

Area Assembly Minutes

Meeting from January 27, 2018

Minutes approved at the Assembly Meeting June 2, 2018

Diane Faulkner opened the meeting at 10 am with the Serenity Prayer followed by the Twelve Concepts and General Warranties read by Jane K District 3. Susan L. from district 7 read page 100 Introduction in the Service Manual.

Diane Faulkner welcomed everyone who attended today's meeting. There were 4 people who were attending their first Assembly Meeting. She also mentioned that there was no break-out room due to the remodeling of the Convention Center.

Approval of Assembly Minutes from the October 7, 2017 - **Michele McCullough** Secretary- motion to accept the minutes as read by Maris District 4 and second by Zermah District 9. The vote 39 approved with 1 person abstained.

Treasurer's Report – Sara Keller

I emailed the 12/31/17 Financial Reports to all the CMA's, so hopefully you all received a copy. There has been activity since then and the current balance is \$19,430.77. Many groups change treasurers each year, so please be sure that your treasurer knows to send Area contribution checks to me at **Sara Keller, PO Box 6631, Columbia, SC 29223**. Checks need to include the group name, group and district number and the return name and address to send the receipt to. Thank you so much for your contributions, notes of thanks and encouragement!

Sara Keller, Area Treasurer

Motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Janet L. District 4 and second by Kris K District 4. Reports were approved 39 yes with 1 abstained. **Reports as attachment.**

Delegate Report – David Bryant



I am pleased to continue my service to the AFG groups in South Carolina. During the past year we have seen changes that has impacted us all. The surge in all forms of addiction has sent new people into the rooms of Al-anon and Alateen in increasing numbers. It is our aim to help these families face the effects of alcoholism in all its forms. We as members are charged with providing a safe, non-judgmental,

friendly, and secure place for the families to relax and share their problems with others whom have seen the same effects of this deadly disease.

In this report I will be informing everyone of changes, activities, resources, and services that are available to everyone to help fulfil our mission “To help the friends and families of alcoholics.”

Be Informed, Carry The Message

- **“In Al-anon there is no standing still”** This will be the theme for the World Service Conference to be held on April 16 to 20 in West Harrison NY. This is a call to action for all Al-anon members not just conference members. I will be attending this Conference representing the members of Area 50. Please let me know if there is anything I can do for you or your group to foster a better understanding of the Conference.
- The 2018 Al-Anon Membership Survey is now open for participation. The questionnaire is available in English, Spanish, and French **until February 27, 2018**. All Al-Anon members in the US, Canada, PR, and Bermuda are invited and encouraged to participate in the study whether they are newcomers or in the program for many years. Members' involvement in this Conference-Approved study provides information about our program and its benefits to professionals, students, and researchers. Any device with access to the Internet can be used to take the survey, e.g., computer, mobile phone, or tablet. Members who do not have a computer are encouraged to visit a location such as library or to ask a friend for assistance. This is the link address: www.al-anon.org/18membersurvey
- As part of the twice-yearly solicitation for service volunteers at the WSO level, The résumé for Trustees at Large and Regional Trustee candidates is available electronically to Conference members on AFG Connects/WSC Members/Forms. The résumé includes text boxes which limit the length of a nominee’s response. Nominees should print out and review their résumé before submitting it to make certain they haven’t modified the form or exceeded the amount of space provided. Please read the processes for each group of candidates carefully giving attention to the important information included there.
- ANNUAL VACANCIES The number of positions available annually is as follows: • 3 at-Large Trustees • 3 Regional Trustees (rotates depending on Region) • 1 at-Large member, Executive Committee for Real Property Management • 5 at-Large members, Forum Editorial Advisory Committee • 5 at-Large members, Literature Committee • 5 at-Large members, Public Outreach Committee • 2 at-Large members, Audit Committee This year, we have additional openings to fill the remaining two years of a three-year term for the following positions: • Canada Central Regional Trustee • Executive Committee for Real Property Management at-Large Member. Please contact me for more information if you are interested in any of these service positions.
- Members in your Area may ask you for the address of the hotel so that they can send a card or package to you. Please ask them to include (Hold for WSC 4/16-4/20, 2018) in the address and to put your name and address in the return address section of the envelope or box if mail delivery is delayed. Please plan to have mail arrive **after April 13th. The address for mail to WSC is: Renaissance Westchester Hotel 80 W. Red Oak Ln. West Harrison, NY 10604. Please include (Hold for WSC 4/16-4/20, 2018)** in the address and to put my name and address in the return address section of the envelope or box if mail delivery is delayed. Please plan to have mail

arrive after April 13th. My personal address is David Bryant, 1030 Weslin Creek Drive, Myrtle Beach SC 29588

- Chosen Agenda Item (CAI) topics for discussion has been an important tradition of the Conference for many years. The purpose of the CAIs is to give Conference members an opportunity to select ideas and issues of concern that affect Al-Anon groups and members worldwide.

The 2018 Conference Leadership Team (CLT) has scheduled time on the Conference agenda for Conference members to discuss **four** Chosen Agenda Items. Two CAIs will be discussed in the General Session on the Conference floor. In addition, Conference members will discuss two of three other topics in small group breakout sessions during Conference week.

TOPIC CONSIDERATIONS:

Does the topic merit an in-depth discussion that could benefit Al-Anon groups and members worldwide? Is the topic related in some way to the 2018 Conference theme? **“In Al-anon There Is No Standing Still”**

If there is a topic you would like for me to submit contact me ASAP. The deadline is February 1.

Be Active, Get Involved

- Al-anon International Convention, Baltimore, Maryland July 6-8, 2018. Join thousands of Al-anon, Alateen, AA members and their guests. Attend workshops during the day at the Baltimore Convention Center, and in the evening, enjoy the “big meetings” to celebrate recovery and worldwide unity. www.al-anon.org/international
- 43rd Annual South Carolina Al-anon – Alateen Convention. February 15 to 18. A fun and recovery filled weekend in beautiful Myrtle Beach, SC at the New Double Tree Resort. Join us on Thursday at 3 pm for registration and at 8 pm for the opening ceremony with SC Panel 57 Delegate, David Bryant, speaking. A hospitality suite will be open during all non-meeting hours. We will have a silent auction of gift baskets created by all the groups in the area along with a handmade quilt being auctioned also. Friday and Saturday are filled with Workshops and meeting and the speakers will be from WSO- the new Executive Director, Vali F. and a WSC spiritual speaker Tracilla F. also. Saturday also highlights a speaker from AA and Alateen also. Sunday will be the closing meeting at 9am.

For more information Contact Robin L. at SC AFG Convention 2018 1060 Keeler Drive Columbia SC 29229 or SCAFGconvention2018@gmail.com

For reservations use the code AFG

- Southeast Regional Delegates Get Together, this year I will be going to Orlando in March for this regional meeting of current and past delegates. At this event we will be discussing issues pertain to our region. South Carolina will be the host state for the 2019 event. The schedule of states and their years are: 2018 - North Florida, 2019 - **South Carolina, 2020** - Puerto Rico, 2021 - South Florida, 2022 North Carolina/Bermuda, 2023 – Mississippi, 2024 - Georgia

- World Service Conference 2018, April 16 to 20, West Harrison NY. This year I have been invited to participate in two different presentations at the conference.
 1. WSC Finance Presentation
 2. The Board's Goals for the Conference

Goal 1: Conference members will understand the purpose of the Conference, relationships within the structure, and be able to articulate Conference discussions and decisions.

Goal 2: The spiritual tone of the Conference will prevail by the demonstration of mutual respect and acceptable conduct by its members.

Goal 3: Knowing that our Higher Power is present in the expression of our group conscience, Conference members will presume goodwill.

- I will also be speaking at Area 50 Celebrations and All-Day Events through the year. My schedule has a few openings so if you would like for me to speak or do a presentation just get in contact with me, so I can pencil your event in.
- I would like to propose to the Area that we host a TEAM Event (To Empower Al-anon Members) To be held in conjunction with the 2019 SC State Convention in Myrtle Beach or to be held as a stand alone even at another time and location. I will be bringing this before AWSC for consideration.

In Al-anon There Is No Standing Still.

As we go forward into 2018 it would be my wish that we take this message of service and hope back to every member and potential member of our fellowship. This could be a theme we all could carry forward. Use it to energize your outreach program, inspire the Alateens, reach out your hand to greet newcomers. This could be a way to let people know that our program of recovery is there to help and comfort them and encourage them to keep on the road to recovery from the “family disease”.

As your delegate I would like to extend my hand by saying if there is anything I can do to help in this process just let me know. After all I owe you and this program of recovery everything.

In Service, David Bryant, Panel 57, Delegate Area 50 South Carolina

Alternate Delegate's Report and Group Records – Bob Colburn

Hello trusted Al-Anon members,

Thank you, all District and Group Representatives who continue to keep their records, up to date. The World Service Office has emphasized to me the Links of Service which are of the utmost importance in keeping our meeting schedules and other information current. That way newcomers can find us and members can communicate more effectively with one another. My email address is

SCAFGGroupRecords@gmail.com

In March, I am planning to travel to Altamonte Springs, Florida for the Southeastern Regional Delegates get-together (Acronym SERDGT). I look forward to meeting other alternate delegates and delegates and to see how meetings are conducted at the World Service level. I will try to Listen and Learn.

Thank you, Charlotte H., for the recent Reflector. I noticed in the contact information that the phone number listed for me is my home number, which I rarely answer, but now that it's out there, until the next Reflector I will answer all South Carolina calls that I see. Most of them are sales calls, but in the off chance it is program related, I think it is important to answer. This practice will help me to keep an open mind, and to learn how to say NO when necessary! My preferred phone number is 843-707-6365, my cell phone.

The World Service Office has received a publication notice from the staff of the syndicated newspaper columnist, "Dear Abby." The column for Wednesday, January 31, 2018, will respond to a request for help from a senior who is troubled by her boyfriend's drinking behavior.

The WSO is glad to report that the volume of group changes submitted on the new Al-Anon Group Change Web Form at al-anon.org is increasing. Thank you for taking the time to update the group information, so people can find Al-Anon meetings in your Area. Did you receive any Al-Anon group changes yet? If so, please share your experience with the other Group Records Coordinators.

Please keep in mind that timeliness is essential, these changes need to be processed within seven days.

Respectfully submitted, Bob C

NEW BUSINESS:

TEAM Presentation – David Bryant

(I hope that all DR's and Gr's passed this information about TEAM on to their groups.)

Dave gave a short presentation on what TEAM was. After much discussion the motion was made.

MOTION: Proceed with recommendation of AWSC to hold a TEAM event in 2019.

RATIONALE: TEAM events are designed to energize members' spiritual quest, activate members' creativity, and expand members' understanding of our fellowship.

Diane read the motion and rationale, 1st Maris B. District 4 and Karen W. District 5.

Motion passed unanimously with 40 YES votes.

Coordinators' Reports

Web Site Coordinator - Amanda Childers

Below are some statistics related to the website to show how active we are.

From Dec 28 thru Jan 27 we have had
11,280-page views and 4,979 unique visitors to the website.

The most visited page is the Find A Meeting page with 1484 page views. When it comes to finding a meeting the top three districts viewed are District 7 (407), District 9 (285) and District 8 (258).

I fully encourage District Reps and Group Reps to continue to look over their district and groups to make sure the information is there and correct. If not please send the information to Robert in Group Records so he can let me know and I can correct it.

I'm still open to suggestions and ideas to better improve our website and outreach to those who need help.

Ever faithful servant,
Amanda C, Area 50 Web Admin

Area Alateen Coordinator Shannon Smith

The 2018 State Convention is right around the corner, and we are making plans for this to be a great time! All Alateens from the ages of 11 through 19 are welcome to join in the fun, fellowship, and recovery from February 15 - 18 in Myrtle Beach. To enhance the safety of the experience for everyone, Alateens must be accompanied by either a parent or their group Sponsor for the duration of all Alateen activities at the Convention.

Alateens will participate in the following activities:

- Workshops and Speaker meetings hosted by Al-Anons
- The Alateen Speaker meeting and Alateen Workshop (open to all adults and Alateens attending Convention)
- Closed evening discussion meetings for Alateens and all certified AMIAS/Sponsors
- Structured Saturday afternoon free time
- Meals in the Hospitality Room

To complete the Alateen registration process, follow these 3 steps:

1. We will have a block of rooms for the Alateens. Please email Missy Durham directly at the hotel at Melissa.Durham@hilton.com to reserve your room in the Alateen block.
2. To register for the Convention, go to www.al-anon-sc.org to download and print the form. Mail the completed form with your check to the address on the form.
3. Finally, parental permission forms can be found by clicking the Member's Area tab at www.al-anon-sc.org, entering the password, and downloading the Alateen Event Form. Please provide an original signed copy of these forms to your Alateen's group Sponsor or to folks at the Alateen Registration table.

SAVE THE DATE: 42nd Alateen Conference (aka Camp) – July 27-29, 2018

Questions? Call/text me!
Shannon S., Area 50 (SC) Alateen Coordinator, Panel 57
[803-238-9464](tel:803-238-9464)

Area Alateen Process Report – Mike Milton Absent

Literature – Tom Cassidy gave report at meeting but did not submit report for minutes.

Archives – Nancy Bommer

I have been compiling information to share with you on display boards and other forms at the upcoming Area Al-Anon/Alateen Convention. Still have a lot of information that needs to be completed within the next two years and for some of this information I will be asking for your assistance in gathering. Some of the information that is incomplete is complete copies of the Area minutes from Area World Service Committee meetings and Area Assemblies. I have minutes for Area World Service Committee meetings and Area Assemblies starting with 1984 through 2007, but would like to obtain the earlier years as well as the years from 2008.

Another area I am asking the District Representatives to assist me with is gathering Group Histories from groups in their respective districts. Before my term is up, I would like to have as many group histories as possible for our Archives. In addition to this information I would like to have the District Representatives assist me in obtaining Long-term Questionnaires from members who have been in the program for twenty-five years. Please inform your members that both these forms can be obtained from our SC Al-Anon/Alateen website from the member's side – simply print out and complete.

I am also gathering any mementos you have from attendance at Al-Anon Internationals, Regional Service Seminars, All Days, and Anniversaries and would I would simply copy or scan to include these in our Archives. You may have newspaper clippings, copies of your badges, copies of the program, etc. which would also be helpful to add to our Archives. If there are notebooks that past Delegates received for their attendance at World Service Conferences and wish to add these to our Archives they will be most welcomed.

I will have some fun things to share with you at convention and will have an Al-Anon quiz for those who are interested. You may know a lot of the information but be assured the answers can be found on the various display boards and on the tables. I will have a notebook on one of the tables where you may list your email address and I will be glad to forward you a copy of all the answers. Have fun and learn lots about our Area.

This year a lot of my focus will be continuing to gather information to bring our Archives current. I will also spend a lot of time scanning documents so that when my term is over, we will have electronic copies. Some information that will not be scanned will be World Service Conference summaries, pieces of literature, The Forums, World Service Conference notebooks given to Delegates in the earlier years, but these will be boxed properly.

In closing, I would also remind you that these boards are available for you to display at your group anniversaries, All Days, special group or district events.

Fellowship Love, Nancy Bommer, Area Archivist, Panel 57

Newsletter Editor – Charlotte Hogue.

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

The Reflector Editor publishes information received from you. Information such as group anniversaries, announcements, service reports, special events, workshops, conventions and TEAM events. It is a vital communication link to help keep the groups informed.

The Reflector consolidates the reports from The Chair, The Delegate, The Alternate Delegate, The Group Records Coordinator, The Area Secretary, The Forum Coordinator, The Area Alateen Coordinator, The Archivist, The Reflector Editor, The Treasurer and all of the Districts! That is a lot of information!

FREE copies of the Reflector will be emailed if you provide your email address. If anyone would like to receive a paper copy, pay the Treasurer \$12.00 today. \$12.00 is the annual subscription.

To wrap it up; please trusted servants, submit your information for the January Reflector by Noon, next Saturday, January 20th. The Reflector needs to be published before Area Assembly, so write that report on your ride home today and email to Charlottewh@comporium.net. Thank you everyone who has already submitted their report.

Be in the know, subscribe before you go!

Forum – Jan Salvato. absent

Chair for Convention 2018 Robin L.

The SC 2018 convention is scheduled for [2/15/18 - 2/18/18](#) at the Doubletree resort by Hilton in Myrtle Beach, SC. We invite you to "Pass it On"!

Please join us for Breakfast with Vali F. [Saturday 2/17/18 from 7:00 - 9:00 am](#) in the Dunes Boardroom. Come meet and greet our new Executive Director. Advanced tickets for \$25 can be purchased [thru 1/28/18](#).

Fundraising Committee is requesting groups to donate baskets for fundraising. We have two beautiful quilts and have emailed photos to all GR's. Tickets will be sold at convention 6 for \$5 or \$1 per ticket. Hospitality, Fundraising & Registration Committees have volunteer opportunities available at the Convention. Please sign up for a shift at the Convention. Please help us stock the hospitality room with your favorite snacks. Hospitality is accepting food & monetary donations.

The Convention Committee has been hard at work finalizing all the details & has several Workshops & Speaker meetings planned. The Convention program is available to view on the area website.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robin Leshner
Convention Chair 2018

2019 Convention Report – Clara T.

Members from Districts 6, 7 and 8 participated in the planning meeting at Area Assembly on January 27, 2018.

We were able to fill all Officer positions except Treasurer. We'll make an announcement at our groups for Treasurer.

All committees are populated.

Our theme for the 2019 Convention is "Time to Shine". The Communications Committee is working on an Al-Anon/Alateen approved logo.

We will meet again at the 2018 Convention in Myrtle Beach.

After MB we won't see each other till June so we created an email address and a free teleconference line so we can meet by phone.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

District 2 John Macko

Our groups are stable with some growth. There are concerns that newcomers do not return or stay.

Lancaster Co-ed had a covered-dish and a speaker meeting to celebrate their 35th anniversary in November.

Tega Cay Sunday Evening celebrated New Year's Eve during their regular meeting time with a covered-dish and an AA and Al-Anon couple doing a double lead. They are also doing a step study using How Al-Anon Works after their meeting.

Friends of Lois are doing a book study on Monday mornings using Paths to Recovery.

Serenity Seekers Lake Wylie has closed because of lack of activity.

Our Public Outreach Committee lead by Jodi M. partnered with District 9 and attended the Southeast Regional Behavioral Health Professionals Conference. There was much praise for the work Al-Anon does to help families. The attendees were excited to get Al-Anon literature.

Your is Service, John M., District 2 DR

District 3 Nan Moorer

District 3 had its most recent meeting on January 27. It was small in attendance and 4 of the 5 GRs were in present. Only two of five of our groups contribute to the district or to the area in spite of commitments otherwise. Our district still lacks a secretary following one year of requesting. Willingness to serve is still a challenge but I am proud of the efforts of our small district. We had a successful all day in our Attitude of Gratitude thanks to two of our members taking charge and involving others. We are looking at our dreams and wishes for our district in the future. Beginning conversations are being had surrounding the idea of a shared All Day with district 4 in the future, as well as other interesting challenges for the future.

The NWBU AFG group has completed a public outreach with letters going out to multiple mental health professionals and ministers in our area. Our next All Day will be May 19 in Orangeburg SC beginning at 10 am- 3pm and a District 3 meeting will begin at 3pm immediately following. The theme and the flyer for this all day will be forthcoming.

District 4 Barbara O'Donnell

The total active Columbia AFG is 23, the newest AFG, Blythewood began meeting in April 2017, registered in May; In Jan 2018 Caring AFG and Irmo AFG became inactive, North Church Street AFG closed the Thurs night meeting.

Over the past year, District Four held six District Meetings on Sundays at Virginia Wingard Church at Broad River Road. The other officers are District Rep Alt, Kris, Treasurer Janet and District Alateen Coordinator Shannon. Secretary Judy stepped down in June and Kris is now taking the minutes; Kris has revised and printed the District Schedules for several years and is turning over those duties to Larry from the new Blythewood meeting.

A newly formed Public Outreach Committee that includes Kris, Janet, Pam, K. Dale, Larry, Emily, and some others not present, met for the first time in November, action taken was an agreement to meet for a half hour prior to each District Meeting to explore public outreach options. The committee targeted three treatment facilities, Three Rivers, Morris Village and Palmetto Health Adolescent Unit to continue providing information, meeting schedules and AL-Anon Faces Alcoholism. Marris has served as a contact with Palmetto Health for members willing to provide info and literature at family meetings. (every other even month).

The annual December "Holiday Dinner" with speakers was not held. Over 20 members from the District are serving on the SC AREA 50 2018 Pass It On Convention Planning Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara M. O'Donnell

District Four Representative 2018-2020.

District 5 Val Gleason Absent

District 6 Teresa Hinnant

District Six is continuing to grow in members and meetings. The Beginners meeting started in the Fall is still going ok.

The District Six meeting that was scheduled in October had to be cancelled because of the evacuation for *Hurricane Irma*. Another date could not be found that suited everyone.

Many greet and eat meetings were held during the Christmas season and for New Year's Eve. Wonderful fellowship was had for all and the relationships formed through Al-Anon were made stronger.

Summerville Al-Anon groups continue to have a presence at the Drug and Alcohol meetings that are held on the second Wednesdays of every month.

The district meeting for District Six was held in Walterboro on January 20th. We discussed our plans for this calendar year, the 2018 budget, and our participation in the 2019 convention among other topics. We will also have a presentation of Al-Anon literature by our literature chairperson. We set our district meeting dates for 2018 and planned a date in September for our All-Day meeting.

We have finally gotten an place to meet in Walterboro again so that both ends of the district can meet in the middle.

All in all, district six is doing well.

Submitted by,

Teresa Hinnant

District Six Representative

Disrict 7 Clara Tala

Our Fall Festival in October, 2017 was successful. We had three amazing speakers: Al-Anon, Alateen and AA.

We had three wonderful workshops: Concepts, a Merry-Go-Round Pamphlet panel discussion and "Seeds of Wisdom". The atmosphere was joyfully unified. Thank you to Robbie for taking the lead as our Fall Festival chair and for all those that helped with leading workshops and behind the scenes. We couldn't have done it without you.

Our District Alateen Coordinator Melissa has been diligently working to carry the message of the importance of supporting our Alateens. In October of 2017, Melissa secured a spot at "A Community Resource Fair for Adolescence and their Caregivers" in Mt. Pleasant.

Melissa is currently working on getting a table or booth at the "5th Annual Dream Girls" conference on March 24th produced by Youth Empowerment Services (Y.E.S.). It's a statewide event and this year is being held at Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church on Rivers Avenue in North Charleston. Also, we have 3 Alateen groups active and an available space at Cokesbury Church in North Charleston.

All District and Coordinator positions are filled with the exception of Outreach Coordinator. Everyone is passionately and brilliantly carrying out their mission.

Regarding Outreach Coordinator, our District discussions for an outreach project always seem to lead back to Alateen. For now, it looks like HP is our Outreach Coordinator.

Our Area Alateen Coordinator Shannon is scheduled to attend our next District meeting in March.

Thank you to all the Group Reps for your great service.

Thank you to all the District Officers and Coordinators for your awesome service and support.

There's more but I'll leave it there for now. Thanks for the reminder.

Clara Tala

SCAFG District 7 Representative

District 8 Noreen Gordon absent

District 9 Zermah Dawes

St. Patrick's Day weekend, Fewell and Summit Groups. Fun day to be a fundraiser for the District and fellowship. New meetings: Al-Anon Alive at 355 is doing well, 8-10 people in attendance. Favor encourages their members to come to our meetings; Triune Mercy, Wednesday at 6:30, 22 Rutherford St. 5 regular members; Spanish Group is attached to the Traditional meeting and is doing very well; Ginger's Group at Overbrook Baptist Church at 6:30 on Thursday. Shannon S. (Alateen) was the speaker at our Christmas Feast. We had a full house and lots of goodies. Outreach: Pavilion at the Hilton, had 8 volunteers. Serenity Day is on its way with new leadership in the same place in the mountains. Gave out Forums for outreach.

ATTACHMENTS with the email:

TREASURER'S REPORTS

Assembly adjourned at 3:18 with the Serenity Prayer

Minutes Submitted By: Michele McCullough, Area Secretary