

Idaho Area Assembly – Spring 2018 AI-Anon Assembly Business Meeting Minutes

The Area 13 2018 Spring Assembly was held at the Hampton Inn, Coeur d’Alene, ID on May 19, 2018. The welcome was given by Area Chair Janet D. followed by the Serenity Prayer. Sandi G., Alternate DR for District 1 read the 12 Traditions followed by Kris S., District 1 who read the 12 Concepts of Service.

Attendance

Voting Group representatives were present from each district as follows:

District One -	8
District Two -	3
District Three -	7
District Four -	0
District Five -	0
District Six -	0
District Seven -	1
Total voting GRs	19

Reports

Secretary’s Report – Attendees were provided copies of the 2017 Fall Assembly minutes. Cheryl G., Area Secretary read the minutes. Sallie B., District 1 made a motion for approval, with corrections. Chandra B., District 2 seconded. Motion passed. The Secretary also reported that there are 19 voting GR’s in attendance.

Treasurer’s Report – Berta R. Area Treasurer reviewed and discussed the current to date income, the profit and loss statement for 2017 and the current approved budget for 2018. Berta also reviewed a letter that she had included in the packets which outlines the need for the Area Budget to keep currently operating in the black. The amount, divided by the number of registered groups in our Area, would be approximately \$2.47 per week per group.

Berta reviewed the budget details included in the participant packets. Those were as follows:

Profit and Loss for 2017 Fall Assembly

The assembly, held in Boise, had a total income of \$2,625.00, expenses of \$2,463.51 for a net profit of \$161.49

2017 Total Group Donations

The total donations for 2017 through were \$ 4,399.04. Each group needs to verify and make sure the donations listed are correct.

2018 Actuals January 1 thru May 19, 2018

Total expenses are \$3,246.20; total revenue is \$2,552.62 for a loss of \$693.58.

GR Exchange – Paula N., Alt. Delegate

Title: How Important Is A GR? Discussion was held regarding the priorities of group funding: what their first, second, third...priorities are. According to the guidelines, a group should first direct their funds toward 1) rent, 2) GR expenses, and 3) literature.

Area Coordinator Reports - The reports are attached at the end of the minutes.

Group Records Coordinator – no report
Literature Coordinator – Laura F. – presented by Robbin B.
Alateen Coordinator – Ruth B.
Archives Coordinator – Ladora B. no report
Newsletter Coordinator – Jane F. – presented by Ruth B.
Website Coordinator – Danielle B.
Outreach Coordinator – Barrie E. – no report

District Reports – The reports received are attached at the end of the minutes.

District 1 – Brianna Mc. – presented by Sally G. Alt. DR
District 2 – Carol G.
District 3 – Bret R.
District 4 – Joan B. – no report
District 5 – Doug C. – no report
District 6 – Becky W. – Alt. DR
District 7 – Jan K. – presented by Kathy B., Area Delegate

AL-ATEEN GUIDELINES REVIEW – Ruth B.

Ruth B., Alateen Coordinator for Area 13, reported on the new guidelines that were voted on and approved at the March 2018 AWSC meeting. Some important points made were:

- uniform Alateen guidelines for each state
- new guidelines cover sponsors and AMIAS, major change was in reference to DUIs. If charged, there will now be a one year wait before eligible to recertify, if convicted the wait will be three years. Background checks are through Idaho State Police and are all inclusive for past offenses.
- Guidelines have been submitted and approved by WSO.
- In Idaho, all adults are Mandated Reporters. Concern was raised that as sponsors, making Alateen members aware of this fact will continue to cause these children to keep secrets. Best scenario would be to encourage the child to self report.
- Discussion was held regarding the taking of lateens to an AA Convention. The legal complications are extreme and this has discouraged some areas from continuing with Alateen.
- New guidelines say you should not contact Alateen members outside of the meeting. The guideline actually pertains to persons outside of Alanon contacting Alateen youth. Personal one-on-one contact is not clarified.

After reviewing and discussing the guidelines, a motion was made to affirm with the following insertion: "Informational contact via phone regarding meeting location, cancellations, and other meeting information is allowable" Ann Marie B, Dist 1 made the motion, Melissa H., Dist 1 seconded. Motion was passed.

LUNCH SPEAKER – Darren C. Dalton Gardens

Robbin B. shared with the Assembly on how to make their own group changes with WSO.

Countdown Results - 488 years, 5 months

DELEGATE REPORT – Kathy B., Area 13 Delegate

Kathy B. shared with the Assembly her recent trip to attend the annual WSO Delegates Convention, which was held in April in New York State. Some interesting facts:

- There are really two entities: the fellowship which began in 1951 and the organization which followed 3 years later in 1954.
- The 2017 budget for WSO was \$ 5 million.
- WSO is made up of 67 delegates, 18 trustees, 8 WSO staff
- This year there were 92 voting members, 1 absentee
- Delegates were transported to Stepping Stones, the home and gathering place for Bill and Lois. On the estate is a small building called Witt's End – the place where Bill wrote most of his works.

WORKSHOP – Complicity of Leadership – Bret R., District 3 DR

Some highlights:

- Are we leaders?
- The complicity of having to be put into a leadership role due to a conflict/issue.
- Dealing with group issues such as: people taking all the available time to share, not knowing how to deal with others such as sexual predators.
- By not addressing issues, we are complicit...failing to act as a leader.
- Sensitive issues: the group works slowly...discouraging formal motions until a clear sense of its collaborative view is determined.
- Problems occur when leadership fails to carry out a group conscious.
- Provide an environment where service work is valued and respected is often a challenge.

ALATEEN SPEAKER – Leland T., Coeur d'Alene, ID

Leland did an outstanding job: being willing to stand in front of the entire Assembly and speak to an adult audience. Thanks to Leland for sharing with the Assembly, a teen's view of growing up in a home where alcohol and drugs were present.

NEWCOMER AWARDS –

- 1ST place – Paula W., District 1
- 2nd place – Cindy T., District 1
- 3rd place – Becky W., District 6

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Yours in service,
Cheryl G., Area Secretary

WORKSHOP – Complicity of Leadership, Bret R. District 3 DR

ALATEEN SPEAKER – Leland T. of Coeur d’Alene

Darren is an Alateen member. This would mark the first time an Alateen member was the luncheon speaker at an Area 13 Assembly. He did an outstanding job of relating to the attendees a teenager’s perspective on growing up in a home where serious addictive issues existed.

FIRST TIMER AWARD –

Winner – Paula

2nd Runner up – Cindy

3rd Runner up – Becky, Dist 6

Meeting was closed with the Al-Anon Declaration at 4:00 p.m.

Yours in service,

Cheryl G.
Area Secretary

REPORTS – DISTRICT 1 – Brianna Mc.

District 1 has been busy getting ready to host this Spring Assembly as well as play a crucial part in the AA Convention with Al-Anon participation in Coeur d’Alene which is next weekend. We feel it is very valuable to work in partnership with our local AA’s as we have many commonalities and it helps reinforce the value of Al-Anon to these members. Our District has been tasked with filling a lot of service positions to make sure both these events go off without a hitch but we are confident that we have done the work necessary to make both events a success.

We gained a new meeting on Thursday mornings, held at a local recovery center. We also added a newcomer meeting on Thursday evenings 30 minutes before a regular meeting to give newcomers an opportunity to ask any questions they may have in an open format. Our district is healthy and strong although we do have five out of seventeen meetings without GRs which is a little higher than typical for our district. Our monthly District meetings are very well attended and we have a full board with the exception of an Outreach Coordinator, a position we are actively trying to fill. Our outreach program involves bringing Al-anon panels to both the inpatient treatment center (every 3 weeks) and the outpatient treatment center (every six weeks). This is a phenomenal opportunity to reach people who really need to know about Al-Anon and that there is help for the friends and family of alcoholics/addicts.

Our District-wide BBQ last August was a success and so we are at the beginning stages of planning to host something like this again this summer as it was an excellent opportunity to fellowship with each other outside the meeting rooms. Our district hosted two separate Bingo/Potluck events this past quarter to help fundraise for the Al-Anon circuit speakers who are part of the AA convention. Both of these events were very successful, and we learned that our fellowship clearly enjoy

opportunities to engage with each other outside of meeting rooms. A sign of a healthy district indeed!

DISTRICT 2 – Carol G.

May 2018 District 2 District Representative spring report

District 2 started out the year in January with a change of trusted servants. As the DR, I handed out a suggested District Guidelines for GR's to consider and either approve w/ changes or disregard altogether. Though we still do not have an acting Secretary or Out Reach person, is announced at meetings every month, we are forging ahead. Out of eight Meetings in the district only three have Group Representatives. Business meetings are held every other month, with a workshop on the 7th Tradition held in February with good participation. The March business meeting we talked about changing our meeting schedule to fit better in the new Newcomer pamphlet and Forum Magazine. Samples were shown to groups to look at the choices and select one. Our budget for 2018 was approved. The workshop held in April on Sponsorship the hows and whys had good participation. Later in the month we had participation with AA in helping with lunch, and providing an Al-Anon Speaker. This was an example of co-operating with AA in our community. In spreading the message of the Al-Anon Program, in communicating with the local newspaper Representative for announcements, we were able to list all the meetings in the district, their times and places, also with the phone number and website of WSO. Several members also have purchased the new Service Manual for Al-Anon/Alateen.

May's meeting is just before the Area Assembly so will get the agendas and revised Minimum Safety and Behavioral Requirements for Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service, to GR's for voting at assembly. In the month of June will have a short workshop on the "Groups at Work" booklet to help members to be more acquainted with it. As my term of DR was only for six months, we may have another election at the workshop or in the month of July, this will be on the May agenda. Have had an interesting time as DR again, so will see what the future brings.

Yours in service, Carol G.

DISTRICT 3 – Bret R.

Box Score

Item	Quantity	Comments
Groups in District 3	26	
Meetings	30	Four Groups have two Meetings a week
Groups with GR's	15	
GR's attending Assembly	8	As of 5/15/18

Meeting Format

In 2016 we adopted a new Meeting Format and have implemented it for the past 1-1/2 years. We switched from a Business orientation to a "Recovery in Service" format. So far, this has resulted in a renewed energy in our district.

- 1st Meeting of the Quarter – Workshop (Role of GR, Group Finances, Fitting it together)
- 2nd Meeting of the Quarter – Speaker (Spiritual Connection to Service, My Service Story, Lessons Learned)

- 3rd Meeting of the Quarter – GR/Coordinator Reports and Business Meeting
(Communication, Running a Group Business Meeting, Outreach and Alateen involvement)

Events – our events have become very successful with great participation from our Members.

- **Bridges and Boundaries** – well received and focused on Boundaries we can use during the Holidays
- **Steps Come Alive**: We had a very successful event in February with 122 attendees and profit of over \$1,000
- **Lois and Anne Art Action** – A new structure that was very successful. We had Al-Anon’s donate art (not crafts) and auctioned them off. Profit was over \$1,100
- Chili Feed – We plan another boundaries workshop that will happen before the Holidays.
- **Lasagna Dinner**: In December of 2017 – profits were nearly \$1,000
- **AA Roundup**: the 2018 Roundup seems to be underway again, but they are yet to find an Al-Anon Chair.
- **Fall Assembly**: District 3 hosts the Fall Assembly in Boise and a team is forming.

A New Focus on Outreach and giving back to District

- Our events have been well attended and funded. As a result, we have an excess of cash and are discussing ways to use the amount over our Prudent Reserve to best serve our Members, Groups, Area, Lit Center and WSO.
- We are currently looking at the following:
 - Increase our Outreach “reach”
 - Increase donations to Area
 - Create New Meeting Kits
 - Fund smaller meetings to help GR’s attend Assembly
 - Create notebooks for Meetings
 - Provide Alateen Books

We are looking forward to a wonderful year of recovery for our District.

Lovin’ Service,

Bret R

DISTRICT 4 – no report

DISTRICT 5 - no report

DISTRICT 6 – Becky W. – Alternate DR

DISTRICT 7 – Jan K.

Since the Fall Assembly, we have added another Spanish Meeting in Ontario. Our Wednesday night in Caldwell meeting closed after months of low attendance.

With sadness we learned that Nancy C. will be moving. She was our only Alateen sponsor and kept our meeting schedule current, among other things in service we did not know. Nancy has found people to replace her to help them in their service. We are so grateful for her and we will miss her smile very much.

In April's meeting we made our love gifts and began our plans to host the Assembly in Spring 2019.

Jan K.

COORDINATOR'S REPORTS

Literature / Forum – Laura F.

Hello All! I'm unable to attend this assembly due to a work conflict, so a BIG THANKS YOU to Robbin for standing in for me! As I sit in my hotel room in steamy Oklahoma preparing my report, I am filled with so much gratitude to all of you who are giving of yourselves in service to Al-Anon this weekend. Every little bit of service we do means that Al-Anon will be there for the next person who comes looking for help. I'm sending you love!

The single most important thing I can say about our literature is that it is ours: our experiences, our pain, our healing. We have books and pamphlets and a neat monthly magazine today because members just like you decided to write up a sharing and submit it. Have you ever shared in a meeting? Do you feel better today than you felt when you got here? Yes? Then you have something valuable to share with our fellowship! It's not just a nice thing to do, either. The World Service Office (WSO) exists to serve the needs of the fellowship. The people there need our help to provide the content for that next book that we have said we want. When we subscribe to *The Forum*, many of us look forward to it each month. What if no one sent in an article?

If you're like I am, now you're saying to yourself, "Oh, yes, I would LOVE to submit 10 articles to help our fellowship! Buuuut..." Ok. "But" is one of those pesky barriers to recovery that kicks me in the butt! Let's knock off a couple of them.

BUT, I'm not a good writer... NO PROBLEM. WSO hires editors! And potential CAL (Conference-approved literature) sharings are reviewed by a committee of delegates, nice people like Kathy B., our delegate, so that by the time a sharing ends up in a book, you can trust that it will sound good and be a good fit in the publication. I once submitted an article to *The Forum*. Imagine my excitement when I was told I was going to be in print! Well, excitement, fear, dread, mixed bag! When the issue came, I paged through. Nothing. Paged through again. Huh. I read the letter they sent. Ha ha they used one sentence! In the margin! Then I was offended! My article wasn't good enough? They used one sentence?! Once my ego finished crashing against the rocks, I was so honored and humbled that my sharing was used at all!! This is a spiritual process. Just do it! You are good enough right now, today, to send in a sharing!

BUT, I don't know how. How long? What topic? Where do I send it? Again, NO PROBLEM. This is Al-Anon. There is a guideline for that! It is very easy to submit a sharing online. Go to www.Al-Anon.org and look for the Members heading then follow through to Member Resources/Literature. It will ask you to select from a list of publications that are looking for sharings. Then you can upload your sharing, quick and easy! Or, since I'm not here for you to talk to me today, send me a text at (208)284-6992, or call and leave me a message with whatever your "but" is and I'll respond with information, pep talk, whatever you need! And watch for a writing workshop at an upcoming assembly!

I have information to share from our World Service Office regarding our literature and *The Forum*, our monthly magazine. I didn't prepare my DR information packets this time; instead I'm hitting some highlights here and appealing to all of you to text or call me if you have a question or if you'd like more information. My role is to inform you about what's happening with our literature and to encourage you to submit sharings and subscribe to *The Forum*.

The highlights:

- I participated in a conference call with other area literature coordinators from all over the country last October. 32 of us filled a couple of quick hours talking about literature. What a wonderful community! Hoping for another call this year; no date has been set yet.
- New pamphlet, *Hope & Understanding for Parents & Grandparents* (P-94) is available now! \$.75 (plus service fee if buying from the Boise AAISC-Literature Center). 24 pages. Includes a description of the challenges facing parents and grandparents of young problem drinkers, inspiring personal stories, and a section on how parents/grandparents apply the Twelve Steps. Please buy it, read it, and send in a review to WSO.
- *Forum* subscriptions – I get a monthly sales/subscription report. Do you know how many groups in Idaho subscribe to the *Forum*? 17. That means about 79% of our Idaho groups are missing out on this little jewel. WSO no longer sends a free subscription to groups. It's on us as groups to send in our \$11/year. Since January it's been produced in full color at no additional cost! GRs, you are the group's *Forum* representatives! There is a guideline (F-2) for that! Come on you guys – let's eke out a few more group subscriptions this year. I'll report on our progress in the fall.
- Did you read the April issue of *The Forum*? Did you notice an error? Hint: it had to do with the 11th Tradition. Anonymity. On the back cover, a member's last name was printed in a photo credit. Amends have been made and WSO is asking us to blacken out the name on our copy. They have hired an Editorial Quality Specialist to make sure this kind of mistake doesn't happen again.
- Do you love our literature? Is it your special thing? Some folks love Alateen, some are into outreach, others speak on a circuit. My special loves are literature and archives. I love history and I really love our literature. If you're one of those people, text or call me and give me your group's Current Mailing Address or your own address as a member and I'll send you a goodie pack of literature goings-on with WSO and some other good stuff. If you are interested and curious, then I want you to be in the know!

Submitted to this assembly with love,

Laura F.

WEBSITE COORDINATOR – Danielle E.

2018 Spring Assembly

Web Coordinators Report by Danielle E.

Hi everyone, I haven't created a report for a long time so I will endeavor to give you as much information as I can.

I created the Idaho Al-Anon website a number of years ago. I chose IPower because there was only one fee for their services at that time. Also, at that time, all the editing could be done online in a Word type environment. Over time that was no longer available because of the amount of pages we had. Other web coordinators had to have FTP software and a more complete version of notepad. We also have to pay a fee for our domain name.

We still host the website on IPower (where we store our documents). To edit the documents, IPower has a website editor. Because we have many documents on this site and have more than five pages. The editing software is not free, but is online with no software to purchases for personal computers. Can we do this for free? YES/NO We still have to pay for a domain name al-anon-idaho.org (the Area owns this). We can do the same thing I did, find a new hosting site (some fee but it would be minimal for a year a two). Use on-line editor for free. But the bottom line is, yes we can change everything for a smaller cost to the Area, then the new site that is hosting us will limit our documents and pages and we will have to pay again to be able to keep our site and pages updated, just like with the current one. We would always have to have a person as the website coordinator that is familiar with this information to be able to make all these changes constantly.

Hopefully that is just a little background as to our website, there certainly more details that I probably don't know about. So on to the more current process.

Who is responsible? I am (currently), but also, all members are responsible for using, suggesting updates, concerns and issues.

What to send me? Please send me a PDF document if you can. You will also need to information me what page it should go on, i.e., you could copy and paste the URL into your e-mail.

Where to send it too? Please e-mail webinquiry@al-anon-idaho.org, this comes to me, with a subject line that has the word WEB in it. Also, if it is an immediate request, you can also text me at 509-3395265, but please include your name and district and let me know you have a document that needs to be put on the web.

When to send it? When you have a web change that needs to be made or documents and events to upload to the web.

Currently the web is up-to-date, but ever changing. If you have issues, please include the page link and the problem so I can check into it.

Thank you for letting me serve. Life changes every day, and I'm not always in charge.

Danielle E. – Website Coordinator

ALATEEN COORDINATOR – Ruth B.

**Area Alateen Coordinator/ AAPP Report May 19,
2018**

We are updating our guidelines to keep our Alateen kids safe. WSO has given us some strong suggestions to add, plus we've taken safety concerns from around the Area and strengthened our requirements, as needed. This has been a challenging and thoughtful process. We are taking Alateen safety very seriously.

Group Reps will be asked to affirm the vote on the Alateen guideline update at the assembly in Coeur d'Alene. The Area Committee reviewed the changes in detail at the AWSC meeting in March and voted to approve.

Recertify by June 1:

I need all current Al-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) to recertify by June 1st. Recertification forms have been sent out to each district. See me for more info. This is a deadline set by the WSO. You must recertify annually to stay involved with Alateen service.

Update Group information:

Mailings have gone out to all the Alateen Group's current mailing addresses (CMAs). Please update the group information and send back to me.

Current AMIAS count—We currently have a total of 45 AMIAS in our area—broken down by district:

D1 – 6, D2 – 6, D3 – 24, D4 – 0, D5 – 4, D6 – 2, D7 – 3.

Current active Alateen Group count is 23. By district:

D1 – 1, D3 – 18, D5 – 1, D6 – 1, D7 – 2.

Please keep me informed about changes in your meetings or sponsors.

Enthusiastically yours,

Ruth

Idaho Area Alateen Coordinator/AAPP

Ruth Blaha

ruthineagle@gmail.com 208-850-6602 (text
or voice)

NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR – Jane F.

Area 13 Newsletter Coordinator Report Area 13 Fall Assembly

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Have published 12 editions of the Area 13 Newsletter in a two page, monthly format.
- Started a monthly Al-Anon Alateen Newsletter for Professionals,
- Have a database of about 200 people receiving one or both monthly newsletters.

NEXT STEPS

- Establish continual communication with districts to get more subscribers and information on happenings in their districts.

OTHER INFORMATION

- Deadline for each newsletter is the 5th of the month with publication on the 10th of the month.
- To subscribe to either or both newsletters, email area13newsletter@gmail.com.

GROUP RECORDS COORDINATOR – no report

ARCHIVE COORDINATOR – no report

OUTREACH COORDINATOR – no report