

DRAFT COPY - Oregon Area Assembly
March 14-16, 2008
Chemeketa Community College, Salem
District 4

SATURDAY March 15, 2008:

The Assembly was called to order by Chairperson, Bette R at 8:30 a.m. with a moment of silence followed with the Serenity Prayer. The Steps and the Traditions were read.

Announcements: Bette R. Chairman

1. Anonymity statement regarding photo taking was given.
2. Breaks will be approximately every hour and Ask-It Basket questions will be answered throughout the assembly, so be sure to put your questions in the basket. (AIB Questions begins on page 16.)
3. Statement of Attendance (Oregon Area Handbook, p.1-2) was read addressing the issue of attendance at all scheduled sessions of the Assembly in order to qualify for reimbursement of expenses..
4. The statement on who has voice and who has vote was read. (Oregon Area Handbook, p.VI- 1) with a reminder, if you are attending the assembly as a visitor and have questions, please direct them to your District Representative and refrain from going to the microphone. Those with "voice" at this assembly can ask your question for you.

Roll Call - New GR Introductions and Welcome – Colleen G

CPC Coordinator was excused, Dist 5, represented by Pam. Dist. 8, represented by Elizabeth. Dist. 10, represented by Barb B, alt DR. Dist. 11, represented by Jodi. Dist 16, represented by Willy H, alt DR. Willy announced that Sheila had stepped down and he was stepping up as DR.

Housekeeping – District 4; Chair Beth T

Beth covered the housekeeping aspects of the building and reminded us to be out in time for the room to be set up for the banquet and speaker with dinner beginning at 6 PM

Secretary's Report – Colleen G

Minutes of the November 17-18, 2007 Assembly were read and approved with the following corrections:
P.1 heading: change word Agenda to Minutes. P.3 change RSS to NW Regional Delegates meeting. P.4 changed word disclaimer to Declaration. P.7 changed word books to read pamphlets. There were other grammar and punctuation changes noted by the secretary.

Treasurer's Report – Glen G

Treasurer gave an explanation of the Travel/Assembly Allowance Forms – Top of form for mileage bottom is assembly allowance to be submitted by AWSC members but does not include District Representatives. Rent for the building for February AWSC in the amount of \$50.00 will be paid with the submission of an expense form.

Treasurer Report was distributed to the assembly

Jan – Feb 2008 Income and Expenses

Income: \$2,988.18 – Expenses: \$2,962.45

Beginning Balance: 18,032.22

Balance on Hand 2/29/08: \$18,057.95

Moved and seconded to accept report as read

Approved unanimously

Leadership & Links of Service Presentation– Lorraine F – WSO Trustee from Canada, and Margot M, WSO Trustee At Large from Massachusetts

Lorraine, welcomed us saying "What a huge privilege it is to be here among people who love the AI-Anon program." She introduced the workshop's title and theme: Shining A Little Light On Leadership, and encouraged group interaction. Margot spoke of her appreciation to be a part of this workshop and stated "We are all leaders in this room – say I AM A LEADER!"

The workshop developed around this theme using references to AI-Anon Conference Approved Literature (CAL) and excerpts from Bill's Essay on Leadership, found in Concept 9 in the Service Manual on p.186.

Concept 9 – AI-Anon Leadership

3 legacies steps, traditions, concepts – AMAZING

- Good service position at all levels of service. We need to have good folks
- Purpose of workshop is to help trusted servants recognize themselves as leaders
- Define good leadership characteristics
- Focus on developing leadership in others
- Build confidence in personal judgment as elected leaders and to trust other elected leaders as well.

A quote from Hope for Today, p.234 was read. "Eventually I felt more comfortable with my abilities and discovered talents I didn't know I had. I even began to feel capable of doing what was asked of me. Before I realized it, I was the one giving loving guidance. It took some time to see, but I had become a leader." "I can learn to trust my own judgment and let others trust me too."

Area Chair, Bette, was invited to give a summary of the workshop:
"Elect trusted servants who can lead groups to an informed group conscience. The best way to develop leaders is to have a service sponsor. In Concept 5 the minority opinion is heard, but the group conscience makes the decision. Model healthy leadership behavior. Hope for Today, p. 40. Every member of Al-Anon has the potential to become a leader. Do it, dump it, or delegate it. Read and study Bill W's essay on leadership in Concept 9 in the Service Manual."

Workshop Conclusion: Leaders: Each and Every Member of Al-Anon. YOU!

Judy led us all in singing the song: "Anatomy of Al-Anon – Dem Al-Anon Bones Gonna Walk Around" a song identifying the links of service.

12:00–1:15 p.m. - Lunch break

Meeting re-convened at 1:21 with the Serenity Prayer.

Alateen Sponsor Procedures Change

Billie, as the Area Alateen Process Person, introduces the motion.

Discussion:

If you do not have a DR or an Active DR you can go to a DR in a district near you to have an Alateen sponsor application processed. The current process is discussed in Section 8 (Alateen) p3.

Voting yes means we will change the process. Voting no means it stays the same. This will require a simple majority vote.

Motion 1 - Alateen Sponsor Procedures Change

If a district has no District Representative (DR) or Alternate District Representative, another active DR may process an Alateen sponsor application.

There was a Call for the question and a unanimous vote to end the discussion.

Ballots were distributed to the Group Representatives.

Motion Passed Motion passed: Yes 68 No 4 Abstain 0

Delegate's Report - Building Bridges – Energizing Our Spiritual Quest

This report can be found in its entirety beginning on Page 7

1. Recognized new GRs and visitors to the Assembly.
2. Referenced GR survey from last assembly. They are posted on the Oregon Area Website.
 - a. We can't implement all ideas because some contradict others, but simple suggestions, i.e., to provide 3 hole punches for use at the assembly are already in place.
 - b. Challenged all AWSC members to review GR survey, and choose 5 things to use to help make GRs feel welcome.
3. Challenged GRs to stay in touch between meetings, and to bring your ideas, concerns, and enthusiasm to District meetings and let your DR know what's going on in your groups.
4. NW Regional Delegates meeting was represented by 6 members of this Area. Over 700 years of recovery in the rooms. A past delegate with 49 years in Al-Anon still goes to her meetings early to help set up and stays afterwards to help clean up. We were reminded in doing service work like this was "another hour I didn't have to spend in the disease."
5. Another delegate had spent 6 years in Alateen...transitioned to Al-Anon and continued through the links and became a delegate, and now carries the message of Leadership to the Alateens.
6. Getting ready for Conference.
 - a. Last year, 50 years from Alateens beginning, the conference approved Alateen's traditions. This year Conference will be looking at changing the Conference Charter to give them the same protection that the Al-Anon Steps, Traditions and Concepts now enjoy.
 - b. We will also be looking at ways to strengthen our Program. There are many reasons our numbers continue to decline. We will be examining many of them. We will also be looking at means of continuing to be fully self supporting.

7. Chosen Agenda Ideas
 - a. The decline in the number of registered groups; looking at ways to strengthen our Program.
 - b. Al-Anon being fully self supporting, keeping the spirit of Tradition Seven alive.
8. And a reminder that at Conference, we do a year's worth of business in 5 days.
9. PLEASE spend time reading about the Conference Charter on pages 152-156 in the Service Manual. Also (I recommend LOTS of TIME), reading through the descriptive text of the concepts of Service beginning on p163 in the Service Manual.
10. How can the Concepts of Service be used in program and in your personal life?
11. Check the Concept Blog... www.al-anon.alateen.org/members Password is your home group's name + afg.
12. There is a plan in place to have a Delegate's Corner on the Website, so as to keep information flowing in a daily journal from the conference to our Area.

Conference Address:
 Roland Caskey
 AFG World Service Conference – April 13-17, 2008
 Stamford Marriot Hotel
 Two Stamford Forum
 Stamford, CN 06901

No mailings will be accepted prior to the 9th of April. Please use his home for the return address. This information is available through your DR.

Building Bridges – Energizing Our Spiritual Quest is the theme from WSC and using throughout this year...What bridges are you going to build?

Area Travel Allowance

These two motions requires 2/3rd majority of 72 votes because it affects the budget and addresses both the Area Assembly Allowance reimbursement and the Area Travel Fund mileage reimbursement rate.

Motion 2: Area Assembly Allowance Increase

Increase the maximum Area Assembly allowance from \$115 to \$150 per person for Assembly and AWSC attendance.

There was a call for the question to close discussion.

Voting was done by written ballot.

Motion Passed	Yes	70	No	1	Abstain	1
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This change will take affect at the 2008 June AWSC and July Assembly.

Motion 3: Area Mileage Reimbursement Increase

Increase the Oregon Area Travel Fund mileage reimbursement rate from \$.20 to \$.25 per mile for Assembly and AWSC attendance.

There was a call for the question to close discussion.

Voting was done by a show of hands.

Motion Passed	Yes	48	When the count reached 48 (2/3s of 72) there wasn't a need to continue counting.		
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This change will take affect at the 2008 June AWSC and July Assembly.

Action Committee Breakouts

Chair gave a description of the Action Committee and who sits on those committees.

SSM 2008 Skit & Raffle

The State Speakers Meeting is the ONLY fund raiser for the Oregon Area

Don't Chicken Out...

Raffle awarded many special prizes.

6:00 p.m. - Banquet – Speaker – Lorraine F. (WSO Trustee)

SUNDAY March 16, 2008

The Assembly was called to order by Chairperson, Bette R at 8:30 a.m. with a moment of silence followed with the Serenity Prayer. The Concepts were read by: Don. The Warranties were read by: Jim

Housekeeping – District 4 Beth T District 4

Announcements were made

District Representatives Reports

Written Reports are in the Minutes Under Assembly Reports beginning on page 8

Trustee Evaluation:

Forms were filled out and Bette and Roland collected them to return to WSO.

Group Records Coordinator Vacancy

Motion 4 – Group Records Coordinator Election

Chair read the job description for Group Records Coordinator from the Oregon Area Handbook.

Motion 4 – Group Records Coordinator Election

Helen M was the only member that stood for the coordinator position.

Ballots were distributed for written vote. There were 55 voting GRs available.

Yes 53 No 0 Abstain 2.

Helen M is our new Group Records Coordinator.

Bid for March 2009 Assembly-

Teri S put in a bid to host this assembly. District 3 received the bid to be held in La Grande. Her bid was approved with a GR majority vote of 40, by the assembly.

Forum Writing Workshop: Elizabeth B

- a. The purpose of this workshop is to become comfortable with a writing sharing, and to take this experience back to district and home group meetings
- b. Suggested Topic to write on.... LEADERSHIP
- c. District 16 is having a writing workshop
- d. WSO will send requested Forums, i.e. 190 @ \$20.00 postage.

Group Representatives' Sharing

1. Lee Ann T: Hope For Today meets Sunday at Noon at the Jesco Club, a local club run by AA members. It is 2 years old. We have a new secretary, Max, and had our 1st true business meeting and decided our own format which includes reading the daily entry from Al-Anon's *Hope for Today* book. We are small and have agreed to host the monthly breakfast, district speakers meeting in August with another new group, Monday Gifted With Life.
I announced the special opportunity of having our Trustees Lorraine and Margot here for the workshop and said anyone could attend and participate. Two members drove up and attended yesterday! Both really enjoyed the workshop and we agreed to get together after the meeting next Sunday to talk about the workshop and what we learned.
In love and Service, Lee Ann T.
2. Hi my name is Cheryl and I'm the GR for Albany Care and Share Groups. Our first news is that we are still in the United Presbyterian Church behind the Court House in historic downtown Albany in a NEW room. Our old room is now the Bell Choir and we have progressed into a new room with couches, soft chairs, recliners and tables. Life is good.
We have gotten the word and our District 16 is having our first Writing Workshop, Saturday April 5th at 1:00 to 4:00 at St Mary's Catholic Church in downtown Albany. We just ask that you attend, bring some food you might like to share and we'll try to ease you into writing. We're not experts but we'll try to give you some hints to help you get started.
Our groups have had some growth from, sometimes, 3-5 all the way up to 12-15. We are getting people to come back and I hope to get more of my new from this assembly out by e-mail.
3. Elizabeth: Our meetings have grown in membership.
4. Ruth – Finding a balance in Milwaukie, celebrated a 20 year birthday party. We took a group conscience to move the meeting to Saturday AM at 10. As Archivist, I have asked Districts to fill out forms for District histories and send them to me.
5. Paula: Beaverton Hearts – Beaverton meet on Wed nights at 7:30 – attendance was improved with the help of the AIS focus on New Comers/Literature group – more prescribed than free standing topics, Al-Anon approved ideas... Attendance boomed. Get involved in service. We lost our CAL storage space and now use suitcases to hold our literature. We had a volunteer to become group secretary

and they are doing a very great job!

6. Cheryl: Albany Care and Share Group meets Thursday night 7 to 8:30 and Sundays 3 PM and Tuesdays at Noon an hour long. We are having a Writing workshop April 5.
7. Jim: My group is in the best group in the world. Serene Study McMinnville, steady attendance by members for years and years and also new comer participation. It is a special place to go. We are inviting people to come to the April 5th Writing Workshop.
8. Karen: Morning Glory 9:30 11:00 on Friday mornings. I think my group is the most comfortable, safe place in the world. Numbers go from 25 to about 8 who show up regularly. We have babysitting in our group and young mothers are attracted and move on with recovery and growth. Please let mother's know we have babysitting.
9. Barb: Medford Thurs morning "It's about me" Steps, Traditions, Concepts, Slogans and 5th week is open. I want to brag about the people who have never been exposed to the concepts and now watching them grow is our reward
10. Debbie: Tigard Wed night is a very large group. Not everyone gets to speak...They learn to listen. They just celebrated their 20th birthday. Their first meeting was held in a chicken coup. We had a Forum Work Shop and submitted 20 writings from that group. We are having a great time at the St. James Church in Tigard. Come and visit.
11. Sage: We meet in Eugene at 9 AM on Saturday. Infamous for having The Most Late People come in to a meeting. We average 30 people. Our meeting offers child care. We have the GREATEST selections of coffee and chocolate. We are loving and welcoming. I love this group so much. The depth of sharing and love makes me cry. We have four generations of sponsorship. We are pretty darnn near perfect.
12. Barbara: (from Salem) My home group is where I get my inspiration. We took time to get the group established but stayed because we enjoyed it. I just became an Alateen sponsor. Transportation- is a problem. Hooked up with AA and established an Al-Anon and Alateen meeting so the transportation isn't such a great problem. We will be working with school counselors to help get the word out.
13. Candy O: I am feeling shy and reluctant to be standing here. I am blessed. HUGS, in Milwaukie is my home group. We have an amazing group of people. A small meeting has about 20 people in attendance. I loved what I heard here this weekend. I take notes back with me. What I heard about Leadership yesterday helps me so much going back to my group to be a group facilitator.

July 2008 Assembly: July 18-19-20, 2008 – District 14 – Jerry L-H.

Jerry was absent so the report was read from the February AWSC meeting by the secretary as follows:

1. Theme: "YOU SAY MIRACLES--- WE SAY AL-ANON"
2. Location: KLAMATH COMMUNITY COLLEGE 7390 S 6th St. Klamath Falls.

We have love gifts and we are going to have a fund raiser.

The Townhouse has kitchen units and can hold a lot of people @\$35 per night.

November 2008 Assembly: District 2 – Marilou
Oregon Area AFG November 21-23, 2008 Assembly
Host Committees: Districts 2 and 16
Serenity at the Beach
Friday Night Sharing Meeting at 7pm
Shilo Inn – 536 SW Elizabeth, Newport, Oregon
Mention Al-Anon for room rates 1-800-222-2244
Flyer distributed and is at the Area Website.

WSO Trustee, Lorraine, was thanked by the assembly and asked if she had any concluding remarks. She said "You have an AMAZING assembly."

Closed with the Al-Anon Declaration at 12:02

Respectfully Submitted,
Colleen G. Area Secretary

**Assembly Motions
March 14-16, 2008**

Motion 1 - Alateen Sponsor Procedures Change – On going motion

If a district has no District Representative (DR) or Alternate District Representative, another active DR may process an Alateen sponsor application.

Motion passed: Yes 68 No 4 Abstain 0

Motion 2: Area Assembly Allowance Increase– On going motion

Increase the maximum Area Assembly allowance from \$115 to \$150 per person for Assembly and AWSC attendance.

There was a call for the question to close discussion.

Voting was done by written ballot.

Motion Passed Yes 70 No 1 Abstain 1

Motion 3: Area Mileage Reimbursement Increase– On going motion

Increase the Oregon Area Travel Fund mileage reimbursement rate from \$.20 to \$.25 per mile for Assembly and AWSC attendance.

There was a call for the question to close discussion.

Voting was done by a show of hands.

Motion Passed Yes 48 When the count reached 48 (2/3s of 72) there wasn't a need to continue counting.

This change will take affect at the 2008 June AWSC and July Assembly.

Motion 4 – Group Records Coordinator Election

Helen M was the only member that stood for the coordinator position.

Ballots were distributed for written vote. There were 55 voting GRs available.

Yes 53 No 0 Abstain 2.

Helen M is our new Group Records Coordinator.

Assembly Reports:

Delegate's Report

March 2008 Assembly

As we gather again there is so much to report on...

Where we've been, where we are and where we are going.

I would like to start by sharing with you some of the results from the GR Feedback form I asked you to fill out at the November Assembly. I started by asking Billie, our Alt. Delegate, to compile the responses and send them to the members of the AWSC (Area World Service Committee), which are the Officers, Coordinators, AIS (Area Information Services), DRs and Past Delegates. At our meeting last month we spent some time going over the results and then I challenged each member of this committee to spend some additional time reviewing your input and try to identify 5 items each of us will do to better serve you. You may not see the results immediately, but I want you to know we value your suggestions and will look to see where we can improve. Thank you for taking the time to help us out. The feedback was quite varied and to be sure, we can't follow each suggestion because there was some contradictory input. What some like, others don't, but we will do what we can. I will remind you, we are conducting the Areas business and while we try to make this as enjoyable experience as possible...crunching numbers, for example, isn't always fun for all. I've also provide some things for our Coordinators to look at and I know they will be working with you too. I want to remind you, you don't have to wait for the Assemblies to stay in touch. Bring your ideas, concerns, enthusiasm to the District meetings and let your DR know what's going on in your Groups. They provide input and I receive the minutes from District Meetings to have a better idea of what's going on in our Area. As I'm sure you know from this morning's information from Lorraine, the GRs are very important in carrying the message...to the groups and FROM THE GROUPS.

At the AWSC we also had a representative from one of the 8 registered Spanish Speaking AI-Anon groups in Oregon. She shared about her meeting and learned about our Area. We are working on looking at changes to our Service Structure to be more inclusive with these members of our Fellowship. Remember, the language may be different, but the effects of the disease of alcoholism are the same. I'm pleased that we are evaluating our efforts. It could be said we are using the theme from last years Conference, NEW THINKING...and this year's Conference; **BUILD BRIDGES-ENERGIZING OUR SPIRITUAL QUEST**. We need to build this bridge.

Conference Theme: **BUILD BRIDGES-ENERGIZING OUR SPIRITUAL QUEST**

We will continue to use this theme for the remainder of the year.

In preparation for the Conference; Billie, your Alt. Delegate, Susan, Eileen, Bea, Bunny (Past Delegate's) and I attended the Northwest Regional Delegates' Meeting in Helena Montana last weekend. This meeting is put on by the Past Delegates of the 9 Areas (Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, South Dakota, North Dakota and Nebraska) to help prepare the new Delegates for the World Service Conference. This has been one of the major highlights of my term as both the Alt. Delegate and Delegate. We had one past Delegate share her story of recovery. 49 years in Program and Service. Another past Delegate shared her story as well. She spent 6 years in Alateen before transitioning to AI-Anon and becoming the Delegate. She always reminds me of what can be provided by our Alateen Program and the importance of helping them. We also discussed various Conference Agenda Items, listened to a report from our Regional Trustee and are privileged to have the current Chairman of the Board of Trustees living in our Region and in attendance. We BUILT some Bridges among the Areas of our Region and I know my Spiritual Quest was certainly Energized.

I'm working on my preparations for this year's Conference. It's being held in Stamford Connecticut this year. Once every three years, the Conference is held in the Greater New York City area to provide an opportunity for each Delegate to visit Stepping Stones. This was the home of Bill and Lois Wilson and the birthplace of AI-Anon Family Groups. There is information on Stepping Stones on line and I would like to recommend reading [Lois Remembers](#) for an even more personal glimpse. I'll share with you about this in July.

The Conference is....

WHAT'S THE THEME?? **BUILD BRIDGES-ENERGIZING OUR SPIRITUAL QUEST**

The Conference is shaping up to be quite full again this year. If you remember from last year, we gave Conference Approval to the Alateen Traditions...50 years from Alateen's beginning. This year we are looking at changing the Conference Charter to give them the same protection our Steps, Traditions and Concepts of

Service enjoy. Did you know that in order to change our Legacies requires of vote and approval of ¾ of all registered AI-Anon Groups? Right now, the Alateen Traditions could be changed by just a vote of the Conference. I already know, there will be lots of discussion around this.

I can tell you we are going to be looking at ways to strengthen our Program. Our numbers continue to decline and there are many reasons for this. We will be examining many of them. We will also be looking at means of continuing our ways at being Fully Self-Supporting, keeping the spirit of Tradition Seven alive.

I think it's important that you understand more about the Conference. I'm not going to take time today to explain it, but please spend some time reading about the Conference Charter on pages 152 – 156 of the Service Manual. Also, spend some time (I like to recommend LOTS of TIME), reading through the descriptive text of the Concepts of Service beginning on page 163 of the Service Manual. I also want to remind you, the Concepts of Service should be used in your own Program of Service and Recovery.

HOW MANY OF YOU KNOW ABOUT THE CONCEPTS BLOG ON THE MEMBERS'S WEB SITE?

I'm leaving for the Conference on April 11th and will be returning home on April 18th. The Conference officially opens on Sunday the 13th and continues through Thursday, April 17th. Each day will begin at about 7:00 a.m. and when we can, ends by 7, 8 or 9 in the evening. Just remember, we have 5 days to conduct a year's worth of business. We could change our Assemblies to more accurately reflect the tone of the Conference and conduct business here until 9 or 10 in the evening. There will be workshops, much like our breakout sessions. We will also be reviewing the budget, voting on Traditional Approval for our Regional Trustee (Penny R./Washington) who was introduced at our Delegate's meeting, and lots of other business. It's eat together, work together and grow together.

While there I would love to hear from you. My address will be:

Roland Caskey
AFG World Service Conference – April 13-17, 2008
Stamford Marriot Hotel
Two Stamford Forum
Stamford, CT 06901

No mailings will be accepted prior to the 9th of April and please use my home address, available from your DR, as the return address. If something doesn't arrive in time it will be sent to me at home.

It's going to be a busy year, for you as well as for me. I appreciate all you do for the World Wide Fellowship of AI-Anon Family Groups. I will close by asking each of you; "What Bridges are you going to build?"

Love in Service,
Roland Caskey
Oregon Area Delegate – Panel 47

District Reports

Greetings from District #1 on the North Oregon Coast. This has been a busy last year for District #1. Now that I have been in this position for a year I have a better understanding of what my duties are and I still say, I did not realize what I was getting myself into...but, I am still glad that I became willing to stand for this position. I have learned so much it is amazing. I have such a great district and have had so much support over the last year, I realize how truly blessed I am that my Higher Power gave me such a wonderful opportunity.

So, let me catch you up on what has been going on this year.

We continue to have our district meetings on the first Saturday of every month at 1:00 p.m. at the Tolovana Children's Community Center. Every month after we go through our business we spend 20 to 30 minutes on an education topic. So far we have discussed AI-anon myths, CAL, the difference between open and closed meetings, Crosstalk, and how important it is to welcome newcomers. This has generated new enthusiasm at the district meetings and we have had fabulous discussions.

We started working on our major fund raiser for the year, which is a quilt. District #1 has been creating a quilt every year for the past 18 years. We pre-cut squares and pass them out to the members of the district so they can create a program design on them. Then we collect the squares at the end of February. Last Saturday, a group of us got together, we assembled the entire quilt and it is beautiful. It was a day full of fun, food and fellowship.

We will take the quilt to our local AA convention with Al-Anon participation, The North Coast Round-up, where we raffle it off. This year we will also have 2 themed baskets ("It's Beachie Keen" and "Pamper Yourself") that we will also be raffled. This year is the 26th Annual North Coast Round-up. We are always excited for the weekend. We have two amazing Al-anon Speaker Pat P., from Chandler, AZ and Larcine G., from Hawthorne, CA. In addition there will be 7 Al-Anon sharing meetings during the weekend, 2 Alateen meetings and 5 A.A. speakers. A wonderful addition this year is a presentation that will be done about "Stepping Stones". Again, I can only say that we are truly blessed to be asked to participate in this event.

District #1 has a Literature Distribution Center, and Kathi our LDC Coordinator has been busy. We had the opportunity to sell books at two other Round-ups in Seaside, OR this year and we will be at the North Coast Round-Up as well. The LDC has done well this year and is donating 100 copies of "Al-anon faces Alcoholism 2008" to the district for our outreach efforts in April. This outreach effort is for Alcohol Awareness month. Our Outreach Coordinator has been doing a great job and has been leaving literature and old Forum's all over the county; this is our gift to Lois for her birthday, "to remember to forget!" I hope you caught our two part outreach story in the Communicator the last year. District #1 feels outreach and education make such a difference for this program.

This month, we worked on getting a box of love gifts made for Roland to take with him to WSO. Thanks to Priscilla for the poem and photo's that she submitted for this project.

Last year we started a "Forum" can at our district meeting, and have enough money, to have two drawings and pay for two one year's subscription to the "Forum" for two lucky member.

We are getting prepared now to hold the AWSC meeting in Seaside in October and have secured a great room with a nice kitchen for a very reasonable price. There has been a lot of support from the district about the AWSC meeting being at the Coast, so I think it will be a wonderful time. I hope to have a flyer out in the next month or so.

Of course, our favorite time of the year was when Roland our Delegate came to visit us. We had a potluck, yum, yum and celebrated Alateens 50th birthday with a delicious cake. Roland gave a wonderful report and we were so grateful to have him with us. It also turned out to be a beautiful and sunny weekend at the coast for him.

So, as you can see we certainly continue to be busy. We have some new faces at our meetings, and a lot of laughter and fellowship coming from our meeting rooms.

With Love in Service, - Chris K, DR

District 2

We are progressing very well at this time. We had a Member Only Garage Sale last Oct. 14th. It was held inside the lovely, warm home of Pat G GR, at that time, of Newport's *Wednesday Ones* group. We raised \$200 for the district.

We were asked to host the Nov. 2008 Assembly at last years Nov. Assembly and with some persuasion and the kind offer of assistance of Dist. 16 we agreed to co-host. The February 23, 2008 AWSC meeting decided to hold the Assembly at the Shilo Inn in Newport. The kind employees of the Shilo are working with us now on all the details of our meeting. They have offered the use of the beautiful Shilo Suite at no cost to us for our hospitality suite. They have also discounted the cost of coffee service at the meeting for a very reasonable charge. We are negotiating a no host lunch buffet at this time. We have also completed a flyer (available here while supplies last) created by Misty L, GR for our new Thursday morning *Self Discovery Study Group*. We had our first meeting to pick chairpersons for our Assembly planning committees. We had good attendance. Muffie G will be our Hospitality Committee Chair, Willy H, District 16, will head up the Registration and Audit/Budget committee. Willy drove all the way to Newport from Brownsville on his day off for this meeting. We really appreciate all his help. Tricia M, GR for *Waldport Friday TGIF* and Jacque T, GR for *Newport Wednesday Ones* will be co-chairs for the Decoration Committee. We also chose our Assembly theme which is "Serenity at the Beach. We here in District 2 would all love to see you in Newport next November.

With love in service, - Marylou K, DR

District 3

District 3 is like a yoyo, down in the winter and spring to up in the summer and fall, you'd think it would be visa versa.

We have a GR coming to the SSM with more, either gift baskets and/or money for the SSM.

I plan on starting an Alateen group when I'm approved and finger printed. I have a couple of AA members who have done Alateen for years and are willing to help me out. I'm looking forward to it. That's about it for District 3.

Teri.S, District Contact

District 4

District 4 is great! We had a wonderful time hosting the assembly this weekend and the State Speakers Meeting almost a year ago. We had several fund raisers over the past year and are doing great. We are working our program and recovery through service to our groups, our district, and our area. I'd say we loved every minute of it but...that may be an exaggeration or lying. ;o) This has been a wonderful growth opportunity for me and the rest of the district. We have a new meeting at the same location as an AA meeting and moved the Alateen meeting there as well. One stop family recovery location. How Cool! Our Tuesday women's group just moved to the same location as the Tuesday men's group. Another one stop recovery location!

We are starting to see and hear from groups that have not participated at the district level for a long time. We welcome them with open arms and hope to keep seeing them more.

We continue to have meetings at Creekside Counseling Center in Salem. Our Alateen meeting in Salem is struggling, but a Public Outreach event is planned with the school counselors before the end of the year. Public Outreach in district 4 is still rocking. They focused on police and sheriffs last year and will work on churches next.

Beth T, DR

District 5

Our DR, Cat, was unable to attend the Assembly. My name is Pam M and I'm representing District 5 which is Central Oregon including Deschutes, Jefferson and Cook Counties.

We have 10, maybe 11 active groups. In spite of our "efforts" our annual Spaghetti Feed District Fundraiser was a SUCCESS! We seemed to try everything to sabotage the event, but it worked out anyway. What a lesson!

We are learning many lessons as we work our programs. For example, we've learned there isn't any "the" before Courage and Wisdom in the Serenity Prayer. We'd been printing it in our schedules incorrectly. Doesn't sound like much, but we learned how a mistake can be perpetuated and Al-Anon is no longer Al-Anon, the way it was supposed to be. What a great lesson. We are responsible to keep Al-Anon, Al-Anon.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent District 5. By the way....We are hosting the State Speakers Meeting in April of '08! Tee shirts are available for \$20 each and either says "I'm addicted to Mind Altering People" or "Expectations Are Pre-Mediated Resentments." You can register with Golda right now. PLEASE DO!

Thank you again and I'm looking forward to Cat's return!

Love in Service – Pam M, GR

District 6

District 6 DR Report – March Assembly

I have been attending the Oregon Area Assembly's for 8 years. I came to my first Assembly in Albany where we voted on whether or not to have a portable sound system. Their was quite a heated debate. Someone was pounding a cow bell over and over. I feared for my safety. But I was with Carolyn and Gretchen. I was with Maria and Gayle, Shirley and Debee. I don't remember anything else except the loud argumentative voices and BJ Mauk reminding us of grace. And I remember the safety, love and fun of District 6. We used to be known as the "loud" group, the "fun" group. I hope we still are... but I also have noticed that we invite people from other districts to join us...come and eat dinner with us, join our sharing meeting in our hotel room on Saturday night – we have several adopted members – Jan of Vancouver but originally from District 6. Donelda, originally from District 6 and now in Vancouver, Monica from District 8, Paul from District 15, Penny from District 17 and others.

I am humbled and honored that District 6 elected me to be there District Representative. Some were worried I'm sure by my bossy controlling manner. Others were fearful of my aggressive fast acting, get it done attitude – all have taught me patience, understanding, tolerance. God's time, not my time. They've

given me love and confidence and trust. I work very hard at appreciating these gifts and giving back all that I can. I just didn't know you don't go to the hardware store for milk.

My District honored me with sending me to the NWRSS in Minot. I got experience using the concepts and looking at leadership in action. God is sneaking with me though....he leads me into an experience such as the NWRSS and then gives me the opportunity to practice the skills.

Recently District 6 had a tough discussion to walk through. We have an annual recovery event that is extremely important to us. This event is not registered. We had strong personalities involved. We had long timers involved and "new" – I would say "different" ideas being presented. It didn't go well or smoothly. It wasn't a District function but it affected the members in our District deeply. By having the resources in my district, having the opportunity to have the current delegate, a past delegate captured in a weekend event and having the Executive Director of the WSO available to talk to....I was able to do the best job my higher power wanted me to do in facilitating a meeting. We resolved our differences and helped us heal.

We have 14 GRs here! Wow! We had 2 visitors attend the Leadership workshop. We have a past delegate and a Public Information coordinator. Our visitors must have had nothing else to do on a Saturday except come to an AI-Anon function – maybe they will be our next leaders.

Our district is grieving the loss of a long time truly dedicated leader – Shirley T. We are healing slowly from disagreements concerning how the Alateen requirements were handled. We are supporting and loving our past delegate Susan G who lost her husband this past fall to cancer. We are celebrating the success of our Literature Depot office. We have changed AIS leadership twice since it opened and it is still strong and successful!

We are currently working on our own District Inventory. We have another tough discussion ahead. How do we respond when groups in our district do NOT follow the "obedience to the unenforceable"? We will use the Concepts and Traditions. We will use the experience, strength and hope of past delegates, the current delegate, the WSO knowledge and our own District's group conscience.

I have complete faith and trust in the Group Representatives and interested members that attend our district meetings and assemblies. We have at least 20 people every month at our District meeting. We have long timers for experience, new comers for strength and an abundance of energy from their DR.

Recovery is awesome in Eugene – come and join us sometime.

Yours truly, - Cindy E, DR

District 7

District 7 has an awesome new [Website. roquevalleyal-anon.org](http://roquevalleyal-anon.org) Check it out!! Our Public Outreach committee is busy as usual. Several members attended a local Health Fair earlier this month. We had a booth, a large banner and lots of information to hand out. On March 30th we will participate in our first Annual Twelve Step Information Panel put on by local 12 step groups. On March 29 we will have our 15th annual Chili Feed, a fund raiser for the State Speakers Meeting. Mailings to over 200 local professionals continue four times a year. We also continue to have speakers at the local treatment centers and we supply PSA's to the local radio station. Alateen is picking up steam and has kids – Yeah Alateen! We have a new meeting planning to start in April, "Serenity at 7" at 7 AM on Thursday mornings.
Marvalee, DR

District 8

We are the beautiful South Western edge – Florence to Brookings. Following through from our successful area speaker event, we are preparing and planning to appeal for the July 2009 Assembly to be held in Brookings on the beautiful southern Oregon coast. Think sun and sand in July 2009.

Keep it Simple in Brookings is having an event April 1st to begin the preparation.

We had a GR here from Bandon, a very autonomous group. They are our rebellion child. They will participate – only in their own way. I am always grateful for their perspective. They will be hosting our delegate when he comes to give his delegate's report.

Our 800 number is being publicized by an outreach campaign. This year we are in the phone book with the right phone number in the right place. Working with Verizon is a step study in itself.

We have started a new sunrise step meeting on Tuesday at 7AM. I thank Eugene sunrise meeting for

helping me know this was not only possible but a valuable program asset.

I have been invited by an AA committee, to be a part of planning for an annual roundup. I am encouraged that our districts are being invited to participate in some AA activities because of our objective of bridging with AA. I have not noticed that we are inviting them in to our planning for our activities. My goal is to get this new AA/AI-Anon Roundup registered with WSO.

Our Florence groups at the most northern outpost, and in government is part of Lane County. The rest of us are in Coos County. I maintain a communication list with a contact for each group. Some groups do not have a GR, nor do they attend district. I try to go to these groups when we have something special I want them to know about. The most meaningful event for me this past quarter is this envelope. I have been sending reports, relentlessly to Desiree, a name I got on a list somewhere, for a Tuesday night meeting. I have a conflict on Tuesday nights and cannot visit that meeting. This past December I got my first response from Desiree, a letter saying she appreciates my reports to her and she gives them to her meeting.

Sincerely In Service - Monica

District 9

We have a district meeting once a month on the first Sunday. We have been having 3 group representatives come; Lisa, Dianna, and Andrea. We have a new group that has started on Sundays (10-11:30 AM) at the Alano Club, *Sunday Strength* that has a new GR. We have a meeting in Claskanine that I haven't visited yet. Billie B, DR

District 10

Our DR Rita B is getting better slowly and surely. Our members from our district are taking meeting to her.

We had our annual fundraiser February 8 and Roland was our speaker. We had a great turnout, raised over \$700!! We donated half to Portland AIS office and the rest to SSM 2008. I brought a check for the SSM in the amount of \$370.

We have 3 new meeting in District 10.

As a district our goal during our term is to promote Sponsorship which was the name of our fund raiser. Barb B, Alternate DR

District 11

The district continues to pursue a willing participant to fill the position of DR. We have been busy with preparation for our 6th annual Chili Cook Off, with proceeds going to the AIS and SSM 2009. (Flyers are on the table).

For a Public Outreach project we've added tear off to posters received from Cindy E and distributed them to various locales. In addition, members have visited other groups in the district to take them posters which have been enthusiastically received.

Our district is preparing a GR recruitment drive and will be taking flyers with them personally visiting groups without a GR.

We plan to support the Alateen Roundup with a monetary donation, and have made love gifts to send to the Big D.

Jodie representing District 11

District 12

Attendance at District meetings is much better. We are getting more and more GR participation, not quite 50% of the groups, but a lot better than when I stood here last year to report that no one had attended the first 3 district meetings of the year. I no longer sit there by my self each month.

District 12 is getting ready to do a lot of Public Outreach in 2008. We ordered AI-Anon faces Alcoholism 2008 for groups to use for our "Leave the Literature" campaign, for Public Outreach month. Then we will have a celebration of our Public Outreach success with a Party/Fundraiser in October.

A year ago I was told to "**ACT AS IF**" and don't give up. Well I didn't give up, and I no longer have to **Act as if we were a real district**, we are District 12 and no one can take that away from us! Just letting the good stuff happen.

John O, DR

District 13

We now have 5 groups in Roseburg, 4 evening meetings and 1 noon-time meeting. We are also working on establishing an Alateen group. The day-time group has grown from a core of 4 regular members to as many as 11. We have been diligent at making sure our meeting information is correct both with the answering service and the websites. Not all our groups have an elected GR, but we are encouraging them to participate at the District level.

We have a committee working to reestablish our speaker meeting, and plan to have a speaker meeting on April 5th with a speaker from Eugene. The meeting will be at Mercy Education building at 5 pm and it will be a potluck with ham provided by the district.

I have been attending the AA district meetings in order to open communication between the 2 groups. And, of course, we invite them to our district meeting. As a result, we have been invited to participate in their annual campout July 18-20. We are currently making plans for this event. And we are excited that this will open the path for growth in Al-Anon in Roseburg.

Tedie H, DR

District 14 – No report given

District 15

District 15 encompasses all of Yamhill County. We have four regular meeting: *Serene Step Study, Progress, Not Perfection* and *Brown Baggers AFG* meet in McMinnville. *Up the Steps* meets in Newberg. There is an institutional newcomer's meeting held every other Wednesday at Hazelden/Springbrook treatment center. Volunteer from District 10 and 15 conducts these meeting and carry the Al-Anon message to family member of patients in treatment there.

We haven't experienced much change in attendance. Typical meetings have 4 to 8 present. Two of our meetings are without Group Representatives and at the district level we operate with a DR, Treasurer and Public Information coordinator. Finding members willing to stand for service positions with so few in the district is an ongoing challenge.

We have been active in public outreach thanks to the efforts of our PI Coordinator, Linda G and others. A presentation was given to therapists and psychiatrists at Yamhill County Mental Health. Also, every year we present the Al-Anon message to a class studying addiction at Linfield College. We plan also to supply sufficient copies of *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2008* to Hazelden so that each patient's family member receives a copy with the materials supplied by Hazelden. If it works out we will continue this in following years.

We have an upcoming district fundraiser in April. On the fifth, Saturday evening from 5 to 8:30 PM at Sunrise Church in McMinnville, we're planning a light potluck (meaning finger foods) followed by an AA and Al-Anon Speaker from District 15: Mike K and Christa B. There are flyers available on the table.

We have so much to be grateful for today. Thank you for the time to share about District 15.
Paul S, DR.

District 16

New DR: Willie H.

We are having a Writing Workshop

Are co-hosts of the November 2008 Assembly

District goal is to work on group histories for the archives.

Willy H, acting DR

District 17

We hosted the November Assembly in Welches which was outstanding. The district stepped up with their commitment and energy. It was awesome, because of this hosting an assembly with AA a new Al-Anon meeting sprung out due to an AA member seeing a need in their area. They are the *Courage to Change At the Mountain* and meet on Monday night. They already have a very willing GR, who is willing to open and close and keep the meeting open. They have 2 or 3 peeps coming. A meeting that closed years ago donated all their literature to support this meeting.

We had a longtime meeting close due to lack of attendance and unfilled service positions. We made flyers, changed the topic, held gypsy meetings, shared calendar with other meetings, worked and supported the dedicated GR, held meetings to do what we could think of and it just needed to close.

Our district is celebrating lots of meeting birthdays. Love That!

We hosted the February AWSC. We had a great facility and abundance of food and support from the district.

One Alateen meeting is struggling with low attendance. They are working on Public Outreach. GR is the only recent attendee and willing to reach out.

We have a committee working on our annual Spring Fling with a theme of *Tea With Me and HP* the day before Mother's Day. There will be an auction-raffle and book-cd type sale which all proceeds are for the 2009 SSM which we are hosting. This committee is working on the details for this.

District agenda has been jammed and our amazing district rock right through it.

Public Outreach: Caremark rehab invites one AI-Anon every other week to share exp strength hope. Serenity lane invites four AI-Anons every 10 weeks to share E.S.H. and Coffee Creek Women's Correction Facility meeting *Hope at Coffee Creek is having a birthday celebration coming up.*

April is Alcohol Awareness month. We voted to use \$200 for local newspapers ads.

AA liaison is attending AA's district meetings and we are hoping to have more of a connection.

A Manual study is held on the first Saturday morning of the month.
District 17 Rocks! – Carolyn H, DR

Action Committee Reports

1. Public Outreach: Helen

We outlined the goals from November assembly. It was agreed then that we would order 2,000 more pens, cards with Spanish translation and *2008 AI-Anon Faces Alcoholism* in both Spanish and English. We were also asked to check with Counselors, etc. and inquire whether or not they would like a subscription to the Forum. Soft back Courage to Change books ere also to be contributed to the Columbia River Corrections Center.

Gini brought 750 pens for distribution. Much discussion was held as to how to distribute them. Most people in the group felt they had been a good tool. Large districts took more pens than small districts. They seemed to be most effective when used with a piece of literature and a card with local information on them.

We were reminded when we did a survey at the beginning of the Panel that more people were referred to AI-Anon by AA, and we needed liaison people to interact with them in order to participate in health fairs, etc. It is a good way to use dual members in our groups as well.

We were asked to find out if local papers had free listing on their community pages for meeting information.

Other things discussed: Setting up website for Public Outreach and to get coordinated list of speakers available. Get some M-44 pamphlets to distribute. Inform your groups that the week of April 21 is Alcohol Awareness week. Make plans to do a special outreach project.

Largest challenge presented was to have a contest between districts on who could come up with the best proposal for public outreach. Area will fund up to \$100 for the winners. The proposal should contain information about how much it will cost, how many people it will reach and an action plan. A copy of the flyer is in each DR folder to make copies and take to groups thanks to Debbie and Kim. Winners will be announced at the July Assembly.

2. Membership Outreach: Joanne - Communication is our MO – Move On, Log On, Read On

Co-chairs: Joanne C and Barbara L. Recorder: Paula:

A. Action Committee Communication: Barb L. led a discussion on Yahoo Groups as a way for this Committee membership to keep in touch between meetings. She gave instructions on how to sign up if we wished. A GR shared she often has conflict with her noon meeting and her job. Since there is little time for reports, she has developed an email report that is sent out to the group members. It was suggested that groups may develop phone lists that include name, home phone #, cell phone # and email addresses and have updated changes requested at each meeting.

B. Outreach to Spanish Speaking Groups: Our Spanish Speaking Group representative to the February AWSC, from Tigard, Nueva Vida group, helped us continue the discussion on Outreach to Spanish Speaking Groups. District 6 has shown an increase in Spanish Literature Sales. Members in district 10 have

been visiting a Spanish speaking group in Tigard. And a committee member, who is bilingual in Spanish and English, has offered her services in helping with our project of translating our Oregon Area website. We were made aware of a popular website that includes maps to meetings. roguevalleyal-anon.org. Check it out!

C. A Membership Outreach project idea was discussed about creating a small GR Handbook that would include acronym explanations (i.e. SSM, DR, AWC, WSC) and with answers to commonly used questions. We will be communicating on this one between assemblies.

3. Fellowship Outreach:

Recorder: Monica

AI-Anon wants to be computer literate. We can also use a phone tree and institute an email buddy system.

Challenges: Having each district have a writing workshop. Make sure every group has a Forum Subscription. WSO has agreed to give each group a subscription for the next year. Margot, our visiting Trustee At Large suggested bringing back group subscriptions for three to five years, not just one year. It is also a way of recording addresses.

Ideas: Do at the district level: use different types of journaling like keeping an open and pad in the car. Write for publication and then collect these writings and send them into the Forum, Communicator, or submit to E-Cal on line.

Encourage people to read past literature. The information is basic and timeless. Have a system to review past literature. Use as a meeting topic. Produce an index, archive of subjects and titles of past articles. Bring one piece of literature to each meeting and ask each GR to use that as a meeting topic. Use CAL as a meeting topic. Use CAL order forms to review what literature is available. Go through your literature rack... RECYCLE.

Coming up with a theme: Bea J. offered the idea of having a gift theme using the Forum theme of "A Meeting In Your Pocket." She passed out the Forums in pockets she created from an idea, brought back from the RSS in Minot, as a way to recycle literature. She brought samples for the Assembly. They are made from wallpaper samples from stores (this is a free source) they are then cut to look like a pocket and by pasting two sides together form a pocket to hold a piece of literature. This can be handed out to new comers or to use as a literature display in the meetings.

Call Chant: Hear ye, Hear Ye, Far and Near, Fellowship is here. E-Cal, E-Cal, and have you been there?

4. Audit Budget Committee: Sue B.

The Audit Budget committee audited the financial records for Nov-Dec 2007 and found the books to be in order.

The budget line items were reviewed and all items that were over budget were balanced with the contingency line item. The final report **will be emailed** to all AWSC members.

5. Group Services: Reporter: Sage

Invite participation. Archive group history. Have your group's starting date. Twenty-five percent of groups have responded. Create an email address list.

Alcoholism is a family disease. It is suggested that your children attend Alateen. Alateen is for young people affected by someone else's drinking who come together to share experience, strength and hope with each other.

Alateen panels to schools; Chair a meeting with Alateen literature; Have a liaison coordinator to cooperate with AA.

Many testimonies given to the importance of Alateen and sponsor participation.

Fund-raising ideas, speakers meeting, yard sale, have a Dessert Auction, Personal Donations of Literature. Co-sponsor a meeting, Create lending libraries, books on consignment from literature, Audio Library.

How to get Speakers: T-Mar Tapes would have sample speaker tapes and possible suggestions. Ask people whose story you want to hear.

How we got here: Invited to be an alternate GR. Invited to assembly. Double winner group lets others see our recovery. AA's understand how service grows program. Service keeps you coming back. (Fellowship). I came from a service-minded group. Have contact information available and fill in service positions at the district and group level.

FAQ's: When do we register as a group? Roland shared information on the new AI-Anon and Alateen Groups

at Work (P24). This revised section of the *AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* is now available as a separate booklet! It includes the suggested Meeting Format, Group Tips and Topics, how to register a group, and much more information about groups. It's a handy booklet that every member should find valuable! 72 pages. And can be ordered on line at <http://www.ai-anon.org/publications.html>. WSO's recommendation is Group Unity will be made stronger if we get rid of the printed stuff and use this format in our meetings.

ASK-IT- BASKET QUESTIONS:

1. What would you recommend I say to the members of my group about why there is a recommendation to use the booklet in the new service manual instead of the old typed pages?

Answer: Bunny [PD Panel 38] – "AI-Anon and Alateen Groups at Work provides a framework within which each group can develop and grow. It offers basic information to all group members concerning the group structure and how it relates to other groups and AI-Anon as a whole: It was recommended by the World Service Office to use in our groups' meetings. Also, a reference would be to review This is AI-Anon (Pamphlet 32). History has showed that typed pages can include errors that are then carried forward. People don't know where the references come from if it is on a typed sheet. Updated information is often not included on typed sheets. WSO's \$1.00 booklet is a wonderful tool. It introduces members to the AI-Anon-Alateen Service Manual. Why not do a trial time of 6 months by purchasing several for use by the group. Meeting format is decided by Group autonomy.

2. As a past coordinator, I miss seeing our literature display. (Has that job description changed?).

Answer: Bea J [PD Panel 32] – It is now on the wall and was also displayed on the wall at the last assembly.

3. What are the guidelines for signing meeting attendance sheets for people who gotten a DUI? Do they have to go to AA meetings? If not, do they have to stay the whole meeting to get a signature?

Answer: Eileen B [PD Panel 26] – AI-Anon doesn't have any guidelines for signing DUI meeting attendance sheets.

4. How are the themes from WSC developed? Are they voted on at Conference for use by the AI-Anon Family Groups?

Answer: Judy J [PD Panel 41] – (p121 WSO) – What it Does: plans and coordinates the World Service Conference" Page 197 – Conference Committee: The Conference Committee has the responsibility to prepare a World Service Conference agenda that facilitates the active voice and effective group conscience of our fellowship."

Are they voted on at Conference? No. Our visiting Trustee at large, Margot described how they come up with the theme. There is a Conference leadership Team. Together they brainstorm, tons and tons of ideas. They put together the ones that go together and they are reviewed and a process of elimination is completed. The ultimate decision for Theme selection comes from the Leadership Team.

5. Are infants/very young children allowed and/or welcome at AI-Anon meetings?

Answer: Answer: Eileen B [PD Panel 26] – "Baby-Sitters – Some meetings are attended by members who must bring children. Using group funds or taking a special collection to pay for a baby-sitter at a meeting is within a group's autonomy. Paying for this type of service does not violate Traditions, since avoiding disruption of a meeting benefits the group as a whole. p88 of AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual. And to have children in the meeting is decided by group autonomy as well.

6. Could we save \$ on the archives rental by scanning the paper documents and downloading to a USB drive?

Answer: Susan G [PD Panel 44] – Would cost money to scan and download all of the area archives. Old document scans are not legible and we lose the authenticity of the actual documents. It now costs \$572 per year and there would still be a storage fee.

7. As a younger AI-Anon member I sometimes feel a bit out of place (although very welcome.) How can I encourage more participation from our younger members (or all members, for that matter), especially at the state level?

Answer: Jan M [PD Panel 20] - Invite someone to come to Assembly with you. Show excitement and enthusiasm. Encourage.

8. Can a past Oregon delegate then become a GR? What if they were a delegate in another state?

Answer: Bea J [PD Panel 32] – Yes. A member of AI-Anon who is not a member of AA can become a GR. Having been a delegate here in Oregon or elsewhere does not prevent holding this service position.

9. With the price of gas soaring, is it a requirement that we still take the first 80 miles off our mileage

request for reimbursement?

Answer: Bea J [PD Panel 32] – If, as an AWSC member, except District Representatives. YES. As a District Rep, reimbursement comes from the district. As a Group Representative, from your home group. Mileage reimbursement is determined by group conscience/autonomy.

10. We have a group in our district (with a WSO#) they hold an AI-Anon/AA meeting each week, they sell both AA and AI-Anon literature. We have kept them on our AI-Anon meeting list. I think they should be taken off. What do you know about this?

Answer: Judy J [PD Panel 41] - p77 in the AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual: "Registration of Groups. The WSO will register any group designating itself as an AI-Anon Family Group with the understanding that it will abide by the Traditions and that meetings will be open to any AI-Anon member." On p33, "A group's name cannot imply affiliation with A.A. or any twelve step group, self-help group, commercial venture, agency, religious or rehabilitation facility, philosophy, religious principle or belief, or any outside literature or enterprise. To help avoid confusion with other entities it is suggested that groups spell out their full name, including any special focus or format, followed by the word AI-Anon, Alateen, or AFG." Page 79, Dual Membership, pp 2, "Because of the unique nature of both programs, AI-Anon/Alateen members who are also A.A. members do not hold office beyond the group level, as these positions could lead to membership in the World Service Conference (WSC). The need to focus on the AI-Anon program and the possibility of a conflict of interest at Assembly and world service levels led the WSC to its decision not to seat AI-Anon/Alateen members who are also member of A.A..."

The need to focus: On p94 "In the spirit of unity, it is suggested that only AI-Anon and Alateen Conference Approved Literature be used and displayed at meetings."

"It is well to remember that all A.A. literature is written for and from the viewpoint of alcoholics and is not AI-Anon/Alateen Conference Approved Literature. Reliance on opinions expressed in A.A. and other publications can distort the AI-Anon approach, particularly for the newcomer (see *AI-Anon Spoken Here* [P-53]...*Why Conference Approved Literature?* [P-35], and *Alcoholism The Family Disease* [P4]."

Page 95, under Publications by Information Services...: "It is also ignoring Traditions to promote the sale of outside literature." Page 17, Tradition 3: The relatives of alcoholics, when gathered together for mutual aid, may call themselves an AI-Anon Family Group, provided they have no other affiliation. The only requirement for membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism in a relative or friend." Tradition 4: "Each group should be autonomous, except in matters affecting another group or AI-Anon or A.A. as a whole." Tradition 6: "Our Family Groups ought never endorse, finance or lend our name to any outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary spiritual aim. Although a separate entity, we should always co-operate with Alcoholics Anonymous." Tradition 7: "Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." Group autonomy.

11. Alateen seems to be a difficult group to start in towns where there is a small population, any suggestions?

Answer: Jan M [PD Panel 20] – Go to schools, ask to make meeting times and locations available using a poster or an announcement in the school newspaper. Give information to the school counselors and other staff members. Encourage AI-Anon and AA members who have Alateen aged children to have them attend. Check with counselors who have teen clients.

Read p93 in the AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual on How to start a group. Talk with Loretta, the Oregon Area Alateen Coordinator.

12. If you wanted to change certain words to the Steps or Traditions, how would you start the process? Gather names? Go to Assemblies? Go to...?

Answer: Bunny [PD Panel 38] – On p153/d in the AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual it states "But no changes are to be made in the Traditions, Step, Concepts of Service, or General Warranties of the Conference charter (Item 12) without written consent of three-quarters of the AI-Anon groups." With over 3000 groups in US and Canada that would be a very long process to have happen. On p15, in the AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, "Because of their proven power and worth, A.A.'s Twelve Steps have been adopted almost word for word by AI-Anon. They represent a way of life appealing to all people of goodwill, of any religious faith or of none. Note the power of the very words!" Tradition One, "Our common welfare should come first; personal progress for the greatest number depends upon unity." Personally, I have stuck around long enough to understand the practice of changing words in my head. For example, if you feel it is needed, replace the word He with She or just pass when it isn't something you feel comfortable reading. Keeping in mind always, Unity, Unity, Unity.

13. I experienced a disappointment in the directions to the sharing meeting Friday night and also to the assembly. There seemed to be no signs. What are the guidelines?

Answer: Susan G [PD Panel 44] – Oregon Area Handbook under Host Committee Guidelines for AI-

Anon/Alateen Assembly meetings, Section 6 p4 discusses information to be included on the flyer i.e., "Location – name of facility, exact address, city and zip code.", and in Section 6 p21, "Where: Include address with a short description of direction can include map. Make the map as simple but clear as possible. Include zip code for those who use internet to make their own map, but neither addresses the use of signs. This may be a recommendation to the district that hosts the event.

14. Do Alateen groups get a free Forum subscription?

Answer: Bea J [PD Panel 32] – If it is a registered group with WSO. All registered groups get a free Forum subscription. To be sure, the Oregon Area Alateen Coordinator will email WSO, ask and at next assembly will have the correct answer.

15. How do you deal with a GR who misuses group money to send their spouse to his assembly and pays for meals and all?

Answer: Bea J [PD Panel 32] – Is this an abuse of AI-Anon funds? Did the AI-Anon group say it was ok to do this? Why is the GR not riding with other GRs from their district or area? Is this best for AI-Anon as a whole? Maybe these funds would make it possible for someone else to go whose group doesn't have the funds. Did your group discuss this? Do you talk to your DR?

16. Is it true that if we don't spend the money in our action committee one year, we cannot apply the balance to the next year?

Answer: Eileen B [PD Panel 26] – It is true! The Area Budget is developed and approved on a yearly basis, so Action Committees cannot carry forward budgeted money from the previous year.