**AWSC Area 50**

**May 22, 2021**

**Electronic Meeting via Zoom**

**Call to Order:**

Area Chair Dave B opened the meeting at 10:05 AM with the Serenity Prayer. Linda F read the 12 Concepts of Service and Nan M read the General Warranties.

**Introductions:**

There were 24 participants--20 voting and 4 non-voting.

Bob Colborn, Delegate

Nan Moorer, Alt. Delegate and Group Records Coordinator

David Bryant, Chairman

Linda Flohr, Treasurer

Janet Lockhart, Secretary

Teresa Hinnant, Forum Coordinator, 2022 Convention Chair

Jaylen, Alateen Representative

Susan Lebhar, Archives and Past Delegate

Joelyn Manfredi, 2021 Convention Chair

Barbara O’Donnell, Literature Coordinator

Lindi Short, Area Alateen Coordinator

Shawn Short, Area Alateen Process Person and Temporary Webmaster

Pam Phillips, District 2 Representative

Chris Hall, District 3 Representative

Susan Outen, District 4 Representative

Kathryn Knight, District 5 Representative

Carol Delgado, District 6 Representative

Pat Cline, Alternate District 7 Representative

Suzanne Jankovsky, District 8 Representative and 2022 Convention Co-Chair

Lisa Ungefug, District 9 Representative

Nancy Bommer, Past Delegate (non-voting)

Linda Ruthven, Past Delegate and Trustee (non-voting)

Barbara Evans, Alternate District 5 Representative (non-voting)

Jeri Wesner, Member from District 3 and Trustee (non-voting)

**Chairman’s Statement: Dave B**

Dave announced future meeting dates for AWSC and Area Assembly:

Area Assembly June 26 Virtual

AWSC August 28 Virtual

Area Assembly October 9 In-person at Columbia Metro Convention Center

All meetings will begin at 10 AM.

**Delegate’s Report: Bob C**

Bob C summarized actions taken at World Service Conference in April. All information is posted in the Delegate’s Corner in the Member’s Area of web site: al-anon-sc.org. The password for Member’s Area is scarea50. There are two documents: April 2021 Letter from Chair of Board of Trustees (april\_2021\_cob\_letter\_\_1\_.pdf)and World Service Conference 2021 Financial Report (world\_service\_conference\_2021\_financial\_report.docx).

**Alternate Delegate/Group Records Coordinator Report: Nan M**

I have been quite diligent as have some DRs of late attempting to get our Area group records in the cleanest shape possible. I believe we have been fairly successful. We presently have only one group in District 9 in a No Mail status.

We have a new group, Daniel Island AFG, meeting Thursday night at 7pm at The Church of the Holy Cross. This new group may be totally new or may be a reawakening of a presently inactive group called Daniel Island Saturday Night Serenity AFG that met at the same site. I recently sent out an email to our District 7 DR and I hope we can verify and if so clear an inactive group as appropriate. District 2 DR did some real investigating and found there were two groups in her district that were actually presently inactive and those corrections were made. Several location changes were made to some groups and one was clarified as hybrid. As changes are made in being Face to Face, Electronic, or Hybrid, please submit changes at the WSO website and put it in the location section.

Our final numbers compared to March 2021 numbers:

May 2021 March 2021

Active 118 (-1) Active 119

Inactive 37 (+4) Inactive 33

No Mail 0 No Mail 2

Total 155 Total 154

These numbers show a decrease in active groups, an increase in inactive groups and a decrease in no mail status groups down to zero.

**Approval of Minutes: Janet L**

Minutes for January 30, 2021 AWSC were distributed by e-mail and posted on Area web site. Shawn S moved to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Lindi S. The vote for approval was: Yes – 16, No – 0, Abstain - 3.

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

The Expense/Income Statement for January – April 2021, the 2021 Budget report and the Group Contributions Report were distributed by e-mail.

The reports I am submitting today for AWSC approval reflect activity from January 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021. In summary, our beginning balance for Al-Anon funds was $15,601.76.

Total income was $9070.02, which includes Alateen donations of $688.66.

Total expenses were $5036.39, leaving ending balances on 4/30/21 of $18,946.73 Al-Anon and

$5602.82 Alateen for a combined checkbook balance of $24,549.55.

Group contributions totaled $3086.95; District Contributions were $193; 2021 Convention seed $2500 and 2021 Convention profit was $2557.41. Alateen group contributions of $37.70 and donations from 2021 convention $650.96 are included in the total group contributions and Convention profit categories respectively and $688.66 was transferred to Alateen funds. Literature sales were $44.

**Thanks to everyone who contributed. As usual, your contributions were generous and greatly appreciated!**

In order to maintain our tax exempt status, I filed Form 990-N (e-postcard) with the IRS prior to the deadline of May 15, 2021.

Most groups are sending their donations to me as Treasurer and very few are going to last Panel Treasurer. Thanks for updating your records! For those few groups who haven’t updated, below is my name and address for future donations:

Linda Flohr

1568 Culbertson Ave.

Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

Barb O moved to approve the treasurer reports, and the motion was seconded by Chris H. The vote for approval was: Yes – 19, No – 0, Abstain - 0.

**Coordinator Reports:**

**Area Alateen Coordinator: Lindi S**

I would like to thank the Area for letting us have April as Alateen awareness month. Several groups throughout the area had either an Alateen or AMIAS speaker during one of their meetings in April.

We trained 7 potential AMIAS during the month of May with 3 turning in their paperwork, one deciding not to certify and we are waiting for the paperwork from the other 3. We have 2 more Al-Anons from Greenwood ready to do the training. I was contacted about an interest in starting Alateen groups in the Irmo area and North Charleston area and we are working to see if we can make this happen. Our meeting in the Anderson area has closed and the sponsors have decided not to recertify. As of this report we have 5 sponsors (AMIAS) who have decided not to recertify.

Jaylen M has stepped up to be our area’s Alateen State representative. She is working on forming a conference committee of Alateens to start planning our conference. As of this report we are planning to have an in-person conference. I am waiting to get updates from Camp Kinard on their guidelines for this.

After attending a national coordinators meeting I shared that I found a lot of Al-anons don’t have a clear understanding of what Alateen is. Most of the people attending shared the same sentiment about this. We shared that we are going to ask our delegates to see if we can add an Alateen statement in our Al-anon meeting opening to clarify the Alateen program availability in our areas.

**Alateen State Representative: Jaylen**

Jaylen is forming a committee to plan Alateen Camp in August. She is also scheduled to speak at virtual meetings in Philadelphia and Canada.

**Public Outreach Coordinator: Lis B**

No report.

**Literature Coordinator: Barb O**

WSO updates from AFG Connects, Tom C.

1. Electronic Welcome, Newcomer! (eK-10) Is Coming Soon: The newly revised and reformatted electronic version of the Al-Anon Newcomer Packet (K-10) is in the final stages of production. More details will be announced soon, when it will be available through a variety of vendors, just as our current eBooks are. In the meantime, electronic meetings can provide the following URL to newcomers so they can sign up to receive an email with newcomer information: alanon.org/welcome. The newcomer will be prompted to enter a personal email address and the digital information will be immediately delivered. Members may wish to share this in their meetings and include it in their meeting formats when welcoming new members. (Please note that the revised paper version of Welcome, Newcomer! will not be available until inventory of the current version is depleted.)

2. New Literature Motions from the 2021 World Service Conference (WSC): The 2021 WSC carried three motions regarding Conference Approved Literature, which were based on recommendations from the Literature Committee.

I. The first was for development of a new Alateen bookmark based on the Just for Tonight AlAnon Bookmark (M-81). Like the Just for Today Alateen Bookmark (M-13), its contents will come from the teens themselves.

II. The second motion was to add a new preface to the book, The Dilemma of the Alcoholic Marriage (B-4), that would place it in historical perspective and to develop a booklet made up of "gems" from the original, possibly including some new material.

III. The third motion discussion was to create a new introduction to our first daily reader, One Day at a Time in Al-Anon (B-6) from 1968. This will provide an historical perspective on the book, and at the same time emphasize the timeless nature of Al-Anon's spiritual principles that the book so wonderfully exemplifies.

3. Many Voices, One Journey (B-31): Celebrate Al-Anon's 70th Anniversary and learn about our rich history by purchasing this book at the reduced price of $8.00 plus shipping, through June 30, 2021. Find it on our website at al-anon.org/onlinestore.

4. NEW DAILY READER (working title): The WSO continues to receive questions from the fellowship regarding whether additional sharings are needed for the new daily reader. As previously announced, the deadline for submissions was June 2020. Please share the news that the volunteer Literature Committee has just completed review of the near final draft. Much more work lies ahead so that the book can be ready for what we hope will be its debut in English, French, and Spanish at the 2023 Al-Anon International Convention in New Mexico.

5. Members Blog: Have you read or written a sharing for the Member Blog? Have you encouraged other members to do so? Please check it out at al-anon.org/member-blog. Each month there are new topics added, including the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service.

6. "CAL Corner" Topics: This department is featured each month in The Forum magazine. It contains members' sharings on how a particular piece of our literature has enhanced their recovery. April's topic is Reaching for Personal Freedom (P-92). In May, the department will focus on Many Voices, One Journey (B-31), and in June on the 60th anniversary of Alcoholism, the Family Disease (P-4).

7. Sharings needed for "CAL Corner": Please urge members to share in writing about how a piece of CAL has helped them with their recovery. We are currently looking for sharings about AlAnon's Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions (B-8), Living Today in Alateen (B-26), Discovering Choices (B-20), and Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses (B-29). Please see the writing guideline for "CAL Corner" in the Guidelines & Procedures folder under the "Library" folders in the Literature Coordinator community of AFG Connects or at: alanon.org/pdf/CALcornerSharingRevised%202018.pdf.

8. The Store on www.al-anon.org Al-Anon Online Store has been redesigned. Search for Products: books, pamphlets, Workbooks, Bookmarks, Digital, Magazines, Group Supplies, Topics: Al-Anon/Alateen Essentials, Beginners/Newcomers, Adult Children, Parents/Grandparents, Relationships, History, Public Outreach. Order Forum & make Contributions online. 2021 Shipping rates reduced to $5.00 for individual orders $50.00 and under through 2021.

**Temporary Webmaster: Shawn S**

In the month of May we have had the following traffic on our website:

4,991 Page views down -5% from last 30 days ,

2,863 Unique visits up +13% from last 30 days,

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| onlinecall-in-meetings--meeting-closure-list.html | 696 |
| find-a-meeting.html | 466 |
| the-family-disease-of-alcoholism.html | 327 |
| just-for-today.html | 252 |
| district-7.html | 185 |
| conferenceconventions-2020-2021.html | 140 |
| what-is-al-anon.html | 82 |
| literature.html | 81 |
| is-al-anon-for-you.html | 68 |
| frequently-asked-questions.html | 68 |
| about-al-anon.html | 67 |
| alateen-meeting-list.html | 66 |
| tools-for-recovery.html | 66 |
| district-6.html | 63 |
| contact.html | 62 |
| district-9.html | 59 |
| district-2.html | 56 |
| what-is-alateen.html | 55 |
| twelve-steps.html | 54 |
| contact-web-admin.html | 50 |
| detachment.html | 47 |
| district-8.html | 47 |
| twelve-concepts-of-service.html | 46 |
| twelve-traditions.html | 45 |

**Alateen Area Process Person: Shawn S**

We currently have 37 AMIAS, 9 active groups & 7 inactive groups registered for the state with WSO.

Of the 37 AMIAS, 23 have recertified, 11 not yet recertified and out of those 11, 3 have chosen not to recertify. We have trained 6 new AMIAS, of those we have certified 3 this year so far with 3 more working on getting their certification papers signed. We have 2 more perspective AMIAS who have passed their Background Check and are waiting for training.

We have one group with no email status that I am currently working to resolve.

Of the 9 active groups, 5 are suspended due to Covid 19, with 3 having no space to meet, 1 has no sponsors recertifying, and only 4 meetings are now open, with a 5th one starting, which is our newest in Greenwood SC “The Oasis”.

We have only 9 days left to recertify before the deadline of the 31st of May 2021.

WSO has reviewed our SC Area 50 Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements “SC Area 50 SABR” and returned them with suggested corrections; I have made the corrections and re-submitted them back to WSO for another review. Once back from WSO accepted they will be submitted to the SC Area 50 AWSC and then to the Area Assembly for vote of approval or rejection.

**Forum Coordinator: Teresa H**

Teresa has been monitoring the AFG Connects mailings for Forum Coordinators. She had no other activity to report.

**Reflector Editor: Mike M**

No report.

**Archives: Susan L**

1. Continue to request submissions of Group Histories AR-6 and Longtime Member form AR-1 from Districts and individual members.

2. Looking for back issue of The Reflector for November/December 1982

3. The committee is working on an Archives Guideline, specific to Area 50, including:

which handwritten information ( papers, reports, memorabilia) to store once digitized

what to do in case of fire, flood, or other natural disaster

what papers, reports, and memorabilia, once scanned, should be stored

research the role of anonymity with last names on reports in storage

**Rest Break:** Dave B called for a break at 11:09 AM and reconvened the meeting at 11:21 AM.

**District Reports:**

**District 2: Pam P**

This year has presented us with many challenges, and as usual, we stepped up to the challenge. District 2, like many other districts, has found ways to continue meeting despite a world-wide pandemic. The silver lining is formation of Al-Anon Zoom mtgs, hybrid mtgs, and more teleconference mtgs. District 2 has implemented all three, as well as, the continuation of in-person mtgs. Most of the mtg places are opening back up and in- person mtgs are opening back up. Unfortunately, there has been some negative effects also. District 2 has lost 2 mtgs in our district, one in Spartanburg and the other in Boiling Springs and we have another group on the bubble.

We have conducted regular Zoom District mtgs. We generally have about 6-7 group representatives that come to the district mtg and make good sound decisions for our district made up of 14 groups. Despite the challenges, our district has maintained a healthy treasury. We have used monies for public outreach material, donated back convention seed money and donated to the Literature distribution center. I am hoping to start visiting the mtgs in district 2 soon. District 2 has had it’s ups and downs, but we continue to place our higher power first that's always a winning combination!

**District 3: Chris H**

District All-Day: We held our District 3 All-Day on Saturday, May 15th and by all accounts, it was really well received. Thank you to everyone for helping to make this a great event.

Key Dates: Our next District meeting will be on June 5th from 1 PM - 3 PM

Meetings: While Awesome Aiken has been holding face-to-face meetings throughout the pandemic, other meetings have chosen to not hold meetings or to hold meetings virtually.

Orangeburg - Face to Face meetings will begin in Orangeburg this Wednesday at noon.

Entirely Ready - ER will begin meeting face-to-face on June 7th. Masks will be required and a cleaning\safety protocol requested by the church will be adhered to. It was discussed that a hybrid of both virtual and F2F will be attempted.

Nowhere But Up - NWBU will continue in the virtual-only realm.

Public Outreach: With the return to face-to-face meetings, we should start thinking about public outreach projects.

**District 4: Susan O**

* District 4 is meeting again, the third meeting of this year will be held tomorrow, May 23.
* We decided at the last meeting to hold our Holiday Dinner in December.
* My goal is to increase the number of groups with a GR, we currently have 50% of our groups with a GR.

Our groups are discussing returning to face to face meetings. Some groups are already hybrid and others are discussing.

**District 5: Kathryn Knight**

To my knowledge none of the groups in District 5 have gone to Zoom or Hybrid but some have begun meeting face to face.  Camden and Kershaw are meeting in their usual locations and have had some from Sumter come to their meetings.  In Florence, the Cotton Mouth group has a few who meet at the park occasionally but have not resumed face to face yet.  The New Beginnings group has been unable to return to our regular location yet but have a meeting on Monday and Wednesday at temporary locations. We have had some new people to come also.  We have not been advised if or when we can go back to where we were. Also, we have some members who actively participate in zoom and telephone meetings with others districts and states.

**District 6: Carol D**

As the new DR I have been contacting the GR’s and CMA’s in the District to familiarize myself with the groups in the District.

Many groups are on Zoom or hybrid and a handful have not met since the pandemic began. In the southern part of the District some groups have been meeting outside. Groups District-wide are beginning to talk about going back to face-to-face.

I’ve spread the word that our District is in need of an Alternate DR, and Public Outreach and Literature Coordinators and hope to have a District meeting sometime in June.

The Intergroup in Beaufort County is sponsoring a “Spring Fling” on Saturday 5/29/21 from 12:30 to 3:30 at Jarvis Creek Park on Hilton Head Island. All are welcome. Hot dogs and drinks provided. Bring a covered dish.

The Summerville AGF is celebrating its 50th Anniversary with a hybrid celebration from 2-4 on 6/12/21 with physical location at The Step-Up Club in Summerville. Summerville AFG is the 5th oldest group in the state. Norm W from New Mexico will be the speaker. A flyer is being circulated.

**District 7: Pat C**

District meeting was March 20. Pat C conducted a workshop on the Warranties. Meeting minutes are posted on the Area Web Site.

**District 8: Suzanne J**

District 8 met Saturday, May 15.

The District received a substantial bequest which was used to make donations to WSO, the Literature Distribution Center, and the Area.

District is working on forming a new Alateen group.

**District 9: Lisa U**

Things in the Upstate are good. There are 23 meetings with 9 face to face and 1 hybrid meeting. We have continued to have District meetings held on Zoom and had 4 meetings begin to use the district account for their meetings. Our next District meeting be held Tuesday, June 8th and will be discussing how meetings are planning to move back to face to face.

We are excited to be adding a new Alateen meeting in Greenwood which will start the beginning of June. We did have one Alateen meeting close and the AMIAS chose not to re-qualify. However, we have 3 new AMIAS in the upstate. Thank you Lindi for speaking in Greenwood and all the wonderful change that has created!

The District All Day, Seeking Serenity will be held on Saturday, September 18th. The details will be sent out soon.

**2021 Convention Report: Joelyn M**

The Convention Summary and Treasury Reports were distributed by email prior to meeting. The financial information is being updated. The Reports with complete details have been given to 2022 Convention Committee.

Joelyn raised the issue of distribution of excess income from the Convention. The AFG Inc Guidelines suggest options for donating funds in excess of seed money. The Area 50 Convention Guidelines, Treasurer’s Duties states “After all bills are accounted for, closes banking account and returns any balance to the Area Treasurer.”

Joelyn recommended making provision for storage of supplies between conventions. She asked if Archives storage space could be used for Convention supplies. Susan L and Nancy B responded that the Archives storage unit does not have room.

**2022 Convention Report: Teresa H**

The 2022 SCAFG Convention will be held in Myrtle Beach on Thursday, February 3rd through Sunday, February 6th. The theme will be *Serenity for You in 2022*.

The committee investigated several other venues, but costs of meeting areas and rooms were a big issue in deciding to return to Myrtle Beach. We have narrowed the choice down to 2 hotels and after a final site visit this Thursday, we will make a decision.

The convention will be a hybrid presentation. We will have the usual general sessions and workshop face to face, but will also offer the general sessions on Zoom. We’re hoping that by not zooming the entire program, more people will be encouraged to attend in person.

There will be more details at the Assembly in June.

Dave B proposed forming a Thought Force to review the Area Convention Guidelines regarding use of excess funds. Joelyn M will serve as Chair, Teresa H will participate, and they will invite other volunteers at Area Assembly. The Thought Force will report to next AWSC meeting August 28.

**New Issues**

**Electronic Meetings**

Bob C shared a document released after World Service Conference on “Transforming Electronic Meetings into Al-Anon Family Groups-A Guide for Geographically Based Areas”. Permanent registered groups which meet only electronically may become part of a non-Panel Area within WSC or may seek to become part of the existing geographic Area where they are based. Each Area must decide if and how to admit permanent electronic meetings in its service structure. Bob C proposed a Thought Force to discuss the issue using the Knowledge-Based Decision-Making questions as a framework. The Thought Force would also consider technology issues related to electronic meetings. The following volunteered to serve on the Thought Force: Dave B, Joelyn M, Barb O, and Shawn S. Bob C will chair the group and will invite additional volunteers at Area Assembly.

**Ample Reserve**

Dave B suggested the Area adopt an ample reserve guideline to address our need to maintain continuing obligations and to fund special projects. He proposed a Thought Force to explore the need for an ample reserve guideline and how it might be developed.

Discussion points:

The Thought Force should have broad participation from Groups.

One Thought Force on use of funds could consider both the use of excess funds from conventions and the ample reserve question. It was decided to form separate discussion groups.

AWSC should discuss funding priorities when it develops annual budget. We need to increase support of public outreach to follow Tradition Five.

Although Area has adequate funds now, there were times in recent past when funds were not available for essential budget items.

Guideline 41 on Reserve Funds includes Area Financial Inventory questions to be considered.

Thought Force members: Linda F and Lisa U. Nan M recommended Margaret L. Dave B will ask for additional volunteers at Area Assembly. Lisa U will chair.

Thought Force may be invited to attend AWSC meeting in August when 2022 budget will be developed.

**AWSC Attendees**

Nan M presented the following in reference to visitors to AWSC:

History: A search has been made by two separate parties to see if there is any motion in our past documents surrounding when, how and if visitors are allowed to attend AWSC and no previous motions or actions were found. There was a time period while AWSC was at the SC State Museum that visitors were stopped from attending due to space issues and since leaving that site visitors have periodically have attended. Uncertainties and questions about this topic have been brought forward so an answer seems appropriate. In the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2018-2021 you can find on pages 68, 75, 137, 155-156, and 160 brief descriptions and guidelines of the Area World Service Committee.

Motion: Visitors that are Al Anon members in good standing may attend SC Area 50 AWSC as an observer, these visitors will have no voice and no vote. Motion was seconded by Bob C.

Rationale:

1. This motion allows for the service arena of Area 50 to be fully transparent to its membership.

2. This motion supports service to the Area by encouraging membership to see service in action at AWSC, allowing membership to see what they could participate in their Al Anon future.

3. This motion supports sponsorship by opening this forum for sponsors to bring sponsees.

4. This motion with the no voice clarification assures that the work of AWSC is not slowed down by the visitors attendance.

Vote: Yes – 18, No – 0, Abstain – 0 Motion approved unanimously.

There was discussion on whether motion should be forwarded to Area Assembly for vote. Since AWSC makes rules for its own conduct, Dave B determined that Area Assembly vote is not necessary. He will announce the decision at Area Assembly.

**Area Assembly Activities**

Janet L asked for suggestions on activities other than business meeting agenda to include in Area Assembly. She asked DR’s to consider what GR’s want at Assembly and Coordinators to consider what they want to present.

Focus on activities that encourage members to fill service positions in Groups, Districts and Area. Look for creative ways to fill service positions.

Workshops on sponsorship, communications, Group Representative training. Counter-suggestion that Group Representative training be done at District level.

Workshops on various service areas—public outreach, Alateen, literature

Discussion groups to encourage fellowship. Break into groups so attendees meet people from different parts of state.

Omit the reports to allow time for discussion. Post reports on web site.

Focus meeting agenda on decision-making.

**Adjournment:** Dave B closed the meeting at 1:32 PM with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Minutes prepared by Janet Lockhart, Area Secretary

Attachments:

(posted on Area web site)

AWSC Minutes, 1-30-2021 (Member’s Area/Archives/Minutes)

Treasurer Reports (Member’s Area/Archives/Budgets)

2021 Income Statement 4.30.21

2021 Budget Report 4.30.21

2021 Group Contributions 4.30.21

Transforming Electronic Meetings into Al-Anon Family Groups (Member’s Area/Delegate’s Corner)