check the website for great opportunities to become more active in the Area!

Area DR reports were posted on the Iowa Website before the Assembly.

The DRs from Districts 1,3,4,7,8,9,11,13,14 and 16 read their reports. Districts 2,5, 6,10,12, and 15 had no DR reports Please visit the Iowa Website for complete copies of the DR reports.

Old Business

The 2026 Service Workshop follow up: The 2026 Service Workshop – We Are Better Together - was held at the Rock Island Inn and Suites and was a success! Thank you to all who attended. If you did not attend, there is always next year!
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 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. Hopefully all will be able to attend next years' service workshop.

RDM (Regional Delegates Meeting) follow up: The Iowa AWSC hosted the Regional Delegates Meeting (RDM) in Davenport Iowa, March 13-15, 2026. The event welcomed our Region's two incoming Delegates, Michelle K.(Iowa), and Kate G.(Illinois South), with an overview of what they can expect at Conference. Presentations are prepared by Past and

Current Delegates and reflect current Conference practices. Rachelle C, a Trustee from our region, updated us on happenings at the World Service Conference. Additionally, we hold small group breakouts to discuss broader ideas affecting Al-Anon as a whole and hold a business meeting similar to this one.
A total of 48 members from our Region attended, representing Iowa, Minnesota South and North, Illinois South and North, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin/UP, and Michigan. Winter weather conditions kept a few away, requiring schedule adjustments to accommodate those leaving early on Sunday due to icy roads. Fourteen members from the Iowa AWSC participated. Whether taking minutes, implementing a new online voting process, chairing regular Al-Anon meetings, or hosting a breakout, each member from Iowa was pivotal in the success of the event. The RDM provided multiple opportunities for connection and laughter, both through service and fellowship. Highlights included:
● A photobooth recognizing the Conference theme, '75 Years, One Purpose', that incorporated Iowa's agricultural heritage.
● A skit titled Mrs. Wilson's Neighborhood that honored the many people that were integral to the early foundations of recovery.
● Personal shares by our new Delegates, as well as Connie H (Iowa Past Delegate Panel 45) and our newest Regional Trustee, Miriam B.
The event successfully restored the prudent reserve and generated $882.32 in surplus funds, which were donated to the WSO in gratitude. Thank you to the Iowa Area for your support in making this event so successful! We look forward to traveling to Wisconsin for the 2027 RDM.

Alateen Serenity Weekend wrap up: I had the privilege of getting to attend the Alateen Serenity Weekend April 10th- April 12th at Wesley Woods in Indianola. For my first time going as an AMIAS/ Area Coordinator I could not have asked for a better experience. The fellow AMIAS's that attended were so supportive and helpful and the Alateens! The Alateens just amazed me with their openness as they shared, especially during our meeting on Depression. It was a heavier meeting as you can imagine but the next meeting on Feelings that focused more on Joy we all agreed was a nice way to balance things out. The Unconditional Love Sunday Morning meeting did not go as long as in previous years as we were respectful of those who did not wish to participate. The other half of the meeting we practiced a trust exercise by standing back-to-back with another person and leaning on each other. Both were very eye-opening.
In total we had 14 Alateens and 11 AMIAS attend. We needed to have 25 people stay to break even, which we did. I did go slightly over budget due to buying supplies ahead of time. Many of those purchases, such as paper plates, should last us for the next 2 years. Katy P. and I also worked on a Timeline sheet to prepare for next year. This will be something I can also pass along to the next person who holds this position. Overall, I feel I have a better sense of what worked and what didn't work and I'm looking forward to planning for 2027. More details to come on that in August.

New Business

2026 Area Serenity Weekend: Area Serenity Weekend will be September 18-20, 2026, at Twin Lakes Christian Center in Manson, IA. The theme this year will be "***Diamond in the Rough***," Celebrating Al-Anon's 75th Anniversary. The booklet we will be using this year is called: "*When I busy, I got better".* Please visit the Iowa Website for the Flyer https://iowa-al-anon.org/ it is located under Calendar.

Road Trip October 2026: The 2026 theme will be Road Trip 2026 Interact, Informative, Understand, Experience, and Fun. It will be October 24, 2026, at the Embassy Suites by Hilton, Chicago-O'Hare in Rosemont, Illinois. The flyer is on the Area website.

Open Public Outreach Coordinator Position: The Area is asking members to think, pray and inquire about the position of Public Outreach Coordinator. The Area Delegate will be reaching out to members and hope to have this position filled soon.

The meeting closed with the Al-Anon Declaration at 4:39 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Becky V
Iowa Area Secretary

DATES TO REMEMBER:

August 9, 2026	**Iowa AWSC Meeting, 9 am-Hampton Inn, Marshalltown**
Sept 18-20, 2026	**Area Serenity Weekend, Manson, IA**
October 16-18, 2026	**Fall Area Assembly, Cedar Falls, IA-(Hybrid)**
October 24, 2026	**Road Trip- Rosemont, Illinois**

******2027 AWSC dates will soon be added to calendar******

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

Iowa Al-Anon Literature Depots:
District 1
2801 Jackson St.
Sioux City, IA 51104
712-255-6724
Email - alanoninformationcenter@gmail.com

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