

**Area World Service Committee (AWSC) Minutes
South Carolina State Museum
301 Gervais Street (Red Room), Columbia, SC**

August 24, 2013, 10:00 A.M.

Jeri W. - Opened the meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Diane F. read the 12 Concepts and General Warranties.

Area Treasurer – Fran B. – Beginning Balance is **\$12,282.00**. Total income for the period was **\$8,120.27** and total expenses were **\$3,116.30** and ending balance of **\$17,285.97**. Motion to approve treasurer's report was made by Jane K., and seconded by Diane F., and unanimously approved.

Area Secretary – Melanie M. – The minutes of the May 4, 2013, Area World Service Committee meeting were presented for a vote. Motion to approve minutes was made by Susan E. and seconded by Nan M. and unanimously approved.

Action Committee Chairpersons

Archives – Linda R. –

Alateen Coordinator– Jan H. – The 2013 SC Alateen Conference was held July 12-14 at Camp Kinard in Batesburg Leesville located smack in the middle of the state in beautiful, rural countryside of SC. Thanks to many Alateen fund raising efforts and growing AFG contributions from around the state our summer camp is in the black. This active participation enabled an increase participation that included 13 sponsors and 50 teens for the weekend - growing, laughing, playing, crying and dancing together. Ten Alateen groups were represented, two new solo members (...from communities where Alateen is not available) – but spoiler alert, we are hoping to break new ground soon in at least one. A financial report and copy of the agenda is included at the bottom of this report.

The entire weekend agenda (see below) was created and run by the Alateens with the support and encouragement of our sponsors. We also collaborated again with Georgia Alateen for a second year. Our own State Rep Danny B served as guest speaker at their annual Alateen Conference in June, and in turn, (Cameron) one of their teens served as our guest speaker. She came with a large group of GA Alateens and their sponsor also presenting a guest workshop for us for the first time.

Our OPEN Saturday was enjoyed by (only two) Al-Anon members - one AMIAS and one at large. Thank you Jan S., (sponsor) & Mary M., for sharing your Saturday with us. We are hoping that you will share some of your experiences with others and encourage members to think about coming next year. This Open Saturday, btw, is one of our SC Alateen fundraisers. For me, listening to amazing recovery from our youth or just enjoying the fellowship of each other's company in one of the many ways offered from

hiking, swimming, arts and crafts to sharing a mealhas been some of my best spent time in the program.

On my 3rd (...and last) year as Area Alateen Coordinator, I have been enlightened to the fact how vital Al-Anon support is -- not only for the growth of SC Alateen, but also for its survival. And support is needed in body, mind, spirit and time – and being informed. Our currently certified sponsors are the lifeblood of this program and we have far too few. The more we have, the greater the health and vitality of our sponsors and our young members.

Our current sponsors are doing the work of at least 3 and this leads to burn out. We have lost two recently for this very reason. We are currently looking at the 'SC requirements' for Alateen service and hoping to make this service more in tune with another Al-Anon service. If we can increase our numbers, we can extend the life and manageability of this service work .

Additionally, we seriously need Al-Anon members to support our Alateen fund raising efforts. This can come in the form of money or providing fundraising opportunities in your home groups. Funds are needed to support our programming efforts, replenish our camp supplies and scholarship needs for teens and sponsors to participate in annual conference and convention. Currently we offer raffle ticket (sales) at each area assembly for Alateen literature and/or other handmade items, offer silent auction items at annual conventions and introduced, "Best Seat in the House" at 2013 convention. We are in progress of determining a new fundraiser in 2014 as we have been informed we can't have sofas.

Registration costs for camp pay only for meals and beds. We have many supplies from first aid to paper products, speaker gifts, water and table-top toys, arts and crafts that need replenishing ...in addition to growing scholarship funding for conference and conventions Registration only pays for room and board. With the financial success of 2013 Convention, I would like to request the area consider a contribution to SC Alateen program to help replenish supplies, support scholarship needs for Alateen participation at Conference and Convention.

2013 SCAC Weekend Agenda



**SCAFG 2013 Alateen Conference
July 12-14, 2013**

6,070.00		CAMP KINARD meals/beds
1,098.35		Other exp - Services, Supplies, Hospitality
274.65		BALANCE

Alateen Representative– Danny B. – South Carolina Alateen Camp had 50 teens (more than last year,) but the same number of sponsors, so we need to try and get some more sponsors. We invited George Alateen again this year. We had speakers and workshops and lots of fun.

AAPP - Susan O. –

Literature – Nan M. –

1. As we all know our newest piece of literature is Reaching for Personal Freedom Living the Legacies (P-92). This piece of CAL helps to apply the Steps, the Traditions, and the Concepts to our daily lives.
2. Youth and the Alcoholic Parent (P-21) has revisions and can be identified by the number "13-62" at the bottom left corner of the copyright page. Guide for Sponsors of Alateens (P-29) is revised and can be identified by the number "13-12" at the bottom left corner of the copyright page. These revisions came through the Alateen Advisory Committee, the Group Service Department and the Literature Committee.
3. The CAL Corner within The Forum is in need of sharing's. Please consider writing on *Many Voices One Journey*, (B-31) and *Reaching For Personal Freedom* (P-92).
4. Group Inventory: Use of Conference Approved Literature (S-62) is a good reminder of a useful tool in assessing a group or members use of CAL. It is a free download on the member's site and on the Al Anon's on line store.
5. New Parent's/Grandparents pamphlet is in the working stage. We need sharing's from parents and grandparents of young problem drinkers on how they apply the Twelve Steps to themselves. Members can submit sharing's on line, by postal mail, or by email.

Thank you all for the most fun in service I have ever had. Literature is the very best, I will miss it. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!

Forum – Susan E. – See Literature Report #3.

Public Outreach – Nancy G. –

Reflector – Diane F. - There are 2 more Reflector deadlines this year: September 4, 2013, and November 20, 2013.

Website – Mike M. –

Group Services - Joyce H. – Changes have already started to come in for 2014 changes. This is a good thing for groups to get geared up and excited to get started. Hopefully most changes will be in by Area Assembly as most Groups will have elections by this time. This has been a great 3 years of service, not only for Group Records but also Alternate Delegate.

I have been blessed and it has been a privilege to serve on panel 51. Thank you for allowing me to grow, to represent and to learn with each one of you. This has truly been a journey that I will never forget.

Alternate Delegate –Joyce H. – Report included with Group Services.

2014 Convention – Barbara Ann M. – Two new positions on our Convention Committee have had to be refilled: Beth Martin is our Treasurer and Peggy Band is our Membership Chairman; and Judy Reyes has joined us as the Alateen representative.

Our last meeting was quite productive and we appear to be working on our proposed time line.

In answer to those who have questioned the quilt we are using, it has been approved by WSO; therefore, we appear to have no problem there.

Please continue to send in your registrations and remember to make your reservations at Bay Watch Resort.

2015 Convention – Margaret L. – At our first convention planning meeting, following the June Area Assembly which I attended by phone, the following positions were filled: Margaret Lattimore – Chair; Nan Moorer – Co-Chair; Jane Kaplenski – Secretary; Joseph Lyons – Treasurer. There will be another meeting following the August 24, 2013, AWSC meeting.

Chairman - Jeri W. – It's a full schedule today with preparation for our last Assembly in 2013 as well as a good-bye to this panel's last AWSC meeting. I hope that you have learned as much about yourselves and the world-wide fellowship of Al-Anon and Alateen as I have.

My personal goal during these past three years has been to invite open communication at our meetings. I have been amazed at your team work no matter what the subject matter. I owe you so much that I can never repay. My only job is to **pay it forward**. For me, that means doing service work in my home group next year. I feel honored to be a part of this group of people who inspire me and one another. May we continue to grow in our own recovery, our home groups, and in our future service work.

When I began my Al-Anon journey, I never expected that it would be my spiritual guide in all that is in front of me today and in my tomorrows. As my closing remark in my last report, it is once again "God is in charge, and I'm not".

Delegate - Jan R. - This is my final AWSC report as your delegate. I am so very, very grateful that you honored me with the opportunity to serve South Carolina as your delegate. On this journey I have been able to truly understand the Al-Anon principles shown in our Twelve Concepts of Service. I have had the privilege of representing our Area at three conferences and an International Convention. Along the way, I have met many wonderful Al-Anon's and made some lifelong friends.

Some of the highlights of my term have been seeing the vote to determine permanent ownership of the Al-Anon building in Virginia Beach and the mortgage burning; walking in Lois Wilson's steps at Stepping Stones in Connecticut; voting on

various issues – most recently on policy wording changes for the new Service Manual; connecting with AI-Anon members around the US and Canada and around the world; attending the International Convention in Vancouver; being on an Alaskan Cruise with 500 plus AI-Anon members and sitting in meetings and making new friends.

There are no words to describe how much this service has contributed to the growth of my program. I participated in the Day of Connecting at International and was able to attend a day long workshop on the Concepts. Some of the principles discussed were: Presume good will, mutual trust, mutual respect, participation, accountability, acceptance, responsibility, tolerance, flexibility, judgment, discipline, humility, and balance.

One of the quotes I took away from that workshop was: “Service is a recovery tool – a way to get a stalled program going. Get involved, take a job. It’s the process that is important, not the end result. Take ownership and participate. There are always critics. Listen to them, take what’s important – if valid, make adjustments – if not, thank them. Don’t let them stop you from going forward.”

Another: “The help of AI-Anon is in the meeting – not books, WSO, etc. It is just members talking to one another and sharing. Make sure the message of AI-Anon is in the group for the newcomer – every week.”

I hope as we move to September and Area elections, you are able to fill all the group and district positions that are coming available. There is no reason not to ask people to fill these positions – we don’t have to wait for the “spirit to move someone.” A good leader is one who others want to follow. I know that we have good leaders at all levels in this Area. I also hope that you will all consider serving in another capacity at the Area level or have someone you think would be good in holding your position. We have had a wonderful three years with Panel 51 and I know that Panel 54 is going to be just as good or even better. Thank you, thank you, thank you for the love, support, encouraging words, good orderly direction and your friendship. It has been a great journey as your delegate!

New Business:

Fran presented the “Proposed Budget for 2014.” She went line by line with input from each panel member or coordinator. The following changes were made:

- Delegate – increased by \$100 for gas
- Chairman – increased by \$100 for gas
- Alateen Process Person - increased by \$200
- Alateen Conference Advance – increased by \$1500.00
- Rent for AWSC increased by \$150.00
- Rent for Area Assembly increased by \$100.00

Nan proposed that there be two line items for travel and workshops type expenses. And one line that is for purchasing literature and when money comes back into that line so that literature out of that fund. Need a fund that money goes out and money comes in. This can later be reevaluated to see if this is working.

Added a new line for Literature Coordinator. Expense for \$500.00

Total Budget:

After changes there was a representation and a new vote to accept as presented. Motion made by Susan E. seconded by Nan m. voted unanimously.

Old Business:

REPORT FROM THOUGHT FORCE FOR CONVENTION COORDINATOR

A consensus of the Thought Force was that Area 50 should again utilize a Convention Coordinator; this suggestion is the outcome of the Task Force also.

The Task Force is following the suggestions given by the Thought Force:

1. Job description to include
 - a. communicating with, signing contracts with, all the hotels that Area 50 will use for conventions each year
 - b. work with the Convention Chairman as *consultant* each year with these details and allow Convention Chairman to communicate with hotel personnel as needed during his/her term as chairman
 - c. Convention Coordinator attend meetings of the convention committee each year
 - d. Convention Coordinator be thoroughly familiar with the guidelines and be able to answer questions that arise each year and truly *guide the convention committee*, not "taking over" from the chairman but being available to the committee
2. As with all other coordinators, it suggested that the expenses of a Convention Coordinator be paid for the Area.
3. The term of coordinator needs to follow the same three year panel as all other Coordinators, beginning with the next panel of January 1, 2014.

(Since I am unable to be at AWSC, I would like to suggest that this be put to a vote so we can go forward with a coordinator, or discontinue the process)

There is still this addendum for the AWSC to consider, but not to vote on now nor send to Area Assembly:

The committee strongly believes that we should handle our conventions just as we have been doing all the time—through the districts with their committees and the convention chairman; however, there was a request that we change the grouping of districts so the present groupings will not have to have the convention every three years. This will be the decision of AWSC.

Discussion:

The following points and concerns were brought up and discussed about this issue:

- The Convention Coordinator is the only one signing the contract. This can pose a problem for the chairman and co-chairman.
- Some members suggested that instead of a Convention Coordinator, we have them act as a consultant. It would not be a voted-in position.
- There was the concern that by adding a Convention Coordinator, a new line item would have to be added on the budget and funds made available for this position.
- It was mentioned that in the past, people who had experience with conventions were always ready to step up and help, making it unnecessary for this position.

After discussion about the pros and cons of having a Convention Coordinator, it was decided to vote on whether or not the thought-force should turn into a task-force or if the members felt that the issue could be put to rest at this point. The vote was as follows:

Accept the report as written and move on to a task-force - 0

Not accept report, not create a task-force and rest the issue – 12 with 1 abstention

Issue put to rest.

Report from Thought Force on redistricting our area

Julie H. presented the following thought-force recommendation: after some research, it was thought that redistricting is really not the biggest problem we have concerning getting people involved in area service work, although that can possibly be part of the solution. There is much more to it than simply moving area lines around. There is no point doing this if other problems aren't addressed first. There are issues of communication with and between groups, there is lack of interest or misunderstanding about service positions, there are travel issues concerning going to Area Assembly, there are commitment issues and more. The thought force feels that a more careful analysis and collection of data of these problems be considered. They made several recommendations on how to go about that, such as surveying the groups.

After some discussion about the above, it was suggested that this thought-force keep the same people currently working together, but refocus their scope. There was a vote on creating a task force to assemble information on demographics, logistics, communication and representation.

The vote was unanimous to create a task force.

Is there a need for an appointed Area 50 level Al-Anon member to act as AA liaison?

Tradition 6: Our Family Groups ought never endorse, finance or lend our name to any outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary spiritual aim. Although a separate entity, we should always co-operate with Alcoholics Anonymous.

- Should this be a separate service position or added responsibilities to an existing service position?
- This person would contact AA Area Trusted Services to introduce themselves and offer cooperation.
- This person would satisfy any questions South Carolina AA could have about cooperating with Al-Anon.
 - Finding and including area wide volunteers to cooperate at AA conventions when asked
 - Provide information on available South Carolina Al-Anon/Alateen speakers when asked
 - Address any Al-Anon cooperation concerns AA may have
 - Keep an open line of communication with AA to avoid any misunderstood expectations
- This person could work with AA to investigate a financial benefit to the Al-Anon and AA Area meetings at the same time and location, acting together for mutual benefit.

Attached you will find Al-Anon guidelines. We have a lot of information on differences between cooperating and affiliation along with dual membership. There are current discussions of the impact of electronic media, Alateen sponsorship, Dual membership service, etc. It would be nice to have someone responsible for understanding the impact of the changes/decisions that relate to cooperating with Alcoholics Anonymous.

On a personal note, I am concerned at the amount of AA members I meet that either have never heard of Al-Anon.

It was a unanimous agreement that this is a viable volunteer position. It will be turned over to the next panel for their decision on how they would like to handle filling it.

District Reports:

District 1 –

District 2 – Gene E. - Here we are looking at the Autumn 2013! We held our July District 2 meeting in Spartanburg with Spartan Al-Anon AFG hosting with sixteen members attending. Our discussion included the ordering of *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2014* and getting the copies distributed to our various groups as part of our District's Public Outreach Program. Barbara Anne Mc. is keeping us up-to-date on the 2014 Conference. We are also very aware of our suggested contributions after our Delegate, Jan. R's, report that could be found in the May 2013 REFLECTOR. With the next panel's elections coming in September, we reviewed the requirements/responsibilities for offices within the Groups, District, and Area. There was excitement hearing the reports given by the Al-Anon's who attended the 2013

International Convention! Our next District 2 meeting will be held September 22, 2013, at the Serenity Club in Rock Hill SC. Our District 2 elections will be held in that meeting.

District 3 – - Jane K. - Hi everyone! We have a lot happening in District 3. We held our District All Day, "Bloom Where You are Planted." I am super excited to part of a district that has great All Days. Linda R. is coming to share a Legacy workshop where we learned how to work the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts horizontally as well as vertically. Having really started concentrating on the Traditions, it was a huge help to me. We had different people with Flower names talk about how service has helped them through- out their lives. Rose was my personal favorite, just because she is loved although she has thorns. We also had several raffles and a game on service called, "What is my Al-Anon line?"

Our district meeting followed the All Day. At the district meeting we revisited our plan to have district meetings before or after a regular meeting. We did change a few of the dates for district meetings from before meetings to Saturday. After contacting all the appropriate people, I will email Mike our changes.

We are encouraging service at every level. Two big service projects that I am aware of are a project in the Allendale CHEW program in the prison. Wes B. and Nancy B are going down there weekly and taking in Al-Anon literature. These are prisoners who will likely never get out of prison, but are learning to be self supportive with gardens and other projects. Our district donated \$150 to be used for literature purchases for the inmate. We have also purchased many pamphlet holders to place in offices and businesses all over District 3. Nowhere But Up purchased pamphlets and have members who have committed to keeping the pamphlet holders supplied.

I am excited to see what the rest of my term as District Representative brings. Service has been a blessing to me at every level.

District 4 – Margearet L. - District 4 wishes a Happy Spring to all! On Sunday, May 19, our Area Delegate, Jan R, delivered her report at our District 4 meeting. We learned new things and reviewed others. One of our relative newcomers told me how interesting it was to learn how it works. It is so important to see that Al-Anon works because members are willing to serve. There was Jan R, an equal member to us all, telling us about work she is doing which will affect us all. We appreciated her coming to our meeting.

We do not know if we will have teens or sponsors to attend the Alateen Conference in July because of scheduling conflicts, but we will be able to contribute to the event and we will pay for a teen and sponsor if they are able to go. We are also encouraging the entire membership to attend on the open Saturday of the Conference. We have settled on a date for our annual Holiday Dinner this year: Saturday, December 7, 2013, at Ashland United Methodist Church on Ashland Rd in Columbia beginning at 6 PM. All our welcome. We are planning activities for the Al-Anon room at the AA Regional Convention to be held at the Doubletree Inn in Columbia August 8 - 11, 2013. AA has generously provided a room for us to use any way we want. Janet L is coordinating the activities for that room and would be glad for any who would like to serve.

From our District 4 Public Outreach Coordinator, Maris B, comes the following report:
We ordered an additional 200 copies of *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2013* and have

been busy distributing copies at area hospitals, treatment centers, laundromats, waiting rooms and libraries. Additionally thanks to our tireless service members, we have three institutional meetings a month - Morris Village, Palmetto Adolescence and Family services, and Richland Springs. LRADAC and Three Rivers also encourage all the family members to attend Al-Anon and have been great at distributing our schedules and booklets. I am in discussion with the treatment facilities to place their own orders directly, thus generating more income for WSO and increasing our reach.

Upcoming events where we will have a table and literature are the May 25th Faces and Voices of Recovery concert (FAVOR) featuring Randall Bramblett (has played with the Allman Brothers and Sea Level), and the FAVOR Conference on June 7th. Our members report that many people request extra copies of the meeting schedules and the *Al-Anon Faces* booklet to share with friends and family. Keep up the good work!!

Yours in service,

Maris B

As we head toward summer and hotter weather, we remember that we are all on this trip together. There are so many people in the world affected by the disease of alcoholism; we hope to reach as many as we can and give away this wonderful program so that we can get it.

District 5 –

District 6 – Julie H. - District 6 will have an Allday on Nov 9th in Walterboro from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. More details and the theme will be available on the SC website soon.

District 7 –

District 8 –

District 9 – Jan S. - Our District is preparing for our Annual All Day Retreat on Saturday, Sept. 21 at Pleasant Ridge Camp & Retreat Center at Marietta, SC. The cost is \$20. I brought registrations forms with me today, so you can take it back to your District. It is a time of: workshops, skit, speaker, lunch, and fellowship.

At our July District Meeting, I was officially approved to finish out Dale's term as DR. I was the Alternate DR. Ginger S. was also approved as our District Secretary as a replacement.

The District has ordered 200 - 2014 Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism magazines for Public Outreach in our District. These are placed in doctor's office, businesses, hospitals, AA Inter-Group, and FAVOR (Faces and Voices of Recovery) office.

Ginger S. and Judy R. worked together to submit paperwork to our Area Delegate for the WSO Board to come to Greenville for a summer meeting. There was a lot of excitement from our District of the possibilities that this would bring.

Our various Groups had contributed \$361 for Donations toward scholarships for alateens going to Camp Kinard for the SC Alateen Conference in July. I was able to attend this Conference for the day along with another GR. An additional \$657 was raised at our July Alanon Open Speaker Meeting as the Alateen Sponsors had more

teens attend this event than had anticipated. Christianne F., our newest Alateen Sponsor has been a wonderful addition to our District. Judy R. and Christianne continue to reach out to the 7 alateens, who regularly attend.

The Caring & Sharing AFG (#28216) had their last meeting at Hampton Heights BC (Greenville) on July 15. That meeting had been on Mondays at 8 pm. It stopped due to continued low attendance at that location. On September 9, this same group is starting at Greer 1st Presbyterian Church, 100 School Street, Greer, SC 29651. This meeting is on Mondays at 7 pm. This location is close to the county line of Spartanburg but in Greenville County.

This District is very busy with Convention 2014. They met on Aug. 3 at the Spartanburg Alano Club and will meet again on Sept. 28 at Assembly. Come see what its about!

Our next District is Tuesday, Sept. 17 at Francis Asbury Methodist Church in Greenville at 6pm.

District 10 –

DATES TO REMEMBER:

September 28, 2013 – Area Assembly

January 4, 2014 – AWSC

January 25, 2014 – Area Assembly

May 3, 2014 – AWSC

June 14, 2014 – Area Assembly

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer followed by the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie M.
Area Secretary