

**Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia Area Assembly Business Meeting**  
Business Meeting – Part I, May 18, 2013

**Purpose of Assembly:** Elect a Delegate, Alternate, and other Assembly officers, Receive and distribute reports on Area and world service affairs, 3) Review and approve interim reports of Area World Service Committee.

**Goals:** The spiritual tone of Assembly will prevail by the demonstration of mutual respect and acceptable conduct as its members presume goodwill, Assembly members will understand the purpose of the Assembly and the relationships within the structure, Knowing that our Higher Power is present in the expression of our group conscience, Assembly members will be able to support and communicate Assembly decisions.

**Chair,** Cheryl K: Opened with the Serenity Prayer, 12 Traditions read.

**The following Coordinator and Liaison Reports were given:**

- **Webmaster** - Patrick B.: Website has been updated: (1) Meeting info easier to obtain. When you pull up by district; meetings are sorted by meeting time and date. Click on blue link to search by zip code. “Notes” section added to meeting list; send e-mail to webmaster using link to fill out form. (2) Literature order page has been added to fill out order form, save, and e-mail to GACS (type the verification code and click submit to send to the area office). MAIS literature orders will need to be made to the MAIS Office. Researching to make website more mobile friendly. New survey on WSO member’s website.
- **Public Outreach** - Marie N. Committee Member: Christina L, GR in District 13, working with outreach to black churches and getting feedback from minister on outreach ideas. 2013 Project: Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (AFA) Distribution to Professionals distribution: I have a form for groups/districts to fill out how many copies needed and how much in donations—please respond by 6/15. I will submit order to WSO by the end of June. Hoping for 1,200 plus copies and will have at September Assembly to you to take for distribution. The PSAs from WSO have been reviewed and I will submit comments to WSO to expand diversity in public outreach statements, QR Codes (square bar codes): Idea to use as public outreach tool to create and print on stickers and can be put on literature as a link to our website (use for Al-Anon and Alateen).
- **Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP)** - Jennifer T. Deadline for 2013 recertification has past. New requirement for AMIAS service is 6 hours per year. Contact her to confirm certification status of any AMIAS attending an event with Alateen participation. Will be conducting a workshop this afternoon on the HB1176. Thoughtforce will be discussing current legal questions.
- **Alateen** - Jenny L. Currently I am working on the Mandatory Reporting and Permission Forms Task Forces. Providing some alternative training opportunities during Assembly, and alternate locations for those who do not attend Assembly. Starting to communicate and work with current sponsors to put the focus back on the growing and helping the groups.
- **Alateen Representative** - Lincoln. I have posters made by the Intown Alateen Group displaying reasons why teens you know should come to the Alateen Conference. Have plenty of registration forms for the upcoming conference. A writing workshop was held at last year’s Alateen conference and the Forum is printing one of those pieces.
- **Archivist** - Sulata L. I have started saving the current Thought Force and Task Force Reports to put with the motions related to those reports. Researching the best way to store documents electronically and plan to purchase a scanner for storing archives and area office materials and determine the best practices using scanner for storing electronic materials. First Georgia Alateen Group was formed in 1959 and was called the Alateen Group in Cogdell, Alateen History Reading.
- **Group Records** - David B. Will continue to update directory monthly. Any changes received before the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month should be updated for that month. Will send an e-mail to DRs which should clarify the process for changes. Send all changes to DRs—go to the website to see process flow. Do not send new group information or changes directly to WSO. Use the GR1 Form which is on the website.
- **Literature** - Erica L. Had a conference call with WSO and other Literature Coordinators. *Many Voices One Journey* will be featured in CAL Corner of Forum this year—encouraged to use book in meetings. E-literature: *Having Had a Spiritual Awakening* is now available as e-book for \$9.95 through electronic book service providers. *Forum* will be available—no date yet. New book: *Reaching for Personal Freedom: Living the Legacies*, \$15, spiral bound and 175 pages. Will be released at the International Convention this summer in Spanish, French, and English. Literature prices went up May 1 and prices are reflected on the website. New piece of Literature: *Conflict Resolution* flipchart for \$4. Submit writings for newest piece of literature, *Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships*--No deadline for submissions. WSO have received over 100 sharings. Conducting a writing workshop at 3 pm today and submitting to WSO for this book.
- **Newsletter** - Essie N. Current Newsletter (dated March 2013) is now available on the website. Two new items: Report from AA Delegate and a new feature called “From Gratitude to Action”. Next deadline is 7/1 and I will send reminder e-mail a month prior to deadline.
- **MAIS**, Karlyn M. Met on 5/8. District 9 invited MAIS Board Chair to participate in district meeting. MAIS Ordering 200 AFA 2014 and if interested in ordering copies for your groups/districts, please contact MAIS Literature Chair. MAIS has 3 new telephone volunteers. MAIS Anniversary Chair is looking for a location inside the perimeter for the Anniversary Party.
- **Restructuring Task Force** - Jeff G. Corporate entity is the same as the spiritual structure at the assembly. Task Force is following KDBM and will have conversations at the assembly based on information gathered by the task force. Have identified 3 other areas

that are corporate entities that will be looked at. Task Force Members: Levon C, Debbie F, Bettina H, Cheryl K, Vicki L, J.P. M, Renelle M, and Tom M.

**Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia Area Assembly Business Meeting**  
Business Meeting – Part II, May 19, 2013

**Chair**, Cheryl K: Opened with the Serenity Prayer, 12 Concepts and Purpose of Assembly were read. Cheryl began with review of voice and vote.

Roll Call was taken by Donna M., Secretary. The following represents the number of Groups represented:

District 1 -- 6	District 5 -- 9	District 9 -- 14	District 13 -- 8	District 17 -- 3
District 2 -- 3	District 6 -- 4	District 10 -- 6	District 14 -- 3	District 18 -- 10
District 3 -- 9	District 7 -- 1	District 11 -- 6	District 15 -- 5	District 19 -- 9
District 4 -- 7	District 8 -- 3	District 12 -- 2	District 16 -- 6	District 20 -- 3
				District 21 -- 9

Roll Call: 126

The Assembly Minutes of January 19-20, 2013, with changes as presented, were accepted by general consent.

**The following Reports were given:**

**Delegate**, Cathy O: Thanks for all the support and gifts from Georgia Al-Anon during my 1<sup>st</sup> conference. Theme: “Changing Me to We”. Service Manual Revised text: Pages 88-91 on Anonymity, and Pages 107-9 on Public Outreach. Conceptual approval was given in developing a brochure for parents and grandparents. Each DR is getting a copy of the new PSA available in English, Spanish, and French (not broadcast quality). It costs WSO \$252 to provide services for every group. Average gift made by each group is \$111. Georgia groups average around \$132 per group. WSO is working on creating an app that can be downloaded from a smart phone. *How Al-Anon Works* will be an electronic book for \$11.99 in July. It will also be available later as an audio book for \$24.99. Would Georgia like to host “Meet the Board” Event: July 2014, July 2015, or July 2016? Does Georgia want to sponsor another TEAM Event?—volunteer needed to chair. E-communities: a way to communicate with WSO, and get connected with other DRs—talk to J.P. Forthcoming: Offering a 24-hour telephone message telling about meeting locations. Next WSC: April 24-30, 2014.

**Alternate Delegate**, Renelle M: Linda S. volunteered as Al-Anon Liaison for the 2014 AA Georgia Prepaid Convention, St. Simons Island. Name badges: Grateful that this is a program of progress, not perfection. She now has a process in place to help with accuracy with the name badges, so next Assembly you should notice that a few more of you will have name badges. Forum: It is the responsibility of the Alternate Delegate to be the Forum Representative. There was concern when it was mentioned that WSO was considering not sending a free subscription to each group because it is such a great outreach tool for newcomers. Renelle told the GRs to encourage subscriptions at their groups. Subscription income for 2012 (\$264,700) is down by 3.3% as compared to 2011 (\$273,600); subscriptions continue to decline in 2013. She stated that it costs only \$.92 per month and asked “Is your recovery worth 92 cents a month?” Currently online ordering of the Forum is not available and after checking with WSO but they are working on it. You can still go online, print off the order form and send it through the mail. Speaker List: DR has access to the list. Anyone who is looking for someone to speak at your event, please check with your DR for the list. If you would like to be added to the list send info to Renelle. We do not audit the names on the list; we trust that you are an Al-Anon in good standing. Thanked Districts 5 and 6 for their wonderful job in handling registration. Thanked Districts 7, 8, and 9 for Hospitality. September Assembly: Registration: Districts 10 and 11. Hospitality: Districts 12, 13, and 14.

**GA Al-Anon Central Services (GACS) Office**, Debbie F.: Thank you to all the groups, districts and individuals for making donations to the Central Office. Expressed the need to have the District number placed on the checks so that thank you notes can be sent to the right source. We are relocating the office to a smaller space within the same complex. We are looking at going from \$700 per month to \$400 per month. Nothing has been done yet. The landlord is out of town so we will be talking with him when he returns. We appreciate the opportunity to serve all of you.

Bill asked about the new space because one of the things he always enjoyed was seeing the Alateen quilts on the wall. Debbie indicated that they will still be displayed.

Debbie stated that the former Treasurer has had some medical issues and has resigned. Levon has volunteered to fill in as Treasurer of Central Services on a trial basis.

Cheryl continued the meeting with election of an Alateen Conference Chairperson. The 2013 Alateen Conference Chairperson had to resign due to medical complications. Those who are certified AMIAS who are willing to stand for this position, please stand. Amy G. stood. Election took place and Amy was elected by show of hands. A point of clarification...this will not affect Amy’s serving as 2014 Chair of the Alateen Conference.

Elections took place for the 2014 Co-Chair of the Alateen Conference and Chair of the 2015 Alateen Conference. Carmen from Woodstock was the only person who stood. She was elected via show of hands vote and became the Co-Chair of the 2014 and Chair of the 2015 Alateen Conference.

Election of 2014 Co-Chair/2015 Chair for Georgia Al-Anon/Alateen Convention: Cheryl asked for those who live or attend meetings in District 3, District 8, District 4, District 14, and District 11, please stand and those who are willing to serve in this position to continue standing. Phillip W. (Macon) and Linda B. (Augusta) expressed their interest. Someone asked if there could be "co-chairs" of a convention. Discussion took place regarding the pros and cons of co-chairing. The process was "brought back in focus" and elections resumed. After a couple of attempts for a two-thirds vote, Cheryl asked if either of them would like to remove themselves from the election. Linda B. removed herself from the election process. Elections resumed and Phillip W. became the Co-Chair of the 2014 Convention and Chair of the 2015 Convention. Cheryl reminded everyone that the Spiritual connection was here, and she thanked Linda and Philip for their willingness.

Assembly meeting moved into the motions. Cheryl reminded everyone of what Cathy said earlier regarding motions: "Is this motion accurate, does it provide clarity, and can I live with it?"

First one is the new contract with this Hotel. Proposed contract with the Marriott from \$105 with tax and other fees \$119.70 to \$108 plus fees = \$121. Levon explained the information projected on the screen. Facilities cost is \$911 per week-end. Marriott will give us 50 rooms block with a commitment of 48 rooms in order to receive this rate. Levon stated that the groups would need to increase their contributions by \$10 a year (less than \$1 per month. She further stated that there is one time over the next three years that the date of one weekend will have to change to a different week end (September 2014). Cheryl stated that any issues there are with the Marriott need to be given her for handling with the hotel.

Much discussion took place regarding this potential motion. Discussion included issues surrounding coffee availability. There was also a reminder of the previous research made for facilities in the central Georgia area. The "cramped" accommodation for workshops was also addressed. Discussion was closed and the motion was read.

**Motion 1:** That the Area accept the Macon Marriott contract for 2014, 2015, and 2016. Motion accepted (opposed 9, abstentions 2)

**Budget Report,** Levon C.: Budget vs. Actual thru April 8, 2013. YTD: Total Income= \$5,387 other (comes in from Area Office, Conventions, Alateen Conference for taxes and insurance). Total Expense=\$5,580, Total Funds on Hand=\$9,806.93. Balance Sheet: Checking account \$9806.93; 1 year CD was renewed on Feb 19, 2013 at .35%; 6 month CD renewed February 1, 2013 at .1%. We have a new line item of Money Market account from February 1, 2013 at .1%. Total assets=\$25,739.85. There being no further questions or comments, the report was accepted as presented.

Address for Area Contributions: AFG of GA, Inc., Area Contributions, PO Box 7644, Macon, GA 31209-7644.

Contributions to the Alateen Conference were encouraged. Checks made out to AFG of GA/Alateen Conference and mailed to: AFG of GA, Inc./Alateen Conference, Gay Danner, 237 Cottonwood Court, Jackson, GA 30233

Levon gave the update that taxes due on May 15, 2013 were prepared, completed, and mailed on May 14, 2013. If any group needs information on opening a group bank account for banking purposes only, email Levon and she will email you appropriate information to help out with that.

Levon announced that the previous Treasurer of Georgia Area Central Services had to resign due to illness and Levon has consented to act in that position on a trial basis. She went over the Georgia Area Central Services Financial Reports.

2012 Financial Report: Income \$34,449.52 Total goods sold was \$20,813.19; Gross income 13,636.43. Expenses were \$15,292.75. Summary: Net Income \$13,636.43 and Total Expenses the Area Office had a loss last year of \$1,656. There being no objections, the Georgia Area Central Services Report was accepted as presented.

Moving on to the first quarter of 2013: Net Income \$3,617.40; Expenses \$3,427.68. Balance Sheet:

There being no objections, the Financial Report for the first quarter for Georgia Area Central Services was accepted as presented.

Debbie mentioned that the address for Georgia Area Central Services (GACS) is not the same as AFG of Georgia, Inc. The address is: Georgia Area Central Services, 2713 Sheraton Drive, Suite B-120, Macon, GA 31204

**Motion 2:** From Finance Committee - That the 2013 Area budget be adjusted by A) Committees: Add line item "Legal Fees" in the amount of \$5,000.00; and, B) Group Contributions: Increase by \$5,000.00 from \$8,638.00 to \$13,638.00. Motion passed 5 abstentions.

Renelle explained that the Alateen Task Forces are compiling questions to the Attorney for legal council. This is just an estimated cost. We were told the fee per hour and we're trying to estimate number of hours needed in order to make a budget request. Cheryl explained that a different Attorney is being retained for the task force regarding mandated reporting. Who may be pro-bono or offer a discounted rate.

**Motion 3:** That the 2013 Area budget be adjusted by: A) Archives: Add line item "Printing" in the amount of \$200.00; and B) Treasurer: Contingency funds decrease amount by \$200.00 from \$1,500.00 to \$1,300.00. Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion 4:** That the 2013 Area budget be adjusted by: A) Treasurer – Office Allowance increase line item by \$55.00 from \$360.00 to \$415.00; and, B) Treasurer – Contingency fund: Decrease amount by \$55.00. from \$1,300.00 to \$1,234.00. Passed unanimous

**Motion 5:** That the 2013 Area Budget be adjusted by: (a) Chairman-Officer Allowance: Increase amount by \$500.00 from \$150.00 to \$650.00; and (b) Treasurer-Contingency Fund: Decrease amount by \$500.00 from \$1,245.00 to \$745.00. Passed unanimously

**Motion 6:** That the Area share the cost with Georgia Al-Anon Central Services (GACS) for a scanner to reduce paperwork and capture electronically documents and other archive materials at an Area cost not to exceed \$150.00. This would adjust the 2013 Area Budget by: (a) Archives-Coordinator Allowance: Increase amount by \$150.00 from \$75.00 to \$225.00; and (b) Treasurer—Contingency Fund: Decrease amount by \$150.00 from \$745.00 to \$595.00. Passed unanimously

**Motion 7:** Move that the Area purchase a portable projection screen for use at Assembly at a cost not to exceed \$200.00. This would adjust the 2013 Area Budget by: (a) Miscellaneous: Add Line Item "Equipment" in the amount of \$200.00; and, (b) Treasurer—Contingency Fund: Decrease amount by \$200.00 from \$595.00 to \$395.00. Passed unanimously

**Motion 8:** That Assembly adopt Knowledge Based Decision Making (KBDM) for conducting Assembly business and that the following KBDM statement be incorporated in the Area 11 Policy and Procedure Manual for Assembly. The KBDM statement will follow the "Purpose" statement and precede "Roberts Rules of Order" in the Assembly Manual (currently located on page 2-3). Knowledge Based Decision Making "In reaching an Informed Group Conscience we use Knowledge Based Decision Making (KBDM). The four basic elements of KBDM are open communication between leadership and membership; all decision makers have access to full information; dialogue before deliberation; a culture of trust. This allows Assembly to thoroughly examine issues without an end or action in mind. Not every dialogue with deliberation will end with an action needed. A motion when necessary will follow the procedures outlined in this manual". Passed unanimously.

**Motion 9:** Move that Assembly workshop for service or other pertinent business, as approved in May, 2009, be adopted as a regular Assembly agenda item thus concluding the trial period, and replacing the action committees. Passed - 1 abstention

**Motion 11:** Move that the Area Newsletter, in electronic format and available on the Area Website as approved in May, 2009, be adopted as the standing and ongoing method to create and distribute the Area Newsletter thus concluding the trial period. Passed unanimously

**Motion 12:** Move that the Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) Coordinator role and responsibilities as approved in May, 2006, along with any subsequent amendments be adopted as a standing and ongoing Area Coordinator Position thus concluding the trial period. Passed unanimously

### **Other Reports:**

**Al-Anon/Alateen Convention,** Lois B. August 9-11, 2012, Registration forms available here this weekend and on the website under events. Donate handmade items to boutique and silent auction items. Contribute food to hospitality. John, the Fundraiser Chair will be selling tee shirts, bottles of water with the Convention logo and lanyards here today. 155 registered at this time.

**Alateen Conference,** Amy G. Conference is June 7-9, 2013 at Rock Eagle. 14 registered at this time.

**2013 60<sup>th</sup> Georgia A.A. Prepaid Convention,** Dorothy N. October 17-20, 2013 at Hyatt Regency in Atlanta, Recognizing Georgia Al-Anon 50th Anniversary. There are two Al-Anon Speakers--Friday at 4 pm and Saturday at 10 a.m. and two Al-Anon meetings. Link to Registration forms available on Georgia Al-Anon website.

The meeting was closed with the Al-Anon Declaration lead by Cathy O. who introduced the way it was done at WSO: forming a large circle, saying the Al-Anon Declaration, then, quietly turning, and repeating it again while facing the outside of the circle.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Martin, Area Secretary

# Final