**Minutes AWSC Meeting March 13, 2021 (Hybrid)**

Area Chair Sarah S. opened the meeting at 10:01 am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Officers in attendance: Sarah S, Area Chair; Lori H, Area Delegate; Sue K, Area Alternate Delegate; Geneva D, Area Treasurer; Kathy G, Area Secretary.

Mary L read the Traditions. Marge O read the Concepts of Service including Warranties.

Sarah S explained this AWSC’s Ask It Basket procedure, which was to send a private chat message to Lori H. Sarah announced that our Area does not have District Representatives for Districts: 1, 3, 7, 10, 11, 20, 21, 22, 24, 26, and 27. She said that if anyone was interested, they could contact her or Sue K.

Sarah mentioned that the physical room had four cameras but only one microphone, and apologized in advance for any background noise. She asked voting members to add an apostrophe in front of their name on Zoom, and gave instructions for doing it. Sarah also said that the agenda is a fluid document, and there would be changes from what had been distributed in advance.

Challis H conducted the roll call.

**Officers Reports:**

* Minutes from August 2020 AWSC meeting were read by Kathy G, Area Secretary. Teresa K pointed out that she was in attendance. Lori H motioned to accept the minutes as corrected, Teresa K seconded. Motion carried.
* Treasurer's report was presented by Geneva D, Area Treasurer. Kathy G motioned to accept, Michael C seconded. Motion carried.
* Alternate Delegate report presented by Sue K.
* Delegate Report was presented by Lori H.

**Presentations and Discussions:**

* Audit Committee Report (read by Sarah S)
* Task Force on Elections (both presentation and discussion)
* By-laws Ad Hoc Committee Presentation
* Discussion of not reading minutes at business meetings
* Discussion of not providing paper copies of reports at future business meetings
* Discussion of Alateen Intern position

**Motions:**

* No motions presented

**Reports:** (The person listed with the Report is the person who submitted it.)

* Alateen Audrey J
* Alateen Intern Cydney J
* Alateen Serenity Patrol Tina D
* AAPP (Area Alateen Process Person) Lisa G
* Archivist Sarah M
* Convention Michael C
* Forum/Literature Marilynn M
* Group Records Challis H
* Literature Depot Mary L
* Public Outreach Michaela M
* Newsletter/Communications Sharon S
* Registrar Flo W
* Speaker Geri W-NO REPORT SUBMITTED
* Website/Technology Jason B
* Leadership Support Chair Rayma T-NO REPORT SUBMITTED
* Audit Committee Diane S
* Procedures Committee Chair Michael C
* Task Force on Elections Chair Ann H
* KC AIS liaison Ann H
* St. Louis AIS-NO REPORT SUBMITTED

**District Reports:**

* District 2 Theresa H (submitted, not presented)
* District 4 Ruth R
* District 5 Paula N
* District 8 Elaine M
* District 9 Teresa K
* District 12 Deb W
* District 13 Barb D
* District 14 Marge O
* District 15 Mary R
* District 17 Jackie L
* District 18 Mary N
* District 19 Robyn Q
* District 25 Linda G
* District 28 Ellen A

**Meeting adjourned 4:04 pm with Al-Anon/Alateen declaration.**

**APPENDIX A: OFFICER'S REPORTS**

*DELEGATE’S REPORT*

In the Loop is an email subscription service available through the World Service Office website. You sign up by giving your email address and ~once a month, I get the news in my Inbox. March 2021 information includes:

Member Blog has a new topic—March’s topic is Share Some Rewards and Challenges of “virtual service opportunities.” You can also add to the Blog on the third of the three legacies: Third Step, Third Tradition, Third Concept.

New Public Outreach Posters are available. If you want to know anything, see our Public Outreach Coordinator – Michaela.

AFG Mobile App includes subscribing to premium content where you can use a gratitude list. Also includes a daily “Today’s Reflection.”

Open position at World Service Office for Director of Programs. This is open due to a retirement. Information? See me or it’s also posted on WSO Website.

How many subscribe to the Forum? Always a great meeting starter. I have a personal subscription—there is the electronic version too with the advantage of enlarging text. Why wait for the mail these days, when you can order the Forum on line?

April is National Alcohol Awareness Month—Public Outreach Campaign—Check with your Area on how you can participate.

*AFG Connects:*

Current Communities that Missouri Area AWSC should have access:

Al-Anon Information Services (AIS)

Alateen Coordinators

Announcements

Archives Coordinators

Area Alateen Process Persons (AAPP)

Area Chairs

Area Treasurers

District Representatives

Forum Coordinators

Group Records Coordinators

Literature Coordinators

Literature Distribution Centers

Newsletter Editors

Public Outreach Coordinators

Web Coordinators

World Service Conference Members

2021 WSC

Delegate has access to all communities; Chair has access to all communities except 2021 World Service Conference community because it’s only available to the current delegate.

Chairman of the Board Letter, dated January 2021:

Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect: October 23, 2021 in Cleveland, Ohio; Board of Trustees and Executive Committee attends. Delegate will bring back information from conference. Areas can apply to host Toad Trip! In 2022. I will bring back information on applying after conference this year.

Interpretation: 2021 is the third year of a three year trial to have interpreters at conference for Spanish and French speaking delegates. Task Force has been formed to prepare a presentation at 2021 World Service Conference about translations continuing. Delegate will receive information prior to conference and will share with the Area after conference.

Strategic Plan Update: January Board meeting, Board members discussed and prioritized Strategic Plan Objectives for 2022. Objectives chosen by the Board are turned over to the Strategic Leadership Team (WSO Staff), to create strategies which will be presented at the July 2021 Board meeting for approval. In 2020, all but two strategies were completed—two carried over to 2021: Upgrading the WSO online store and improving the availability of Conference Approved Literature across structures (WSO/GSO).

Electronic Meeting Work Group: Presentation planned for 2021 conference. Emphasis on continuing to work on ways to incorporate electronic meetings as groups into the current service structure. More to come after the April WSC.

Nominating Committee: Every year the Board of Trustees meets with Regional Trustee and Trustee At Large candidates. The meetings were virtual this year. Vacancies filled by following service manual page 205 for reference. Three regional trustees, 4 trustees a large, and three board officers will be presented at WSC for traditional approval. Following traditional approval, there may be an election by the Board to elect the nominees at the Annual Meeting following the World Service Conference. Elections are: Executive Committee 3, Chairperson of the Executive Committee, Executive Committee for Real Property Management (ECRPM), and chairperson of the ECPRM.

Contributions to the WSO: 2020 was an unprecedented year. Contributions exceeded literature sales! Board of Trustees and AFG Headquarters, Inc. thank the membership for all of the financial support in 2020. Contributions totaled over $3 million. Revenue and Expenses breakdown page is within the PowerPoint presentation of this repot posted on the Missouri website in the Delegate’s corner. Reserve Fund realized a #227,530 gain for the month of December 2020 and it is reported that the WSO’s reserve fund continues to be sensitive to market conditions.

World Service Conference: This year again, the conference is virtual. I will be in Destin, Florida with a group of my Panel 60 mates to at least try to experience the conference together—socially distanced of course. Much of the information I will bring back after conference will be: Work groups report out, Motions, WSO Annual Report for 2020, Audit Report, Task Forces, and Chosen Agenda Items. I am looking forward to our May Assembly to report out all information from conference.

*Looking Ahead this year:*

This year is the second year of our three-year panel and I cannot believe how fast the time is flying.

We made it through 2020 and we never thought Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. could move so fast and far into the future by way of virtual meetings, virtual conventions and virtual conferences.

I am truly humbled to be a part of this fellowship and represent the Missouri Area. I am grateful to the Area for this opportunity. This experience has already changed my life in a way that I can never describe. I feel the depth of this program and the spirituality that rises with those of us all in the same rooms when we come together to feel that Power greater than us!

So when I go to conference this year, I will take you with me. I promise to Move Forward with Unity, Courage and Perseverance.

Thank you again for your support and blessings to you all,

Lori Hassler,

Panel 60Missouri

Delegatepanel60missouri@gmail.com

314.920.6513

*ALTERNATE DELEGATE’S REPORT*

**SCRDM-South Central Regional Delegates Meeting March 5 & 6 via zoom**

The South-Central Regional Delegates (SCRDM) Meeting was held via Zoom on March 5 & 6. The purpose of the South-Central Regional Delegates Meeting is to bring together the Delegates of the South-Central Region preceding the World Service Conference. Discussion of the coming Conference agenda items, individual problems, and exchange of

experience, strength, and hope are all designed to help prepare the Delegates for a more productive

Conference, and to bring closer communication and understanding to our South-Central Region. The South-Central Region is made up of Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Texas East, and Texas West.

When we talk about our Regional Trustee, they would come from one of those Areas. Currently our Regional Trustee is Diane Bass. She attended and presented at the SCRDM.

The SCRDM is open to any Al-Anon Member interested in Service. Attendance is predominantly past Delegates, current Delegates, current Alternate Delegates, past Trustees, current Trustees, and current Area Chairman. Al-Anon members who attend do not have voice except during the Workshop and the closing session. Current Area Chairs and Alternate Delegates have voice and everyone else including our Current Delegate has vote and voice. The attendance at the Zoom meeting fluctuated from 75 at one point to 45 at another. I counted approximately 12 members from the Missouri Area.

The whole idea of the SCRDM is to get the new Delegates ready for the World Service Conference. To mimic the WSC a list of chosen agenda items is requested prior to the SCRDM and more are solicited from the floor. The voting members then vote on the order of importance and during the Chosen Agenda Items session the floor is open for discussion for those who have voice. The practice of 2 minutes at the mic is strictly enforced and time is called at 2 minutes.

The Chosen Agenda Items at the SCRDM are not the Chosen Agenda Items for the WSC, however I am guessing some of the items we discussed will be discussed at the WSC. The Chosen Agenda Items focused on Hybrid Meetings, transitioning back to In-Person after the Pandemic and how electronic meetings will fit into the service structure. The concerns of collecting donations were discussed as well as the effect the electronic meetings has had on Alateen. Other items discussed were public outreach, what is a trustee and how to attract members to serve as trustee and more.

What was interesting about this part of the SCRDM was participating in discussion as they do at the WSC. To come to the mic meant having a well thought out opinion, whenever possible referencing the traditions and concepts and adding something new. The opportunity to develop this discipline for the new delegates is I’m sure invaluable and will help them feel more prepared for the WSC.

Other sessions that were covered was the World Service Conference Theme, Moving Forward with Unity, Courage and Perseverance and the Agenda. We were given a brief overview of the schedule and the Delegates will be in online meetings Monday through Friday from 11:00 am - 9:00 pm. The 11:00 am start time is to accommodate all the different time zones involved in the conference.

There was a Workshop presented that our current Delegate Lori H. and one of our former Delegates, Geneva D. participated in called Under the C’s. This was a Recovery Workshop that focused on different words that start with C. It started off with a skit based on characters fashioned from “the Little Mermaid”.

Another former Missouri Delegate, Laurie K., was the featured speaker and she shared her story which was rich in service and inspirational.

My favorite part of the whole weekend is the first night when the new Delegates introduce themselves, this year the New Delegates were Mattie Thomas, Texas East, Peggy Dragna, Texas West and Terry Rogers, Kansas. They along with all the former Delegates and Trustees remind me that all of our Trusted Servants are first and foremost members of our Worldwide Fellowship that are willing to serve.

I would encourage you all to consider attending the SCRDM in the future. It is always held the first weekend in March and rotates locations. Next year it will be hosted by Texas West and will be in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Consider hopping on a plane or getting in a car and attending. This Inspirational event is well worth the trip.

**Love Gifts for our Delegate**

Speaking of the WSC. It has been a yearly practice to send Love Gifts to show appreciation for our Missouri Area Delegate as well as the other Delegates as they attend the World Service Conference. Love Gifts are little tokens of appreciation. Then each year our Delegate will have those available to show off and share at the May Assembly.

Since this year’s WSC will be virtual again Lori H., our Missouri Area Delegate, has decided to mail a “Love Packet” to her fellow 67 Delegates. If your group or District would like to contribute something small and nonperishable for Lori to put in the packet there are details are on the calendar page of the web site and the Round Robin. I want to thank all of you who have sent gifts and will send gifts.

**Day in Service-June 12, 2021 10:00 am – 3:00 pm**.

The Day in Service will be held In-Person and if the Church has the technology to support us will be a Hybrid Event.

Members of the Kansas City AIS, which includes District 1, 19, 20 & 21 are excited about hosting this event. We have held planning and brainstorming sessions via zoom and will have a more detailed flyer with registration information soon. We are going to ask everyone who plans to attend to pre-register as we will be serving box lunches this year and we want to make sure we have enough for everyone. There may be a limit to numbers as well depending on County restrictions on attendance. Stay tuned for details on the website and in the Round Robin.

The Theme is Gratitude: A Springboard to Action. We are going with a swimming pool theme as we dive into service.

Just to pique your interest here is an idea of the Day’s Events and talks:

* Gratitude A Springboard to Action Keynote Speaker-TBA
* Breakout Sessions 1:
	+ - Come Play in our Pool: How members who are also members of AA can serve in Al-Anon Family Groups
		- Dipping Your Toes into Service-Panel of Speakers, GR, DR, Coordinator and Officer
		- Lifeguard Training-Being an AMIAS-Panel of Speakers
* Sink or Swim-What holds you back from Serving?
* Swimming Against the Tide-the Challenges and Rewards of Serving as a Delegate during the Pandemic
* Breakout Session 2-Activity Sessions:
	+ - Staying Afloat-Let’s Build a Life Raft of support
		- Build a Gratitude Journal
		- Laying out in the Sun-Let’s take a moment to mediate of Gratitude
* Come on in the Water’s Fine-Encouraging others in Service.

Find Save the Date Flyer on the web site

**MOSC-Missouri State AA Convention- AA in a Time of Change July 30 – August 1, 2021**

This is going to be an In-Person Event

There will be Two Al-Anon Speakers-I’ve chosen two folks from Missouri to keep it simple this year:

Michael C.- Pineville, MO

We all know Michael as our beloved Convention Coordinator come and hear his Al-Anon Story.

Pam G.-St. Louis, MO.

Pam gave a workshop that was highly entertaining and inspirational at the Zoom Al-Anon Convention in 2020. I’ve asked her to share her story at the AA Convention.

There is no registration form or information on how many Al-Anon Mini Meetings we will have but as soon as I know I will share it on the Missouri Area web site. You can also check the MOSC web site here. <http://mostateconvention.org/>.

**Supporting our District Representatives and Group Representatives**

I conducted a Workshop at the District 14 meeting Thursday March 11 about the Role of the District in our Service Structure. We examined Traditions Three and Four and Concepts Three and Four. Before today’s meeting we held a District Representative’s Session on Conducting a District Meeting and focused on the Second, Step, Tradition and Concept and how they can be used as tools in service.

I want all of our District Representatives and Group Representatives and members to know that I am a resource for our Area Trusted Servants as are all the Area Officers. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with your questions, concerns, triumphs, and struggles in service.

We have two years left in Panel 60 to grow in the study and practice of our Three Legacies, The Twelve Steps, The Twelve Traditions and The Twelve Concepts of Service. I am excited to see the growth we will all experience individually and as an Area as we keep these legacies at the forefront of all we do in the Missouri Area.

Giving back in service out of gratitude,

Sue Kieffer-Missouri Area AFG

Alternate Delegate-Panel 60

Altdelegatearea31afgpanel60@gmail.com

314-680-1935

*TREASURER'S REPORT*

I met with the Audit Committee on March 4. We were able to meet via Zoom with the documentation emailed to the Committee members. Most of what they found was my ineptitude with Excel. Errors have been corrected, so I provided the audited Detail Report for 2020. It will be put on the website.

After the November Assembly (on January 22), the Area Treasurer’s received an email from WSO asking us what to do with the Delegate’s Equalized Expenses that have already been paid. The options were to allow WSO to keep all or part of it or to have it refunded to the Area. We had to let them know by February 15. I consulted with the other officers about this. We would have preferred to have time to bring it to you here for a decision, but that was not an option. Based on the Area’s generosity in the past, we decided to allow WSO to keep the whole amount. (This was the $1,481.69 that we had sent for the 2020 World Service Conference. Last year when it was done virtual, we had opted to roll the amount over for the 2021 Conference. Now it is also going to be virtual. Rolling it over for 2022 was not offered as an option this year.)

I have submitted the First Quarter report as a one-page document rather than have two detail reports sent out (one for 2020 and one for 2021). It seemed rather silly to have a three-page report when everything you need can be put on one page. Not on the report, but something I’m sure you will want to know – the checkbook balance before any of today’s expenses are covered is $19,193.36. Last August, our hybrid AWSC cost $1,466.51 so I expect it will be about that for today’s AWSC.

On the First Quarter report, you will see that our CD earned a lot more interest in January than it has since. That is because our “old” CD matured in January and that is the interest we received at that time. When we rolled it over into the “new” CD, we were given a much lower interest rate. As you can see, it is better than what we earn on our Savings Account, but it is still truly little.

The interest for this month has not been added to the Savings Account. That does not happen until the 24th. At this point, our total Reserve Fund is $30,146.27. Unless we find a better way to invest it, we will probably earn less than $2 more interest by the May Assembly. If you believe we need a reserve fund, we need a better option for investing.

At the Assembly in November, the Reserve Fund Task Force was asked to provide a cost comparison to a “normal” year Assembly vs. the Hybrid Assembly. That has been prepared and will be in the April issue of the Round Robin.

Respectfully submitted,

Geneva Dawson

Area Treasurer

|  |
| --- |
| **Missouri Area Al-Anon Quarterly Report** |
| **1ST QUARTER, 2021** |
| **Income** | **JANUARY** | **FEBRUARY** | **MARCH** |  **Total**  |
| Alateen  |  $  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Assembly |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| AWSC |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Contributions |  $ 4,189.01  |  $ 831.00  |  $ 294.00  |  $ 5,314.01  |
| Convention |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Day in Service |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Literature |  $ -  |  $ 239.95  |  $ -  |  $ 239.95  |
| Miscellaneous |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Round Robin |  $ 30.00  |  $ 40.00  |  $ -  |  $ 70.00  |
| **Income Total** |  **$ 4,219.01**  |  **$ 1,110.95**  |  **$ 294.00**  |  **$ 5,623.96**  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Disbursements** | **JANUARY** | **FEBRUARY** | **MARCH** |  **Total**  |
| Area Group Records |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Alateen |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Archives |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Assembly |  $ 50.04  |  $ 1,413.84  |  $ 340.05  |  $ 1,803.93  |
| AWSC |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Convention |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Equipment for Hybrid events |  $ -  |  $ 1,413.84  |  $ 340.05  |  $ 1,753.89  |
| Literature |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Miscellaneous |  $ 50.04  |  $ 1,519.94  |  $ -  |  $ 1,569.98  |
| Alt. Delegate |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Chairperson |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Delegate |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ 500.00  |  $ 500.00  |
| Secretary |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Treasurer |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Round Robin |  $ -  |  $ 55.00  |  $ -  |  $ 55.00  |
| SCRDM |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ 60.00  |  $ 60.00  |
| Public Outreach |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| The Forum Coord |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| Web Page |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| WSO  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |
| **Disbursements Total** |  **$ 100.08**  |  **$ 4,402.62**  |  **$ 1,240.10**  |  **$ 5,742.80**  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Income - Disbursements** |  **$ 4,118.93**  |  **$ (3,291.67)** |  **$ (946.10)** |  **$ (118.84)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Reserve Fund CD** | **JANUARY** | **FEBRUARY** | **MARCH** |  |
| Beginning Balance |  $ 14,121.00  |  $ 14,144.71  |  $ 14,145.25  |  |
| Interest Income |  $ 23.71  |  $ 0.54  |  $ 0.60  |  $ 24.85  |
| Deposits |  $ -  |  $ -  |  $ -  |  |
| **Ending Balance** | **$14,144.71**  | **$14,145.25**  |  **$ 14,145.85**  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Savings Account** | **JANUARY** | **FEBRUARY** | **MARCH** |  |
| Beginning Balance |  $ 16,000.15  |  $ 16,000.30  |  $ 16,000.42  |  |
| Interest Income |  $ 0.15  |  $ 0.12  |  $ -  |  $ 0.27  |
| **Ending Balance** | **$16,000.30**  | **$ 16,000.42**  |  |  |

**APPENDIX B: Coordinator’s Reports**

*ALATEEN COORDINATOR*

Hi Everyone! I hope that you are all staying safe and healthy.

Currently, most Alateen meetings are still meeting via Zoom or phone conference and we have one that is meeting face-to-face with protocols.

We’ve been in a flurry of planning for Super Sunday tomorrow and for CBAT right around the corner.

We are going to be electing an Alateen intern at the May Assembly. So, Alateens, please come with your service resume and your willingness to serve.

The CBAT Committee is in the middle of planning the next CBAT that will happen April 17, 2021. If you are an AMIAS that sponsors an Alateen group, please encourage your teens to attend. This is going to be a fun time. We are planning to have the meeting in virtually via zoom due to COVID.

We are excited for Super Sunday tomorrow. The meeting will be held virtually as well. We’ve planned a speaker and a writing workshop, as well as discussing Alateen business for the Area. The agenda can be found on the Area website. Please note this is a closed meeting and only certified AMIAS may attend along with the Alateens.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. My email is alateencoordinatormo60@gmail.com and my cell number is 816-835-6575.

Respectfully Submitted,

Audrey J.

Alateen Coordinator

Panel 60

*ALATEEN INTERN***:**

Hello, everyone

My name is Cydney, and I have been your Alateen Intern for the past year and a half. I would first like to apologize for not being able to be in attendance, for I will be in a place where I will be on a plane during this day. I have been honored to serve in this position, and am grateful to have been given the opportunity. Though I was not able to do much during my time as the Alateen Intern due to Covid-19, I stayed very active in my position. I created the first Alateen Zoom meeting in the state during lockdown this last Spring, which allowed for other groups to do the same. I made sure to host my group meeting every Friday night ever since the beginning of the zoom meetings, and made sure to fulfill my duties of representing Alateen and planning/hosting Alateen's annual business meeting (Super Sunday). I was able to participate in this last year's Convention and host an Alateen meeting that was open for Al-Anon's to attend during the Convention. I was also given the opportunity to talk in front of Al-anon groups and share my experience, strength, and hope over zoom. I want to take this time to acknowledge the fact that I was the only Alateen last Assembly that was either present or willing to stand for the Alateen Intern position, as my time should have officially ended last Assembly. When discussing the matters of the continuation of the Alateen Intern position, I hope that there is an Alateen willing to participate and stand for this wonderful position. If there is no one willing to stand, I want to encourage the officers and Assembly to keep this position open for future years, for this position has always been filled ever since it was created up until the pandemic. I believe that once we are all able to meet in person again, Alateen participation will spike. Alateen participation has drastically decreased ever since the pandemic started, and I want to stress how important it is to keep Alateen in your thoughts and continue to respect our wonderful program for children who are struggling now more than ever as they are forced to stay home in the company of their alcoholic relatives. Please do not forget us, for we need you all to be here to guide us so that we can learn how to work a program of our own. Thank you for allowing teens like myself to serve in this amazing position, and please continue to do so.

-your trusted Alateen Intern, Cydney

*ALATEEN SERENITY PATROL*

Nothing to report from Serenity Patrol just yet. We're getting closer though!

Tina D

*AREA ALATEEN PROCESS PERSON (AAPP)*

Hello Al-Anon and Alateen Members,

The recertification window has opened for AMIAS, and the deadline to turn in forms is May 31, 2021. It’s also time for Annual Updates from AMIAS group CMAs. WSO informed AAPPs that the forms they sent had incorrect return addresses on them and they have emailed the CMAs with corrected information. All forms can be emailed to me at area31aapp60@gmail.com.

The SMA-ART “weekend” was conducted via Zoom on Saturday, February 27, 2021. Attendance was light, but we were able to successfully manage the first all-day AMIAS training on Zoom. Many thanks to Audrey J and Tina D for making it a success! Now that we know AMIAS training is possible on Zoom, I would like to encourage DRs to consider scheduling a web-based AMIAS training day (similar to SMA-ART) for AMIAS and Al-Anon members considering becoming an AMIAS in their districts. Contact me if you are interested.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa G

Area 31 AAPP

Panel 60

*ARCHIVIST:*

Hello from Archives!

For my report I am using a letter from Early Correspondence (1960’s) from a Missouri member

 with the Al-Anon Clearing House (now WSO).

I will later include it as a Round Robin Article for anyone interested.

I enjoyed attending the South Central Regional Delegates Meeting last Saturday, by Zoom. It was nice not to have to drive to a different state!

Grateful in Service,

Sarah M.

Mo. Area Archives

Panel 30 WSD

*CONVENTION COORDINATOR*

Your Missouri Convention Committee is hard at work, making plans for our Area’s major 2021 recovery event. You’re hearing it here first: the Committee decided at our meeting last Sunday that our 53rd Convention will be a hybrid event, with people being allowed to attend both in-person and via Zoom. This decision dove-tailed perfectly with the announcement this past Thursday that the Covid vaccine will be made available to all Americans no later than May 1, which means that in theory, everyone should be able to have both shots perhaps by the end of May, but almost certainly by the end of June. Those time frames would give everyone a three-to-four month window between being fully vaccinated and the Convention, which will take place at the University Plaza Hotel and Conference City in Springfield on Friday, September 24 through Sunday, September 26, 2021. Save those dates! You don’t want to miss the fun and fellowship in store!

I’m going to be perfectly candid with you. I’m still ironing out certain details that will need to be confirmed before we actually begin registering people for the Convention. For example, I received the Catering Menus from the hotel this past week, and was taken aback by the steep price increases in their banquet offerings. I immediately contacted the regional manager to express my concerns, and after much discussion, she has agreed that she and I will meet with the Catering Manager in person before the May Assembly to develop customized meal options that will fall within our members’ budgetary restrictions. We do have a $6,000 Food and Beverage requirement to meet, so my job will be to develop offerings that will enable us to meet that goal, but still permit an optimal number of our attendees to participate. Next year, of course, we’ll move to our new permanent home at Old Kinderhook in Camdenton where there will be no Food and Beverage requirement.

Moving on … if you’ve been reading the monthly ***Round Robin*** newsletter on the Area website – and you should, because it’s chockful of breaking news, interesting articles, and fun games and puzzles – you already know what this year’s theme will be. “Finding Serenity in the Midst of Chaos.” Isn’t that a perfect reflection not only of how our program helps us cope with active alcoholism, but also of how we’ve been dealing with the Covid pandemic for the past year? Our theme is the brainchild of Missouri Al-Anon member Maureen W., who will receive a certificate granting her a free admission to the Convention. Congratulations and thank you, Maureen!

The Committee takes pleasure in announcing that we have created a new Service Position, that of AA Program Chair. Our Sixth Tradition teaches us that we should always co-operate with Alcoholics Anonymous. Too often in the past, it seemed that AA participation in our Convention was lacking, not because of any malice or lack of trying, but because as Al-Anon members, many of us simply don’t know how to best serve our brothers and sisters in AA. The new AA Program Chair provides an opportunity for one of the dual members in our fellowship to serve as a bridge between the two organizations. As a dual member, that person’s Al-Anon affiliation qualifies them to have both voice and vote on our Committee. Their responsibilities will include finding Chairs for our AA mini-meetings; publicizing and promoting our Convention among the fellowship of AA; and working with our Speaker Coordinator to find hosts for our AA Speakers. Last year, Lyby G. offered me invaluable suggestions on how to better serve our AA Convention participants, so when the position was created, hers was the first name that came to mind. Happily, she agreed to serve, and it is my honor and pleasure to welcome her to our Committee.

I’ll have a lot more to say about our 2021 Convention at the May Assembly. My hope is that we’ll all be reuniting in-person; truly, I miss seeing your faces more than I can say. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your Area Convention Coordinator.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Michael Click

Missouri Area Convention Coordinator

*FORUM/LITERATURE*

Some of the information received from AFG Connects since November from the Forum and Literature Coordinator communities is in this report.

New subscriptions to Alateen Talk start with the next edition that is published. There are four issues per year of this newsletter.

There is a newcomer electronic packet being developed, but In the meantime, remember to tell newcomers they can contact al-anon.org/newcomer to give them their email. In return, they will receive an email with helpful Al-Anon information. The electronic packet may take some time to develop.

The new daily reader being developed is set to be released at the 2023 International Convention.

Check out the member blog at al-anon.org to read and share. There are new topics added each month.

Consider sharing your experience, strength, and hope for the “CAL Corner” article found each month in the Forum. Every Forum lists the CAL for which information is requested.

If you would like to have an audience closer to home, why not write an article about CAL that has inspired you for the Round Robin, our Area newsletter? Submit a sharing with either the Forum Literature Coordinator or Alternate or the Newsletter/Communications Coordinator.

Due to Covid, one Literature Coordinator shared her ideas for a Zoom writing workshop. We could use her format if any district or group would be interested in trying this. Please contact us. It is so nice that others are willing to share their work.

Another Area Literature Coordinator recently compiled a visual presentation of the CAL available from WSO featuring pictures of the cover, brief summaries of what is inside that piece of literature as well as categorizing such as daily reader, for use in step 4 inventory, etc. It is a wonderful way of presenting an overall view of the literature. That might be a brief presentation to be given at an Assembly or workshop. There are trusted servants really using their talents to help during this time of isolation.

If you have heard any ideas that you wish to further explore, please contact me (Marilynn at email—whipp2010@hotmail.com or call 573-694-6302 ; or Lyn at unrul57@hotmail.com or 573-864-4179. Let’s work Step Twelve by sharing our program in writing!!

Just a quick note of recognition from the March Forum—one of our Missouri Alateen’s Hailee, has a sharing in the Alateen section. The Area is not listed but I recognized the piece when I read it.

In service, Marilynn Medley, Forum/Literature Coordinator and Lynn Carruth-Rathmussen, Alternate Forum/Literature Coordinator

*GROUP RECORDS COORDINATOR:*

Hello Missouri Area,

Thanks to all of you who have shared information with the Group Records Coordinator, Challis Holland, or with World Service Office (WSO) when you need to update records for Missouri Al-anon. As the Group Records Coordinator, it’s been a continual learning curve and I am thankful to all of you for helping me through the process!

As of March 8, 2021:

* The Missouri Area has 274 registered Al-Anon groups and 209 of those are active,

60 inactive, 2 reported not meeting, and 1 in no mail status. There are 18 registered Alateen groups and, of those, 11 are active and 7 are inactive.

* Of our 26 districts, 14 (54%) have DR’s. We are still looking for DR’s in districts: 1, 3, 7, 10, 11, 20,21,22, 23 24, 26, and 27.

Please remember update your group records, especially when your group may have experienced a location and/or virtual meeting change. There are many “newcomers” seeking help and hope through Al-Anon/ Alateen. As always, please reach out if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted by:

Challis Holland

3550 County Road 4008

Holts Summit, MO 65043

MO Area #31; Panel 60

Group Records Coordinator

panel60grouprecords@gmail.com

Cell: 573-690-1399

*LITERATURE DEPOT:*

As you can imagine things have been slow. I have sold only a handful of orders since last Assembly and those were orders that were in the Kansas City area, with the exception of an order that I shipped to Boonville. That being said there is still plenty of literature in my basement for sale. I do intend to have a counting party soon to see what we have on hand. As always if you need any literature you can reach me the Area email address which is area31litdepot@gmail.com or you can call or text me at 816-456-4086. It’s been an awesome journey serving as your Literature Depot Coordinator and I’ve truly appreciated the opportunity.

Mary Loftin

Interim Literature Depot Coordinator

*NEWSLETTER/COMMUNICATIONS:*

Good Morning,

First, I want to thank everyone who has sent in articles for the Round Robin. Without you there would literally be blank pages.

I want to talk a little bit about what I do every month. The duties of my position include keeping the website updated (events & flyers, reports, information on the announcement page, files etc.)

I have to request articles every month (sometimes 2 or 3 times),{I have requested that they be sent to me by the 20th but sometimes I have maybe 1 or 2 articles so I have to ask again}, taking the articles and flyers you send me and organizing it into a newsletter (sometimes I have to reformat things to fit), emailing the newsletter out to CMA’s, printing out the subscriptions that get paper copies (currently we have 11 copies of the Round Robin being mailed), and mailing them out every month.

I spend anywhere from 8 to 12 hours a month checking emails, updating the website and working on the newsletter. This last month I spent more time than that because I had issues with Microsoft Word, the program I use to put the Round Robin together. I spent a day and a half working on the Round Robin. It really stressed me out and I was wondering if I would ever get it done.

I took this position because I was bored and I knew it would not only fill my time but be a new learning experience for me.

I have learned a lot. Some of you are aware that I moved just recently. It has been a very difficult and stressful time for me. I went from being bored to overly busy.

With the added stress of living with my mother doing the website and newsletter is too much for me. So I have decided to step down from the Communications Coordinator position effective immediately.

Sharon Spahn

*PUBLIC OUTREACH:*

It’s hard to imagine that a year ago March 2020 was my first AWSC meeting as Missouri Area Public Outreach Coordinator. It is also difficult to believe that a year later we would still be in this pandemic. It has been a challenging year but our fellowship has risen to the occasion.

I have some exciting news from the WSO. On March 3rd WSO released new Al-anon and Al-Ateen posters. I invite you to access these through the Al-Anon.org website. Click on members,click on public outreach and click on posters. WSO is happy to work with members to utilize these.

As I reported in November, we have a new vendor for our PSA’s. We no longer have to contact radio and TV stations personally for airplay. After only one quarter WSO is pleased with the increased playtime across the country.

Our Missouri area website continues to be one of our best tools for disseminating information. A big thank you to our web coordinator and our Round Robin editor.The sight is easy to navigate and you can access upcoming events by just clicking on the calendar.

We have several area wide events that are coming up in the next few months.

CBAT April 17th

Assembly May 1-2 hybrid

Day in Service June 12th

Missouri State A.A. Convention July 30th- Aug1

Missouri Al-Anon Convention Sept 24-26

Our website maintains a current list of meetings, WSO Links, contacts etc. It is easy to find everything you need by going to the site map. I receive requests for information from councilors and other professionals from our website. It is also a great resource for newcomers as well.

Our AIS offices in KC and STL have done a phenomenal job keeping our meeting listings updated and connecting newcomers. Springfield has a phone line which updates our meeting list. While many meetings continue to be conducted virtually , the number of in person and hybrid meetings continues to increase.

I have learned much about our Area over the last year. I look forward to many more opportunities for public outreach as we are able to conduct more  in person activities. Be well and be safe and keep spreading the message.

In service,

Michaela Mohan

Missouri Area Public Outreach Coordinator

*REGISTRAR:*

The May Assembly will be hybrid, and registration information is posted on the MO Al-Anon website under Calendar/Events.  The date for the May Assembly is May 1 & 2, 2021 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City, MO.

The Al-Anon Convention Committee met on Mar. 7th, and we discussed the 2021 convention.  After much discussion, a decision was made to have a hybrid 2021 Al-Anon Convention.  Since the Covid pandemic has impacted everyone, the committee members believe that the area should offer a hybrid convention.  Last year, there were many international Al-Anon members who participated in our zoom convention and expressed a desire to participate in our 2021 convention.  The convention committee decided that the area is going to charge a registration fee to participate in the zoom & in person convention due to the costs of having the convention.  The Al-Anon Convention flyer will be available at the May Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

Flo Williams

*SPEAKER COORDINATOR*

Report not presented or submitted

*TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR*

I have received feedback that a calendar view would be helpful for displaying our Calendar/Events page.  In consideration of economical tools that meet this need, I began looking at Google Calendar.  Google Calendar allows a shared calendar, for which access may be granted to limit the access needed to view or administer calendar entries.  This would allow public read-only access, while also allowing Area Coordinators the ability to maintain the entries separately.  The challenge that I found is how we might integrate Google Calendar into our process, where an event is submitted for approval and (upon approval) the event is manually added to the calendar.  I hope to eliminate the manual entry of an event on the calendar and simplify the process to allow a one-click approval.  Another challenge is the way an attachment (flyer or other PDF) is accessible through the calendar item.  I found a crude solution to address accessibility of an attachment, and I hope to refine the feature.

I have also looked at user administration within the website, and I believe I may offer training to empower officers and coordinators to contribute to their “corner” or the website.  This is expected to reduce the involvement of coordinators as an extra step for publishing.  Area coordinators would still be available to assist in helping with the publications, if needed.

Jason B

Technology Coordinator

*ST. LOUIS AIS LIAISON*

Report not presented or submitted

*KANSAS CITY AIS LIAISON*

The Kansas City AIS continues to meet quarterly with members from Districts 1, 19, 20, and 21. Our meetings have been via Zoom since the pandemic and that has work out well.

We recently conducted a Group Inventory to see how we are doing at assisting the groups. The results were positive. We learned that our members like Zoom and would like to continue to meet that way, at least for some of our meetings, moving forward. We also learned that our members would prefer that our business meetings be more intentionally focused on our Groups and their concerns.

Our phone service, which is staffed by volunteers using Viatalk, has been going well. It’s been a challenge to keep current on the various meeting situations but we’ve managed to assist callers in finding meetings.

The Kansas City AIS will be hosting the 2021 Day in Service and we are excited about having an Area Event in our backyard! The theme for the day is: “Gratitude: Springboard to Recovery” and will involve speakers and breakout sessions and activities revolving around a swimming pool motif. Save the date for June 12 in Blue Springs. We hope this will be “hybrid” event with many people attending in person. Boxed lunches will be served to those who register to attend in person. Please share the Save the Date flier with your groups. It’s on the website Events page.

I am writing this report for Rayma T, our AIS Liaison, who could not attend today’s meeting.

In Service,

Ann H (Kansas City AIS Chair)

*AUDIT COMMITTEE*

The Audit Committee was comprised of Diane S. (Chair), Linda H. and Barbara D. We met with Geneva D., Missouri Area Treasurer, on Thursday, March 4th, 2021 at 6p.m. and reviewed her records for the 2020 fiscal year. The meeting took place via Zoom.

The months of November (Assembly) and August (AWSC) were chosen for review. Questions that arose regarding mismatch of balances and excel formula missing on detailed report and monthly report were resolved by Geneva. All deposits matched bank statements (checking and savings).

Committee Recommendations:

* Advise members who request reimbursement to submit forms and cash checks promptly.
* Checks outstanding more than 30 days make it difficult to keep balances current.

The Audit committee found the Area Treasurer’s financial records to be well organized, detailed and accurate.

Respectfully submitted, Diane S. (Chair), Linda H., and Barbara D.

*LEADERSHIP SUPPORT COMMITTEE*

Report not presented or submitted

*PROCEDURES COMMITTEE*

At the November 2020 Assembly, we spent quite a bit of time discussing our current ***Missouri Area Procedures Manual*** and the ongoing effort to get it updated and streamlined to meet the Area’s needs. Mindful of the work that had been done by previous Thought Forces, Sarah formed a Task Force which is charged with actually getting the work done. Originally, seven members were chosen to form the Committee. I was appointed to serve as the Chair, with Sue K. as the co-Chair, and Janet W., Kathy G, Marge O., Sharon G. and Tina D. as the other members. I exercised the right of decision granted me under Concept Three to add Diane S., who had served on the previous Procedures Thought Forces, as a Special Advisor to the Task Force.

Reading from the charge, we have been specifically instructed to achieve six important goals: 1. to examine the organization of Current procedures and reorder them to reflect the layout of the Al-Anon

/Alateen Procedures Manual; 2. to distinguish between procedures, processes, policies, guidelines and duties; 3. to look for procedures that eliminate the right of decision and/or otherwise violate Al-Anon’s Traditions and Concepts; 4. to make changes to existing procedures where immediately necessary; 5. to add Appendices as needed; and 6. to create the framework for an ongoing Procedures Standing Committee.

The Task Force has met twice since the beginning of February, and frankly, I’m amazed at how much has been accomplished in such a short time. Each member is giving their all to this project. We’re working on a fairly tight time frame. It is our goal to present an in-depth Progress Report at the May 2021 Assembly. In November 2021, we want to be able to present a rough draft to the Assembly for discussion, comment, and vote. We plan to present a final draft to the Assembly for approval in May of 2022, and then to have printed copies available for sale no later than the November 2022 Assembly. At that time, we will also have a list of recommendations to pass along to the new Procedures Standing Committee which will formally begin its work at the beginning of Panel 63 in January 2023.

At this early date, there’s a lot of specific information that I can’t share with you because it isn’t yet fully developed, but I can tell you that our new Area document will be clean, lean, and mean. It will be retitled. It will have both a Table of Contents and an index. In addition to being more easily accessible, information won’t be repeated over and over again throughout the document. It will be revised one time per Panel and the newest version will be made available at the November Election Assembly held at the end of each Panel. In the meantime, new procedural content passed at AWSC meetings and Assemblies will appear as Addendums until they can be incorporated into the next formal revision of the document. The printed edition will be loose leaf, and an electronic edition will be posted in the password-protected section of the Area website.

That’s just a narrow glimpse into what the Task Force has achieved to date, and the plans we are working on at this time. As I said, more in-depth details will be revealed at the May Assembly. The Task Force understands that the Area deserves a tool that will better serve the needs of the Area in the years to come, and we are committed to meeting that need. Thank you for your attention and your support.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Michael Click

***BY-LAWS AD HOC COMMITTEE***

Greetings,

In 2019 the Missouri Assembly explored this topic of the Missouri Area By-Laws and slated Board of Directors. After much discussion, we tabled the issue because there wasn’t a clear understanding/interpretation of who the by-laws slated as the Board of Directors.

The Missouri Area Thought Forces and Task Forces have been working extremely hard. While consulting with the committees, I realized there were several parallels and common denominators that could lead us back to an unresolved conversation regarding the Board of Directors.

I consulted with the officers and invited the current Thought & Task Force members to a zoom meeting. All Force members were invited, some chose not to attend. There were a wide representation of trusted servants on the call. It was determined that a small interim committee be formed and that we needed to consult an attorney for clarification. The following minutes are from the consultation with the attorney:

*By-Laws Ad hoc Committee meeting January 30, 2021*

Members present: Teresa Kendrick, Janet Wiseman, Kathy Grinstead, Lori Hassler, Sarah Smith, Susan Kieffer, J Michael Click, Geneva Dawson, Laurie Kleen

***IN SUMMARY-At the next Assembly the Area will need a motion to appoint the current officers as a Board of Directors for the remainder of the Panel. At future election Assemblies there will need to be a second motion to appoint the slate of officers as the Board of Directors. We may want to talk to an insurance agent regarding if we have appropriate insurance to protect the people serving as Area Officers / Board of Directors.***

Sarah Smith opened the meeting at 10:30 am by introducing Steve Coffin, a lawyer that the committee had asked to review the Area’s Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. When they were adopted in 1994, the intent of the Bylaws was to have the Area officers also serve as the Board of Directors. However, based on a current interpretation there was a question if there was a need for a separate Board of Directors over and above the Area Officers.

Steve indicated that State of Missouri Registration requires a minimum of three Directors. The current Registration Report indicates we are in compliance with the requirement. He also said that the Groups (through the GRs) are the Members of the organization, who vote for the slate of Directors

There was a question as to whether we needed to remove language saying that Directors can be non-members of the organization (a standard practice for many other companies). Steve indicated that since only members of Al-Anon could be considered for Officers no change would need to be made.

Steve indicated that, in his opinion, the Area was “doing a better job than many non-profit organizations” in following the Articles and Bylaws.

There was a question regarding liability insurance, and if we were doing enough to protect the people serving the Area. Steve suggested we talk with an insurance agent.

The meeting closed at 2:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Grinstead

***TASK FORCE ON ELECTIONS***

**Background Leading to the formation of the Task Force on Elections:**

The Missouri Area Procedures concerning the qualification of officers have been questioned more than once during our Election Assembly. In particular, the questions arose regarding who is qualified to stand for Election.

In August 2020, a Thought Force was appointed to research the question, “Are the current Missouri Area Election Procedures for Area Service Positions inclusive, effective, and meeting the current needs of the Missouri Area?” Additional questions were posed: What does “active at the Area level” mean? What does “served three years as a DR” mean? Should an AWSC member be able to hold two AWSC positions, such as serving as a DR and a Coordinator? Should we consider skill sets or require resumes for those standing for a position? Why aren’t members standing to Area Officer or Coordinator position? Do we need unchanging job descriptions for these positions?

In response, the Thought Force members interviewed current and past Missouri Area delegates, studying our current Procedures Digest and the current Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, researched other Area’s election procedures, looking at past Conference Summaries, contacted WSO, and our Area Archivist.

At the November 2020 Missouri Area Assembly, the Thought Force presented some of its research and recommended that “a Task Force be formed to clarify and/or revise our Area Election Procedures and the Qualifications of our Area Officers and Coordinators.” The Area Chair appointed a Task Force.

Task Force members are: Teresa Kendrick, Elaine McCrary, Brandi Smith, Mary Rollins, and Ann Hayles (Chair). This Task Force has continued to work on the questions in the Thought Force Charge and is preparing some recommendations. We ask for your feedback on these suggestions.

**“Three Years as a DR” and “Active at Area Level”**

**Background**

1. Current Service Manual (page 157) “In order to draw on experience gained in service, an Area may choose to permit anyone who has served a three-year term as DR, has remained active at the Area level (as Newsletter Editor, Coordinator, etc.), and regularly attends Al-Anon meetings to stand for the office of Delegate. It is recommended that Areas have a process or procedure for handling this possibility.” 2018-2021 Service Manual, version 2. We note that there is no mention of a similar requirement for the other Officers.
2. Archives of Missouri Area Assembly minutes from March 12, 1983, point to a motion approved to add “any Area Officer” to the Service Manual recommendation. That was clarified to include Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. This Area Procedure is found on page 13 of our Procedures Digests, under “Officers/Coordinators.” See #5.
3. We have learned that in 1983, each of the 25 MO Districts had a DR. A list from 2000, lists 22 DRs. Today we have 25 Districts with only 14 DRs.
4. Other Areas (California North, Southern California, Georgia, Arkansas, Indiana, Oregon, Nebraska, Minnesota South, Montana) do not specify the length of time a person must hold the DR position or make exceptions in the event that no one stands. Some Area define how many business meetings can be missed for someone to qualify.
5. A number of Areas do not have specific definitions for “Active at the Area Level.” The Service Manual seems to suggest, by parentheses, that it means taking another formal Area position. See the quote above. We think that “Active at the Area Level” could also mean attending Area business meetings to keep informed about Area Service, using voice at the meetings, and being available for Area service in other ways.
6. The WSO Senior Group Services Specialist, Christa Abildgaard responded to our questions saying that “Area autonomy is encouraged to document practices that best serve that Area.”
7. Recent Area history has shown that some members have been prepared to stand for election put have not met the qualifications of “serving a three year term as DR” or “remained active at the Area level.”

**Suggestions from the Task Force:**

In the light of this background, we suggest changing our Missouri Area Procedures Digest to reflect that:

1. “Three years” be allowed to include no more than two absences per panel and that the full three years qualification be reserved for Delegate and Alternate Delegate.

2. Qualification for the other Officers would include elected service as a DR, Coordinator, or Liaison, with no time factor listed.

3. We also suggest changing our procedures to define “Active at the Area Level” as “regular participation in Area business meetings.”

4. Finally, we suggest this should then be moved from #5 to #1 in the section “Officers and Coordinators.”

**Task Force Recommendations for changing the Missouri Area Procedures.**

**On page 13 (Section S—Officers and Coordinators), strike #5. Replace with the following:**

 Delegate/Alternate Delegate:

*In order to draw on experience gained in Area Service, the Missouri Area permits anyone who meets the following criteria to stand for election as Delegate or Alternative Delegate.*

* *Has served at least three years or one full panel as a DR in the Missouri Area, missing no more than two Area business meetings (AWSC and Assembly)*
* *Regularly participates in Missouri Area business meetings*
* *Frequently attends Al-Anon recovery meetings*
* *Is not a member of Alcoholics Anonymous*

Chairperson/Secretary/Treasurer:

*Any member who meets the following criteria may stand for election as Chairperson, Secretary, or Treasurer.*

* *Has been elected and served as a DR, Coordinator, or AIS Liaison in the Missouri Area.*
* *Regularly participates in Missouri Area business meetings.*
* *Frequently attends Al-Anon recovery meetings.*
* *Is not a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.*
* *Special note: Should no one stand for Chairperson, Secretary, or Treasurer, exceptions can be made from the floor for that Panel’s elections.*

Coordinators

 *Area Coordinators will be elected from among active Al-Anon members who meet the following criteria:*

* *Is knowledgeable of Al-Anon Service and Missouri Area Procedures.*
* *Regularly participates in Missouri Area business meetings. (AWSC and Assembly).*
* *Frequently attends Al-Anon recovery meetings.*
* *Is not a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.*
* *Special note: The Alateen Coordinator, Alateen Serenity Patrol Coordinator, and the Alateen Process Person must be registered AMIAS.*

**Can a person hold more than one AWSC position concurrently?**

**See Missouri Procedures Digest, Section II, Items G/4 and G/5 (page 6)**

**Background:**

1. At the March 4-5, 2009 Area Assembly a motion was presented and passed limiting the number of AWSC service positions a member could hold at one time. In our Procedures Digest (page 6), Section II, Item G states, “Area World Service Committee (AWSC) members can hold only one AWSC service position at a time. Effective date for this motion is January 1, 2011.”
2. At the same March 2009 Assembly, the GRs approved this new procedure (also page 6), Section II, Item 5: “Area Officers do not vote at Area Assemblies as representing a group. If an Area Officer is a GR, the Alternate GR can vote for the group. It is preferred that Area Officers not be a GR.”
3. What was happening in 2009? Geneva, who was the Area Chair at that time, stated, “We had so many people serving as DR and coordinator that we had a shortage of voting members at AWSC. Each person can only hold one vote, so when they held two positions one of them didn’t get a vote. Since the AWSC is supposed to be the advisory body to the Assembly we needed more people advising.”
4. Upon review of other Areas (California North, California South, Georgia, Arkansas, Alberta (British Columbia), Ohio, Iowa, and Kansas) we found that many Areas do not prohibit and some allow concurrent service. Autonomy is allowed without impacting Al-Anon as a whole by leaving the decision to serve in more than one AWSC Service position concurrently to the member. Many allow DRs to serve as Officers and Coordinators, as well as Alternates.
5. On page 185 of the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2018-2021, version 2, the last paragraph under Concept Four (Participation in the key to harmony.) states, “Participation also responds to our spiritual needs. All of us deeply desire to belong.”
6. On page 152, in the section about Assembly Elections, we read “In keeping with the principle of one vote per group, the Chairman has a vote only if he is still a GR.” This implies that the Chairman and other Officers could concurrently serve as GR, and even vote, for their home group.
7. On page 154, it states, “Assembly officers, including the Alternate Delegate, may continue to serve as DRs. When a DR becomes Delegate, he resigns as DR and his District elects a new DR.”
8. Each member of the AWSC having only one vote no matter how many service positions they hold would hinder dominance. Alternate DRs could vote if the DR holds a Coordinator position.
9. Rotation of Service is an important principle of the program and should be honored.

**Qualification for Officers and Coordinators**

**See Missouri Procedures Digest, Part III, Al-Anon Duties. (Page 17)**

**Additional Background:**

This Section of the Digest begins with a Part A that gives general information qualifications and duties.

 The current reference to the Service Manual (Part A/1/a) is confusing as the Service Manual changes frequently. The “Part 4” reference no longer applies.

 Some of the items currently in Part A are specific to various Offices and could be listed under those sections which follow this more general information. It would seem to make more sense for these specific “duties” to be listed, for example, under “Delegate, Secretary, Treasurer Duties.

**The following is our suggestion for clarifying our Procedures regarding Duties and Qualification for Area Officers and Coordinators: We think the following change makes the General Qualifications and Duties clearer for our members as well as for our Officers and Coordinators. It also includes our suggestion that ASWS members be allowed to hold more than one ASWS position and are urged to have Alternates who will vote at AWSC meetings.**

**On page 17, Section III, Al-Anon Duties. Strike Section A. Replace with:**

1. *Qualifications and Duties: The Missouri Area follows the most current Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual and Guidelines from the WSO regarding Duties of Officers and Coordinators.*
2. *Missouri Area Officers and Coordinators will*
	1. *Have a good working Al-Anon program, attend Al-Anon meetings frequently, have a good background and knowledge of Al-Anon policies and the Concepts of Service.*
	2. *Not be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.*
	3. *The Alateen Coordinator, Alateen Process Person, and the Serenity Patrol Coordinator will be certified AMIAS.*
3. *General Duties of Officers and Coordinators*
	1. *Attend all Area World Service Committee meetings, with voice and vote. (If a member holds more than one voting AWSC position they shall have only one vote at AWSC meetings. ASWS members holding more than one voting position are urged to have an alternate who would vote in the second position.)*
	2. *Attend all Area Assemblies, with voice.*
	3. *Present reports at each AWSC and Assembly. Give reports to the Area Secretary for inclusion in the minutes.*
	4. *Write articles for the Area website/Round Robin as requested.*
	5. *Answer all correspondence in a timely manner.*
	6. *Keep records of all expenses and submit them, along with completed, signed expense forms to the Area Treasure within 30 days of the incurred expense.*
	7. *Assist their successor in any way possible, handing on records, files, equipment and supplies pertaining to the position.*
	8. *Be available to attend District meetings or workshops, if possible, when requested.*
	9. *Attend additional meetings, such as agenda meetings, as called by the Chairperson.*

**Note: In addition, if the above is changed in our Procedures, changes will need to be made to page 6 procedures, under Section G, Area World Service Committee. We suggest the following.**

**Strike page 6, G/4. Replace with**

1. *District Representatives, AIS Liaisons, and Past Delegates may also hold an Area Coordinator or Alternate Coordinator position. (If a member holds more than one voting AWSC position they shall have only one vote at AWSC meetings. ASWS members holding more than one voting position are urged to have an alternate who would vote in the second position.)*

**Lists of Duties for Officers and Coordinators**

**See Missouri Procedures Digest, Section III, Items B through V**

**Background**

Following Section A, our Area Procedures Digest contains lists of “duties” for each of the Officer/Coordinator Positions. These are written by the current or outgoing trusted servants and are a combination of Area expectations, Service Manual information, and suggestions from one servant to his/her successor.

These lists are not technically part of the Missouri Area Procedures, having not been approved by vote, but are useful descriptions of each position that have been compiled by the trusted servants who held those positions.

As far as we can tell, they are not reviewed and the authors of the lists are not known but are presumed to be the last person holding that position. They are not job descriptions and are not reviewed by anyone other than the writer.

Many Areas have specific and unchanging job descriptions for their trusted servants. Some of these lists are very comprehensive and detailed and seem not to leave room for creativity. Other Areas, like ours, have lists written by the person who last held the position. In at least one case, the lists are reviewed at least once per panel and are signed and dated.

**Our suggestions regarding the Lists of Duties:**

1. We suggest job descriptions for each Area Service position be written, using the most current Service Manual and WSO Guidelines as starting points. Perhaps the Board of Directors could write and/or approve the lists of duties. We urge they be not so detailed as to deprive the Trusted Servants from bringing their own creativity to the role or to potentially scare someone away from standing for the position.
2. If we keep the current practice of having outgoing trusted servants write these lists of duties, they could be reviewed, signed, and dated.
3. Our suggestion would be that our Procedures Digest keep these in a separate section of the digest, perhaps as an appendix.

**The Future Work of the Task Force on Elections**

1. **A Survey of our Area Members regarding willingness to serve.**

As part of our original Thought Force Charge, a survey of our members was suggested. Our Task Force would like to follow-up on this through an on-line and a mailed survey to all Missouri Area Groups. The purpose of the survey would be to try to learn why so many Groups and Districts do not participate in Area Service as well as why individual members seem to be unwilling to stand for election.

We are beginning to surface questions for the survey and have investigated a couple of free on-line survey. We hope to conduct this survey in the late spring or early summer of 2021.

Mailing of the survey to our 136 Missouri Groups would create an expense in the vicinity of $125-$150, for envelopes, printing, and postage.

We also hope to glean some information from the participants in the Day in Service, June 12, 2021.

1. **Election Procedures: See Section II, Item Q (page 10)**

We also intend to closely examine our Area Election Procedures, comparing them to the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual recommended Election Process. In the future, we may have recommendations for clarifying our Missouri Election Procedures.

1. **About Resumes**

Finally, we are researching the idea of asking potential Officers and Coordinators to submit resumes of their Al-Anon service and/or their personal skills prior to standing for Election. Some Areas do this; others do not. We will get back with you on that one, too.

Signed, with Gratitude,

Ann Hayles

Brandi Smith

Elaine McCrary

Mary Robbins

Teresa Kendrick

**APPENDIX C: District Representative’s Reports**

*DISTRICT 2:*

We don't have a report because we are still not doing anything because of COVID19.”)

Theresa H

*DISTRICT 4:*

Greetings from District #4! Our District covers southwest Missouri, including Springfield, Branson, and West Plains.

Thanks to our technology committee, as of Jan 2021, the new District 4 website is up and running!
The link is: <https://www.modistrict4afg.org/> The website has our meeting schedule, other district information, and donate button.

The in-person meetings are starting to pick back up after a lull in attendance due to COVID. We have at least 2 meetings every day in our District. Most of them are meeting in-person with a few Zoom or conference call meetings and a few hybrid meetings.

We have one active Institutions meeting at a domestic violence shelter and one treatment center that is interested in holding a meeting.

District 4 has replaced the answering service with a google voice number. We will be forwarding the incoming calls to a list of volunteer members.

We have not yet decided on whether or not to hold an in-person fund-raising event this year.

In Service,
Ruth R., D.R., District #4

*DISTRICT 5:*

Our district has managed to stay in contact with everyone in one way or the other.

The “I am Serene in Ivey Bend” has expanded in person groups to 2 days per week.  If someone chooses to connect remotely that is an option that can be done as well.  The Warrensburg group continues to meet in person but have changed the meeting time to 6 pm group attendance in this group is running between 8 and 10 person and all are masked and social distanced.   The Sedalia group had dropped but Al-Anon member is available it someone shows at 8 after the AA meetings.  The Clinton Friday noon meeting is maintaining group membership of 4 with no place to meet in person on Friday’s they are currently doing zoom meeting.  The Clinton Monday Night AFG meeting that was held in person switched to zoom meetings with 10 to 15 in attendance each meeting.

Business meetings are still taking place.  The Monday Night meeting just voted to go back to in person meetings with starting with first Monday in April.  Discussion was had with all group leaders that we need to get our listings updated for new members or other from outside the area that may want tap into our virtual meetings. I am a grateful member of Ala-non and will continue to do the best I can with things as they come at us.

Paula N.

*DISTRICT 8:*

Greetings and best wishes from District 8. My name is Elaine McCrary.

District 8 encompasses Audrain, Boone and Callaway counties with meetings in Holt Summit and Columbia. We have two groups currently meeting face to face, four meeting electronically and two via phone. For dates and times of our meetings please visit our website at <https://midmissouri-al-anon.org/meetings/>. Our groups have reported several newcomers attending and the meetings seem to be strong and healthy. The Monday Serenity ODAAT completed a group inventory and reported that they had good participation and actually found a couple things to work on as a group. The Saturday morning Gratitude group has begun a step study on the first Saturday of the month. On the few nice weather days the Monday There is Hope group has met at the park with social distancing to visit and enjoy seeing one another in person.

We have noticed a decline in electronic attendance at District meetings. We hope to reverse that trend this spring. Our next District meeting is April 11 on Zoom beginning at 5:30 pm. The Meeting ID is 524 034 0960 and Passcode is 482950. We invite you to join us.

Our website and answering service continue to be updated as needed and we have the capability to answer new comer inquiries through our website. Our District website has been updated with the link to the WSO YouTube channel. A few groups have reported newcomers attending their first meeting electronically. The answering service reported a number of inquiries; the majorities were folks looking for AA.

Our institutions activities have been on hold during the pandemic and we have no idea when we will be able to re-start. A long-term Al-Anon member from the Vandalia women’s prison has been transferred to the Chillicothe prison and they don’t have Al-Anon there. Chillicothe is in District 11 and they have meetings in Macon, Moberly and Boonville, but have not had a DR for several panels. Chillicothe is 2 hours from Columbia. We are making contact with the prison to see about sending literature and books and wondered if the KC or St Joseph areas might have an interest in participating in some manner with literature etc. or is this something the Area Institutions/ Public Outreach might want to contribute to? Do we have anyone in that part of the state that may be interested in taking Al-Anon into the Chillicothe prison? Please contact me if you have an interest or any ideas at emccrary59@gmail.com or 573-673-1480.

At our meeting on January 10, 2021 we discussed and brainstormed on what our district can do to support the goals and vision of the Board of Trustees Strategic Plan for 2022 – 2024 and 2024 – 2029 using KBDM. <https://al-anon.org/for-members/board-of-trustees/core-purpose-mission-strategic-goals/> Suggestion included for the DR to recommend 3-4 topics/projects that support our goals and would be valuable to our District, we could bring those to our groups to see what had the most interest? Maybe our focus should be where do we see the greatest need for those that haven’t discovered Al-Anon yet? We will be working with our Public Outreach Coordinator to put together some ideas for the groups to consider.

Grateful to be in service,

Elaine McCrary

District 8

*DISTRICT 9:*

District 9 is located in St. Louis County. The five active groups are continuing to meet virtually. Several meetings were notified that their meeting place is now open, with restrictions, for in-person meetings. At this time the groups are still meeting virtually.

November 14, 2020 our district held our virtual potluck. Approximately 75 people attended and listened to great talks by the Al-anon and AA speakers. Donations were made through the District’s Venmo account and by mail.

A district meeting was held on Zoom on November 16th. We discussed the potluck and a motion was made and passed to donate all proceeds from the potluck to the St. Louis AIS office. The November assembly was also discussed and important information noted so it will be passed on to our groups. The Treasurer’s report was accepted.

The district was notified that the January 2021 District 9 workshop was cancelled. It was reported that the speaker has agreed to speak in 2022 if the workshop is held then.

A district meeting was held on Zoom on January 11, 2021.

The Treasurer reported that donations from the potluck were made throughout the month of November and into December and a total of $395.00 was sent to the St. Louis AIS office.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Kendrick

District 9 Representative

*DISTRICT 12*

Hi! I’m Deb Walkup DR for district 12. Our district covers 9 counties in the NE corner of Mo.

I am getting to know members in District 12 by attending a phone meeting with our Macon group and attending a face-to-face meeting in Hannibal.

There are no Alateen meetings in District 12 at this time; however, we have had recent teen involvement at our Hannibal meeting and continue to encourage teen participation.

Our Hannibal group will meet about having a serenity walk. This will be a physical walk where we stop at multiple locations. One person will take a turn at each stop and complete a brief reading and comment on the topic. We also plan on inviting others who may have been involved in al-anon in the past and have not been for some time as well as inviting those who have shown interest but may have not actually attended to date. We are in the planning stages and are looking at doing this sometime in May or June.

Each weekly meeting in the district seems to average around 4-8 people including newcomers.

I am grateful to other al-anon members have taken the time to support me in this role. I’m getting to know members in our district and hope to begin meeting some of those members face to face.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Walkup, DR

District 12

*DISTRICT 13*

District 13 ‘s Pearl of Wisdom fundraiser concluded in December.

Donations were made to the World Service Organization, A.I.S and area with funds from the proceeds, leaving a prudent reserve to cover the expected expense for hosting a recovery event in August and a workshop in November.

The district has reserved a pavilion in Des Peres Park for August 15, 2021. Plans are being finalized to have Al-Anon and AA speakers. We are researching having an ice cream vendor and providing bottled water. With the pandemic we are hoping to gather but avoiding ‘shared foods’ that could create problems. David M. is the event chairperson.

We are also planning a workshop for November 12/13. Our hopes and expectations are having it in person. Co-chairs are Diane L and Barbara D.

Some group in the district are returning to in person meetings while continuing to use zoom.

District business meetings were held in November, January and February using zoom. We will continue to use zoom at least until it is safe to meet in person. It provides a viable alternative to finding meeting rooms with other organizations.

Volunteers from District 13 served on the area financial reserve task force and on the elections task force.

Barbara Droney

*DISTRICT 14:*

At our January meeting our District developed some goals for the year. They included having more Group Representatives in the District; sponsoring a workshop; developing new Public Outreach efforts; having speakers at our District meetings.

As a result of this discussion the District is planning a workshop for April 18th, Grow Where You Are Planted. Mary G. who was a former Trustee and interim Executive Director for the WSO will speak on the topic.

We are also planning to have speakers at each of our District Meetings to provide our members and visitors with training and development. We had one this past week, How All the Pieces Fit Together by Sue K. She presented on how groups, districts, areas and the World Service Conference compliment each other as we serve families affected by alcoholism, focusing her remarks on Traditions and Concepts Three and Four.

Meagan M. was elected as the new Alternate District Representative. She comes to us from Minnesota where she served as their Area Delegate. Her experience enables the district to have a DR and Alternate DR working together as a team.

At the January meeting we recognized that we had four former DRs and three former Delegates present and actively involved on the District level. We are grateful to them for sharing their experience, strength and hope with us.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marge O’Gorman

DR, District 14

*DISTRICT 15:*

District 15 consists of 26 active meetings including one Alateen meeting. Pre-Alateen is on hold due to pandemic. Most are available on zoom and a few are in person with social distancing. There are 3 new voting GR’s attending our District meeting. They represent Friday Night Fellowship AFG, Glendale Thursday Morning AFG and Everyday Grace AFG. It is wonderful to have them. Focus on Solutions AFG, Help N Hope AFG and Sunday Serenity AFG continue to have representation since the beginning of the panel. I thank them all and our officers for their service. Marc B continues to host the Alateen meeting on Zoom. He opens the meeting at 630 pm every Sunday.

For rotation of service opportunities, the district is asking a fellow group or groups to chair our two recovery events. These include the August Pot Luck and the November Holiday Workshop. An outdoor Pot Luck event is being considered at Emmenegger Nature Park in Sunset Hills. If CDC guidelines require, it can be switched to a virtual event. The Holiday Workshop will also be held in keeping with CDC guidelines. Like we say in Al-Anon, more will be revealed. Please group contacts, share this with your meetings!

Our District is considering giving money to the Happy Birthday Lois campaign for Public Outreach. We will discuss at our next April 10th meeting. I will send you the link soon.

Yours in Service,

Mary Rollins, DR-15

*DISTRICT 17*

Dear Panel 60 Members:

The District 17 meeting will be held Saturday, February 20th, via zoom 9-10:30 am.  We will plan to have a group conscience meeting soon to determine if the group would like to start hybrid meetings for the next district meeting in April.

Several groups are meeting in person or with a hybrid format.  Some meetings are also being held via zoom.  Individual groups have a group conscience meeting to determine what is best for them.  GR reports indicate good attendance at meetings, with newcomers in attendance as well which is so nice to see.

Public Outreach parent meetings with Harris House have started recently via zoom which is very exciting for District 17 to be a part of.  The Public Outreach team is working very hard coordinating dates for our group speakers to attend these Saturday zoom meetings.  Progress is being made on setting up continued parent meetings with Bridgeway as well.

Other than the hybrid group meetings, the district has not met for workshops or events, although I hope to start discussing as a district what everyone feels comfortable doing. So looking forward to that!

Grateful in service,

Jackie Lovett  District 17

*DISTRICT 18:*

District 18 is in central Missouri. We have 4 active in person meetings right now. We have not found a suitable place for the Alateen meeting or the Wednesday night meeting yet. We would like an AA or Al-Anon meeting at the same time and place as the Alateen meeting. Right now, most places don’t have that much room available. Hoping that will change soon.

With all the changes this past year we had discussed putting flyers in libraries. Happy to see that the WSO has posters available on the website. I have some help in trying to get our info on one of those. With input from our GR’s would like to get those out this summer as things open up.

Respectfully Submitted

Mary Nichols, DR

District 18

*DISTRICT 19:*

District 19 is in and around Kansas City, north of the Missouri River. We have had two meetings (via Zoom) since the last AWSC meeting. We had representatives from 6 groups at our October meeting and representatives from 4 groups at our February meeting. We have a total of 13 groups registered, including an Alateen group.

We invited our Area Delegate to visit our February meeting and enjoyed her presentation.

We have been brainstorming Alateen Public Outreach ideas and are currently in a bit of a holding pattern on that.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 21st which is 2 weeks prior to Assembly.

Of the groups I have been in touch with recently, 2 are meeting in person and the rest are meeting virtually.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Q., District 19 DR

*DISTRICT 25:*

District 25 has three active meetings. The Warrenton group on Mondays is a hybrid meeting (in person and zoom); with good attendance. There are two meetings in Troy. The Wednesday group still meeting via zoom and the Friday meeting started meeting in person and is now in the process of finding a new location. Our District made a contribution to WSO. Hopefully soon we can order more district pens. As Public Outreach Coordinator for our district, it has been very slow. A lot of businesses are still closed at this time, but I’m trying hard to get the word out. We contacted Healthy Communities and a couple of churches with contact info concerning online meetings. Diane helped by attending CAP (Community Agency Partnership) monthly meeting via zoom in Nov., Jan., Feb. Our annual Serenity Walk will be on Oct. 9, at Cuivre River State Park. Thank you so much.

District 25 DR

Ms. Linda G.

*DISTRICT 28:*

District 28 had a district meeting on January 9, 2021. We discussed the various meetings in the district and how they are handling the Covid 19 shutdown. We have a total of 6 meetings in our district and 4 of the meetings are now meeting in person with social distancing. We have one meeting doing Zoom.

We discussed sending some funds to Area and WSO and this was approved. We voted to cancel the workshop for professionals until further notice. We are waiting to see if the church we booked will allow the Fall Gratitude Gathering. We are discussing if we are having to change this event and move it outside this summer.

I announced about the AWSC meeting and the convention being on Zoom. I have distributed this information to the groups in the district.

We will have the next district meeting March 20th. On the agenda will be public outreach efforts moving forward, re-opening a closed meeting in Sullivan, and May’s Hybrid Assembly. A report will be given on the AWSC meeting.

Ellen A.