

**Oregon Area Al-Anon Assembly  
Alder Creek Middle School, 13801 SE Webster Rd.  
Milwaukie, Oregon 97222  
July 16-17, 2016  
Host District 10**

**Saturday**

**Meeting opened at 8:30 by** Acting Chair, Sue B., Alternate Delegate

**Steps read** by Bobbi C., District 7, Traditions read by Gayle S., District 10

**Welcome, Microphone and Voting Statements** by Acting Chair, Sue B.

**Roll Call:** Excused Donelda H., Communicator Editor, Lainey J., Forum Coordinator and Colleen G., Past Delegate; Absent: Elaine E., District 8 District Representative; Dorena G., District 13, District Representative.

**Minutes of the March 2016 Assembly** were approved by motion, second and vote.

**Housekeeping information** by Deanna M., District 10

**Breakout Meetings** for Group Representatives, District Representatives and Coordinators were held from 8:55 am until 9:55 am.

**Grant Proposal Status,** Tama S., Two districts sent in proposals. The idea of the proposals was not just to request money, but to include how the projects would be accomplished and what would be the cost, along with a follow-up with how the project is working. Checks were awarded to District 10, Deanna M., District Representative, for \$150 to provide pamphlets and literature to food banks and school based health clinics, to include District 10 meeting lists with literature; District 6, Dawn B., District Representative, for \$500 on ads inside city buses in Eugene/Springfield.

**Ask-It-Basket Update,** Katie W., A Thought Force was formed to examine the current procedure for answering Ask-It-Basket questions. The Thought Force recommended ·

- The AIB should be announced at the beginning of an event so people are aware of it
- Questions should be answered each day
- Past delegates continue to answer the questions until a vote is taken to change that
- It should be announced that questions posed 30 min. before the end of the event will not be answered at the event, but you can find answers to them in the next Communicator or possibly on the state website in the future that it be announced at the beginning of the event (AWSC and Assembly), that questions be answered each day and Past Delegates continue to answer questions.

A motion was made at AWSC to accept the recommendations of the Thought Force.

**Delegate's Report**, Cindy E. had prepared a Power Point presentation that includes an awesome sunrise picture, but left her thumb drive at home. Cindy described the long days and hours of work, yet also acknowledged the love and support she received from other delegates, trustees and WSO staff. See "Reports" for the complete report.

**2016 State Speakers' Meeting Final Report**, Caralynn W., presented the Assembly with a check for \$7,477.46 on behalf of District 17 and the 2016 State Speakers' Meeting Committee.

**Election of Assembly Chairman** – Bunny G., Past Delegate Panel 38, was the only candidate for the position. She gave her qualifications to the Assembly. Substantial unanimity is required for this position. There were **63 voting Group Representatives**. Bunny G., received substantial unanimity and will be the Assembly Chair.

**Literature Coordinator Election** – Polly M., stood for the position. She received a majority of the votes needed to become the new Literature Coordinator.

**Public Information Coordinator** – No one was willing at this time. This item will be brought back before the Assembly in November.

**Lunch:** 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

**Meeting** re-opened with the Serenity Prayer by Acting Chair, Sue B.

**Spiritual Moment** – A slide presentation was shown honoring all deceased Oregon Area Past Delegates. A statement was read by Golda, District Representative, District 5, in memory of Roland C., Panel 47. It was suggested that love gifts could be sent to WSO in honor of Roland.

**Treasurer's Report**, Dawn K. has started emailing receipts to current CMAs. If groups are not receiving receipts by email, records may need to be changed. If groups are using online bill pay, the address for payment should be changed to reflect Dawn's address, not the former treasurer. If applying for Area funds for reimbursement you must attend the entire day and a half. The process for becoming an AMIAS has changed. The Area is now being charged and paying for background checks, and in turn billing districts for this charge. Contributions are going well. Cash available as of July 14, 2016 is \$5,489.69. There were questions about the amount budgeted for Assemblies and AWSC meetings. Dawn explained that costs in previous years had been lowered, so budgeted amount for the current year had been lowered. In answer to a question about Past Delegates' expenses, it was reported that those expenses are in line. See full Treasurer's Report in "Reports."

**Budget Reminder**, Barb B., In Action Committee meetings, think about what type of budget will be needed for 2017 to carry out planned activities.

**Action Committees**, Judy J., Past Delegate, Panel 41, gave instructions for location of each Action Committee meeting as well as reminding groups that a recorder must be selected to take notes and give the report back on Sunday.

**TEAM Discussion**, Cindy E., Delegate. TEAM, Together Empowering Al-Anon Members, one or more Areas partner with WSO to create a unique opportunity to learn more about service and the Al-Anon

program. Washington has invited us to partner with them for a TEAM event. Do we want to partner? Do we want a separate event? Do we want to partner with a different Area? These questions were discussed, and by a show of hands indicated that members are interested in participating in a TEAM event. Cindy asked for volunteers to serve on a committee to look further into the possibility.

### **Coordinator Reports**

**Alateen**, Linda S., There are 15 registered Alateen groups in Oregon, with two more in the works. There have been three requests since January for meetings in Portland and one in Grants Pass. 55 AMIAS have been recertified, with 10 being added in 2016. Alateen will be 60 in 2017. Oregon Alateen Conference (OAC) is August 5-7. See full report in “Reports” section.

**Archives**, Jan D., The archives were moved from Milwaukie to Baker City in December. She has been organizing and scanning documents. There is an archives display on her table for all to see. See full report in “Reports” section.

**Group Records**, Kate R., thanked GRs and DRs for using the GR1 form online to update group information. If you choose to fill in forms manually, please be as clear as possible. It has been challenging at times, but also rewarding. See full report in “Reports” section.

**PI/CPC**, Tama S., on behalf of both Public Information and Cooperating with the Professional Community. Working together the two coordinators will be cooperating on grants to put Al-Anon before the general public in 2016, professionals in 2017 and hospitals, institutions and rehab facilities in 2018. See full report in “Reports” section.

**Website Coordinator**, Regis P., Dreamweaver software has been uploaded. She has been updating meeting information received from Group Records. A proposal was made to AWSC in June for a plan for archiving documents on website. See full report in “Reports” section.

**Forum Raffle Drawing** – Fellowship Communication Action Committee held a drawing for group Forum Subscriptions. The winners were:

D4 Friday Serenity #11922  
D5 Prineville AFG #501149  
D7 Wednesday Noon AFG #49615  
D7 Ashland Friday Night #23912  
D10 Family Lake Oswego AFG #23916  
D10 Tigard Monday Night #11945  
D10 New Me AFG #28974  
D17 Mt Pleasant AFG #11875  
D17 How It Works AFG #30552760

**Writing Workshop** – Fellowship Communication Action Committee has challenged all districts to sponsor writing workshops. A sample writing workshop, led by Stone C., District Representative, District 11, was used to demonstrate how effective a workshop can be. Topic ideas were given, old Forum articles were available for inspiration or, as in meetings, whatever is on your mind. Time was then allowed for writing with an opportunity to hand in the sharings to be submitted to the World Service Office.

**Meeting Closing** with Al-Anon Declaration at 5:00 pm.

## **Sunday**

**Meeting Opened** with the Serenity Prayer at 8:30 am by Sue B., Acting Chair

**Audit/Budget Report**, Barb B., reported the Audit-Budget Committee went over the first quarter financials on April 1<sup>st</sup> and the second quarter last night. Everything is balanced and in order.

**SSM Pros and Cons**, Judy J., Past Delegate, Panel 41, and Regis P., Website Coordinator presented the pros and cons of having an annual State Speakers' Meeting. Judy demonstrated the fun and fellowship she was able to enjoy through the years of having attended the Oregon Area SSM. Regis went over the cons, which were centered around fear, fear of not having enough participation, not enough help, and not enough finances. After having several members speak to the issue, by a show of hands, it was decided to continue having an SSM. We can skip a year or accept a bid for 2017.

**Motion #1:** By Susanne P., Second by Kate R.: I move that in the interest of time that we not have a State Speakers Meeting in 2017. Voting Group Representatives counted off in favor of the motion. When the number reached 40, it was determined that a simple majority had been reached. **Motion Passed. This is a one-time motion.**

**Bids for 2018 State Speakers' Meeting** were accepted from Angel K., District 15 DR, and Deanna M., District 10 DR, to host jointly. Dee P., District 4 DR, also entered a bid. A vote was taken with the majority voting on the joint effort of Districts 10 and 15 to host the 2018 SSM.

**Handbook Report**, Sue B., Alternate Delegate, has been working on Sections I, II, and III of the Oregon Area Handbook. Section IV is under construction for formatting. Section VI will be worked on next, with Business Services helping. Joanne C., AAPP, will be working with Sue to revise Section VIII on Alateen. It is expected that handbooks will be ready by October.

**AAPP, Area Alateen Process Person**, Joanne C., has forms available for new AMIAS, if any are needed.

**Bid for July 2018 Area Assembly** – Brenda G., District Representative, District 17, volunteered to host the July 2018 Area Assembly. All were in favor and the bid was accepted.

### **AIS Liaison Reports:**

**Portland AIS Liaison**, Caralynn W., The website is being upgraded and redesigned. District 17 held a fundraiser for the benefit of the AIS and donated \$1,329.86. Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, the AIS is holding a fundraiser. Service positions on the AIS Board are open. See "Reports."

### **Action Committee Report Backs**

**Group Services**, Kate R., Chair; Patrice M., Reporter – The biggest topic discussed was electronic attendance at Assemblies. A Thought Force was created. Will revise "Links of Service" chart. Reviewed the budget from last year and will use some of the budgeted funds for a birthday celebration at the November Assembly. Will work on an Alateen bookmark with Alateens submitting artwork. See full report in "Reports."

**Membership Outreach**, Regis P., Chair; Reggie W., Reporter – Regis led us through a handout for goals and areas we are led to. The Communicator is available on website. How can we share more effectively? The committee viewed other area websites as a starting point for revising the Oregon Area website. See full report in “Reports.”

**Fellowship Communication**, Judy J., Chair; Rita S., Reporter – Districts are challenged to hold writing workshops. Writings are needed for new books on “Intimacy” and “Parents and Grandparents.” Discussed ideas for encouraging use of literature and purchase of literature. Encouraged book reports at Assembly. Will continue having drawings for *Forum* subscriptions at Assembly. See full report in “Reports.”

**Public Outreach**, Scott R., Chair; Deanne L., Reporter – There were 14 in attendance. Grant fund program will continue. Grants are 50/50 with Districts raising half the money and the grant raises the other half. Will ask for \$4,000 to be budgeted. PSAs have been sent to TV and radio stations. Members should contact the stations to request they be aired and thanked when they are broadcast. Public Outreach can be overwhelming; ask for help. See full report in “Reports.”

**Business Services**, Barb B., Chair, Barb B., Reporter – They used KBDM to reexamine the \$150 limit for reimbursement for AWSC members. There will be a proposal to change it at AWSC. Two projects: Educate Assembly on how far the Seventh Tradition goes; Challenge Group Reps to pass envelope in their meetings until \$65 or more is collected and send to WSO. See full reports in “Reports.”

### **Ask-It-Basket Questions**

**1. Discuss Dual Members.**

Service Manual, page 82. Service Participation by Members of Al-Anon Family Groups Who Are Also Members of Alcoholics Anonymous, discusses the unique relationship Al-Anon has with AA in that we share a common spiritual legacy in AA’s Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. Read revised page 82 and additional page 126 for more information. (Judy J, Past Delegate, P41)

**2. Can we purchase a better speaker/audio system since we have extra funds from SSM?**

We will discuss this at AWSC. (Sue B., Acting Chair)

**3. Is there recycling for paper?**

No. (Host Committee)

**4. What are other districts doing about phone service? Are telephones still valuable?**

It is suggested that District Representatives discuss this issue at their next DR breakout to determine what other districts are doing. (Judy J, Past Delegate P41)

**5. 3 year commitment: 1) What percentage of groups in Oregon have a group rep? 2) Do we currently have enough GRs? (to make this assembly successful) 3) Suggestion: 2-year rotation a) 1<sup>st</sup> year as the alternate, getting a feel for the role; b) 2<sup>nd</sup> year as the GR, feel more comfortable in the role since eased into it.**

1) Group Records may be able to answer the question about percentage of groups;

2) Yes, today we have 64 voting GRs;

- 3) There are many ways to divide the responsibilities of Group Representatives because time commitments are difficult. Some groups ask for a one-year or even a one-Assembly commitment so the group will have representation. Three-year positions are suggested by Al-Anon worldwide, not just in Oregon. (Judy J, Past Delegate P41)
- 6. Why don't we have only 2 Assemblies per year? It is a financial hardship for smaller districts.**  
We previously held 4 Assemblies per year, meeting alongside AA. In 1994 there was a motion to hold only three. That motion passed 60-27. This is how Al-Anon grows. Manual says pay group expenses first...the manual says rent and GR expense before anything else (pg 56-57). The manual also suggests fund raising to pay expenses and make donations. (Judy J, Past Delegate P41).
- 7. Why can't we use the Big Book of AA in our meetings?**  
Service Manual, page 104, "Use of Material at Al-Anon Meetings," *Al-Anon Spoken Here (P-53)*, *Why Conference Approved Literature? (P-35)*, and the "Three Obstacles to Success in Al-Anon," as found in *Alcoholism, the Family Disease (P-4)* and "Groups at Work" (P-24). (Bunny G, Past Delegate P38)
- 8. I'd like to know how many spouses who are in AA also attend Al-Anon. (In this room) How can we better promote Al-Anon in AA meetings?**  
Service Manual, p. 120, offers suggestions: name members to act as liaison and provide current lists of group contacts for Twelfth Step referrals; submit Al-Anon meeting information for inclusion in AA's local meeting list. On WSO Members' website, see *The Best of Public Outreach*. See also G-7 "Cooperation with AA." (Bunny G., Past Delegate P38)
- 9. I have found that some groups don't say who sponsors people or talk about their sponsor. Is this common in group meetings or unique to my district?**  
See P31, "Sponsorship, What's It All About" and page 48-49 in the Service Manual on Sponsorship. Page 23 in the Service Manual talks about Anonymity. The degree of anonymity depends on the sponsor and sponsored. This would be a good topic to take back to the district and apply KBDM. (Bunny G., Past Delegate P38)
- 10. What are the steps to take when an Al-Anon member is verbally and/or emotionally inappropriate with other members. This behavior is ongoing yet happens sporadically.**  
Service Manual, page 54-55, "Group Problems and Solutions" says, "...members expect a safe and pleasant environment..." Apply Tradition One. Conflict Resolution Kit, S-71, S-72 and S-73, can be used. Conflict can provide an opportunity for growth. The health of a group is the responsibility of its members, not just one person. The issue should be addressed gently and lovingly. (Bunny G., Past Delegate, P 38)
- 11. Should we or should we not say "to place principles above personalities?" I heard this is what AAs do and we don't.**  
Talk it over at your group. What and why does your group say that? WSC discussed this a few years back and the concern was "Why are these words more important than other words?" (Judy J., Past Delegate, P41)

## **12. Why don't we participate in AA Conventions?**

See Service Manual, page 120, "Participating in AA Conventions," which says we are usually invited to share the program in AA conventions. Do we say, "Yes" when invited? We can ask when conferences are held locally and ask if they would want us to cooperate. See also, G-7. (Judy J., Past Delegate, P41)

**Website Tours**, Regis P., Website Coordinator led the Assembly on a visual tour of the World Service Office website, with particular interest to the Members' Page, where there are many valuable service tools available. The Oregon Area Website was the next tour area, with emphasis on two separate areas – Newcomers and Current Members.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- AWSC, October 15, 2016, District 11, St. Paul Church, 3880 SE Brooklyn St., Portland, OR 97202
- Area Assembly, November 18-20, 2016, Embassy Suites Hotel, 9000 SW Washington Square Rd., Tigard, OR 97223
- AWSC, February
- Area Assembly, March 17-19, District 1, Astoria, Location to be announced.

**KBDM Discussion** – Postponed to AWSC in October and November Assembly.

**Meeting Closed** with AI-Anon Declaration at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lynn J.  
Oregon Area Secretary, Panel 56

# **REPORTS**

## **DELEGATE'S REPORT**

Sunrise

My name is Cindy, a grateful member of Al-Anon. I am your delegate to the World Service Office and my main job is to be the link between you and the World Service Office. I am truly grateful you've trusted me with this position.

I'd like to ask - Did we enter this business room and drop outside these doors those obstacles and anxieties we may have that prevent us from good spiritual practice? Have we brought in qualities of love, tolerance, integrity and whatever else we need to trust this path our Higher Powers have placed us on?

### **Why have a conference?**

Unity among the groups would benefit Al-Anon as a whole.

Our groups are the building blocks of the fellowship. They carry the final responsibility and authority for Al-Anon. If we don't have strong services at the group level & always expect the World Service Office to handle things, we endanger our existence.

Saturday, I'm waiting for my flight from Chicago to Virginia Beach when I hear 2 women across from me talking. I say to myself, "...hmmm, they could be". Then one of them ask me if my name is JoAnn. No, sorry. A short time later from what they're saying, I asked, "are you going to the WSC?" Yep! I meet Virginia from Iowa and Karen from Missouri. When we get to Virginia, we meet Diane from New York north. It's all about easy conversation. Chit chat about the weather, families, meetings back home. We share the shuttle with 5 other people going to our hotel. It's 6:00 pm eastern time and I'm exhausted. But I think, I'm okay, they're just like me.

Sunday morning I wake up in a panic attack! Fear sets in, what if? Why do I think I? What if no one...? How can I socialize for an entire week?! This isn't me! Then the phone rings and someone is asking me to go for a walk on the beach....I'm okay.

Conference was one long ride and we're having meetings as we drive. Have you had this experience? A bunch of you get in a car and drive somewhere to a function and you have this marvelous meeting while you're driving. That's what I'd say conference is like. There's a bunch more to it, but in a nutshell, that's how I'd describe it. It was marvelous!

From there – we had a meeting on Sharing Area Highlights by answering these questions on Encouraging Area Participation

- 1) What strategies do you use to encourage area participation of inactive groups & districts in your Area?



- 2) How do you connect with and encourage participation of member in remote rural areas?
- 3) What strategies do you employ to encourage members to fill service positions?
- 4) How does your Area encourage financial contributions to the Area?
- 5) What happens at your AWSC meetings
- 6) What is the timeframe for AWSC and Assembly meetings?
- 7) Who attends your AWSC? Who attends Assemblies?
- 8) Are you still using Action Committees?

I've left copies of the questions and the answers from different areas on your tables.

Any questions?

On our 2<sup>nd</sup> day, We started off with information on the Alateen survey. Don't know about the survey.... Well the survey showed some really unique information. I've started a simple newsletter for the Alateens and called it, "Delegate Delivers..." I've put copies of it on your tables.

292 people responded to the Alateen Survey. Of those, 58 were not members of Al-Anon; 44 did not go past question 3; 20 were over 21.

Of the 171 actual Alateens—50% said AMIAS (parental support) was very important—majority said technology was the least important—10 years old was the lowest age—18.74 was the average age—19% have a personal sponsor—84% said Alateen helped—65% said they had a support group—68% said they support Alateen financially—70% heard about Alateen from parents—10% heard about it from counselors, school—87% heard about it from a friend—80% do not attend chat meetings— 56% are interested in chat meetings. 61% of Alateens say Literature is a success - 43% said public out-reach is needed for support of Alateen

The most common way a member heard about Alateen was through AA.

### Concept 11

July 2012 – the Board of Trustees started to clarify the descriptive text of Concept 11 in the Service Manual. The revised text reflects changes to the structures of Board committees that were approved by the 2002 World Service Conference. Amended text would describe various structure changes of Standing committees as well as the addition of Thought and Task Forces and Work Groups.

The 12 Concepts belong to our worldwide fellowship. The World Service Conference is the senior structure that provides an example to General Services Offices and emerging structures around the world. The update includes a brief description of those Board committees that no longer are in effect in the World Service Conference structure but may be in effect in other countries structures.

Prior to the 2016 World Service Conference, we were asked to read what the previous panel had discussed in the Conference Summary and what the current text was in the Service Manual.

This years WSC approved the text changes.

## **Memorial Contributions**

The WSO accepts contributions in memory of deceased Al-Anon members from “family” who are not Al-Anon members. The fellowship recognized that accepting such contributions can give comfort to families of alcoholics as described in Tradition 5. The WSO defines family as anyone who has a close relationship of loving care and concern for another. The individual donor defines him or her relationship to the deceased Al-Anon member. This 1 time gift of gratitude is limited to an amount no greater than \$500. Memorial contributions are not solicited.

This motion reflects the spiritual principals of Tradition 5 and reinstates a similar policy that had been in place from Al-Anon’s early days until 1986.

For those that are interested in all the motions at conference, there are a couple copies on your table, they are white.

**Finance** – there are copies of a finance word crossword puzzle we received. If you like crosswords, these are pretty simple.. For 2016 we have agreed on a transfer of 4%.

There is a **pink** paper on your tables that show highlights of my finance report. I will be using this as well as other information. There is also a **blue** piece of paper on your tables that is the WSO budget.

Lets looks at the budget paper. 2016 Budget shows that we expect expenses to be \$184,000 more than revenue for the year. We are estimating expenses to be \$5,057 and revenues to be 4,873.

Overall – expenses is budgeted to decrease by \$58,000 from last year’s actual. Labor costs are expected in increase \$118,000 due to the cost of living and merit increases.

Estimated income – we are estimating income from literature sales to be about \$123,000 less than last year and Forum subscription income to be slightly higher. We are budgeting contributions to be \$1.8 million which is about 9% more than last year’s actual. Beginning in 2008 we agreed to transfer up to 4% of the fair value of the Reserve Fund to the General Fund. Since we had experienced lower increases in the value of the Reserve Fund than in the past, we reduced the amount for 2015 to about 1.1%.

### **Income:**

Money was transferred from the reserve fund to make the budget. The reserve fund is below the needed “1 year’s expense’s”.

Concept 1 – groups have the ultimate responsibility for the WSO services. WSO spends a minimum of \$263 on each group. Iowa instead of bringing love gifts made a donation in each delegates name and gave the WSO a check for \$3000.

Break the buck barrier - Several of us Delegates borrowed this to use again. If you’d like one, take it from the table. There should be plenty of them. It is approved by the WSO.

There is a **white** piece of paper with the \$15 on it.

If every Al-Anon member would give \$15 to the Annual Appeal Fund

### **Expenses**

Postage – cost of annual appeal costs \$30,000 to mail envelopes. It brings in \$500,000.

Budget report for expenses.

Reserve fund is below the 1 year worth of expenses. Annual expenses are budgeted to be \$5 million

Reserve fund is \$3,8

### **Trustees process.**

Three Regions —

US South Central, US Southwest and US Northwest — began the process of nominating Regional Trustees by the forming of their respective Regional Committees on Trustees (RCT). While the process for nominating a Regional Trustee and Trustee at Large is different, the deadline for resumes to be submitted to the WSO is August 15

We, the USA Northwest region have a Regional Trustee position open. Would you like to apply? There are several positions open. Executive Director -, Digital Strategy Manager, Director of Membership Services, Director of Financial Services (non-member)

Mary Gregory, new interim Executive Director

When are we going to publish our new books? I ask you because you create the sharings in the books. Currently we have:

- Intimacy book has 109 writings and 40 freelance writings
- Parents & Grandparents have 190 writing and 12 freelance writings

The focus on the Parents and Grandparents book should be the challenges and rewards of each step we use in dealing with our children and grandchildren affected by alcoholism.

New daily readers need at least 1200 sharings in order to be ready to select up to 680 to print. They should be 200-300 words including use of Al-Anon principles in challenging situations. There will be a 4 page section in the July and August Forums. A full page ad will be posted on the member's website and EGroup News.

Do you have your monthly copy?

### **PRAYER FOR TODAY**

The Conference agreed to continue the discussion next year, after the Delegates conduct informed, Traditions-based discussions within their Areas, in which all aspects and points of view can be examined prior to reaching conclusions. In following this process, we trust that all group conscience decisions will be, as stated in Tradition Two, the expression of the loving God of our understanding.

The concern that was expressed is that it speaks of religious tenets of Catholicism. After long lines of each delegate sharing for 2 minutes and different perspectives all over the map, Tom Coffey was really surprised and didn't know it would be such a hot topic. We voted to bring it back next year for discussion again before anything was done.

One evening, we attended an Open Policy Meeting. IF you've had a question, asked your group and they don't know, so they ask the DR and they don't know, so the DR asks the Delegate and they don't know, you can write the WSO or have the Delegate ask for you. If it's a policy question, it'll go to the Policy Committee Board meeting for discussion.

The Policy Committee recommended revised text at the **Open Policy Meeting**, the Policy Committee discussed the terms "open and closed meetings" with the purpose of exploring to what degree these designations complicate public outreach efforts and cause confusion for potential and current members.

The discussion about "open" and "closed" meetings focused primarily On Tradition Five, the principle of being welcoming, and Tradition Twelve, maintaining anonymity of members. The Policy Chairman appointed a Thought Force to explore this topic further.

### ***Open/Closed Meetings***

Closed meetings are for all Al-Anon members, anyone whose personal life is or has been deeply affected by close contact with a problem drinker. Open meetings may be attended by anyone interested in Al-Anon/Alateen.

### **Let's have a break**

- Stand up if you have a service manual
- Stand up if you have an Oregon Area Handbook
- Stand up if you like dogs
- Stand up if you have grandchildren
- Stand up if you're in AWSC

Are there questions?

**Thursday** – I'm dragging. I'm socialized out – but everything is so interesting, it gives me the strength to go on.

There were 4 Task Forces ending. They were, "Meeting Types", "Communication and strengthening the links of service", "Acceptance of Communities, Cultures and Beliefs" and "Technology and Anonymity".

### Task Force **Presentations**

Four Task Forces gave presentations throughout the 2016 World Service Conference:

The **Meeting Types Task Force** presented a list of potential types of meetings that could meet a variety of group needs while remaining consistent with Al-Anon's Legacies. The Task Force shared that Al-Anon Guidelines and the *Service Manual* provide information on many types of meetings, but that there are times when meetings need to be "non-traditional" in order to meet the needs of individual members or the group as a whole. The Task Force encouraged creativity and ingenuity in determining what type of meeting would best fit the needs of the group, the members, and potential members. Some of their suggestions were: Technology-assisted meetings

Seasonal meetings

Identified need location meetings

**The Communication and Strengthening the Links of Service Task Force** gave a presentation to assist trusted servants in better communicating information using spiritual principles as a guide, while empowering members to use the links of service and make their needs known. Following a humorous skit, Conference members were presented with several questions to consider, including: How can I communicate and introduce spiritual principles into discussions?

How can I, as a trusted servant, empower the group to address problems keeping spiritual principles in mind?

Conference members broke into small groups and discussed how to approach specific problems lovingly. Participants agreed that by basing communication on spiritual principles, such as gratitude, mutual respect, and abundance, members would best be able to understand and apply information communicated through the links of service to make better decisions for the group and the fellowship.

Many Conference members shared how implementing the tools identified in the presentation will help begin conversations in their Areas.

The **Task Force on Acceptance of Communities, Cultures, and Beliefs** developed a workshop for district and Area use. It included ideas for group members to welcome and give comfort to newcomers from all communities, cultures, and beliefs, while keeping the focus on Al-Anon's primary purpose of helping friends and families of alcoholics. Cultural differences and diversities may include: Differences between people due to age, religion, race, gender, social or economic status, physical or mental status, etc.

Differences among groups of people and individuals based on ethnicity, language, sexual orientation, and/or geographic area.

Conference members were asked to consider what we could do to overcome our own discomfort and reach out to people who are not "like us." How can we avoid separating into cliques and familiar groupings, or being territorial at our meetings? How can we actively demonstrate at our meetings and in public outreach that we are a recovery support group available to everyone everywhere?

Conference members had an opportunity to share their personal experiences overcoming their own prejudices, and how it expanded their personal recovery. Many Conference members thanked the Task Force for this workshop, as it will help them present this topic in their Areas.

The **Task Force on Technology and Anonymity** shared how to successfully use technology, including social media sites, for personal usage and for Al-Anon business, while maintaining Al-Anon/ Alateen anonymity. The Task Force discussed ways to help members understand the facts and dispel some of the myths of anonymity when using social media, e-mail, and other on-line technologies.

Meeting types – In the 2013 survey, they found that changes in our environment are creating changes in our meetings. Many groups are lacking the flexibility to keep their groups healthy. Is yours?

Technology and Anonymity – We have looked at this at the AWSC with our website coordinator and are making sure we're working to keep individuals anonymity in today's technology world.

We'll try and look at a couple of these in November

2018 Al-Anon International Convention – Baltimore Maryland, how many days 2 years, .....

**Chosen Agenda Item #5:**

How do we adapt and evolve to attract and retain younger members (under 40) while staying true to our purpose, traditions and concepts?

Are we as inclusive as we could be whether potential newcomer or member has religious belief or not (the agnostic)?

How can we attract and retain more members under the age of 50?

According to the latest Al-Anon Annual Survey results, 80% of our membership is over the age of 50. The percentage of Al-Anon members rapidly declines according to their age group to less than 1% as it gets closer to the age of 24 or younger. The average age of our Al-Anon members has risen from 56 in 2009 to 60 in 2015. As the average age continues to increase, we may jeopardize our long term sustainability or solidify a perception as a fellowship for older individuals.

How can Al-Anon attract younger, more diverse members beyond the current Al-Anon member being a 62-year-old heterosexual white woman; to maintain and increase Al-Anon's current membership?

Al-Anon/Alateen may be growing internationally but here in the U.S. our membership is diminishing. Without 20 to 40-year-old diverse membership will Al-Anon/Alateen still be here for the next 65 years?

We need to be aggressively visible in the youthful eye - college campuses, young adult associations, YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Cable/internet TV, Theaters, Subscription Radio, Arena venues, electronic billboards, App adds, etc.

There were 22 topics that were condensed into these

What are your thoughts? What are our hurdles to overcome?

Ours were

- a. Treatment centers
- b. Diversity
- c. Decline of churchgoers – meeting in churches
- d. Get here when we get here
- e. When we reach our bottom
- f. Getting younger members in service positions
- g. Scarcity thinking vs abundance thinking
- h. Public outreach
- i. Anonymity
- j. Fear
- k. 42 times you have to hear – am I the 21<sup>st</sup>? the 33<sup>rd</sup>?
- l. Babysitting
- m. Family meetings
- n. Addiction is greater than alcoholism nationwide
- o. Literature for the agnostic
- p. Young peoples literature

My task force is Spirituality in Money Discussions – area – handout.

Invite me to your district if you'd like to hear more about something specific.

Yours in love of service,

- Cindy, Oregon, Panel 56

## **Treasurer's Report**

**Remember to put all three items on checks:**

**District Number**

**WSO Group Number**

**Group Name**

**Donations Payable to Oregon Area AFG**

			Jan 1 - Jul 14, 16	Budget	\$ Over Budget
1	<b>Revenue</b>				
2		Group Contributions	8,902.46	13,000.00	-4,097.54
3		Assembly Registrations	710.00	2,200.00	-1,490.00
4		State Speaker Meeting	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00
5		Advances	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
6		Cash Carried Forward	13,583.69	12,500.00	1,083.69
7		<b>Total Revenue</b>	24,696.15	33,200.00	-8,503.85
8	<b>Expense</b>				
9	<b>Delegate Fund</b>				
10		WSO ETF	1,965.00	1,965.00	0.00
11		Extra Day	134.00	200.00	-66.00
12		Delegate Meeting	298.72	350.00	-51.28
13		Delegate Travel	241.93	800.00	-558.07
14		Delegate Miscellaneous	235.03	350.00	-114.97
15		<b>Total Delegate Fund</b>	2,874.68	3,665.00	-790.32
16	<b>Working Fund Expense</b>				
17		Archive Rent	578.90	850.00	-271.10
18		Area Travel Fund	400.81	2,000.00	-1,599.19
19		Communicator	75.10	200.00	-124.90
20		SSM Advance	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
21		Assembly/AWSC Rent	2,416.00	3,000.00	-584.00
22		Insurance	759.00	800.00	-41.00
23		<b>Total Working Fund Expense</b>	4,229.81	8,350.00	-4,120.19
24	<b>Assembly Allowance/Meal/Lodging</b>				
25		Officers	350.53	2,075.00	-1,724.47
26		Audit/Budget	56.20	900.00	-843.80
27		Coordinators	812.78	2,225.00	-1,412.22
28		Past Delegates	550.67	900.00	-349.33
29		Regional Trustee	319.45	900.00	-580.55
30		DR's At AWSC	55.90	0.00	55.90
31		<b>Total Assembly Allowance/Meal/Lodging</b>	2,145.53	7,000.00	-4,854.47
32	<b>Officers Expenses</b>				
33		Alternate Delegate	0.00	50.00	-50.00
34		Chairperson	33.96	100.00	-66.04
35		Secretary	0.00	50.00	-50.00
36		Treasurer	177.45	200.00	-22.55



37		AAPP Expenses	45.67	50.00	-4.33
38		Total Officers Expenses	257.08	450.00	-192.92
39		Assembly Expenses			
40		Assembly Workshops	0.00	50.00	-50.00
41		Business Services A.C.	0.00	50.00	-50.00
42		Membership Outreach A.C.	625.00	800.00	-175.00
43		Group Services A.C.	0.00	500.00	-500.00
44		Fellowship Communication A.C.	110.00	650.00	-540.00
45		Public Outreach A.C.	136.50	4,000.00	-3,863.50
46		Audit Budget Extra Day + Exp	66.66	300.00	-233.34
47		Total Assembly Expenses	938.16	6,350.00	-5,411.84
48		Coordinator and Other Expenses			
49		Alateen Coordinator and Standing Committee Expenses	91.00	125.00	-34.00
50		Archives	0.00	300.00	-300.00
51		CPC	0.00	50.00	-50.00
52		Forum	47.23	50.00	-2.77
53		Group Records	0.00	50.00	-50.00
54		Literature	0.00	50.00	-50.00
55		Public Information	0.00	50.00	-50.00
56		Web Coordinator	180.97	330.00	-149.03
57		Total Coordinator and Other Expenses	319.20	1,005.00	-685.80
58		Delegate Meeting			
59		Alternate Delegate	0.00	350.00	-350.00
60		Past Delegates	171.84	350.00	-178.16
61		Donation as support of NWDM	0.00	300.00	-300.00
62		Total Delegate Meeting	171.84	1,000.00	-828.16
63		Other			
64		Alateen Sponsor Workshop	0.00	400.00	-400.00
65		Contingency Fund	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
66		Equipment Supplies	289.99	600.00	-310.01
67		Handbook Update	0.00	50.00	-50.00
68		Transition Fund	0.00	733.00	-733.00
69		Total Other	289.99	2,783.00	-2,493.01
70		Total Expense	11,226.29	30,603.00	-19,376.71
71		Cash Balance as of 7/14/16	13,469.86		
72		Reserves	7,980.17		
73		Cash Available as of 7/14/16	5,489.69		

## **AIS LIAISON REPORTS**

### **Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) Office – Portland, OR**

Report by AIS Liaison – Caralynn W

Area Assembly July 15-16, 2016

Things are happening!

No one stood for the position of AIS Liaison for the Portland office this year. I told myself that I would stand for the position again after the State Speakers Meeting was over IF no one had filled the position. Well, no one had, so I'm back for another three years.

AIS is most happy that a member donated a new computer to the office! Our two employees are very happy too!

AIS now has a committee working on upgrading and redesigning our website! This has been a "dream" for several years. Now things are starting to happen!

District 17 has a fundraiser for the AIS office every year. This year they sent AIS a check for \$1,329.86!!!

AIS has an annual fundraiser for the AIS office. This year it will be on Saturday, October 29, 2016 at Tabor Space, 5441 SE Belmont St, Portland, OR 97215. It is a later afternoon / evening event.

The AIS Board still has a number of open positions in case you know anyone who might want a service position. They are: Public Outreach, Health Fairs, Office Volunteers, Group Ways and Means, Media and AA Liaison. That's a lot! None of these positions requires any more time and effort than the "volunteer" wants to give to it.

Financially, AIS is doing well. We continue to provide "birthday" envelopes and they continue to provide around \$2,000 a year. Our budget is okay too! We are where we should be financially at the middle of the year.

Caralynn W

AIS Liaison

## **COORDINATOR REPORTS**

### **Oregon Area Alateen Report**

July 17/18, 2016

#### **Request for information**

1 3 requests for a meeting in the Portland area

- Working on getting the meeting started by September 2016
- 2 WA teens request for meeting in Grants Pass area
    - Passed the info onto current active AMIAS
    - Can I please meet with District 7 (Central Point/Medford)?

#### OAC Report

- 1) Flyer for OAC
  - a. FROG (Fully Rely On God)
  - b. Applications available
  - c. Scholarships are available
- 2) Fundraiser – raised \$
  - a. Attendance
  - b. Speakers from Al-Anon, AA, and Alateen

Linda S., Alateen Coordinator

### **Archives Coordinator Report**

July 2016 Assembly

December 30, 2015 archives were a moved to Baker City

I am currently in the process of organizing and scanning document that have not yet been scanned. Currently have SSM notebooks from all years except 2015 and 2016 in archives storage.

Would like to remind members that if you have items that should be archived I will gladly pick them up at AWSC or Assembly and transport them to storage.

We presently have 3 file cabinets that are full and will need another if we continue the current practice of retaining all documents after they are scanned. Only one is fireproof.

When I took the position there was discussion about whether fireproof storage is required. (One member remembered that some years ago there was a fire at the archives storage location; unknown what may have been lost.) We should have a discussion about whether the cabinets that are not fireproof should be replaced with fireproof ones. Archives committee?

I was given a suggestion from a past delegate that producing a book to document the history of Al-Anon in Oregon might be a good project to undertake, and I am working on that project now. It was mentioned by a member that some our history documents may not be completely accurate (faulty memories recorded, etc.) and that contacting the Archives person at WSO might be wise to verify before publication of an official document for Area 47 history. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact me.

There are a few archive documents on display at this Assembly. Please feel free to take time during breaks to look at them.

Respectfully submitted  
Jan D.  
Panel 56 Archives Coordinator

## **Group Records July Report**

### Challenging

While this has been challenging at times, it has also been rewarding. Nothing feels better than doing a task well!

### Important Points

1. Use online form, GR-1, and fill all spaces needed online.
2. If you choose to write, please be as clear as humanly possible – DO NOT USE “Longhand.”
3. ALL information, ALL GR-1s MUST be approved by the DR. If you don’t have one, get one – Please!

### Challenge

1. DRs - Collect information.
2. GRs – Ask your group if you have any concerns about your group or if you know of any needs for your group.

### THEN...See #1

3. DRs – Forward information, questions, concerns to any Group Services member for discussion, answering or finding the right person(s) for solutions.

THEN....All answers will be forthcoming. If your situation needs immediate response follow the links of service.....DR, District Meeting, AWSC, Assembly. Then, and ONLY then, WSO.

I devote about an hour a month, give or take, to doing my job. I really enjoy doing my job. I like doing data entry, having a position of knowledge, and feeling needed and trusted.

I read AFG Connects almost daily. I am impressed with the info available.

Kate R., Group Records Coordinator

## **Public Outreach along with Cooperating with the Professional Community Report**

Panel 56 - 2016 through 2018

After several conversations with Scott CPC (cooperating with the professional) we came up with the idea of combining public Outreach and CPC by working on the same project together.

For 2016 the public Outreach committee would focus on proposing grants that would put the face of Al-Anon in front of the put the face of average person walking down the street.

In 2017 the focus for the district grant project would be on professionals such as judges doctors counselors courts

Finally in 2018 the focus for the grant projects would be on hospitals and institutions, rehab centers, jails such the idea was that the a group or a district would go out and find a project that they would like to do for the community, professionals and the institutions. The district /group would come up with a project that they want to do and find out how much everything would cost to do it (with the idea that they would come up half and the area would try to subsidise the rest with the grant money.) There seemed to be a lot of confusion in 2016 and there was only two grants that were paid out . the recipients were district 10 and district 6 . Scott and I tried to clear up the communication dealing with the grant process. We are going ahead as planned with the grant project in 2017 Geared towards Professional community.

At the March assembly I handed out 400 of the Al-Anon faces alcoholism magazine to the GR's. The GR's were to take them back to their groups and have their groups distributing to local public places such as barber shops, laundromats, visitor centers, nail salons etc.

Then in the July assembly 800 pens were given to the GR's in hope that they will also go back to their group and leave them behind in public places such as cash check cashing places, grocery stores and health fairs

In the November assembly I propose to bring approx 2000, 5.5x8.5 Road sign tear off sheets that you can find in the best of public Outreach on the Al-Anon membership websites. in conclusion at the next assembly Scott wants to start getting the ball rolling for the grants that will deal with ideas that are geared towards the professional community and then the following year the grants will be geared towards the hospitals and institutions. Thank you very much. It has been a pleasure serving everyone.-Tama S

## **Oregon Area Web Coordinator Report**

### **Assembly July 2016 (Panel 56)**

- Appointed Temp Web Coordinator 12/19/2015 for Panel 56; voted to Panel 56 during March Assembly
- Loaded website Dreamweaver software and received passwords in mid-January
- Updated the Meeting Schedule by District as meeting updates came from Group Records
- Updated the Area home page with upcoming events
- Began Preparation for a redesign of Area Website

- Formed relationships with Area persons interested in helping with this project (Concept 4.Participation is the key to harmony); special thanks to Michael B & Regina W from District 7 and Melissa C in District 11
- Collected Area Home page snapshots
  - Noted strengths and weaknesses
  - Noted what feelings the initial view of the elicited
- Read Forum streams in AFG Connects Web Coordinators Digest
  - Found through AFG Connects amazing software for Find A Meeting
  - Connected with Georgia web coordinators (past and present) who have experience with this software
- Asked Group Records for a full listing of Area meetings from WSO to reconcile our meetings
  - Prompted by a request from group records to update a meeting that was not listed on the Area meeting schedule
  - Created prior-to-change pdf copies and post-change pdf copies to send to each DR
  - May have covered up good information with older information, but at least it was in sync with the WSO information
  - Sent out requests for DRs to ask Groups to review pdfs and update meetings using the GR-1 form submitted to group records
- Proposed to AWSC and received a file archival plan
  - Set a timeframe to deal with files by category:
    - Event flyers archived after 1 year
    - Agendas archived after 3 years
    - Minutes archived after 5 years
  - Began the work of sorting out files to be archived (this will take some time)
- Proposed to AWSC and received a plan to trial sub-domain websites
  - Districts 7, 11 & Alateen on a trial basis
  - A report is due at the October AWSC Meeting

Regis P., Website Coordinator

## **Action Committee Reports**

### **Business Services Action Committee** recap

Business Services was asked to reexamine the \$150.00 limit on Assembly reimbursement for AWSC members. We discussed this a little at the March assembly, and again this assembly after getting more background information.

We used KBDM and asked

What do we know about what our members need or want?

What do we know about our resources?

What is currently happening? Pros/Cons?

What are the ethical implications?

What do we need to know?

We have come up with a proposal to change the wording for assembly allowance; section 4 page which we will present in writing at the next AWSC and assembly through links of service .

We also decided on our budget for 2017.

We also came up with 2 projects to work on during this panel- BS purpose is to increase knowledge and understanding of the business of AI-anon and to facilitate the Oregon Area in conducting effective business meetings . In that vein we want to educate the assembly on how far your individual 7th tradition donation goes. Also we are going to explain the pie chart, how your \$15.00 is used.

Lastly we have a challenge to all GR's:

2016 is AI-Anon's 65th Birthday- we challenge every group to pass around an envelope, birthday card, container etc until it has \$65.00 or more, then send your special birthday collection to WSO, then report back at the November assembly how you did it. We want to move up to be the #1 state for number of groups donating to WSO!

Respectfully submitted Barb B , recorder Business Services

## Fellowship Communication Action Committee

Minutes of Fellowship Committee meeting, July 16, 2016  
Oregon Area Assembly.

### Reviewed our writing workshop challenge:

All groups and districts that hold a writing workshop can submit a summary of the workshop held by filling out the form (show form) which will be entered into a drawing. At the November Assembly, one of the forms will be randomly selected to receive a generous basket of Al-Anon books and CAL. Only one winner will get the basket of books. However, everyone who turns in the writing workshop forms by November or before will receive a packet of Classic Forums!! (By the way, District 11 has already sent in writing submissions!!)

If you invite someone to do a workshop, it would be appropriate to offer to pay for their expenses.

There are many creative ways in which these workshops can be incorporated into our Al-Anon meetings: before or after a meeting, as a meeting topic, or for ½ of a meeting.

Laney our Forum Coordinator would be happy to conduct these workshops if you would like to invite her. Also, after a demonstration by Stone yesterday, many of you may feel comfortable conducting these workshops yourselves, and inspiring your groups to write and submit their stories.

There is an effort in process to streamline the way to submit writings online. It can be done online now, but I understand it is a bit cumbersome to get into the right page to do this.

There are many ways in which writings can be shared. The Daily Readers can use smaller writings. The average length of Forum writings is about 600 words

Writings are needed for:

- New books being planned on intimacy, grand parenting and parenting.
- Writings on diversity are needed
- The Steps, Traditions, and Concepts.
- Another daily reader is being planned
- Our Communicator and Group Scoop are also looking for writings.

Also. Another book of Forum Favorites (#5) is planned

The Fellowship Committee really wants to encourage the use and purchase of our literature, and to support more people to write their experience, strength and hope. We had many ideas of ways to increase the sale of literature:

Buying books in Spanish to support our Latino groups

Buying literature to support Alateen groups, such as literature to give away at OAK

We talked about sharing catalogs with our groups.

Some groups pass around the catalog, and members order from the catalog to be picked up at the next meeting.

We encourage the idea of giving book reports at Assemblies

We talked about buying literature to have available at AA meetings and Speaker Meetings,

We would need to ask first if the meeting would welcome the literature to be available there.

***(Remember that many Alateens get to know about their program through AA!)***



We need to create more enthusiasm and connection with AA Groups, and this is something individual groups can do in their locations as a group outreach activity.

Next year, our committee wants to continue giving out subscriptions at Assemblies, We discussed donating a basket of literature at the State Speaker Meeting, when we have the next one. Treatment centers can be another way to distribute literature.

We also discussed the possibility of challenging groups to chair meetings on literature. This was done a couple of years ago, and more specific details would need to be worked out this time to clear up some confusion from the previous experience. The idea would be to give 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes of gift certificates to buy literature to the groups who included the most different pieces of literature as a part of their meetings over a specific period of time.

We also discussed District outreach grants for distributing literature.

We talked about subsidizing someone to travel to rural areas for writing workshops.

We talked about a group that would be formed around a book study. One member mentioned that this might be particularly appealing to the under 40 age groups

One idea would be to encourage writing a book report, or any literature report to submit to the Communicator.

How about a humor article for the Forum?

Also to mention that there was a question about the purchase of electronic or audio literature through a 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor, like some of the larger book sellers. The Al-Anon Headquarters responded to Judy J. n this question, and affirms that it does get paid a percentage for any CAL that is sold through these vendors. The Catalog lists the items that are available through the electronic or audio pathways.

We would like to request a budget of at least \$650.00 to promote the writing and purchase of CAL literature in the Oregon area.

Minutes submitted by Rita S.

## **Group Services Action Committee**

Oregon Area Assembly, July 2016 – Milwaukie  
Group Services Action Committee

Secretary Notes by Patrice M

Sixteen members in attendance. Patrice M, Phyllis S, Janice H, Fred R, Caralynn W, Devon B, Cynthia G, Jan D, Bobbi C, Elia T, Bunny G, Dee P, Gabriela O, Linda S, Joanne C, Kate R.

We opened with the Serenity Prayer.

We recognized that at the last assembly, only 2 members were present, and no notes were taken.

We proceeded to read out loud the purpose of our committee.

Items:

1. There is a copy of our Links of Service that is color coded and easier to read. It was suggested that we find that, view it, and perhaps update it to make it available to GR's to bring back to meetings. Discussed laminating, but an experience member said it is too expensive to produce.

2. We discussed creating bookmarks for Alateen in which Alateens' could submit artwork. Small discussion on whether it should be links of service art work. We decided that it would be too complicated to produce on such a small scale, so we left it as just an Alateen program work. Suggestion that proceeds go to OAC.

3. Discussed at length pros and cons of electronic attendance at assemblies for those unable to travel or leave the home. A thought force was gathered consisting of Bobbie, Cindy and Dee to investigate pros, cons, costs and other cities that have experience with this (IE: Northern California).

4. It was discussed about presenting skits at next assembly as examples of Links of Service and how they work or don't work. Talked about getting copies

Kate reviewed notes of past Action Committee. Their suggestions were akin to our current ideas.

Awareness of Alateen

Awareness of Links of Service

5. Celebrate Al-Anon birthday with a cake at next assembly, assuming the hotel venue allowed outside food. Other consideration was to ask hotel to create cake, and we would use our budget money.

6. Talked about getting copies of the links of service pamphlet from WSO to pass out.

7. It was agreed that we recommend the budget of \$500. stay the same for next term. As the possibility remains that the money could be used for electronic attendance if it is feasible and approved.

We closed the session with Patrice agreeing to type notes and give report Sunday morning to the Assembly.

Gratefully submitted,  
Patrice

## **Membership Outreach Action Committee**

Membership Outreach Action Committee

Minutes for 7/16/16

Submitted by Reggie W., District 7, Ashland

Regis led us through a handout around goals for the committee, topics from the last assembly, and areas where we are drawn to.

We learned that WSO is available for T.E.A.M. (formerly known as Regional Service Seminars) events if the Oregon Area provides everything else.

The Communicator, Oregon Area's newsletter, is available on the main website. Can we do anything to share it more effectively with our meeting members?

A member expressed concern about having more service work on our plates through this committee than we can manage in our busy lives. It's easy to get overwhelmed. We find a balance in recovery with finding our passions and devoting time to what we can commit to, putting energy into two to three projects or even one we can get behind.

As GRs, we need to Keep It Simple. We return to our districts with ideas we heard in reaching out to members. You don't feel you have the energy? Maybe another member has the energy.

Your service could be just bringing back love gifts, Facing Alcoholism pamphlets, Forums, encouraging members to try other meetings, sharing, including writing their Al-Anon stories, and lots more. GRs interested in certain ideas could keep in touch through email about what we are doing to connect with members in our districts and keep a list of ideas going. We don't have to do anything but be conduits and delegators of ideas and projects

Our Oregon Area Al-Anon website is being re-designed with potential newcomers and members in mind. Districts will be able to have their websites with links from the main Oregon website. And all will look good on mobile devices.

Here are some suggestions from the committee: Each page should have its purpose. Members and potential newcomers' pages need to be separate. A welcoming, attractive home page needs to be direct to the potential newcomer with answers to common questions.

Regis had us evaluate front pages of websites using the 3-8 second rule: does it attract newcomers to explore and answer questions? Does it target the population and purpose?

To help us not be overwhelmed, we ask, what may be the most important action for today, next meeting, this year, next year? What can we do to encourage members, including members who also are in AA, to try service opportunities? Doing service has strengthened personal recovery for many members. We may need to look at new ways of renewing our personal commitment to Al-Anon and Alateen.

## **Public Outreach Action Committee**

Scott opened meeting.

- Roster, please sign in
- Secretary (Deanne L)

14 in attendance and Scott and Tama, Public Outreach Coordinator

The first topic was about the grant money budgeted and why some of the moneys were not distributed. Discussion included not understanding, time limit and deadline. After discussion, it was move and seconded and approved to continue the grant process and to ask for \$4,000 for the 2017 budget.

The second topic was about the PSAs. A letter including a list of radio and TV who have the PSAs and how many have actually played them. Scott has challenged us to write Thank You notes to the one that have and requests to play to the others. The more requests are better. He gave us postcards for ideas but hand written is better. He challenged every area to do this.

The third topic was about the handouts from last assembly. A discussion on how the 2016 flyers were handed out and who wanted more. What the feedback was and if we need to order more for 2017. No decision was made on that. This Assembly ink pens were bought for handouts or leave behinds.

Scott also gave a short description of what Public Outreach is...when we share, when we leave Al-Anon or Alateen literature, leaving meeting lists, referrals by phone to local area or online meetings and info. And, of course, events.

Attendees talked about the billboards, theater PSAs, Literature Subscription, Radio PSAs, handouts, table covers and signs for events and hotels who will take info.

More ideas when we have time.

Sincerely submitted,

Deanne L., District 4