**Colorado Area Assembly, Colorado Springs, CO**

**March 18 – 20, 2022 Minutes**

**OPENING / PURPOSE / WELCOME:** Chair Nancy opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. The Steps, Traditions and Concepts were read. The purpose of the Assembly was stated. Past Delegates were introduced. There were 25 new GRs at this Assembly. There are 69 GRs who have signed in at registration. Question came up about DRs who are filling in and voting as a GR. Sign the book in both places (GR and DR), since voting as a GR, can indicate "don't count" when signing in as a DR.

**HOST ANNOUNCEMENTS**: Brook, Alt-DR for our host District 16, made announcements.

**ASSEMBLY RULES:** Thanks to Debbe P. (Past Delegate) and Tierney (District 4) – the new GRs were introduced to the rules of the Assembly.

**ROLL CALL:** Secretary Kara asked that all GRs or Alt-GRs who are voting (one vote per group) in attendance be sure to sign in on the green ledger, as she will be using this as the official record of the voting members of this Assembly. See Addendum #1.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Motion to approve the minutes of the October 2021 Assembly was made by Donna and seconded by Marty. The motion passed with 3 abstentions. Change dates on the minutes to October 29-31.

**AFFIRMATION OF WEBSITE COORDINATOR:** Dana moved to accept Scott H. as the Assembly Coordinator. Ann seconded. The Assembly voted to accept Scott H. as the Website Coordinator. The motion passed with one opposition.

**CHAIR REPORT:** Nancy R. gave her report.

A great welcome to you all. I’m so glad you could make it.. Many of us are brand new in our

positions, including me! The longer I am in Al-Anon, the more the legacies shape my life and

create healthy changes in my attitudes and behaviors that I can see in every group I am

involved in, whether it is an AFG, a District, or now the Area. I wanted to share something with

you about Tradition 1. There is a reading in Hope for Today, p. 43, February 12:

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...Tradition one states, “Our common welfare should come first; personal progress for the

greatest number depends upon unity.” The word “common’ tells me I am bonding with people

who understand and have gone through variations of my own experience. “Welfare’ tells me the

nature of this bond is about well-being and safety. “Unity tells me that in order to get well, we

need to work together to do what is best for the whole...community.

Unity...may feel...uncomfortable simply because it’s unfamiliar, but I know there is nothing to

fear...We turn to each other with the common hope and growing understanding that we can help

each other heal.

Thought for the Day:

The disease of alcoholism is our common problem, and Al-Anon is our common solution.

“...The unity of our group...provides us with a core of stability we can depend on.”

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Unity through service leads to recovery. I encourage each one of you to meet someone this

weekend that you do not know, and to participate in our meetings the best that you can. You

have a voice and no question is without merit. You also have a roomful of resources available

to you this weekend.

I thank the Area for allowing me to attend the Southwest Regional Delegates Meeting in Tucson

last weekend. as a guest. One of the gems I brought back was this:

“Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape.”

Look for the gems this weekend in the voices and people you meet, and let’s have a good

Assembly.

Thank you!

**ALT-DELEGATE REPORT:** Tom B. gave his report.

Over the last 2 ½ months I have discovered that the position of Alternate Delegate is a very active position. Thanks to Kari O. for helping me walk through the transition and her willingness to continue to support me while she’s actively preparing for her first World Service Conference.

I’m pleased to announce that the Finance Committee was formed and we had our first meeting. The members are myself (Alt. Delegate/Chair), Kellie F. (Area Treasurer), Nancy R. (Area Chair), Eloy M. (Past Delegate), Jerry B. (GR), and Kari O. (Delegate/Ex Officio).

The Policy, Procedure, and Guideline Committee has not begun to meet yet. As the result of some officer meetings, there are a couple of items that we will be looking at between now and our July Assembly. I want to finalize the work of the last panel before we begin working on new items. For those of you who are not familiar with this Committee, The Policy, Procedure & Guidelines Committee is a Standing Committee of the Area chaired by the Alternate Delegate consisting of Active Past Delegates who have participated at the Area level in the current and immediate past panel. The Committee acts in an advisory capacity to review and discuss questions concerning interpretation of the Area Guidelines, Area Bylaws or any Area Policy or Procedures and make appropriate recommendations to the Colorado Area Assembly. The Committee meets semi-annually at a minimum.

Last but not least, I want to thank the members of the Assembly for their support in sending me to this year’s Southwest Regional Delegates Meeting (SWRDM). At this year’s meeting I was able to take part in multiple conversations, some not so pleasant, and discovered that our 12th Tradition in actions is critical to our success and growth as a fellowship. I was also put on a Task Force to research Banking issues and I am hopeful that the information that comes out of this work will be helpful to our groups and districts.

**SECRETARY REPORT:** Kara E. gave her report.

Hello Everyone, I am Kara E. I wanted to take the opportunity to thank the Assembly for electing me as the Panel 62 Secretary. I feel very lucky to be in a place where I am open to learning and growing and hope I can be of value in my service to you and our Colorado Area groups. I realize I have stepped into some very big shoes, but feel so lucky to have received clear and caring guidance from Meg, the Panel 59 Secretary. She has done so much for the Colorado Area in this role and I hope to maintain and continue all of her hard work. In fact, I will continue to take roll call of the GRs for the Assembly by taking a photo of the green registration book and including them in the minutes. Please be sure that if you are a GR that you have signed the registration book. Also, upon registration, you should have received a red chip. This is your voting chip. Each group gets one vote, so if both the GR and Alternate GR from your group are present, please be sure only the GR votes. If you have no idea what I'm talking about, please find me at some point and ask. Please ask.

Thank you!

**TREASURER REPORT:** Treasurer Kellie F. gave her report. See attached presentation - Addendum #2.

**DELEGATE REPORT:** Delegate Kari O. announced she is the Area Delegate and represents us as our GR at the WSC. Thanked Rick G for supporting her into her transition into the Delegate role. Longer report later, will share SWRDMnotes later.

**Area Banner & Ask-It-Basket:** Chair Nancy explained about the traveling banner quilt. Betsy is in the process of making a new quilt. Rick G. explained the Ask-It-Basket.

**Coordinator Reports:**

Denver Area Service Center - Treasurer Jerry - survived the pandemic, has a new office at 2133 South Bellaire, Suite 3 in Denver, great new office coordinator

Literature/Forum - Betsy

Allow me first of all to thank you for allowing me to serve in this position. I was never certain of what people meant when they tell of being shoved off your seat by their Higher Power but I certainly can tell you now!

This is new and unknown territory for me and a lot of other people around the world but there is a group of us that have been welcomed and have been given a wonderful head start by not only those persons who work at Headquarters but each other. There is a separate web group for us and we hear from headquarters every day! I will be presenting a booth at assemblies (in the future) for information about what you can do to help us as well do for you if asked. There are so many materials available for members' use and I am certain that if you avail yourself of what is offered you will grow in your program and help your groups and the area as well.

As of today we are looking for Alateens to write in and help to complete the Alateen "Just for Tonight". And anyone is invited to write their story in 400-500 words and submit it to the Forum. The Forum is always looking for your input on the Steps, Traditions and Concepts as they impact your life. The Address to send these stories is in every issue of the Forum or contact me and I will be happy to give you the address. There are also directions about the big hanging banners which I will be happy to share if you wish to add them to your group. And please start thinking about what you can do to make certain that everyone subscribes to the Forum. This little magazine is worth its weight in gold and only costs $11 a year. Shipping and handling is included. So, please look for information in the Butterfly and at future assemblies. Feel free to contact me if I can be of ANY help to you.

Alateen Coordinator – Karis reported

Hi Assembly, my name is Karis !

I would like to share a reading from "How Al-Anon Works": Service chapter

"Love with no strings attached is a foreign concept for many of us. Some of us experience it for the first time when we come to Al-Anon. As the Suggested Closing to our meetings states, "After a while, you'll discover that though you may not like all of us, you'll love us in a very special way-the same way we already love you." Our survival as a fellowship depends on unconditional love. We are brought together through a common problem and united by a common goal. We need each other. Each member is important, yet nothing is required of any member except what he or she freely wishes to give." Pg 99

Thank you Assembly for voting me into this service position. I look forward to serving the Area.

A past activity for this new Alateen Coordinator was a meeting I attended with WSO Group Services Webx Conference call for all new Alateen Coordinators February 12th, 2022. A discussion of Alateen Coordinator duties and all resources available to me from WSO. Very helpful and informative. I am now connected with AFG Connects Alateen Coordinators.

Currently there are 8 Alateen Meetings in Colorado

For your information, there is a fabulous Alateen e-manual available on our Colorado Website for all AMIAS and anyone interested in Alateen. If you are a new AMIAS or if you've been an AMIAS for years, or even if you're not, this is great information to have.

You can find it on the Colorado Area Website homepage under the Groups tab, click Guidelines, there you will find Alateen Service Manual. It takes you to the WSO website. It is a downloadable and printable pdf. It has 37 pgs. Thank you Website Coordinator for adding this to the website.

Humbly submitted,

Colorado Area Alateen Coordinator Panel 62

Karis H

AAPP - Suzzane reported - She said she does paperwork. Received info from WSO we have 62 AMIAS's registered in 2021. So far got 20 recertifications, please get recertification in to Suzanne by March 31. In 2021 we had 8 Alateen groups. Part of her job is also to register Alateen groups. Hoping groups reconstitute themselves. If you would like to become an AMIAS even if you don't have an Alateen group, we can be ready when new Alateen groups want to register. If you build it they will come.

Records – Willard reported

In the months since my term began, I have had opportunities to communicate with members of the Al-Anon Groups, in Area 5. Most needing their Group’s record updated. The majority of those that did not, needed another Area Coordinator’s help. I provided the Area Secretary with an updated invitation list for the Assembly Email distribution, Emailed the first two editions of the AWSC Roster for the start of 2022, and distributed all of the Group Detail by District reports prior to the Spring Assembly. In addition to maintaining group records, I have the opportunity to interact with AFG Records. They are very helpful. For Assembly, I look forward to putting names to faces, although I’m terrible at remembering names. In the next two quarters, I would like to interact more with the Denver and Pikes Peak Service Centers. Perhaps even travel to visit some of the groups that I’ve maintained records for. I’ll work on reducing the number of ‘reported not meeting’ status meetings from the current 2, and ‘no mail’ status groups from its current 6. I’ll also take a look at seeing if I can add to the assortment of well thought out reports that my predecessor, Edward B. produced for the Area.

Website – Scott H. reported – Set up well from predecessor. Looking at what parts of the website are being used. 38,000 of 60,000 visits were in one form or another looking for a meeting time, then events and assembly information. Mostly our website is used to find a meeting. How are we attracting newcomers to the website? Open to thoughts and suggestions there. Overlaps with Willard, getting GRs email addresses set up.

WIA Chair - Erica - not much to report - has an email, will spend time with Tracy, Dana is the co-chair. Will try to put together committees while she is here.

Archives – Dennis reported

Archives is located in a storage unit at 1042 Parker Road. It is working out well. The unit has plenty of space for our needs. I have rearranged to make room for IT/Media Coordinator. One of the first things I did was to make two keys for the unit, so IT/Media Coordinator Joanne can get in when she needs to. One of the biggest advantages of it being there is the hours are from 6:00 am till 9:00 pm. The temperature can be cool but okay to work in. It will suit our needs until the area decides to go into an office space or stay at the storage unit.

The disadvantage of it being at the Storage Unit is that there is no electrical outlet in the unit. The only light for the unit is in the aisle. I am going to have to get some kind of battery operated light.

One of my goals is to look into the oral history we have and how to store them and to list them. Also I am going to look into AIRSHOW RESTORATION and find out about how much is left to use for converting the tapes.

Public Outreach - Margarita reported - Doesn't have a committee, pamphlets on her table are free to take. She reported in both English and Spanish.

Spanish Coordinator - Deborah reported - new position, no one to train her, learning as she goes. Whether you speak English or Spanish, she can use help, please come sign up at her table to help.

IT/Media – Joanne presented - Linda and Ed have been great at getting her going in this position. Does the Audio and Video and is in charge of the computers that the Coordinators and Officers use. Use your own computer if possible, but can supply a computer to you. Let her know if you need one. May have the funds or can ask for funds. We are already down one microphone.

Butterfly Coordinator - Kelly R. - not present, but her report will be attached to the minutes. - See Addendum #3

**FROM THE FLOOR** - "Who Do I Call" workshop prepared and presented by Delegate Kari O. - See Addendum #4

Nancy announced that she has heard that we need lots of help from coordinators: Translation, IT, public outreach, Day in al-Anon chair needed. Brook, Alt-DR from District 16 has discussed with her GRs and they decided that they would like to host A Day in Al-Anon! They are thinking possibly May.

Nancy also asked if there is a district willing to host the Winter Assembly November 4-6 at the DTC, District 6 is already hosting the Summer Assembly also at the DTC.

**WORKSHOP:** *Spiritual Principles of Conflict Resolution* presented by Past Delegate Marilyn B.

-GRs are so important, the most important part of the Assembly, you represent the group and you have the vote. You bring all of your experience, strength, and hope from everything you've ever done in Al-Anon - literature, groups, who you've met in Al-Anon, meetings, etc. Most of us leave overwhelmed.

-Begin our Assembly of community - Participation is the key to harmony. Talk about what we believe in. *When you are at your best and you are facing a conflict, what spiritual principles do you bring to the party?* Talk in groups about what are the spiritual principles of conflicts. What spiritual principles can I, as an individual, bring to that conversation?

-Examples of a spiritual principle… Be legacy literate - I have studied and applied the traditions and concepts. Courtesy. Staying honest, not pretending there is no conflict. Spiritual principles are the opposite of our character defects.

-The Assembly broke into groups and discussed the question: *When you are at your best and you are facing a conflict, what spiritual principles do you bring to the party?* Marilyn's intent is to build a banner that we can bring to each assembly and bring out when there are conflicts, if it is needed.

Reports from groups from workshop: Empathy, Unity, Presence (be present), Surrender, Listen, Clarity, Listen and stay present, Together with Courtesy and Respect, Grace, Listening, Willingness to allow the other person to speak, conflict is not necessarily bad, vision, responsibility, toning down the voice, Pause, Respect, Relate, Respect, Relate, Higher Power, Humility, Courage, Honoring the relationship, Invite your higher power into the conversation, progress for the greatest number, listen and learn, trust the process and let go of the outcome.

Break for lunch - Return at 1:30 pm

Assembly returned from lunch and Nancy welcomed us back by leading the Serenity Prayer.

There were more host announcements.

**DR Reports:**

21 - Joleen – Conifer and Evergreen. 4 Groups plus a speaker meeting. On Sunday morning at 9 am the RMAFG is in person and on Zoom. Worldwide. They have members from Spain who attend.

11 - Janice

District 11 encompasses Thornton, Broomfield, Northglenn and portions of Westminster

We currently have 10 active meetings with 5 active GRS. We meet monthly to discuss district and area events and issues. We have a Treasurer and Secretary who are active members of a District 11 Al-Anon meeting but are not serving as GRs.

We have an Alateen Meeting which is not currently meeting due to lack of an AMIAS. We have been announcing this need at District 11 Meetings for months now. If anyone is interested in service in that capacity; please let me know. In the event no one volunteers to serve as an AMIAS, the Alateen Meeting will close.

Current Meeting Formats:

3 face to face only

6 hybrid

1 conference call only

Mark your calendars for…

District 11 Fundraiser – “Al-Anon: It's More Than A Meeting”

Saturday, September 17, 2022

Discovery A Christian Church

2605 W. 144th Avenue

Broomfield, CO 80023

17 - Betsy

First and foremost, to Kevin S. and the finance committee for the funding and newspaper advertising that we received for the I-76 corridor, there have not been any noticeable results yet but I am still hoping that there may be those out there who need and want our program!

We remain only one group but we are very active. We moved in the last quarter as our hosts wanted larger facilities so we are still getting settled. It gave us the opportunity to clean out our "stuff". The Round Robin that we helped the local AA Group sponsor was a great success and our Speakers (Stef and Norm B. from Brighton) were nothing short of dynamite! There were 90 present from all parts of Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, and Wyoming. It was a huge success!

We continue our regular meetings and are noticing that there are more dual members attending. They add an interesting perspective. Of course, we continue to follow Al-Anon guidelines and are careful to use the Service Manual when we have questions. We have begun inviting outside speakers once a month and everyone is enthused about doing this.

6 - Tracy - Has been a DR for a week, active district, lots of outreach

13 - John B. - phone list person, service center rep, GR, district rep - committee deciding how to distribute their funds, so every quarter they can have a special project. Figuring out what is the purpose of a district, go to other meetings and report back to get knowledge of other groups

7 - Teresa- Not the district rep, but she will report - Thank you for the outreach that went to counselors. A member joined because of that. Greely decided to donate CAL to district 8 due to the Marshall Fire. The last Saturday in April, BYBB - bring your own bagged breakfast, Al-Anon speaker fundraiser, donation will go to District 8. District 7 collected about 40 books to go to District 8. The new member that had joined due to the counselor, connected them to District 8.

3 - Karis - Montrose

At the last District 3 business meeting, we passed the proposed budget for 2022.

Current activities:

A District 3 Archives investigation and Inventory of what stuff we have and how to store them.

Looking to start a Public Outreach committee, phase 2. I will be communicating to District groups by sending an email invitation for any who may like to be on the committee.

Future projects may include fundraising ideas and Summertime fellowship.

General announcements:

D3 has 5 Hybrid groups, 2 groups strictly Zoom, 3 groups strictly meeting face to face. 1 group is just starting to form. They are in a 6 month trial before they decide to register with WSO.

We have an Alternate DR for the first time. Her and I are visiting groups and going by our meeting list, taking turns visiting groups.

Humbly submitted, DR3, Karis H.

12 - Edward reporting for Megan

*Currently, District 12 is without a DR. They have a treasurer and alternate district representative. Out of the 13 meetings in our district, two have gone "online only" which has resulted in a confusing deactivation at the district level. Those two plus the one already online only, I believe we are down to ten meetings in the district that houses most of Denver. With that, we have approximately 50% with group representation. We are hosting a Sponsorship Workshop on April 2nd via Zoom*

Thanks,

Megan

Alt. DR

2 - Don S. - 3 GRs are here. No idea what he is doing, still figuring it out since November. It's an opportunity and a challenge, and I plan to be more prepared for the summer Assembly. Active district, long and narrow. There is at least one meeting (most in person, some days more than one) every day of the week.

9 - Tom F

District 9 has twelve Groups with fourteen meetings.

We have been focused on updating all the district and group records with the Colorado

Area and the WSO. I believe Willard and I have completed the records review. All the

groups have been updated.

Bill and I have attended 8 meetings in our district. We introduced ourselves as the newly

elected DR and Alt DR. We answered any questions that were asked. We identified new

CMA’S and email addresses for groups that had none. We asked the groups that did not

have a GR to please consider electing one. It was a great time had by all. We have added

three new GRs since our visitations.

We elected a treasurer and a secretary. Bill S. has agreed to be the public outreach

coordinator.

We have located a permanent location for our monthly district meeting. We are still

looking for a new location for the noon Friday meeting “It Takes Time”. The current

location and the pandemic have created the move due to liability issues. More will be

revealed.

We are discussing our plan of attack to start our public outreach. The biggest obstacle we

need to overcome is to re-establish the “in-person” meeting attendance. We want to have a

fellowship event welcoming back attendees to the “in person meetings” We are still in the

planning stages.

16 - Brook H. - Alt-DR - our DR is currently out of state, hope she will be back tomorrow. 34 meetings, largest district by meeting # in the state. One is Zoom, many are hybrid. The job of the DR will be gathering info about the meetings. Will do the Day in Al-Anon.

25 - Martha - Volunteered and elected to DR, but for personal reasons, has to step down - 6 active meetings and 2 electronic meetings. Goal is to go to health fairs. A cell phone is used for their district to find meetings.

13 - John B. [again] - wants to build a community with his GRs

? - Tammy - attends lake Dillon - no GR or DR - one group hybrid that meets in Lake Dillon - ⅔ electronic and ⅓ in person. Working on an Alateen group in Frisco, just needs one more AMIAS. Getting a lot of great ideas of doing outreach and activities to reach out in Summit County.

4 - Tierney - 11 meetings, 7 in Durango, 2 in Pagosa, 2 in Cortez. Plans to have a workshop, by joining in to the sponsorship workshop together. EIN number for banking purposes only - has 2 page instructions of how to get your group an EIN number.

**NEWS FROM WSO** Delegate Kari shared her Delegate presentation and will post it on the website. See addendum #5

The Assembly had lots of questions around the AFGWME (Al-Anon Family Groups Which Meet Electronically) and becoming registered with the WSO as a permanent electronic group to be represented by the new non-panel, non-geographic Global Electronic Area (GEA).

Q: The perm electronic group who have split off and registered at the WSO are not a part of the Colorado Area, the temp meetings are still a part of Colorado Area.

A: Unless you register the electronic meeting with the WSO, it's a temporary meeting.

Q: What about a hybrid meeting? If it's registered with the WSO, it stays with the WSO?

Q: Were the Delegates involved or was this only decided at Virginia Beach?

A: This was largely driven by the WSO, but simultaneously the Electronic meetings were electing GRs. Now it has a structure.

Rick, past delegate, says stay as you are, it may stay that way forever, wait to see. They are just taking care of those who have registered with the WSO and elected GRs

Q: I'm in a group that meets all across the country so how does that play in? If it started in WY, but now it has CO and Spain, etc. is it a WY group?

A: That remains to be seen. Where the GR sits does not matter to the WSO.

Q: What happened before 2021 since there were online meetings?

A: Rick answered that some of them have registered, some of them were never registered and may never register.

Q: With the question regarding Who was the decider, this implied that there was a top down decision made

A: Delegate is aware of that concern. Topics to discuss registering that Area. Kari will bring up this question at the WSO.

Q: What do you mean by temporary? To survive, some groups split some in person, some online.

A: Rick said his home group did the same thing, the face to face group is smaller and they like it, the online component is bigger and with people all over the world. He thinks they might split.

Q: There are two groups in their district that started on Zoom. Is there directions on how to register these groups as an electronic meeting?

A: Directions are on the WSO website, so you will be registered with WSO, and they won't be a part of your district.

Q: Was this originally asked by the electronic meetings to be organized and is that how the WSO got into the conversation?

A: Rick - It was never discussed at the WSC, it was prior to their panel, the WSO formed a committee on how to bring the electronic meetings into our service structure. Not sure if the topic was requested by the electronic meetings.

Q: What is the decision that Colorado will need to decide? What is our question to be answered?

A: Nancy - The electronic meetings were free-form, not part of the WSO structure or Area. She will ask for a Thought Force as to what we want to do to include these groups. She thinks some of these groups will want to be part of the Area.

Eloy added that these electronic groups have been around for a while. We have more questions than answers and it is still evolving.

Kari: These groups have existed for a long time, no area, no delegate, no voice. Over 400 groups meet globally with no voice. When we seek unity to bring these groups into the AFG with a voice and a vote, that's what this is about.

Q: What can I as a DR bring back to my district? What question are you asking as a delegate to take back to my group to discuss?

A: Kari will take the voice of CO to the WSC that there are interests, options, and solutions for CO and we are anxiously waiting to see how this goes. She is hearing that the CO Area is seeking a solution for these groups as well.

Debbe added not to jump the gun, there are a lot of unknowns here. Give our trusted servant the chance to go to the WSC and come back with lots of info.

Rick: If your group is both online and face to face, just be patient. If your online group decided they want to separate and register with the WSO, that is their decision, their autonomy.

Q: His group will ask why this decision was made the way it was, top down.

A: Delegate said she hears him. Rick added it's a historical thing and he doesn't even know how it started.

Q: When is the conference? When can we give you love gifts?

A: The Conference is in April, in NY. Going to stepping stones. We are being asked not to receive love gifts or post cards this year. Can take emails and texts through the CO Area website or to her email. Because of Covid they were asked not to bring gifts which will cause folks to congregate.

**WORKSHOP** - *Your Colorado Voice at the WSC* - presented by Kari O.

Each Delegate (62) gets to submit 2 agenda items to be chosen for the WSC agenda. Kari wants to hear from Colorado. Bring ideas.

-Delegate participation will be added to her list

-Making the language in our literature more inclusive to gender neutral/inclusive individuals

-How do you bring to CO the Road Trip? (Was here in 2017)

-How do we diversify, especially coming out of the pandemic? Racially diversify, age diversification?

-What is the purpose of a meeting? Then does it matter if it is hybrid/electronic/face to face? Can you do the program of Al-Anon without meetings?

-Board of Trustees, WSO staff, Delegates who attend the WSC talk to each other about the spiritual principles they use. Make sure they are reasoning things out and everyone is heard. Does anything need to change to accomplish that more effectively?

-Lots of new members ask, how do I get a sponsor? Find someone you are connected to and just ask them. Many are not comfortable. Now that many groups are virtual, maybe at the WSO level there can be a directory put together for people to go to to find a sponsor.

**AREA CONVENTION 2022 SKIT** - District 16 - State Convention August 26, 27, 28 - Theme: *The Fellowship We Crave* - Speaker Father Tom W., AA and Al-Anon member (Quote from Father Tom W. "Al-Anon is the graduate program for AA") Hoping it will be in Pueblo, will send the flier electronically. [As of Sunday morning, AA had voted and the State Convention will be held in Pueblo at the Pueblo Convention Center, during the first week of the State Fair, so please make hotel reservations now. There is no contract with any hotel. Be creative.]

**OLD BUSINESS:**

-TASK FORCE: AMIAS Required Training - Karis H.

Hi ASSEMBLY!

Verbal report today, no Power point presentation.

Committee members: myself, Rick G., Annaika S., Sue K., and Brook H.

This report is to refresh our memories and give anyone new here the update.

Charge (given July 23, 2020): Determine the required training the Area will provide and present to the Assembly.

Training Agenda for AMIAS

1. Overview of Alateen and AMIAS

2. What is an Alateen meeting?

3. Mandatory Reporting and Other Applicable Laws

4. Tough Stuff

5. Safety and Behavioral Requirements

6. Best Practices (for AMIAS)

7. Resources

8. Frequently Asked Questions

9. Supplemental Materials

Currently we (Task Force Committee) are editing the content and are 98% completed. We are needing to add fun art and pictures to the content.

75 slides of training content

16 slides of Supplimental materials

A Total of 91 slides

Submitted , Karis H. AMIAS Required training Task Force Chair

-THOUGHT FORCE: Selling of Literature at Area Events - Grete M.

We have had 3 meetings so far, our last being on 3/6/22. After looking at the KBDM process and answering the questions, we discovered that there are many more questions that may need to be answered such as:

How is the WSO going digital with Literature going to affect our future in the arena of literature sales locally?

What are the Guidelines for AIS/LDC’s selling literature outside their geographic area’s? And what impact would that have on who sells the literature or is chosen to sell the literature?

Who would coordinate all of this if we were to recommend to the Area that we move forward with allowing literature sales at Area Events and Assemblies? Area Chair, Literature Coordinator, or the local District Rep hosting the Event?

What does the Literature Coordinators position description suggest about this?

And the list goes on…

The committee felt that we needed to answer the following question first.

What percentage of GR’s want to have literature provided in some form at the Assembly or other Area events to purchase?

If there is little to no need or desire, then our work would be done. We have put together a very brief survey of one question to distribute this weekend to all Al-Anon members attending regardless of their service position or lack thereof. Once we have looked at the results of this survey, we will decide if this is enough data, or do we need to look at the broader membership.

All information gathered will be presented at the next AWSC meeting.

Yours in Service,

Grete, Ernie, Suzanne, Chuck and Margarita

-Area Guidelines amendment approval - This is the second discussion of the guidelines, following procedure. Second brief discussion and then will ask for a motion to be made to move it forward.

Motion: To amend the Area Guidelines as outlined by the Policies, Procedures and Guidelines Committee.

Matter under consideration: Adding paragraph 6 under Section B – Finance Committee; Specific Duties. This information was presented at the October 30, 2021 Area Assembly.

Section B – Finance Committee

Specific Duties:

In accordance with Warranty One, special projects request Colorado Area ample reserve funds may be submitted to the Finance Committee chair by email and must be accompanied with a detailed Ample Reserve Special Project Funding Request form available on the Colorado Area Website at <enter URL here>. Once reviewed by the Finance Committee, the file will either be reverted to the requestor for more information or forwarded on to the AWSC for consideration. Upon approval by the AWSC, the request will be forwarded to Assembly for its consideration.

Kara K. GR made the motion and Jen C. GR seconded. The motion passed with 3 abstentions.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

-THOUGHT FORCE: Moving one in-person Assembly to Virtual per year - Debbe P. - exploring the benefits and downsides for moving one in-person Assembly to virtual per year. Other members are Tierney, Kellie, Monica, and Betsy. Looking for at least one other member to be on this thought force. It will be Zoom meetings only. First meeting will be in the next 30 days.

-Alt Delegate financial recap/budget - Tom B. See Addendum #6 - 2021 Budget Review slides Income was down about 32% last year. Expenses were down almost 50%. There was a loss with the WIA. But we came ahead $6,080. We are back up and running and need your support.

-THOUGHT FORCE: Electronic Groups in our Area Structure - Chair Nancy has a sign up sheet, but the charge for this Thought Force will not be put together until Kari comes back from the WSC with more information.

**GRs SPEAK**

*What's on your mind?*

-Judy: New to being a GR. Several group duties are being done in the group that she thinks she should do as a GR. What should she do?

Honey responded: The Service Manual outlines the roles and responsibilities. Her group discussed it at a business meeting and decided they would do what it says. Pages 59-61

-Terra: New GR in Gunnison. Suggestion for a timeframe for a group conscience.

Several responses - Service manual page 60-61. Monthly, quarterly, 5th Saturday for business meetings, just when something comes up, etc.

-Kara K.: Attends a lot of online meetings, how are other groups collecting donations? We post the addresses for Area, District, WSO. Also she provides the Zoom on her personal account and probably shouldn't because of 7th tradition, not sure how to do that.

Jerry responded - Changed over the Zoom account, created one for the District. The District is paying for it.

**AWARDING of the BANNER -**

District 17 was officially the winner with one Group and one GR attending the meeting. GR Betsy P. asked that the banner go to the next highest District, since 17 was also awarded the banner at the last Assembly. So the banner goes to District 14 with 83% of GRs attending the Assembly (6 meetings, 5 GRs attending). Dennis is awarded the banner/quilt. Donna H. has another banner started and will deliver it to the next winner. Congratulations!

**INVITATION TO THE SUMMER ASSEMBLY -**

District 15 will host the Summer Assembly in the Denver Tech Center

Still looking for a host district for the Winter Assembly, also at the Denver Tech Center

**ASSEMBLY ADJOURNS –** Chair Nancy closed us out with the Serenity Prayer and the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kara E.

Panel 62, Area Secretary

**ASK IT BASKET – Sunday, 3-20-22**

Q : Kari: Question about removing meetings from the WSO website that are at institutions or jails

A: She doesn't know and will find out.

Q: Tom B.: Is there an Al-Anon position regarding the use of the term “my qualifier” in meetings? If speaking for or labeling someone else, if they are active and deny having a problem.

A: Page 131 of our current Service Manual speaks about Dilution of Al-Anon. It talks about this in the labels section.

“**Labels:** Focus on the Al-Anon interpretation of our program is strengthened when we avoid using professional terms and labels since they may confuse members by implying affiliation with certain persons or specific therapies.”

This matter can be discussed at Group Business Meetings. Your group can include something in their opening. Members (you) can also lead by example in your sharing. It is good for me, as a member of a group to find a balance of education and tolerance. And to always consider the timing of this information. To consider if this is a new person using therapy terms because a therapist may have directed them to Al-Anon.

Page 85 of our current Service Manual discusses membership:

“**Membership Eligibility:** Anyone who feels his personal life is or has been deeply affected by close contact with a problem drinker is eligible for membership in Al-Anon/Alateen.”

This reminds me that anyone who feels his or her life has been affected by someone else’s drinking points to the Al-Anon member themself as their qualifier.

Q: Dennis: Is there still a list of willing speakers?

A: As the archives coordinator, no, the Area does not have a list of current speakers. On the Colorado Area webpage there are about 5-6 speaker meetings that will pop up. The DASC used to have a list of current speakers. If you wanted to be on it, you could call and ask to be added.

Q: Eloy: Question about dark meetings that are not meeting.

A: 5th tradition, WSO webpage says that DRs visit meetings - this is a district issue

Q: Chair Nancy: Question about how does a GR get information when there is no DR in my district? I am missing a whole lot of information.

A: Issue of dark districts. We are missing around 10 DRs out of 25 districts. What the groups in the Districts can do is give a CMA to the secretary [give this to the Records Coordinator]. The district is the first link to the area. The DR can be elected by caucus by the GRs at the Assembly.

Q: Debbe: What are the steps to get wording changed in literature, for example from he to they?

A: Procedural answer Service Manual pg 226 and then what Lois says in Many Voices One Journey, pgs 78-79

Q: Rick: Question about anonymity and online meetings, considering all the hacking out there.

A: Tradition 12, Service Manual pg 41 - Anonymity is a spiritual foundation, we can go to a meeting and speak from the heart and not be attacked for doing that and how can you do that online? Page 123 Tradition related to outreach includes the internet. Website under members and resources, there are manuals and guidelines, Electronic Al-Anon meeting guidelines and talks about anonymity, it is being updated

-There was a suggestion made from a DR that this might be a good workshop for an Assembly, as ongoing discussion pursued. Since the group is autonomous and makes their own decisions in a group conscious, the GRs could use some guidance and suggestions.

Chair Nancy made the request for anyone who might help with IT/Media or Public Outreach. Possibly a workshop on safety in online meetings, could use some help with that too. Thought force sign up, for inclusion of electronic groups into our Area structure.

**FINAL NUMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY:**

7th Tradition $459

Silent Auction $1,123

Hospitality Basket $123

Total: $1,705