

**IOWA AREA 18  
SPRING ASSEMBLY MEETING  
OCTOBER 11, 2008  
MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA**

Chairperson Janine J. called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM with the Serenity Prayer. Total attendance was 97, 61 of which were voting members.

**Secretary's Report:** Dilly S. read the secretary's report from the August 14<sup>th</sup> AWSC meeting. The report was approved as read.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bonnie J. reported the following totals and balances: Balance Brought Forward July 31, 2008-\$8,077.05, Total Receipts-\$6,310.00, Disbursements-\$4,884.84, Balance Brought Forward September 30, 2008-\$9,502.21. The report was approved as read.

**Delegate's Report:** Lorraine R. reported: Each DR, Area Officer, Area Coordinator, and Past Delegate received a copy of the 2008 World Service Conference Summary in their packet. All the issues we addressed at Conference are in there as well as each outgoing Panel 46 personal sharing. One of the items brought to our attention by the outgoing chairperson for the WSO Board of Trustees, Zelda R, was "How can we as WSC members, expand, renew, and strengthen our connection with the fellowship?" One of the ideas presented in the breakout meetings was to ask WSO staff and Trustees to come to assemblies and conventions to tell their personal stories and present workshops. Iowa is doing the following:

\*Our chairperson Janine J. has invited our Regional Trustee, Carol V. to be the speaker at our Spring Assembly in 2009.

\*Another idea was to make use of our Past Delegates as a way of connecting the GR's, DR's, and Area Officers. Iowa is one of the lucky Areas with active Past Delegates.

\*Iowa will be hosting the 2009 United States North Central Regional Delegates Meeting. Past Delegates Debbie G. and Connie H. will be co-chairing this event which takes place March 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the downtown Des Moines Marriott. All DR's, Area Officers, and Coordinators of the host Area are invited to attend with no voice or vote; they only have voice in the open discussion meetings. The Alternate Delegate has voice and vote when the Delegate is out of the room. All current Delegates, Past Delegates, Trustees, and Past Trustees have voice and vote. Alternate DR's can attend if the DR doesn't attend or they are helping with the event. The theme for the 2009 WSC will be "Embrace the Legacies: Our spiritual bridges to expand the future", this will also be the theme for the 2009 USNCRDM.

Please use your 2008 WSC Summary to garner ideas, get inspiration and come up with new ways of spreading Al-Anon/Alateen's message of hope worldwide.

**Alternate Delegate's Report:** Maddie P. shared:

*Conference Coordinator Report:* I would like to thank our speakers, Juanita, Kris and our Alateen speaker Sarah for being willing to share their experience, strength, and hope. Our planning committee Becky V. and Loreli R. and the District 3 volunteers have done a great job planning and hosting our assembly. As soon as the doors close on this assembly, they will continue to help Deb B. with planning the fast approaching 2009 Spring Assembly; it is also being held in District 3.

2009 Spring Assembly: Theme: "Spring Into Action". Where: Best Western Clear Lake, IA. When: June 12-14, 2009. Speakers: Al-Anon – Carol V., Kenosha, WI, Sunday morning – Marlene M., Mason City, IA, Alateen – Maria M. Dubuque, IA. Deb B. has been attending regular planning meetings.

2009 Fall Assembly: Theme: "TBA" Date: October 9-11, 2009 Place: West Des Moines Marriott, District 7 Speakers: Al-Anon – TBA, Alateen – TBA. Sunday morning – TBA. Co-chairs Katy P. and Kim H. have been keeping me up-to-date.

**Forum Report:** Another way to put *The Forum* to work, discussed in great length on my June 14<sup>th</sup> Conference Call, was the importance of introducing and using *The Forum* in our meetings. I was able to share that my home group has *Forum* Friday every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month. *The Forum* is packed with topics for all types of meetings and for members of all ages and walks of life. Take advantage of the “Need a Meeting Topic?” or “Round Table Topics” departments to chair your next meeting. Remember, *The Forum* topic index for each year is in the December issue, or on the Member’s Web site. There’s just too much, we can’t possibly cover all the ways today to use *The Forum* in our meetings. With each registered group receiving a free copy, WSO has the opportunity to communicate news and sharings with members at the group level every month through this piece of CAL. We can all read the same news, read the same sharings, and have the same outreach opportunity. Please introduce and use *The Forum* in your group. Did you see Iowa in the October issue Alateen section?

Did you know...The date that your Forum subscription expires is coded into your mailing address label on the white envelope? You can find how to read this on the Member’s Web site. Three easy Clicks: Click-Publications, Click-*The Forum*, scroll down, Click – “How do I read my *Forum* subscription label?” Now you’ll never have to guess when your subscription is going to expire.

### **Coordinator Reports:**

**Alateen:** Brenda C. shared that many areas consider a yearly workshop a mandatory requirement as part of the recertification process for AMIAS (AI-Anon Members Involved In Alateen Service). This will be one of the many topics discussed at our Sponsor’s Workshop Saturday November 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11AM to 3PM. We will also preview the WSO power point presentation on Alateen. This is a working document to be adapted and changed to our Area’s guidelines and needs. Just a reminder that the WSO is looking for Alateen sharings, send them in and read what our teens have to say.

**Archives:** Geri G. shared that all 3 file cabinets have been gone through. I am looking more deeply into the files to see what information I can find. Our group history notebook is growing and more districts have joined District 1. Districts 11, 3, 2, 10, and 15 now have group history front sheets for each group in their district. It looks like District 12 will be next, then District 5, followed by 9 and then 8. I would like to get meeting schedules for Districts 4, 6, 7, 8, 13, and 14. This will help me be able to help groups come up with their history. Please let me know what I can do to help you. Remember my sentence for the year is ARCHIVES = AI-Anon Recovery Can Help In Valuing Everyone Specialness. Also remember today we are making history for future generations of AI-Anon in Area 18.

**Group Records:** Lori R. stated that the bi-annual Print-Out sheets from the WSO have been sent to the District Representatives by e-mail and she has heard back from most of you. I was very excited to see that the majority of the errors in Iowa Area 18 were contact people. While contact people are important they frequently get missed. There were about 5 Current Mailing Address changes, but I was aware of one of them! We have had 3 new meetings open up in the last 2 months. All together as of today there are 167 active AI-Anon groups in Iowa, and 10 Alateen. Please give yourselves all a big hug from me for helping me keep our Group Records in Iowa as accurate as they are.

**Literature:** Lila D. shared at the last World Service Conference the Literature Committee reviewed text changes of How AI-Anon Works for Families and Friends of Alcoholics (B-22). The newest printing includes a chapter about applying the Concepts of Service to our personal lives. It also includes revisions to the Traditions chapter to address how they can be worked in our personal life. You can view results of the E-CAL contest by clicking on the hyperlink: [www.ai-non.org/members/e-CAL/results.html](http://www.ai-non.org/members/e-CAL/results.html). The Executive Committee reviewed 26 submissions and chose the winning presentations by using a point system. As we embrace new publications such as out two new books and new technology let’s not forget our old friends such as: The AI-Anon Family Groups, How AI-Anon Works, Alcoholism, the Family Disease, and The Merry Go Round Named Denial. So dust off some of the older pieces of CAL.

**Newsletter:** Becky V. reported that she sent out 126 newsletters and she got one back! The next newsletter reports are due to me by November 1, 2008. I am looking forward to seeing them all and the new subscriptions.

**Public Outreach:** Jean L. informed us that they had a conference call on Saturday September 6<sup>th</sup>. We discussed the use of AFA 2009 and how they are being used. Also discussed was the Sketches II PSA. A thousand television stations will receive this PSA to run after the elections. We didn't receive a list of which stations have received it yet but we are expecting it soon. We did receive a list of radio stations that have received the radio PSA. Have you seen Al-Anon Speaks for Itself lately? This is an old public outreach tool that can be redone. If you want an updated version of this you can download it from YouTube. Do a search under Al-Anon and you can download it to watch. It may be old but the message is timeless. We all know about using our videos, DVD's, podcasts as public outreach tools at health fairs, presenting to clergy, doctors, teachers, and such but what about playing at functions within our fellowship at birthday and anniversary celebrations? Many people that attend these functions aren't Al-Anon members and the information about what the Al-Anon and Alateen programs are may be helpful. Be sure to let me know about all of your public outreach efforts.

**Web Page:** Karen U. shared that Area 18 has a spot on the WSO server. By January everything should be ready to be switched to the new server. We are looking at a program and should have information for the AWSC in January. I've been working on updating the meeting lists for each district and believe most of the changes have now been made. I want to add a reminder that if meetings aren't registered they won't be listed on the web page, so it is an advantage to have meetings registered as soon as possible.

#### **District Reports:**

1. Judy S., 2. Virginia B., 3. No Report, 4. Kathie W., 5. N/A, 6. Avita M., 7. Shelley P., 8. JoAnn H., 9. Syd N. 10. JoAnn B., 11. Donna P., 12. Carol M. – not present, 13. Mary R, 14. Dorothy K., 15. N/A

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Serenity Weekend:** Lorraine shared everyone had a great time!

**Fall 2008 Assembly Report:** Becky V. reported - The Fall Assembly 2008 is just about over. The last total we were given was 393. We did not have the breakdown at this time but will have it to report in June. Thank you for allowing us this opportunity to serve at the Area level and we hope you all enjoyed yourselves. If you stayed at the Super 8 make sure that the committee is aware of this.

**Spring 2009 Assembly Report:** Deb B. reported she has been attending monthly meetings beginning in February 2008. Speakers have been named, flyers are out, AMOT tapes have been contracted to record speakers, and the DJ has been hired. Pre-registration deadline is May 29, 2009. All the speakers' information has been given to the Committee registration chair so they are pre-registered and rooms are being reserved for Maria and Carol. Meeting rooms have been selected, meals are at the drawing board, and the 3 fold agendas are near completion. It has been a great experience so far and I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve on this committee.

**Fall 2009 Assembly Report:** Katy P. reported the Theme is "On The Broad Highway", Al-Anon speaker will be Judy K. from Reno, NV, and the location is West Des Moines Marriott.

**Service Workshop:** Janine shared that the Service Workshop will be January 17, 2009 at the Iowa Valley Community College in Marshalltown. The AWSC meeting will be the next day in Marshalltown, all are welcome to attend.

**Ad Hoc Committee Update – Serenity Weekend Camp Update:** Maddie P., Linda Z. and Debbie G. presented information about 4 camps that they visited. They looked into 9 camps, they visited 7 of them, and they presented on 4 of them. The 4 were: Twin Lakes in Manson, IA, Newton Christian Center in Newton, IA, Camp Okoboji in Milford, IA, and Camp Wesley Woods in Indianola, IA. They wanted this to be a knowledge based decision so they shared the various things that each of the camps offered, I have attached a copy of the report listing all of the options. Maddie shared that change is scary, but in recovery it is good, there is an 8 or 9 year cycle change of when we switch camps, and we need to get more people to attend that stay overnight. Some of the questions after the discussion were:

\*Are there a minimum number of people that have to stay overnight at the other camps? The answer was no.

\*How was the quality of the meals? They thought the quality seemed better at the camps they visited compared to Wesley Woods. They didn't eat at the other camps however they did see some of the food since they showed up at lunch time.

\*Would you hear the Newton speedway if we stayed there? No you wouldn't hear the races going on.

\*Would there be other groups at the camp? Yes there could be other groups at the camp however they wouldn't share the same cabins.

The GR's voted on which camp they wanted to hold Serenity Weekend at in 2009: The results were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Choice – Newton
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice – Twin Lakes
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Choice – Camp Okoboji

If the 1<sup>st</sup> choice is already reserved for 2009 the committee will contact the 2<sup>nd</sup> choice.

**2009 Area Calendar:** This was covered in the Action Committee report.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Regional Delegate's Meeting:** Co-chairs Connie H. and Debbie G. shared that the USNCRDM is being hosted by Iowa and it will be held in Des Moines on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The primary purpose is to help prepare the Delegates for Conference. The primary purpose is to share experience, strength and hope of the past delegates with new area delegates before going to conference. Members of the AWSC can attend with no voice or vote. They want to share this information about the USNCRDM with the GR's because some of the Area money goes to fund the Delegate to attend this event. It has been 9 years since Iowa hosted this event.

Dave W. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 PM. Seconded by Ranelle. Motion passed. Members closed the meeting with the AI-Anon Declaration.

Learning in Service,  
Dilly S.  
Area Secretary

### Iowa AI-Anon Information Service Centers:

(515) 233-6312 - Ames / (319) 365-5955 - Cedar Rapids  
(402) 553-5033 - Council Bluffs / (515) 277-5059 - Des Moines  
(712) 255-6724 - Sioux City / (319)291-3660 - Waterloo

[www.iowa-al-anon-alateen.org](http://www.iowa-al-anon-alateen.org) / [www.al-anon.alateen.org](http://www.al-anon.alateen.org) / [www.al-anon.alateen.org/members](http://www.al-anon.alateen.org/members)

## **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

### **2008**

November 1 Iowa Reaches Out deadline

### **2009**

January 17-18 Service Workshop and AWSC Meeting  
February 1 Iowa Reaches Out deadline  
March 22 AWSC Meeting  
March 27-29 North Central Regional Delegates Meeting, Des Moines  
May 1 Iowa Reaches Out deadline  
June 12-14 Spring Assembly, Clear Lake  
August 1 Iowa Reaches Out deadline  
August 9 AWSC Meeting  
October 9-11 Fall Assembly, Des Moines  
November 1 Iowa Reaches Out deadline  
TBA North Central Regional Service Seminar