

A.W.S.C. MINUTES  
October 11, 2008  
Seaside, Oregon  
District 1, Hosting

The meeting was called to order by Area Chair, Bette R, at 9:00 a.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Traditions were read by Cat H, District 5, and the Concepts by John O, District 12.

**Roll Call** – Colleen G

- AWSC members excused: Billie L, Alt. Delegate, Ginny R, CPC, Penny H, DR District 14 (represented by Bev), Paul S, DR District 15, Paula J, Portland AIS Liaison.
- Members absent: Gretchen H, PI, Teri S, DR District 3, Monica S, DR District 8, Tedie H, DR District 13, Jerry L-H, Audit Budget Committee.
- Past Delegates not attending and missed: Mayme, Phyllis, Darla, Betty, Jan, Carol, Shirley, Susan.
- Districts not represented: District 11.

**Statement of Attendance:**

Bette R, Area Chair, addressed a question about absenteeism by reading the Statement of Attendance from Section 1 – PG 2 of the Oregon Area Handbook:

*"A motion was passed at the February 1990 Assembly that if an Area Officer or Coordinator misses two consecutive meetings (Assemblies and/or AWSC) without contacting the Chairperson and without providing an alternate or acting person, the Chairman will contact the person to ask for cause and/or resignation."*

*"All AWSC members (AREA Officers, Area Coordinators, District Representatives, Standing Committee Chairpersons, Past Delegates, Audit/Budget Committee, Chairperson of Ad Hoc Committees, Chairperson of upcoming SSM and AIS Liaisons) and Group Representatives are to attend all of the scheduled full sessions of each Assembly to be eligible for reimbursement from the Area Travel Fund. This means, currently, attending all day Saturday and Sunday morning."*

It was concluded in the discussion the Area has no jurisdiction over District Representatives and their attendance. Those issues need to be addressed within the districts.

**Housekeeping** – Chris K, DR District 1

District 1 is not seeking reimbursement for the meeting space rent. They have estimated the expense would have been almost \$200 without the participation of district members, and will submit, at the treasurer's request, an expense record for future budget considerations.

**Secretary's Report** – Colleen G

- The minutes from the June 21, 2008 were approved with the following corrections:
- On page 2 under Delegate's Report correct Roland's initial from W to C.
- On page 14 #2 the word amen was corrected to read amend.
- Our thanks to Paula J. for filling in as secretary for that meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** – Glen G

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read after the following discussion:

A copy of the Oregon Area AI-Anon Expense & Income vs. Annual Budget, January through September 2008 was distributed to the AWSC members.

The Treasurer reported that in reviewing the handout column H should have been headed "\$ Under Budget" instead of "\$ Over Budget." This correction makes it easier for everyone to visualize how much was left in the line item budgets. If there is a negative number in that column, it means there is that much money left in that specific budget. Please note that the Public Outreach Action Committee is \$550 over budget on a Public Information Project. The Public Information Coordinator approved the project and asked that \$600 be transferred to cover the expense of the Public Outreach Action Committee project.

The Area checking account balance is \$3,621.61 lower at the end of September 2008 than it was a year ago as a result of fewer contributions and increased Area expenses.

Area Cash Balance as of 1/01/08	\$ 18,032.22
Income from 1/01/- 9/30/08	16,110.93
Expenses from 1/01/- 9/30/08	<u>-16,551.98</u>
Area Checking Account Balance 9/30/08	\$17,591.17

The Oregon Area Al-Anon Contributions & Cash Balances as of 9/30/2008 Report will be in next Communicator.

#### **Use of Acronym Bank - Roland**

In an attempt to draw attention to the use of acronyms, which can be confusing to the new member, an acronym jar was introduced.

Roland expressed a concern quoting Warranty Four (pg 261 of the Service Manual) that states "*That no Conference action ever be personally punitive...*" Al-Anon, because of the spiritual nature of the program does not inflict personal punishment upon individual members for violations, which in this case would be paying a fine. In the discussion it was also agreed this was disruptive to the meeting. A vote, by show of hands, was taken and use of the acronym bank was discontinued.

#### **Delegate's Report – Roland**

The World Service Conference Summary was distributed to the Area Officers and to the Coordinators. They are FREE to the membership from WSO to anyone who wants one. There is a \$3.00 shipping and handling fee.

The conference summary is a way to carry the message of Al-Anon through education. The delegate's report is a 90 minutes presentation at assembly and is reduced to minutes at a district meeting, and even less time is used in many of the group meetings. To be well informed, groups were encouraged to order a copy. This is a summary of the World Service Conference, the business that helps guide and direct Al-Anon. If our groups are informed and bring questions and suggestions to the delegate, he can be better informed on what the area wants him to discuss at WSC.

One question was asked: What is the difference between a Task Group and a Thought Force? Both are made up of delegates, trustees, WSO staff, and Roland will be participating on both. He is learning too, and will find out specifically what the differences are and report his findings back to the assembly.

#### **Announcements:**

- Cindy announced that District 6 will have the Conference Summaries available at the November Assembly.
- Helen, Group Records Coordinator, requested that DRs bring their meeting list to this AWSC. There is a print out in each mail box. Please check to see if your districts meeting information agrees with WSO. See her during the lunch break or after the meeting today.
- Joanne, Membership Outreach Action Committee Chair passed out copies of the Links of

Service bookmark. They were first produced in November 2006 and 1500 will be distributed at the November Assembly.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **November 21-22-23, 2008 Assembly** – Marilou - Dist 2 & 16, Hosting

Shilo Inn Suites Hotel - Ocean Front Resort

536 SW Elizabeth - Newport, Oregon 97365

Phone: 541-265-7701 - 1-800-222-2244

- Must Mention AI-Anon to get rate: Room Rates \$95.95
- Nov 4 is deadline for room reservations.
- 27 rooms have been reserved. This covers most of the costs with only a few more details to cover.
- District 6 will sell literatures.
- Friday Night Sharing Meeting at Shilo 7 pm

### **2009 SSM Report** – Judy J, Chair

April 24, 25, Milwaukie Center

Happy Joyous and Free – Are you? You definitely will be!

- Money is slowly coming in from the sales of our 2 year calendars, note pads, wristbands, and visors. Packets have been put together for DRs to take back to their groups to sell and put out the word about the SSM. Support this FUNd raiser by buying FUNd raising items...We have free pencils to distribute throughout the fellowship so ALL AI-Anon members in Oregon will know about and come to the SSM.
- AND we have dammit dolls. We have made 50 and they are going fast. They sell for \$5.00 each and, because of member donated materials, cost us nothing except FUN in our workshops
- Lunch will be catered at \$15 to \$20. Start saving your money now! We want all to participate! Remember there is no registration fee! It's free!
- Our Luncheon Speaker is Donna L, from Texas. You won't want to miss her! Dinner will be on your own and then come back for an ICE CREAM SOCIAL with an AA speaker and a DANCE to follow. Lots of FUN!
- Dyanne H, a local member, has signed up to be our DJ. She wants to know what kind of music you want to hear besides the Macarena, chicken dance and line dancing.
- We will have a very fun skit!
- AND our Spanish groups will have their own room and they are so excited! Magdalena, the Washington Area Alternate Delegate, will be here to speak and help translate.
- WE want you to help with the FUNdraising! Invite your group members to make hand made items and crafts for the November Assembly. DRs and GRs can bring the items or contact someone in District 17 to arrange transport. If you're not a DR or GR...YOU ARE A MEMBER. Get a carload together and come to the beach AND plan on doing a lot of shopping at the Holiday/Birthday sale! Everyone bring your money (or we will take checks) to the November Assembly...We will have a RAFFLE also.

A local fund raiser is "Collecting Junk" metal. Copper, tin, aluminum, lead and steel is worth \$ IF someone is willing to collect it. District 17 HAS SOMEONE WHO IS WILLING. So what is your district or group planning?

- Raffle today! Be sure to get your tickets and tickets will be sold for the hand made quilts (on display) that will be raffled at the SSM.

**Ad Hoc Committee on Motions – Bunny G**

- This is a continuation of the project to clean up the old motions.
- One time motions will not go into the handbook.
- The Area Secretary will submit all ongoing motions to the Alternate Delegate for inclusion in the handbook.

**MOTION – ONGOING**

1. To continue The Communicator three times a year, February, June, and October.

Motion passed unanimously by show of hands with 1 no vote.

**MOTION – ONGOING**

2. That the Treasurer give copies of the Treasurer’s report at each of the Area Assemblies and AWSC meetings.

Motion passed unanimously by show of hands.

**MOTION – ONGOING**

3. To list only the contributing Groups with specified amounts for the prior year in the first issue of the Communicator of the following year.

Motion passed unanimously by show of hands

**Area Goals Check-In - Roland**

Reviewed the three Area Goals voted in at the February 17, 2007 AWSC meeting.

1. Trustee visit and workshop - Happened, March 2007 Assembly.

2. Spirituality:

Presume Goodwill

Using the Serenity Prayer to bring the meeting back to order. Improvement, we have more work to do. As long as we continue to have these discussions and we can leave here with the sense of Spirituality we can *“Let it Begin with me.”*

3. Workshops on sections of the Oregon Area handbook.

- Succession Planning Training for Coordinator positions.  
Officers and Coordinators, District Representatives creating position description notebooks to pass on to the next person.
- Do you feel like you know your job better today than when we first began? How has that happened?
- DR breakout at every assembly and AWSC?
- Are we educating the membership/GRs/DRs?  
We need more training!

Comments:

Everyone has been really generous and kind sharing their knowledge with me. I always take something back to use as an education piece with a roundtable discussion in my district meetings.

I didn’t have anything passed on to me from the past DR. A lot of information came to me from the group and that helped me.

What is it that you know you don’t know and how is it you are going to find out? It is even harder for someone else to know without communication.

We need to do better!

What information do you need that we haven’t provided?

Specifics! I need more education. When I don’t understand I ask, using specifics.

Make us aware of what it is you need to know. Let the Chairperson, the Delegate or Action Committee Chairs or the Education Ad Hoc committee know what it is you would like more information/training on.

How do we tell you what you want? Email, call. Reason things out with one another.

Choose the appropriate time for discussions.

Our Action Committee goals need to be worked on.

Lunch break - noon.

Meeting reconvened at 1PM with the Serenity Prayer

### **Announcements**

- International Seniors in Sobriety Conference with AI-Anon participation to be held June 2, 3, 4 & 5, 2009. Judy J. is the AI-Anon Chair. Anyone interested in participating please be in contact with her. It will be held at the Red Lion at the Quay Vancouver, WA. There will be meetings, workshops and fellowship. A luncheon, banquets and speakers
- October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Paulist Center in Portland there will be a presentation and workshops for Family members, Professionals and Non-Professionals with information on Seniors & Alcoholism. Learn about Senior Resources in the community, Senior Statistics and misdiagnosis, and that help is available. AA and AI-Anon Speakers. Flyers available for both events.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Area Job Descriptions/Concepts Workshop**

Oregon Area Handbook Ad-hoc Committee – Billie L, Cindy E, Beth T, and Judy J

In the absence of Billie, Beth gave her report:

The positions descriptions that you are being handed, include the changes, if any, that you made to the ones currently in the Oregon Area Handbook. Also included are changes that the committee made, to update them. Please look them over again and make any comments and give them back to Beth for the final review. Remember; do not delete something just because you are not doing it. Someone else in your position may.

A couple of questions that have come up:

- Who oversees the banners of the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts that are displayed at each Assembly?
- Who is responsible for the Roll Call book and the GR voting book?

These are being handled in a different manner than how they have appeared in the position descriptions.

In reviewing the updates I received, I have a couple of questions and will be in contact with persons filling those positions.

Thanks to this committee. It is amazing how we each see things so that we catch different things.

Beth asked us to review the individual job descriptions during lunch and then we would come back to it.

#### **Power Point Slide Presentation - Bunny**

Re-Energize Your Spiritual Quest – AI-Anon Service is Gratitude in Action (Your Job Serving AI-Anon).

- Review your job description. What are your strong areas? What are your weak areas? Are you still committed to your job? Are you feeling burnout? Do you need to be reenergized?
- From your job description what have you done in the last two years?

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*"While talent comes to us in the form of a gift skills are learned. Service is mine to do, when I can, where I can, what I can and all I can. I ask myself: What gifts have I received from Al-Anon?" pg 22 - When I Got Busy I Got Better.*

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- Did you like doing it?

*"Nobody expected me to have special skills or abilities, to be especially responsible or able. Regular reassurance of more experienced members helped me understand. The best I could do was good enough." Pg 3 When I Got Busy I Got Better.*

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- Based on your job description what would you like to accomplish this year?

*"I never had any doubts about my capabilities, because I'd been told repeatedly, "You don't have to be perfect – Just willing." Pg 15 When I Got Busy I Got Better.*

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- What do you still need to know about your job? Can we help in any way?

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Are the Action Committees helping you do your job?

Comments made: They are set up to help coordinators so they don't have to feel like they are doing the job alone? They help us to communicate with one another.

The Action Committees help GRs but not DRs. Then how could the action committee help the DRs do their jobs? The DRs assign a GR to each action committee so they can report back at the District meetings the projects going on in their committee and what goals have been set/reached.

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My Leadership – Your job as leader in your job?

- How can we as AWSC members expand, renew, and strengthen our connections with the fellowship?

As described on pg 23 of the Conference Summary: *"We all have special skills, some we are aware of and some we have not yet uncovered. We are all dedicated to serving Al-Anon Family Groups, or we wouldn't have been elected to serve (at this Conference.) Stability, compromise, foresight, tolerance, and responsibility are all leadership skills we each have in varying degrees. Some we are better at than others, and that is all right, my weakness may be your strengths. We can learn from each other, transfer knowledge, experience, and hope as we have done ever since we entered the doors of Al-Anon...."*

A quote from the power point: "I have heard it said that we can do no great things, only little things with great heart."

- All of the coordinators have said they are available to come to your district to do a workshop. How many districts have invited a coordinator to come? Is this link of service being used to its fullest capacity?

Roland announced that due to time constraints, the Concepts Workshop will be held at the February, 2009 AWSC.

### **Proposed Budget Presentation – Sue B**

Discussion:

Alateen GRs to Assembly: Line item 65 for \$100.00 was listed in error and will be removed.

Carolyn made a motion to amend line 69 Contingency Fund 2009 budget to \$6,200.00 increasing line 2 Group Contributions (2009 Budget) by adding \$4,900.00. This passed by majority with 2 opposed. The Proposed budget for 2009 will be presented in the next Communicator and will be presented for vote at the November Assembly.

Bunny suggested that AWSC Educate Coordinators on how to write their budget. Action Committees have a separate budget. If we make plans to do this as a goal for 2009, this could help because panel 47 AWSC will propose the budget for 2010.

### **ASK-IT-BASKET QUESTION**

How do we get the attention of WSO about sharing presentations? Members, groups and Area?  
Judy J: I ask the delegate to get it for me or I write directly to WSO myself. Roland will follow up with a request for the Power Point Presentation on Leadership given by Lorraine F, WSO Trustee from Canada, and Margot M, WSO Trustee At Large from Massachusetts at our March 2008 Assembly.

### **WSC Discussion**

#### **1. Excess Bequest Funding Spending Policy**

Bequests are discussed in the Service Manual in the Digest of AI-Anon and Alateen Policies (Pages 85 and 111) *"Bequest amounts, up to ten percent of the total revenue of the WSO General Fund...as identified in the previous year's audit, will be placed in the General Fund."* *"excess amounts are not available for general purposes, unless further authorized by the Conference "* Roland reported that 25 % of the amount would need to be spent. WSC is asking the members to do some BIG THINKING on ways this may be spent to expand the AI-Anon program world wide. Within the fellowship are people who are trained in how to make best use of funds. Let our members know so if they are that someone, or they know that someone. By November, Roland needs suggestions on a procedure on how to spend the money on Special Projects?

#### **2. Dividing Areas**

Roland has posted the most recent proposal and the history of this discussion at <http://www.oregonal-anon.org/index.html> under Delegates Page New Document. This is also discussed in the Service Manual on page 128 under Composition of the Conference.

A brief introduction follows:

**"10/24/2004.**

#### **Dividing of Populous Areas**

*Concerns have been expressed by Areas with more than 400 groups. The current policy for division of states and provinces is 400 groups and the Area can only divide once (Service Manual, page 119). The Admissions/Handbook Committee agreed to start a discussion on this question. It was the Committee consensus that the at-large Committee members could be helpful in framing the broad questions of representation in general. The discussion could encompass not only the division of large Areas based on group numbers, but also the joining of small Areas based on group numbers."*

The most recent conversation from the minutes is:

**"10/26/07**

#### **Dividing Populous Areas/Big Question Brainstorming**

*Refining the full Committee's work of April 2007 and using the minutes from its own July meeting, the Task Force launched the discussion.*

*Following a brainstorming session, the Task Force unanimously agreed to create one umbrella question with several bullet points. After further discussion, they reached the following formula for the question to be presented to the Board of Trustees for its October meeting:*

*What might be the impact of further division of Areas?*

*What would be the impact on:*

- *The World Service Conference*
- *Finances*
- *Innovative approaches to the Links of Service*
- *Growth of the fellowship*
- *Diversity of the members"*

Roland would like everyone to review the information on the website, in the Service Manual and to come to the Assembly with Knowledge Bases Decision Making (KBDM) ideas, suggestions, and concerns for him to take to Conference from the Oregon Area.

3. Conference in Connecticut and Stepping Stones Visits
  - Is it prudent to send the delegates to Conference in Connecticut and to Stepping Stones once every 3 years?
  - A Thought Force has been established and a summary of the history will be presented for a KBDM process.
  - Roland is a member of this Thought Force and will keep us informed through this process.
4. Alateen Traditions – Changing Conference Charter
  - A review of the AI-Anon World Service Conference Charter (pgs 152 – 156) defines the Charter and its Purpose, Composition, Relationship to AI-Anon etc. Item 3-f states: *"The Charter may be changed (with the exception of items 3-d, 3-e, and 12) by the vote of three-quarters of the Conference members." In 2007 the conference members, for the first time since inception of the Alateen Traditions, voted to accept the wording of Alateen Traditions. Right now, this wording may still be changed with a vote of substantial unanimity of the World Service Conference because the Alateen Traditions are not covered in the Conference Charter and therefore are not provided the same level of protection as AI-Anon's Steps, Traditions and Concepts (which require 3/4 of all the Groups to change.) This was addressed at the 2008 WSC without resolution and will be addressed again at the 2009 WSC.*

#### **2009 Trustee Visit**

- Tabled to the November Assembly until further information is gathered by the hosting district.

#### **Proposed November Assembly Agenda**

1. Budget
2. Regional Trustee invitation
3. DR breakout and GR orientation, to be held simultaneously.
4. Action Committee Breakouts  
Each Action Committee needs to develop an agenda and, if possible, sent out to committee members for review prior to the Assembly.  
Helen M, Group Services, Chair  
Membership Outreach, Barb L and Joanne C, Co Chair  
Public Outreach, Ginny, Chair  
Fellowship Communication is without a chair (needs to be an AWSC member)
5. Bids for 2009 Assemblies
6. Drawing: Past Delegate to attend the NW Delegates meeting.
7. Discussion Items by delegate:
  - Excess Bequest Funding Spending Policy
  - Dividing Areas
  - WSC in Connecticut & Stepping Stones Visits
  - Alateen Traditions – Changing Conference Charter
8. Education piece for everyone:
  - Conference Summary-2008 Build Bridges/Energizing Our Spiritual Quest.

**2009 AWSC Bids:**

- February 21, 2009 - District 7 Hosting: Medford/Grants Pass - Marvalee
- June 20, 2009 - District 6 Hosting: Eugene Cindy
- October 17, 2009 - District Hosting 17: Carolyn Milwaukie/Clackamas

SSM Raffle was held as part of the SSM FUNd raiser.

Closed at 5:00PM with the AI-Anon Declaration

Respectfully Submitted,  
Colleen Gwynn  
Oregon Area Secretary

Area World Service Committee Meeting  
October 11, 2008 – Seaside Oregon

**MOTION – ONGOING**

**Area World Service Committee Meeting – October 11, 2008 – Seaside Oregon**

1. To continue The Communicator three times a year, February, June, and October.

Motion passed unanimously by show of hands with 1 no vote.

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**MOTION – ONGOING**

**2. Area World Service Committee Meeting – October 11, 2008 – Seaside Oregon**

That the Treasurer give copies of the Treasurer’s report at each of the Area Assemblies and AWSC meetings.

Motion passed unanimously by show of hands.

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**MOTION – ONGOING**

**Area World Service Committee Meeting – October 11, 2008 – Seaside Oregon**

3. To list only the contributing Groups with specified amounts for the prior year in the first issue of the Communicator of the following year.

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