

**Georgia Area 11 Assembly
Business Meeting Part I
Saturday, May 19, 2018 @ Noon**

Welcome by Chairperson, Cathy O. Opening began with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Al-Anon Twelve Traditions were read. The Twelve Concepts of Service and The General Warranties of the Conference were read.

The purpose and goals of Assembly were reviewed.

Announcements:

2018 Assembly Theme - Cathy O. our 2018 Assembly Theme: "In Al-Anon: There Is No Standing Still."

GACS Employee - Char introduced Kathryn K. to the Assembly. Kathryn was hired as a part time employee for the GACS office and began working May 1, 2018.

Forum Recognition - Barbara T. recognized Georgia Al-Anon/Alateen members who participated in submitting an article to the Forum since January 2018.

Assembly Task Force Survey - Vicki L. passed out a survey to be filled out and returned today for the Task Force Committee to review.

Coordinators/Convention Representatives/Liaison Reports:

2018 Alateen Conference - Anne C. We had our last Committee meeting Saturday the 28th to finalize our plans before the Conference.

This year the Committee set an age of 12 to 19 for attendees. This was brought about by written comments from the Alateens at the end of last year's Conference. They felt that they couldn't relate to the younger kids. We had some children as young as 8 years old attend. The weekend schedule, being fast paced, was harder for the younger children to keep up with, especially having to arise so early in the morning.

We have a registration table set up for those planning on attending our "AMIAS" Day or signing up their teens. This will also be the last date to register before the price increases. After May 21st the Conference fee will be \$90.00.

Today and tomorrow the fee is \$75.00.

The Fee for the AMIAS Day is \$20.00. This covers the fee we pay Rock Eagle and lunch. If you would like to stay and participate in our afternoon activities and have dinner the total fee is \$31.00. If you would like to stay overnight, then you will need to sign up on the Alateen Conference flyer and pay the registration fee.

As of May 13th we have 14 AMIAS and 8 Alateens. We are hoping more will be registered by this weekend.

We also have our fundraising table set up. We have "Buttons" and "Wrist Bands" for sale.

The prices are: Wrist Bands and Buttons \$4.00 each or (2) for \$7.00 or (3) for \$10.00.

All funds raised will go toward the Alateen Conference.

I would like to thank Lauren, our Alateen Coordinator, for submitting our conference information to "Alateen Talk", which is a newsletter from WSO for AFG teens and younger members worldwide.

I would also like to thank everyone for the support that I have received on behalf of our Georgia Alateens.

As 2018 Conference Chair, it has been my pleasure to serve our teens. In service to Alateen, "there is no standing still".

2018 GA Al-Anon/Alateen Convention - Kathy M., in Kathy's absence Donna M. gave her report. The 40th Annual Georgia Al-Anon/Alateen Convention will be held at Callaway Gardens, Mountain Creek Inn, Pine Mountain, GA. on August 10-12, 2018. Speakers are Corrie L., Al-Anon, Wetumpka, AL., Jacob L., Alateen, Atlanta, GA., Eric B., A.A., Stone Mountain, GA., Diane A., Al-Anon, Nashville, TN. and Kathryn C., Al-Anon, Cumming, GA. Regular registration will be through July 31st - \$35, August and Walk-In Registration - \$45 and Alateen Registration - Free. Registration forms can be found on the GA Al-Anon website under Area Events.

Presently we have fewer than 50 registrations. Please register and have fun supporting your convention and your program.

If you can't attend, consider donating your registration fee or another amount to keep the convention sustainable going forward.

Hotel registration instructions: The group code for online registration: 1602058. You can also use the convention-specific phone number: 877-533-9943.

We will be raffling off a piece of vintage Al-Anon literature signed by Lois W. at the convention.

Other ways you can support your 2018 GA Al-Anon/Alateen Convention: Donations and volunteers are needed for the Boutique. Donations and volunteers are needed for the Hospitality room. Volunteers are needed for the Literature room.

Volunteers are needed for the Saturday night variety show and skits.

To volunteer, or for any questions you may have, send an email to: afgofga2018convention@gmail.com.

2018 Georgia State A.A. Prepaid Convention – Julia R. Registration for the 2018 A.A. Prepaid Convention in Athens, GA. is now open! If you live in Georgia, it is free to attend. You can register on-line at <https://www.aageorgia.org/georgia-prepaid-convention.html>.

The Convention will be held on October 26-28, 2018. Lori G. (Al-Anon Speaker) will share her story and she will also lead a workshop on Saturday. We are also planning an open Al-Anon meeting on Saturday, in addition to the A.A. workshop and 2 A.A. speakers. Lastly, on Sunday, the last A.A. speaker will share her story.

The A.A. Speakers include the following: Cliff G. (husband of Lori G.), Korbyn B., Tammy Z., Kristina W. (was just on Good Morning America and does the Codependent TV show on TLC) and Bill S.

There will be many fun activities such as: Golf, Poker Run, Fun Run, Yoga, an Open Mic, UGA/FL game viewing, Botanical Garden Tour and a Halloween Costume Dance with DJ (Saturday night).

At present, we are looking for more Al-Anon volunteers to help with behind the scenes tasks. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me at juliaj515@gmail.com.

MAIS – Julia K. MAIS, the Metro Atlanta Al-Anon/Alateen Information Service, exists to support the Al-Anon and Alateen groups in metro Atlanta. In the new service manual, you can find more reading about an Information Service on pages 66-67. Every time I do this report at Assembly, I remember my first experience as the MAIS Rep for my group. It humbles me to realize how flattened by the effects of the disease of alcoholism that I had been. Terrified, I drove to the NABA Club off I-85 and sat down in the chair. Then what? I listened to other MAIS Reps, with more experience than me, question and participate in the business meeting. It took an incredible effort just to get in that chair.

Participation is down at the MAIS Committee meetings. To create an opportunity to hear from you who attend meetings in metro Atlanta, I have again reserved the private dining room here at the Marriott during the dinner hour tonight. My hope is that we can gather to discuss and share information about the 2018 budget; the new website-alanonatl.org; how the telephone answering service has been transformed into a low cost but effective service not only to metro Atlanta but really to the entire Area; how several groups within MAIS took literature and volunteered at a Drug and Rehab facility and how MAIS was able and ready to help the Area with communications issues.

I want to share with you more news about the Anniversary Dinner that is scheduled for December 1st. The flyer is on the MAIS website. This year MAIS celebrates 50 years of service to metro Atlanta. Golden bookmarks promoting the event are on the front table.

Our first appeal letter is being sent to all GRs in metro Atlanta. Your generous donations are critical to keeping our Atlanta Al-Anon/Alateen website current, our Meeting Information and Twelve Step phone line accessible, and our Literature Distribution Center open. When this appeal reaches your groups, please consider how, with your generous contributions, our services aid people affected by someone else's drinking. From my experience, serving as a MAIS Rep really helped me recover from the effects of the disease. We ask that you share this appeal with your group at three consecutive meetings, passing an envelope on behalf of MAIS.

AAPP – Alan D. All of the re-certification letters are out. I mailed 57 AMIAS re-certification packets on April 2, 2018. The cover letter included instructions to mail the Alateen Service Sheet back to me and to send the Bosma Investigative Services background check permission form directly to Bosma. The cover letter states a date of May 15, 2018 for returns. So far, I have received about four-dozen service sheets back. Bosma Investigative Services has completed about three dozen background determinations covering many of these individuals. Thus, I have re-certified 36 Georgia AMIAS on the WSO website database with 21 more to go. Note: All Georgia AMIAS listed in the WSO database prior to January 1, 2018 must be re-certified by June 30, 2018 or else Georgia will lose WSO Alateen certification. Currently there are 60 AMIAS certified in Georgia, with 57 of those requiring re-certification by June. Three new AMIAS have recently met all qualification and training requirements this year and have been issued their own AMIAS number by WSO. They are now eligible to serve as sponsors or to participate in other Alateen-related activities. I have another new AMIAS applicant who has applied this year and has met one of the qualification criteria. Two others have applied, but have yet to complete any of the three qualification requirements. I will try to follow up with these individuals during the re-certification period.

As AAPP for Georgia, I also receive the completed 2018 Alateen Annual Update sheets sent out by WSO to the Alateen groups. So far I have the update sheets from 11 of the 19 Alateen groups in Georgia. Obtaining the remaining nine will be my first priority following completion of the remaining AMIAS re-certifications.

There are another half dozen or so prospective AMIAS candidates who have applied more than a year ago who have not yet met all requirements at this point. Some have not submitted their background check form to Bosma or the period to get fingerprinted has expired. Others still need training or are missing forms such as the Georgia AMIAS Supplemental Form. I will work on contacting them to determine their continued interest in becoming an AMIAS once all re-certifications are completed in June and the remaining Annual Alateen Updates have been turned in.

Alateen – Lauren M. During my term, I've had many AMIAS approach me and ask for a contact list of other AMIAS in the state to make it easier to share E, S, & H. Last month, I sent an e-mail to all currently certified AMIAS with the option to opt in or out of this list before sharing any contact information. By opting out, their name will not appear on the list. The response has been overwhelming on the opt-in and I hope to get that out to those AMIAS that opted in by the end of the week.

We currently have 60 Certified AMIAS and 19 Alateen groups.

A reminder; Tomorrow we will have elections for the 2019 Area Alateen Conference Co-Chair, who will then become the 2020 Area Alateen Conference Chair.

Also, as a reminder; We are less than 2 weeks away from this year's Alateen Conference @ Rock Eagle (starts Thursday, May 31). The theme is "Courage To Be Me." It's still not too late for your teen to register.

We will be conducting AMIAS training today during the 1st & 3rd workshops. We will not be having a Sponsor-to-Sponsor workshop this Assembly.

From the WSO: 2017 was the 60th Anniversary of Alateen. The Staff want to sincerely thank all members, Al-Anon/Alateen groups and participants in Alateen events/conferences that sent "Happy Anniversary" cards! For the first time in more than 5 years, the WSO is recording an increase in new registered Alateen groups. We have had 21 new Alateen groups registered since the beginning of the year.

As members continue to spread the message of hope for Alateen, it is important to always be reminded of the 2003 Alateen Motion and the important role it plays in the Area Safety and Behavioral Requirements. I am happy to inform you that the 2003 Alateen Motion from the Board of Trustees is now posted on the al-anon.org website on the "Alateen Participation in Events" and "Starting an Alateen Group" pages linked to the Alateen home page found in the Group Records tab under the Members menu. Furthermore, where the 2003 Alateen Motion is mentioned in the online *Service Manual*, a direct link to the 2003 Alateen Motion is now established. The 2003 Alateen Motion posted is a pdf of what was published in the 2004 World Service Conference Summary.

Archivist - Marie N. The WSO Archives Coordinator continues to digitize documents and photos and store many of these materials "in the cloud."

October 2018 marks the 30th anniversary of our cofounder, Lois W.'s death. Although only available in English, the December/January 1988-89 Memorial issue of the *Inside Al-Anon* newsletter was provided to the Area Archives Coordinators on their AFG Connects community. I will forward it to DRs.

Of further interest are several documents from the 2nd General Service Conference of A.A., held in April, 1952, which included a summary of the discussion from 2 Policy Sessions entitled "Family Groups", which was considered a provocative topic.

- Family Groups are not a new development.
- Family Groups seem here to stay and are increasing rapidly, from 50-70 groups in 1950ish to 250 in April 1952.
- Family Group representatives have affirmed their distinct entity. (Groups are not seeking to use the A.A. name.) As now set up they do not impinge on A. A. and do not seek to do so.
- Development of Family Groups is viewed sympathetically in virtually all Areas. (Only 2 of 77 delegates brought concerns that could be considered critical of the Family Group movement).
- Reports of Family Group Development are carried in the "Grapevine," when newsworthy. (It has been the practice of the "Grapevine" to carry non-A.A. happenings when they relate to the interest of A.A. Readers. The Conference, in a special resolution, affirmed its support of this traditional "Grapevine" policy.)
- Delegates to the 1952 Conference approve unanimously, the work that Lois and Bill have done, to encourage and support the sound growth of the Family Group movement. This sentiment, framed in a special resolution at the close of the final policy session, was adopted by an enthusiastic standing vote of all delegates.

Group Records - Dan Mc. In January, our area website started to utilize WSO's new meeting finder. The interface is intuitive, shows a local map with meetings, on the left a scrollable list of all meetings within the search radius.

Clicking on the map pin displays information about that specific meeting. The best part of the new finder is faster record updates.

The new map is tied directly to WSO's meeting database. Both WSO and the Area Group Records Coordinator update the group records database.

WSO updates their database as a result of the following:

A member uses the online new registration tool.

A member or DR uses the online update GR1 Tool and the Area Group Records Coordinator takes more than 14 days to update WSO's database.

A member or GR fills in and returns an Annual update form.

A member or new prospect reports no one showed up at the meeting location.

WSO sends an email or postal mail and the mail is returned undeliverable.

The Area Group Records Coordinator updates WSO's database as a result of the following list:

A member or DR uses the online GR1 update tool.

A GR or DR sends a GR1 pdf to the Area Group Records Coordinator.

A GR or DR fills out a paper GR1 at Assembly.

Looking ahead, it appears, the vision for group record updates is to automate the process. The next step is for records to be automatically updated once the electronic GR1 form is submitted. A notice would go to WSO and Area Group Records Coordinator. The changed data is placed in "pending" status, awaiting the Area Group Records Coordinator to review the data and make corrections if needed, then approve or reject the update.

Groups New Registration & Update (THE NEW GR1 FORM)

When members go to <https://www.alanon.org> and go to Members/Group Resources, one can find Group Records. All group updates are forwarded to the Area Group Records Coordinator and WSO. If a member registers a new group with the online tool, the information goes directly to the WSO Group Records staff for processing.

New Group Registrations are placed in pending status for a few days and an email alert is sent to the Area Group Records Coordinator. This area of WSO's webpage is no longer password protected. So, literally, any one can make changes to your group records.

Area 11 Group Statistics: There are 402 Al-Anon/Alateen meetings per week in the state of Georgia. Our records are indicating the following:

69 are inactive, 7 are in no mail status (no CMA) and 326 are active.

Georgia has 268 meetings that have representation at Assembly and the remaining 134 meetings do not attend to have a voice at Assembly.

AreaGroupRecords@ga-al-anon.org.

Literature - Philip A. The new Service Manual is here. You need one for the GR, one for the Alt GR, and one actually available in your meeting space, because one in the trunk of someone's car doesn't count. Sponsors can give one to their Sponsees to encourage them in service. Plus, Christmas is coming up sooner than you think.

Groups at Work, the first 75 or so pages of the Service Manual, is available for only one dollar. It's a great bargain! It has info on how to run a meeting, descriptions of Service positions and other useful information.

The new publication, *Intimacy and the Alcoholic Relationship*, \$11, will become available this summer at the International Convention in Baltimore.

The 50th Anniversary Edition of *One Day at a Time*, \$15, will also become available at the International Convention. I'd like to encourage groups to pre-order literature before Assembly rather than waiting until Assembly and come in with a long shopping list.

Come to see me in the Literature Room. There's a Public Outreach Table, an Archives Table, a Historical Literature Table and an Alateen Table, in addition to the Literature Sales Tables.

Newsletter - Anne M. I serve as your Newsletter Coordinator and I am charged with collecting articles for the Area Newsletter, *Georgia On Track*. I reach out to members of AWSC for articles, put them together into the newsletter format and then publish and distribute the newsletter to AWSC.

Georgia On Track is published three times a year in March, July, and November. I begin requesting submissions about a month prior to my work of combining them into the newsletter template. Each newsletter has a service theme related to the Assembly themes chosen by our Area Chairperson. For 2018 we are continuing WSO's theme, *In Al-Anon There Is No Standing Still* throughout the entire year.

This past March, the newsletter was published and distributed via the links of service and it has been posted on the Area Website. Many AWSC members sent in contributions and I am grateful for the articles, flyers and service sharings. The newsletter is a great place to find out about anniversary celebrations, workshops, new meetings,

ideas for public outreach, information about CAL or the Area Website and to learn about what is happening with Alateen, the Area Office and WSO.

I particularly want to encourage District Representatives to send in sharings about what is happening in your district. Your grass roots news can inspire other districts and groups to grow Al-Anon and as a result help with the recovery of many of its members.

If you are wondering what to share, consider sending in flyers for new meetings or workshops.

Tell about your district's public outreach experiences. Share about exciting group meetings, such as, group inventories, speaker meetings or changes in meeting formats. Mention how your district is supporting Alateen or cooperating with AA. Share how your district is supporting groups that don't have active GRs.

In conclusion, we come to Al-Anon so we do not have to face this family disease alone. The newsletter is a tool for broadening and deepening our connection to members of our fellowship across the state. If you have not had a chance to check it out, please look for it on the Georgia Area Website or contact your District or Group Representative.

Public Outreach - Debi S. The results of the Al-Anon Membership Survey are in and more than 13,000 members participated. This is by far the largest number of participants since the survey began in 1984 and up from 8,517 participants in 2015! Thanks to all who took the time to go online to complete the survey. The WSO continues to sift and sort the data, with a goal to have the results available between September and December of this year. The findings will be posted on the WSO website and announcements will appear on AFG Connects, In the Loop, and other WSO publications. This important info is used to educate professionals as well as included in our Outreach Literature.

It's time to order Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2019 (AFA) magazines! AFAs are our primary Outreach publication. They educate family members and professionals about what Al-Anon is and how it helps. If you've already been involved with Outreach using AFAs, you may know how powerful they can be and how many different uses we have for them. Here are some suggestions: Therapists, Counselors and Social Workers offices, Mental health agencies, Treatment centers, Hospitals, Emergency rooms, Medical clinics, Libraries, Laundromats and National Recovery Month/fall events.

The deadline for orders for the AFA 2019 first printing magazine is *July 11, 2018 at 5 pm*. Reminder, if you don't order by July 11, you will not be able to receive AFAs until April of next year! Please start looking at the needs and projects your groups may have through year end and into Spring to have plenty of AFAs on hand. September is National Recovery Month when many community events take place and are a great chance to bring Al-Anon & Alateen info.

I love the way Claire R. from WSO described distributing AFAs - "It is a simple Public Outreach activity for a complicated family illness."

Bulk orders are the most affordable option. Groups and members can combine orders to pay as little as .35 per copy. I have distributed flyers via email to the DRs and there are some on the Outreach table in the Literature room. Please share this info with your groups.

Area 11 now has some eye-catching Outreach Display tools, a 7 foot retractable banner and table runner. These items made their debut at the Georgia Addiction Counselor Association training in St. Simons a few weeks ago and will be traveling next to the Alcohol & Drug Certification Board of Georgia training in Marietta next month. Please contact me if you would like to use one or both for your community events.

Come and see me in the Literature Room and check out photos of some of our members participating in Twelfth Step Work! I'd love to hear about your Outreach activities.

Please join us on this journey of carrying the message!

Webmaster - Alecia C. I have been updating the website with fliers for current events. The updated convention flier has been added with the current speakers included. Please see the events page of the website for all the upcoming events in the Area. The newly revised AMIAS Handbook and Supplemental Certification form have also been updated to the website. If you have fliers which need to be added for your group or district, please forward a flier in pdf format for the event, making sure that there is no personal information (names and phone numbers included on the document). Lots of changes have been taking place with the website and with the support of the technology group. Please remember that I am just coming back on board and will rely extensively on the input of the work group. The Technology Work Group has met frequently for the past several months discussing the status of the website and how to proceed with updating the Webmaster Coordinator position from one that requires an above average technical ability to someone with an average technical ability. Thank you so much to the Work Group members; Vicki L., Philip A., Barbara T. and Patrick B. (our former panel Webmaster) for all their time and service. This weekend we will be proposing two motions to that effect: to rename the

“Webmaster Coordinator” position to just “Web Coordinator”, and to ask for additional funds so that the website can be either updated and maintained by a professional, or transferred to a more user-friendly platform, Wix. The work group is still investigating our options around this, but quotes we have received on all the options appear to be possible for a maximum budget of \$1000. A motion to request an additional \$500 in funding over what is currently budgeted for the IT Workgroup Allowance will be brought forward in our Business Meeting tomorrow.

2018 May Assembly/Saturday’s Workshops and Speaker meeting schedule:

- 1:45-2:30 pm – Stepping Stones Presentation - Sally C. - Magnolia Room
- 1:45-2:30 pm – Alateen Training Part I – Lauren M. – Private Dining Room
- 1:45-2:30 pm – Service Workshop – JP M. and friends – Magnolia Room
- 2:45-3:45 pm – Restructuring the Area - JP M. - Magnolia Room
- 4:00-5:00 pm – Al-Anon Discussion Meeting - Magnolia Room
- 4:00-5:00 pm – Alateen Training Part II – Lauren M. – Private Dining Room
- 7:30 pm – Area Coordinators Share – Barbara T., Chair
- 8:00 pm – Speaker Meeting – Barbara T., Chair, Denise C., Speaker - Magnolia Room

Business Meeting Part II
Sunday, May 20, 2018 @ 9 AM

Welcome by Chairperson, Cathy O. Opening began with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Twelve Concepts of Service and the General Warranties of the Conference were read. The purpose and goals of Assembly were reviewed.

Using the Area 11 Policy and Procedure Manual for Assembly, the following information was shared: who has voice and vote, along with the Assembly Operating Protocol.

Roll Call - Secretary - Kathy W. There were 20 Districts represented and 114 voting members in attendance.

Minutes - Secretary - Kathy W. The January 2018 Assembly Minutes were approved as presented by unanimous consent. ***Motion 1***

Officer Reports:

Delegate - Renelle M. This year’s Conference theme is an excerpt from a statement made by our Co-founder Lois W., “Al-Anon—there is no standing still!” This is saying to me “we are always changing, continuing to grow,” and we need to continue to reach the millions who need Al-Anon’s help but are not yet aware of us. It is a reminder and a call to action for every member.

This theme was demonstrated in the changes we saw during the WSC. In October 2017, the new Executive Director for our World Service Office, Vali F., worked side by side with Interim Executive Director Mary G. This allowed a smooth transition for our new Executive Director, our WSO staff and our fellowship. Vali has come to Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. to support and guide the Staff in transforming the vision and priorities of the Board of Trustees into tangible solutions and plans, while maintaining focus on our underlying spiritual principles, honoring our past while embracing our future.

With new leadership we saw changes in many areas. The Executive Director’s Report was renamed Annual Report to reflect the many staff members who provided highlights of department accomplishments throughout the year. A key focus for Staff has been the implementation of the new project calendar, which provides cross-department visibility to the major projects occurring at the World Service Office. It ensures that all steps and activities are considered, bottlenecks are identified and to increase collaboration between the Staff when issues arise.

The WSO website was updated with a lot of changes. There is no longer a password on the members website since no personal information is posted. Other information is sent out on AFG Connects. The website was updated with a meeting search. Over 340,000 meeting searches have been conducted since its launch on January 11, 2018. The Website is on pace to have over 1.5 million meeting searches conducted by the end of the year. The Data Analyst identified that there has been a corresponding decline in the number of calls to the Al-Anon Family Groups toll-free meeting line, most likely due to more members and potential members being able to find the information easily on the website. This has reduced the demand on WSO Staff. Compared to last year, call volumes are down almost 70% and website meeting searches are up 376%.

AWSC updates are being handled in a simpler more effective way by going directly to the Group Records department. Group Records and Digital Strategy created a web form for Group Change Requests (known in its paper format as the GR-1 form). Any member of the group who enters the necessary group information can complete this form. The system then generates an email with the information to the Area Group Records

Coordinator, so he/she can make the update in the WSO Online Group Records. These updates are fed directly into the new Meeting Search every hour, 24/7. There is also a New Group Registration form, which is sent to WSO Group Records to add the new group as they would when receiving the paper form.

The member's survey participation significantly increased due to enhanced technology. Data from the survey will be available once it has been compiled.

A complimentary *Groups at Work* book is being mailed to the Current Mailing Address (CMA) of all registered Al-Anon meetings.

The *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* was posted online with the ability to use word search or click on pages in the contents section to look up topics. After printing the English version of the manual and sending it to translations for the Spanish and French versions, it was discovered there were some variances in the online manual and the printed version. The online manual is the correct version.

Literature: The 2019 quotes that may be used for Alateen calendars were posted on AFG Connects in March.

The new pamphlet "Parents and Grandparents" is now available for .75 each.

The *50th Anniversary Edition of ODAT* will be available at the Al-Anon International Convention. This version will have Gold Lettering and, if purchased at the convention, a label will be given to place in the book. After the convention, the books will still be available while supplies last, but without the label. The cost will be \$15.00.

The new book "*Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships*" will be released in English at the International Convention. The cost will be \$11.00. The Spanish and French versions will begin shipments to members in February 2019.

The conference voted to give conceptual approval to develop a bookmark on "*Just for Tonight*", using inclusive language.

2017 was the 60th Anniversary of Alateen. The Staff sincerely thanks all members, Al-Anon/Alateen groups and participants in Alateen events/conferences that sent "Happy Anniversary" cards! For the first time in more than 5 years, the WSO is recording an increase in new registered Alateen groups. There are 21 new Alateen groups registered since the beginning of the year.

Public Outreach- Media/Group Records: The Nielsen TV Rating Service recently announced that the Al-Anon TV public service announcements in the US earned a Top Five Percent Award for 2017. The award recognizes nonprofit organizations that had the most PSA broadcasts during the year. The Al-Anon PSAs appeared 51,000 times for an estimated audience of 325,000,000 at an estimated value of \$7,000,000. The radio PSAs played 65,000 times to an estimated audience of 338,000,000 for an estimated value of \$4,000,000.

If you are a member of Al-Anon you can help spread the message of hope to others. It takes local member's involvement in order to have PSAs played on local TV or radio stations. The easiest way for members to place Al-Anon PSAs with local TV or radio stations is to play the PSA for a station representative. Going to al-anon.org on a smart phone, tablet or laptop and scrolling to the Media Kit will take you to the PSAs. Showing the PSA and sharing a little of your personal story as a member of the station's audience will let the station representative know how they can perform a valuable service to their community by broadcasting Al-Anon public service announcements. All a Public Outreach volunteer needs to do is send the WSO the name of the station, along with the name and phone number of the representative at the station who expressed an interest in playing the Al-Anon PSA. The WSO will arrange for an electronic delivery to the station at no charge.

The fellowship throughout the US and Canada continues to demonstrate a willingness to carry the Al-Anon message of recovery. Social media likes and shares, flyers in public places, posters on methods of transportation, billboards, reader boards, copies of *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism* magazine, PSAs in movie theaters and maintenance for all the service arm websites show how far members are willing to go to help carry the message. All these messages invite people to visit the new WSO website and to attend convenient meetings in person and online.

Thank you to the members, groups and service arms that participated in the AFA magazine outreach project. For the first time since its inception in 2006, a total of 400,325 copies of our outreach magazine were ordered.

The new AFA 2019 cover again features the purpose of the magazine (Help and Hope for Families and Friends of Alcoholics) in the masthead, and the title and year of the magazine, along with an invitation to readers to take the magazine with them at no cost.

General information about AFA 2019, tear-off tab flyers and order forms for the first printing will be sent to Public Outreach Coordinators in time for spring Assemblies. The deadline for placing orders is July 11, 2018, 5 pm ET.

Updates on Planned International Trips: The Staff contacted members of the Greek structure to initiate coordinating a visit in May. Some possible areas of discussion include using the Traditions in meetings, understanding the translation process, doing Public Outreach and learning to use the *Service Manual*.

The Staff is planning a trip to the Norway Structure for summer 2018 and it will most likely include visits with neighboring structures such as Finland and Sweden. These countries are small, work well together and can learn a lot from each other, just as some Areas do in the US and Canada.

Auditors Report: As of December 31, 2017, our World Service Office had total assets of \$10,513,794 and liabilities of \$1,866,960, leaving net assets of \$8,646,834 among three funds – General, Reserve and Building.

2017 Budget Final Figures: In 2017 the General Fund income from operations totaled \$5,212,031 and expenses for the year were \$5,278,530. As a result, the General Fund Net Assets decreased by **\$66,499**.

A gross profit of \$2,770,868 was realized on literature sales and contributions for the year were \$1,972,931.

Forum subscription income totaled \$264,461.

In October 2007 the Board of Trustees approved annual transfers of up to 4% of the average fair value of the Reserve Fund for the 36 months ending on December 31 of the prior year to the General Fund. For 2017 this equaled \$191,600.

Expenses included salaries, office supplies, business expenses including travel, literature printing, conference costs, PSAs etc.

While the contributions goal in 2017 of \$2,100,000 was not met, WSO had the second largest amount of contributions in a single year. The largest single year of contributions was 2016 where total contributions equaled \$2,098,098, which was the first time contributions exceeded the \$2,000,000 mark.

Outlook: Although we fell short of the budgeted amount of \$2,100,000 for Contributions, literature sales were unexpectedly strong and allowed us to end with a relatively small deficit. Our WSO is encouraged that members understand the need and will continue to support the efforts of the World Service Office.

2018 Estimated Budget: The 2018 Budget shows that we expect expenses to be \$2,772 less than revenue for the year. We are estimating revenues to be \$5,503,800 and expenses to be \$5,501,028.

Projected Expenses: Overall expense is budgeted to increase by \$222,499 from last year's actual. The increase is related to the World Service Conference being held in New York this year, three PSA campaigns running and the General Services Meeting. Salaries increased only \$9,500 with normal cost of living increases.

Estimated Income: The estimated income from literature sales is about \$229,132 more than last year and *Forum* subscription income to be comparable to the prior year. The introduction of new literature this year is projected to provide an increase in literature sales. We are budgeting contributions to be \$2,000,000, which is comparable to last year's actual. Beginning in 2008, we agreed to transfer up to 4% of the fair value of the Reserve Fund to the General Fund. For 2018, we have budgeted a transfer of 4% again.

However, the goal is to not be dependent on the reserve fund in order to meet the operating expenses.

Georgia's Contributions: 70.4% of Groups Contributed to WSO in 2017

The Average Contribution Per Group was \$213.94.

Total difference in Georgia's overall contributions 2017 compared to 2016 is **-\$6.00**.

The cost for WSO to support a group in 2017 was \$283.00. Districts and groups are encouraged to have a budget that includes contributions to each of the service arms, MAIS, Area Office, Area, and the WSO at AFG Inc. It is important to remember we are fully self supporting, which means each group and District review their budgets and remind members it is up to us to contribute in order to meet our financial responsibilities. *Supporting Al-Anon and Alateen groups financially is a way for members to express their gratitude for the help they have received from the program, thus ensuring that Al-Anon and Alateen will be available when someone seeks recovery from living with the effects of alcoholism. 2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual pg. 55*

Individuals can make contributions directly to AFG Inc. from the Al-Anon.org website using pay pal.

The 2018 Road Trip: You and Your Board Connect will be in Houston, Texas October 20th, 2018.

This is an opportunity for your Trustees and Executive Committee members to share their personal recovery and their current service roles with you in an intimate setting.

Day of Connecting: The 2018 International Al-Anon Convention starts July 6th—but you can get a jump-start on the Convention and your own recovery by coming early for the Day of Connecting on July 5th! There are exciting plans for all who attend—workshops, panel discussions and speakers. Al-Anon members from all parts of our structure will be there. Will you?

It will be great when we all come together July 5th for the Day of Connecting in Baltimore. Members worldwide are encouraged to join our Board, WSO Staff and Al-Anon/Alateen members from all Areas and structures. Together we can share the many ways we serve our fellowship and inspire each other to grow in leadership and service, our third Legacy.

All this service excitement is for \$40.00 if registration is received by May 31st and \$45.00 from June 1st until the event.

2018 International Al-Anon Convention: Beginning Friday, July 6th, Al-Anon workshops, Alateen workshops and A.A. meetings will be held during the day on Friday and Saturday. All workshops and Big Meetings will be held at the Baltimore Convention Center.

All International Convention attendees are welcome to attend the Big Meetings, which will be held on Friday and Saturday nights and Sunday morning. A.A. meetings will be held during the day at the Sheraton Inner Harbor on Friday and Saturday at the same time as the Al-Anon and Alateen workshops.

Special events will include the Language of Love Parade, which will take place Friday evening before the big meeting. The Language of Love Parade features members from around the world who wear creative dress and costumes to illustrate their country, culture, state, province or Area. It is a wondrous display of worldwide unity! Please note that in order to march in the parade, you must sign up to march. Participation is limited to 500 costumed participants and will be based on a first-come, first-served basis.

There will be a Pioneer Luncheon, which is a special, ticketed-event luncheon to celebrate our history. Everyone who registers for the Convention—whether they have been in the program for one day or for 60 years—is invited to purchase a ticket for the Pioneer Luncheon. When you register for the International Convention, there will be an opportunity to purchase a ticket. The deadline for purchasing a Pioneer Luncheon ticket is May 31, 2018. No tickets will be sold at the door.

The 2018 Conference Summary will be posted on the website in July with a hard copy available in August.

Thank you for all the cards and love gifts. It was exciting to open all of them and I deeply appreciate your kind words and prayers. Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving as your Delegate. It has been the opportunity of a lifetime and an amazing journey that I will always cherish. I have made new friends, faced challenges, depended on my Higher Power and grown in ways I never would have imagined. I look forward to the continued growth of our fellowship as we travel this road of recovery together, growing in understanding, love and support, as we carry this message of hope. In Al-Anon there is no standing still. May the God of your understanding, guide each of you, as you continue your service journey.

Alternate Delegate - Barbara T. **Registration:** Thank you to Districts 3 (Kristin L.) and 4 (Jenny B.) for hosting registration and the Saturday afternoon discussion meeting this weekend. Thank you to Districts 14 (Angela M.) and 15 (Karen M.), who will be hosting in September. Any GR that had a red circle sticker on the top of your name badge means that you aren't listed as the GR in the WSO database. Please pick up a GR-1 form, complete it and turn it in to your DR to send to our Area Group Records Coordinator for processing.

Hospitality: Thank you to Districts 10 (Donna M.) and 21 (Lucille S.) for hosting hospitality this weekend. Thank you to Districts 6 (Thea J.), 11 (Thomas E.), and 12 (Dorothy N.), who will be hosting in September. Please contribute to the donation cans provided if you have not already. Let's keep our hospitality room self-supporting so all districts can participate.

Speakers: Thank you to Denise C. (DR District 16) who shared her story at the Saturday night speaker meeting last night. Also thank you to the coordinators who shared their service position experience, strength and hope with us.

Forum: Please remember our *Forum* challenge this year. Everyone that submits a share to *The Forum* between May and September will have the opportunity to share their name, district and say, "I participated" at the microphone on Saturday at Assembly and get an "I Participated" badge to wear. Just bring a copy of the email from the WSO saying they received your share in order to participate. Any shares that are published will be read at Assembly and also posted on the 'Let's Forum' display. My hope is that this will increase awareness about *The Forum* and increase our Area subscription numbers. Our Georgia subscription numbers are up from January. There were 464 total subscriptions sold in January and 479 in May for a 3% increase. Let's continue to share *The Forum* with others and encourage your group to buy a group subscription if they haven't yet. WSO is still asking members to send in your suggested *Forum* articles that you consider the best of recent years to include in a Forum Book. Since the beginning of this project in 2015, 740 titles have been submitted, but as of the beginning of this year, there were only 6 submitted for 2017 and none for 2018. So please send in your recent favorites. You can submit these to wso@al-anon.org, and use Favorite Forum Share in the memo line.

The updated Georgia Speakers lists by first name and city were sent out to AWSC in April. GRs, please contact your DRs to get a copy of these if you haven't yet.

Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia Inc. Financial Report - Katherine N.

January 1 –March 31, 2018 Budget vs. Actual YTD: Total Income = \$6,805.55 Total Expenses = \$8,453.00, Net Operating Income = (\$1,647.45), Funds Carried Forward = \$10,091.00. Total Operating Funds on Hand =

\$8,444.00. Balance Sheet: Bank Account = \$10,091.00, 1 year CD = \$10,834.09, 6 month CD = \$2,550.61 and Money Market Account = \$2,751.50. Total Current Assets = \$26,227.20.

The January 1 – March 31, 2018 Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia Inc. YTD Budget vs. Actual report was approved as presented by unanimous consent. **Motion 2**

Georgia Al-Anon Central Services (GACS) Office Chair – Char F.

Part-Time Hire: After taking our time to make an “informed decision” that was in the best interest of GA Area 11 and GACS, the Office Committee has hired a part-time employee who began working May 1st. Her name is Kathryn K. Kathryn will have one stable day per week and one floater day. She will be in the Office on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Her flexible day will be at the end of the week, probably Thursday or Friday, depending on shipments. Kathryn is an active Al-Anon member who lives in Macon and brings a wealth of experience to our Office. She told the Committee in her interview that she is committed to helping the Office grow. Cheryl K. and Debbie F. have been invaluable volunteers. Cheryl has agreed to train Kathryn and continue serving as a volunteer as needed.

I want to send heartfelt thanks to the Committee members; Cheryl, Levon, and Stacy for putting in the time, effort and patience to ensure we hired the best employee to manage the day-to-day operations of our Area Office.

Complimentary Literature: As mentioned in our last report, we wanted to show our appreciation to members in some way, so starting last month (April) we’ve been adding at least four complementary pamphlets in their orders. One piece was the pamphlet “Our Co-Founders” until we recently ran out.

Grandparent’s Pamphlet: We’ve ordered the new “Grandparent’s” pamphlet and hope to have it in stock week of May 21st. Cost: .75 cents.

Reminders: Deadline to Submit orders: No later than 3:00p.m. Tuesday of each week. We will ship all orders received on Tuesday by Friday of each week.

How to Submit Orders: An order form must accompany each order. Order forms are available on the GA Al-Anon website under “Area Office” “Literature order options.” We will also mail members/groups forms with their orders. We ask that you make copies for future orders.

Members/Groups can submit their orders 2 ways:

Email: Email with order form attached. Email all orders to: orderlit1@gmail.com.

U.S. Mail: Send with order form. Mail form to:

Georgia Al-Anon Central Services, 2733 Sheraton Drive, Ste. F-160, Macon, GA. 31204

Very Important! Please make sure to include on all checks/money orders the name of the group or group number and a contact phone number.

Assembly Orders: If a group wants to pick-up literature orders at Assembly, we must receive either via email at orderlit1@gmail.com or via U.S. mail no later than 3:00 p.m. on the Friday one week prior to Assembly. Groups /members can pick up orders in the literature room.

Thank you so much for supporting your GACS Office!

Georgia Al-Anon Central Services (GACS) Financial Report – Levon C.

January 1 – April 12, 2018 Budget vs. Actual YTD: Total Income = \$10,667.16, COGS = \$6,907.22, Gross Profit = \$3,759.94. Total Expenses = \$1,754.43. Net Operating Income = \$2,005.51.

Balance Sheet: Cash on Hand = \$26,970.35, Accounts Receivable = \$5,004.77, Inventory = \$13,318.18.

Total Assets = \$45,293.30. Liabilities: \$582.60. Other Current Liabilities: Ga Department of Revenue-GACS (sales tax) \$520.70, Total Current Liabilities = \$1,103.30.

The January 1 – April 12, 2018 GACS YTD Budget vs. Actual report was approved as presented by unanimous consent. **Motion 3**

New Business/Discussion:

Election 2019 Alateen Conference Co-Chair/2020 Chair – Ryan B. from District 9 was elected.

Election 2019 Al-Anon/Alateen Convention Co-Chair/2020 Chair –Zone 5 – Jenny B. from District 4 was elected.

Technology Work Group – Vicki L. - DRs please fill out a questionnaire in regard to childcare and/or family friendly meetings in your district and return the survey to me by the end of day or send the information to me via email.

Discussion/Motions: The following motions were open for discussion/questions from the floor.

- Originator: AWSC – Second: Cheryl K.
Matter Under Consideration: Joint Al-Anon/A.A. Assembly speaker meeting – update the Alternate Delegate’s Position.

Motion: Add to item 10 of the World Service Delegate's Alternate Position Description, the sentence – "Coordinate with the A.A. Delegate to have a joint Al-Anon, A.A. Saturday evening speaker meeting approximately once every 2 years." **Motion 4** Passed unanimously.

- Originator: AWSC – Second: Donna M.

Matter Under Consideration: Change name of "Webmaster".

Motion: Change the name of the Area "Webmaster Coordinator" Service Position to "Web Coordinator".

Motion 5 Passed unanimously.

- Originator: AWSC – Second: David B.

Matter Under Consideration: Increase Registration & Subscription Budget

Motion: Move that the 2018 budget be adjusted by: a) The registration & subscriptions budget be increased by \$108.00, from \$1,130.00 to \$1,238.00 and b) The Treasurer's Contingency Fund be reduced by \$108.00 from \$1,196.00 to \$1,088.00. **Motion 6** Passed unanimously.

- Originator: Technology Work Group –Second: Anne C.

Matter Under Consideration: Increase Technology Work Group Allowance for upgrade of website.

Motion: Move that the 2018 budget be adjusted by: a) The IT Work Group Allowance be increased by \$500.00 from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00 and b) The Treasurer's Contingency Fund be reduced by \$500.00 for expenses in upgrading Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia Website. **Motion 7** Passed unanimously.

- Originator: Lois B. – Second: Keith F.

Matter Under Consideration: Restructuring

Motion: I move that the Task Force on Restructuring be disbanded and the whole idea of restructuring the Assembly be dropped. **Motion 8** Failed.

- Originator: AWSC – Second: Sandra K.

Matter Under Consideration: Restructure

Motion:

1. Accept the report: Reorganizing to Separate Legal (Corporation) from Traditional (Assembly) of the Task Force on Restructuring.
2. Approve and adopt the proposed revised Bylaws of AFG of Georgia Inc. (contained in Appendix B).
3. Approve and adopt the proposed Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia Assembly Charter (contained in Appendix C).
4. Charge separate task force(s) and/or work group(s) to implement the revised service structure.

Motion 9 Passed with 89 Yes, 14 No and 7 Abstentions.

Attached to the minutes- The Detailed Task Force Report/Revised ByLaws of AFG of Georgia Inc and Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia Assembly Charter.

Summary of Motions:

Motion 1 The January 2018 Assembly Minutes were approved as presented by unanimous consent.

Motion 2 The January 1-March 31, 2018 Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia Inc. YTD Budget vs. Actual report was approved as presented by unanimous consent.

Motion 3 The January 1-April 12, 2018 GACS YTD Budget vs. Actual report was approved as presented by unanimous consent.

Motion 4 Add to item 10 of the World Service Delegate's Alternate Position Description, the sentence – "Coordinate with the A.A. Delegate to have a joint Al-Anon, A.A. Saturday evening speaker meeting approximately once every 2 years." Passed unanimously

Motion 5 Change the name of the Area "Webmaster Coordinator" Service Position to "Web Coordinator". Passed unanimously.

Motion 6 Move that the 2018 budget be adjusted by: a) The registration & subscriptions budget be increased by \$108.00, from \$1,130.00 to \$1,238.00 and b) The Treasurer's Contingency Fund be reduced by \$108.00 from \$1,196.00 to \$1,088.00. Passed Unanimously.

Motion 7 Move that the 2018 budget be adjusted by: a) The IT Work Group Allowance be increased by \$500.00 from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00 and b) The Treasurer's Contingency Fund be reduced by \$500.00 for expenses in upgrading Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia Website. Passed Unanimously

Motion 8 I move that the Task Force on Restructuring be disbanded and the whole idea of restructuring the Assembly be dropped. Failed

Motion 9 Accept the report:

1. Reorganizing to Separate Legal (Corporation) from Traditional (Assembly) of the Task Force on Restructuring.
2. Approve and adopt the proposed revised Bylaws of AFG of Georgia Inc. (contained in Appendix B).
3. Approve and adopt the proposed Al-Anon Family Groups of Georgia Assembly Charter (contained in Appendix C).
4. Charge separate task force(s) and/or work group(s) to implement the revised service structure.

Passed with 89 Yes, 14 No and 7 Abstentions.

NOTE: Total Votes = 110 with 7 abstaining. 2/3 = 69

Closing: Moment of silence followed by The Al-Anon Declaration.

Adjourned: 1PM

Dates to Remember:

August 25, 2018	Marriott - cut-off date for GA Al-Anon rates
August 27, 2018	Candlewood - cut-off date for GA Al-Anon rates
May 31-June 3, 2018	Alateen Conference, Rock Eagle, Eatonton, GA
July 6-8, 2018	Al-Anon International Convention, Baltimore, MD
August 10-12, 2018	2018 Al-Anon/Alateen Convention, Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, GA
August 18, 2018	AWSC
September 15-16, 2018	Assembly
October 26-28, 2018	GA State A.A. Prepaid Convention
November 17, 2018	AWSC

Respectfully submitted,
 Kathy White
 Area Secretary
 Panel 56¹

¹ Revised and Final 8/27/18

minutes approved as presented 9/15/18