**AREA ASSEMBLY**

**FEBRUARY 1, 2020**

**Approved 17 Oct 2020**

**COLUMBIA METROPOLITAN CONVENTION CENTER**

**Opening**

Dave B, Area Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:13 AM. Nan M. read the Twelve Concepts and Warranties of the Conference. Attendees introduced themselves, and Dave B. welcomed new DR’s and GR’s to Area Assembly. He asked everyone to provide their current e-mail address to be included in his e-mail distribution list.

**Chairman’s Statement – Dave B**

Hello SCAFG Family:

I hope this has been a happy and blessed holiday season for everyone. My holiday was filled to overflowing with blessings and gratitude for a program of recovery that saved my life. I look forward to 2020 and beyond to be a great time to be part of this wonderful fellowship.

It is now time to get to work sharing the joy and love of the SCAFG program with everyone! My first week as your new state chairman has been filled with many tasks to get everything in order to start 2020 off with great vision for the future.

The first thing I would like to share with everyone is the dates for upcoming Area 50 Meetings:

The location for \*ALL MEETINGS\* will be the Columbia Convention Center on Lincoln Street in the heart of Columbia SC. We are all very familiar with the facilities the center has to offer and I was able to work

out a contract that was in line with our budget.

January 11 2020 AWSC 10 am in the Carolina A meeting room

February 1 2020 Area Assembly 10 am in Carolina A meeting room

Convention Committee / Alateen Lexington A meeting room

April 11 2020 AWSC 10am in the Carolina A meeting room

June 27 2020 Area Assembly 10 am Carolina A meeting room

Convention / Alateen Lexington A meeting room

August 15 2020 AWSC 10 am in Carolina meeting room

October 17 2020 Area Assembly Lexington A meeting room

Convention / Alateen Senate A meeting room

I have reserved dates for 2021 meeting already, subject to change if needed. The above rooms will be set up as per usual. The particular room may change if needed so always check the information signs at the building entrance. Parking is in the adjacent lot or parking building.

Panel 60 has filled most positions of coordinators and District Representatives. If your district has not filled the DR position, please work towards that vacancy being filled. The Links Of Service are the only way we can ALL stay current and up to date with our ever evolving program.

Current Panel Members are:

Chairman--David Bryant

WSC Delegate--Bob Colborn

Alt. Delegate/Area Group Records--Nan Moorer

State Treasurer--Linda Flohr

State Secretary--Janet Lockhart

Alateen Coordinator--Lindi Short

Reflector Editor--Clara Tala

Website Editor/AAPP--Shawn Short (1vote)

Area Literature Coordinator—Barbara O’Donnell

Public Outreach Coordinator—Lis Bleasdale

Area Forum Coordinator—Teresa Hinnant

Area Archives—Susan Lebhar

All Past Delegates are members with voice.

Open Position: Area Web Master

REMEMBER:

Send Love Gifts for the Delegates to:

Bob Colborn, c/o WSC

Sheraton Virginia Beach Hotel

3501 Atlantic Ave.

Virginia Beach, Va. 23451

Gifts should arrive by April 17.

GIFT BASKETS FOR CONVENTION FUND RAISER 2020

**Delegate’s Statement – Bob C**

Greetings SC Al-anon/Alateen Members!

First things first, let me begin by thanking you, our SCAFG membership, in affirming me as Delegate for Panel 60. It is a great honor and I will do my best to serve you. I would also like to thank all those who have stepped up to be of service on this Panel, from the Groups, the Districts and the Area. Some of the qualities that I hope to embody are spelled out in Bill W.’s essay on Concept Nine, which one can find in our Service Manual. They are Tolerance, Flexibility, Vision and Responsibility.

Beginning Jan. 2nd, my new email address inbox for Delegate communication (scdelegate60@gmail.com) began filling up. Of course, WSO has been most helpful in getting me acclimated to my new service position; they are sending me material daily. All the new delegates for Panel 60 have been included on an orientation conference call, which took place right after AWSC on Jan. 11. Most of the topics had to do with helpful hints for our first World Service Conference to be held April 20-25 in Virginia Beach. This year, in addition to the meetings, we have been scheduled for a visit to the World Service Office. As I have never been there, I am definitely looking forward to that! While I am on the topic, Love Gifts, which are a tradition at the Conference, can be sent Bob Colborn, Delegate, c/o WSC, Sheraton Virginia Beach Hotel, 3501 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Beach, Va..23451. They should arrive by April 17. I brought several flyers with me and will also email to DRs and CMAs.

I am also learning that I have an expanded role at our South Carolina Al-anon/Alateen Convention in Greenville, Feb. 6-9. Not only will I be the opening night speaker, I get to be host to our WSC speaker, Cynthia Kuykendall, and I am a member of the Speaker Selection Committee. I hope to see many of you next weekend in Greenville.

After the Convention, the SERDGT (Southeastern Regional Delegates Get Together) is the next event on the schedule. This year it will be held in San Juan P.R., as it rotates throughout the region yearly. I briefly considered not going as I have already been the last two years, but after speaking with most of our past delegates, I have been assured that it is well worth the time, effort and expense.

Please feel free to contact me with any issues, questions or suggestions you might have in South Carolina Al-anon/Alateen. My cell phone is 843-707-6365, and email is, again, scdelegate60@gmail.com

**Alternate Delegate/Group Records Coordinator – Nan M**

I have technically done my new job for just a few weeks now and boy what a ride. My learning curve has been great but I am blessed that Bob C. has been there for my beck and call. If I can step into a job with fairly heavy computer work, you all can take on something you know little about. My program teaches me to step into the uncertain place and trust in my program, the fellowship and the God of My Understanding. They have not failed as yet. I am learning and growing each day.

In terms of Area Group Records we have 157 groups but to understand this fully we need to realize that 35 of these groups are inactive at this time that leaves 122 active on going groups. Of the 122 active groups 2 of those presently are receiving no mail from WSO due to different reasons. I have been fairly active in verifying and making changes for new GRs, CMAs and status changes. Please if you have not completed the change form on the WSO website for changes in your groups please do so in the near future. LOL this is a little frightening to ask of you because Nan will need to jump on the computer and get to work. Please be patient with me as I learn and grow and I will be patient with you as you do so as well.

**Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes for October 5, 2019 Area Assembly were distributed by e-mail. Since most of the new GR’s did not receive the Minutes, Dave B postponed voting on approval until next Area Assembly. Minutes will be e-mailed to the updated GR list.

**Approval of Treasurer’s Report – Linda F**

Copies of the Treasurer’s Report through end of 2019, Group Contributions Report for 2019, and the 2020 Budget were distributed. The reports were approved by AWSC on January 11th. Group contributions received in January totaled $1400.00. Bryan, Awesome Aiken, District 3, moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion was seconded by Shawn S, AAPP Coordinator, and approved unanimously. There were 39 voting members present.

GR’s please remind your treasurer to send Area contributions to Linda Flohr and not Sara Keller. Please make checks payable to SCAFG and include your Group ID # and District #. Mail them to Linda Flohr - 1568 Culbertson Ave., Myrtle Beach, SC 29577.

**Coordinators Reports**

**Temporary Web Master – Shawn S**

I would like to thank the Panel 60 Officers for appointing me temporally to this position.

The Website has had 6,866 Views this past 30 days with 3,275 Unique Visits.

Of those visits:

1482 for Find a Meeting

958 for The Family Disease

612 for the Convention 2020

406 for District 7

271 for District 9

267 for District 4

253 for District 8

228 for District 2

211 for District 6

39 for District 3

80 for About Al Anon

57 for Alateen meeting list

79 for Archives

104 for What is Al-Anon

78 for What is Alateen

The Website has two payments one due on August 6th of this year for the regular al-anon-sc.org site domain, paid for two years at $33.90, last payment 08/06/2018. The other is a yearly payment for the Weebly Pro Site at $155.52, last paid on 12/07/2019, due again in December.

I have updated the Calendar with all the AWSC, Area, District 6 meetings, the Convention and the Alateen Conference. If anyone wants to add any other activities or meetings from around the state just email me with the details and I can add it to the calendar. (Or Click on the Contact Button at the top of the home page.

I have updated all the lists, forms and documents we have on the site. I have added links to downloadable meeting lists on all the District pages. I have also added button links at the bottom of the map page for all the District meeting lists. This way someone can download a meeting list to take with them.

On the Convention 2020 page I have updated all the forms, along with adding a button link to the 2020 NC/Bermuda Al-Anon Convention Feb 28 – 1 Mar 2020.

I have updated the Alateen meeting list page to reflect the 7 Active groups in our Area and one group in Charlotte NC on the border.

In the Members Area Page I have updated all the Alateen Forms and Files, the 2020 Convention Forms and Files, and the AWSC Committee Members File.

On the Archives page I have added a button link at the bottom of the page for the Chosen Agenda Items Index for WSO or “In The Loop”. On the Minutes page under Archives I have updated all the AWSC and Area meetings.

On the Contact Button I have added my new email address webscpanel60@gmail.com.

I look forward to being able to turn this position and email address over to someone else soon

Any questions or input please contact me at **webscpanel60@gmail.com** or call & text me at **(843) 696-2804**

**Area Alateen Process Person – Shawn S**

I would like to thank the AWSC Committee for voting, to allow me to take over the position of Area 50 Panel 60 AAPP as my permanent position, and allowing me to continue working as the Area 50 Webmaster until a replacement can be found.

As the Webmaster I have been working closely with the new AAC Lindi Short for the past month reviewing and updating all of the Alateen Forms, and the Area 50 AMIAS Training Manual that are now posted on the Website.

As the AAPP I have updated the AMIAS forms with my information. I have contacted, and am looking forward to getting with Mike Melton, the outgoing AAPP for Panel 57, and having a good Transition Training and Orientation with him some time soon. I have started a new email address for this position that you can contact me at with any questions or input: aappscpanelshort@gmail.com.

I have secured the contract for Background Checks with Sterling Volunteers. They are finalizing the account for us and it should be ready for us to start using next week. The cost will be a $200.00 one time Set up Fee, and $39.00 for each Complete Criminal background check run. I am estimating the first year to run us around $1565.00 with 35 AMIAS. The next two years for recertification we will only be doing the Advanced Criminal Background check at $19.00 each, for an estimated $760.00. We will incur the $39.00 expense on the Complete Background check for all new Certifications throughout those years.

The New WSO policy: The WSO is pleased to inform you that the Online Area Alateen Annual Recertification platform has been released to the AAPPs today, **January 15 and will be kept open until June 30, 2020**. We are requesting that all Areas complete the recertification process for certified AMIAS and all Alateen groups **by June 15** in order for the WSO to complete all verifications by the June 30 deadline. This new timeline will allow the Areas to start their Area Alateen recertification earlier and provides a two-week buffer to resolve any pending issues This affords the Areas and the WSO the timeframe to successfully meet the June 30th deadline.

Look for the Alateen meeting change forms to be mailed out to you by WSO around the 15 of Feb this year also.

I have submitted and received back the Certifications for 2 new AMIAS’s one in District 7 and the other in District 9 bringing our total for the state to 35 AMIAS with 7 Active meetings.

I look forward to working closely with and supporting the new AAC, in achieving her goals of increasing the awareness of the Alateen Program and increasing the number of Alateens & Alateen meetings in the state.

Questions about background checks were answered.

AMIAS do not pay for their own background checks, but they may make a donation to the Area to defray the cost.

Only background checks by Sterling Volunteers will be accepted. If an AMIAS already has a background check by another company, a Sterling Volunteer background check is still required.

**Forum Coordinator – Teresa H**

Not at Assembly. No report.

**Reflector Editor – Clara T**

Not at Assembly. No report.

**Alateen Coordinator – Lindi S**

First I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity serve as you area Alateen Coordinator. I would also like to thank all of our AMIAS who serve our area. These are the unsung heroes of our Alanon program. This is the only service position on the group levels that requires training, certification, background checks, recertification and occasional retraining in order to be of service. Not only do they attend their meetings they obligate themselves to the Alateen meeting each week.

I have all the Alateen forms for conference, convention and travel updated and on the website. Our current manual along with the certification forms are update and on the website. I would like to thank our AAPP person with help on that. They may need to be updated again as a few things have changed again with the AAPP part. Our training manual was update to reflect the current Al-anon service manual. We will be looking to make a few changes to the training manual to be incompliance with new WSO requirements and a few suggestions received from AMIAS’s input on making things clearer.

Currently we have 7 meetings in the whole state with districts 6 and 7 having 2 meetings each and 1 meeting in districts 4,8 and 9. District 8 is in the process of reactivating a meeting as the district coordinator was contacted by their district’s AA’s who requested an Alateen meeting in the Surfside beach area. Rachel S is working on that and looking for AMIAS to assist with this meeting. Our Greenville area also has a request for another Alateen meeting. Judy R is looking for more AMIAS in her district to help with her meeting and starting a new meeting. We have 35 AMIAS as of this meeting with 2 new one as of this month.

I have been working with Judy R with this year’s convention. We have Erica and Alexander H from Summerville speaking at this year’s conventions at 10:30 on Saturday. Mike J., Melissa, and Erica will be doing a workshop on Saturday at 2:30 for everyone titled “keep an open mind.” Their names did not appear on the agenda due to a communications error. I am also working with next year’s convention committee as their Alateen contact.

We having started planning this year’s conference and have save the date flyers available. Our conference is August 21st through August 23Rd. Our theme is togetherness foreverness. On august 22nd from 10am to 5pm we will have an open all day. Alateen events are closed, only allowing AMIAS and Alateens to attend. August 22nd is a unique opportunity to experience our program through the Alateen perspective. For $15.00 you can enjoy the all day at this beautiful retreat. The price includes lunch. Forms for Al-anon participation will be on the website soon.

My goals for my term on this panel are to increase the Alateen presences in our area. I would love to see all districts have an Alateen voice there. I am willing to travel to any district to do workshops, training, outreach or provide speakers. Just ask. I will not be available to do this during the months of March or April.

I have purchased $240.00 of literature for Alateen events. I have also purchased 2 small banners for Alateen along with an easel to use during Al-anon and Alateen functions. We will have a planning meeting today at the lunch breakout for our conference and convention details, in Lexington Room A.

**Area Alateen Representative – Mike J**

Not at Assembly due to illness. No report.

**Literature Coordinator – Barb O**

I am in contact with Past Panel 59 SCAFG Literature Coordinator Tom C. regarding any Literature. There will be some Literature for sale at the SCAFG 45th Convention next week.

Our AFG Literature Coordinator Guideline G-6, says

**“Keep It Simple, Keep It Al-Anon, Keep it Conference Approved Literature (CAL)”**

Right away this statement raises a few questions:

What is a “Guideline”? Do you know how to find it?

**Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27)**

**Al-Anon/Alateen Small Groups At Work** (**P24)**

 **www.al-anon.org and** **www.al-anon-sc.org**

“Questions pertaining to the Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts of Service continually arise within our fellowship. Over the years, four booklets were introduced to assist members in resolving specific situations. In 1992, the four booklets were combined into one and retitled **Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P‑24/27)**”

**“World Service** **Conference Approved Literature (CAL):** books, pamphlets and service tools conceptually approved by the World Service Conference (WSC) and written by and for Al‑Anon and Alateen members. Once developed, this material undergoes a rigorous process of review established by the WSC to assure it is identifiably Al‑Anon in content and feeling, and consistently reflects Al‑Anon’s principles. CAL is identifiable by the CAL seal.”

**Archives – Susan L**

I am stepping up to represent the Archives Committee open to all Past Delegates; currently consisting of Nancy B., Linda R. and myself. Since Nancy has the equipment and files, both digital and hard copies, we ask that you continue to send all information to Nancy Bommer, 403 Edisto Lake, Wagener, SC 29164 or her email scflutter@aol.com.

We are still missing Reflector issues #6 - November/December 1982 and #4 - July/August 1983.

The Archives Committee preserves SCAFG’s rich and meaningful history by compiling and scanning information from District and Assembly minutes, the Reflector, Group Histories, and other miscellaneous documents.

There are four endeavors we wish to bring to your attention.

1. The Assembly motions have been categorized into 24 categories (ie. financial, conventions, Assembly,Guidelines, and Alateen). The committee will complete reviewing this format before it can be posted. The website will then have the motions listed chronologically and by topic.
2. All SCAFG Conventions have been compiled through 2019. We have not received the 2019 Convention Noterbook nor the Alateen Conference information from the past three years. These will be scanned and filed upon submission.
3. District information is complete for District 3 and District 4. The committee is compiling the other districts. All of you have an opportunity to participate in preserving the history of SCAFG. We ask the District Representatives, beginning January 2020, to forward information after each of your District meetings: location, agenda, attendance, minutes, and any special functions including flyers.
4. We encourage each group to complete an initial or update their current Group History using form AR-6. Also, the Longtimer form AR-1 provides the Area with information from those members in the program 25 years or more. We suggest you retain copies for your group notebooks.

We are experiencing exciting growth in South Carolina and this committee looks forward to contributing to the progress of SCAFG from our past successes as well as challenges.

**Public Outreach Coordinator – Lis B**

* Thanks to the panel for giving me the opportunity to serve in this capacity
* Thanked the previous POC for doing such and awesome job
* Shared my vision going forward
* Requested all DR’s to forward me the names and contact details of their District PO’s
* Asked if anyone had any ideas, thoughts etc to share the name of Al-Anon, to contact me

**District Representative Reports**

**District 2 – Pam P**

District 2 met in January with 6 GR’s attending. There are 15 groups in the District.

**District 3 – Jeri W**

We held our first District 3 Meeting on January 25th with 15 people in attendance.

Our most critical need in District 3 is a District Representative and an Alternate District Representative. Mary R. & Jeri W. were willing to be substitutes for this January meeting so that we would still be involved in the links of service. Chris H. is our Public Outreach Coordinator, Claire H. is our Secretary, and Sharla K. is our Treasurer.

We requested more people become involved in the Convention Planning Committee. Jane K. is the Fundraising Chair, Gloria S. is Hospitality Chair, plus Jan R. & Jeri W. are Workshop Co-Chairs.

Chris H. is developing an updated meeting list. The new Group Representatives were told to register their names, etc. with WSO and Nan M., our Area Group Records Coordinator. Jane K. & Claire H. are taking on the task of finding missing archives, a much anticipated project. We were reminded by Lynn E. about distributing literature on March 4th to celebrate Lois’ birthday.

We have a GR, Bryan T., that is new to Area 50 and we are excited that he was so willing to do service.

Our main topic of discussion was choosing a District 3 meeting schedule and the possible change in format. We decided on May 16th, September 12th, and November 4th. We will continue to have our All Day plus the Attitude of Gratitude meeting alongside our district meetings. We will post this information on the website as soon as locations are finalized.

**District 4**

No report.

**District 5 – Kathryn K**

Our first District meeting was held January 19, 2020 in Florence. Subsequent meetings are scheduled as follows

March 15, 2020 -Camden

May 17, 2019-Florence

September 2020 - Camden

Our All Day meeting will be held April 18, 2020 in Camden.

We elected 2020 District Officers at our previous district meeting:

District Representative- Kathryn K.

Alternate District Rep. - Barbara E.

Secretary - Patty F.

Treasurer - Eileen C.

We are helping with the 2021 Convention planning meetings.

Some of us with New Beginnings, in Florence, hold a meeting with the nursing students at Francis Marion University during the Spring and Fall Semester. This eliminates the need for them to come to our meetings which are closed.

**District 6 – Linda R**

District 6's first meeting was at Fire Station #2 in Beaufort on January 25th.  It was a busy brunch meeting.  The agenda centered around setting up a game plan based upon the District Inventory which was done in 2019.  The major new action was to begin the investigation into insurance for the District and the Groups.  One coordinator position is pending. Our next meeting will be in May with "think tank" sessions on both public outreach and membership outreach.

**District 7 – Robbie M**

We had good attendance at our first District meeting. Almost all of our GR and coordinator positions are filled. The focus of the meeting was getting to know each other and to discuss the goals of the District. One of the most discussed topics was outreach and what the District can do, as well as what the District can do to support the groups in outreach. We closed the meeting with a workshop on the declaration, led by our alternate DR, Pat Cline. We only had ten minutes because we were running short on time, but it turned out to be a very spiritual moment as everyone in attendance got to share. It was a great way to close the meeting.

**District 8 – Jackie for Sue J**

District 8 has scheduled its All Day on April 25th.

**District 9 – Lisa U**

We had our first district meeting January 21st. We had 26 people in attendance with the majority being GR’s and alternate GR’s. We had 4 first time GR’s which is exciting.

Currently our main focus is the 2020 State Convention. After that we will turn our focus the next event in District 9 which is Seeking Serenity our Day in Al-anon. It will be Saturday, September 19th.

The only position open currently in the district is Public Outreach but I know that it will be filled soon. We have a new position that was filled, literature coordinator. This came about when we started discussing ordering new service manuals and the fact that as a district we do order literature regularly.

**Convention Chairmen Reports**

**Convention 2020 – Lisa U**

About 200 people have registered. Lisa showed the quilt to be raffled at Convention.

**Convention 2021 – Joelyn M**

Have made progress despite the late start.

 - Confirmed dates: February 25 - February 28 2021

 - Received $2,500 deposit from area

 - Convention account set up

 - Executed contract with Myrtle Beach Sheraton Convention Center

 - Theme: Many Voice’s, One Journey

                celebrating 70 years of AlAnon one day at a time

 - Logo confirmed

 - Website is complete and ready if/when we decide to make it live after the 2020.

 - Sub-teams are all in the planning stage

 - Have a Taper committed

 - Have a pre-registration flyer for the 2021 convention. It will be available during the 2020 Convention. We will begin accepting registrations on Sunday morning the last day of the 2020 convention.

**Lunch Break.**

Assembly recessed at 12:13 for lunch; Dave B reconvened Assembly at 1:22 PM.

**Alateen Conference Presentation**

Lindi S introduced the SPAM Alateens who gave a preview of the Alateen Conference, “Togetherness, Foreverness”, August 21st – 23rd at Camp Kinard, Batesburg-Leesville. Al-Anon members are invited to attend on Saturday, August 22nd. The Alateens gave out announcement flyers.

**GR and DR Q and A – Area Officers**

Dave B invited members to ask questions about group and district issues. The following questions were discussed, with officers and other members sharing their experience.

Why don’t we use standard e-mail addresses for Area positions so that they can continue from year to year?

How often do most active groups hold business meetings? Most common response was monthly. Some groups have quarterly business meetings, and others schedule only as needed.

Are business meetings held before or after the meeting? After the meeting is most common practice. How long do they usually last? Routine meetings usually take less than 20 minutes. Discussion of group issues may require longer or extending discussion to another meeting.

How are business meetings scheduled? Some groups hold them on a regular schedule. Otherwise, business meetings should be announced two weeks in advance.

What is the difference between a business meeting and a group conscience? The group conscience is the will of the group resulting from discussions in a business meeting.

How does having multiple meeting days affect the health of a home group? Requires conscious effort to share information at all meetings and to bring members together.

Is it ok for the District Secretary to record the discussion to assist with writing District minutes? Yes, as long as anonymity is protected.

What should be done with group resources (literature and funds) after a group closes? Prior to closing, the group may decide how to donate literature and funds to support Al-Anon. If the group fails to do this, the DR should talk with the group representative and if necessary, ask Area for help.

What can a District do to help a floundering group? Visit the group meeting. Encourage participation in other groups, District and Area. Recognize that a group may dwindle and fail due to changing circumstances beyond our control.

What should a District do about an Al-Anon Group that is not registered with WSO? A group that is sponsored by a church? Several suggested the DR or others from District visit the group and share the benefits of linking with AFG.

Dave B concluded discussion by asking members if they found it useful and if they would like to do it again. Response was positive.

**Service Manual Scavenger Hunt – Jan R**

Jan R distributed a handout with 50 questions about where to find information in the Service Manual. After allowing time for members to complete the questions, she reviewed the answers with the group.

**Adjournment**

Dave B closed the meeting at 2:45 with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Minutes submitted by Janet L, Area Secretary

**Attachments**

Agenda

Treasurer’s Reports

Alateen Conference Flyer

Service Manual Scavenger Hunt