

**Spring Assembly
South Congregational Church
Hartford, CT
June 11, 2016
REALIZING OUR SPIRITUAL POTENTIAL**

Opening Prayer, Sue G., Chairperson

The Assembly was opened at 12:30 PM with the Serenity Prayer.

Welcome and Introductions - Sue G II., DR District 2 and Susan G., DR District 3

Sue and Susan thanked everyone for attending the Assembly and those members who were helping with refreshments. They also provided introduction of the Area Officers, Past Delegates and the AA Guests to the Assembly.

Roll Call - Donna C., Area Secretary

Absent from the Spring Assembly: Martha N., DR District 1, Miguel C., ADR District 3, Vincent L., DR District 5, Amy A., DR District 8, Jessica K., ADR District 13.

Guests present: Gerry V., Past Delegate Panel 24, MaryAnn R., Past Delegate Panel 27, Terry C., Past Delegate Panel 33, Kary L., Past Delegate Cal South Panel 34, Joan V., Past Delegate Panel 36, Miguel C., Past Delegate Panel 39, Taffy P., Past Delegate Panel 42, Ellie L., Past Delegate Panel 45, Gina R., Past Delegate Panel 48, Rita C., Past Delegate Panel 51, Craig W., AA Delegate, John, AA Area Chair, Catherine T., AA Area Treasurer, Matt A., AA Area Alt Treasurer.

Opening Comments - Sue G., Area Chairperson

We were reminded that we have assembled to conduct the business of CT Al-Anon/Alateen in accordance with our Legacies. As much information was to be provided by our Delegate and Area service arms, we were encouraged to keep both purpose and time constraints in mind. Sue reminded all gathered that gossip and criticism have no place here.

Secretary Report - Donna C., Area Secretary

No corrections were offered.

Motion to accept the Minutes from the 2014 Fall Assembly as presented was made by Kathy., GR in District 8, seconded by Mike., GR District 8.

The Motion passed with one abstention.

Treasurers Report - Carol D., Area Treasurer

Reserve Fund guidelines were reviewed, the current Reserve Fund balance is \$22,294.13. Area funds as of May 1, 2016:

Balance Forward:	\$19,445.14
Income:	\$ 7,608.00 - This includes return of Convention seed money.
Expenses:	<u>\$ 4,618.97</u>
Closing Balance:	\$22,434.17

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented was made by Donna C., GR District 7, seconded by Mike B, GR District 8.

The motion carried unanimously.

Alternate Delegate Report - Stacie V.

Stacie continues to visit District meetings. She reviewed the purpose for the DR/ADR Discussion Groups.

Announcements:

Sue G., Area Chair - A count of GRs present per District is needed. DR's please obtain an accurate count and give to the Area Secretary ASAP.

(97 voting GRs present)

Alateen Raffle is to benefit CAWW (Connecticut Alateen Workshop Weekend)

Joan V., Past Delegate Panel 36 - Quick Reference Guides are available for sale at the back of the auditorium.

Bruce G., DR District 6 and Program Chair for Sponsorship Workshop - Questionnaires have been placed in the baskets regarding what you would like the Sponsorship Seminar to address. Please fill them out, and encourage meeting members to do the same.

Aimee L., Literature Coordinator - The Green ticket given out at registration is for a drawing of a free Forum Subscription.

Review of Assembly Protocols - Sue G., Area Chair

Fall Assembly 2015 Report - Debbie S., DR District 13 and Chris D., Former DR District 1

Debbie and Chris reported 170 members in attendance with 10 invited guests. The seed money was returned to the Area Treasury along with \$587.43 in unexpected returns.

A Letter to CT AFG Area Committee - Craig W., AA Delegate

Craig spoke of his personal journey in recovery and in service with the cooperation of the CT Al-Anon Family Groups. He thanked everyone for the spirit of cooperation as we all deal with this cunning and baffling disease of Alcoholism.

We were reminded that much still needs to be done as we continue our own journeys of recovery and to assure that our programs continue to exist for those who have not yet found our rooms.

Craig's letter can be read in its' entirety in the September 2016 Lifeline.

Delegate Report - Ann B.

Ann began with a snapshot of the meetings before the meeting (of the WSC), giving the Assembly a glimpse into the busy activities of the Delegates.

Day one started with results of the Alateen survey taken last year. Findings were reviewed and the Delegates participated in breakout sessions including how to unlock the success with Alateen throughout the Area.

CT AAPP - Steven I.

Steven reviewed the duties of the AAPP, and reported that several new Alateen groups have started in the state. He also reported that several Alateen meetings have closed.

Ct currently has 19 active meetings throughout the Area. All were encouraged to attend open Alateen meetings during October's Alateen Awareness Month and consider this service opportunity as a Sponsor or AMIAS.

Alateen Coordinator Report - Dave T.

Dave reported 19 active meetings in CT. The teens are very active in service, speaking at Conventions both in Connecticut and nearby states and many sharings have been published in the Lifeline and Forum.

Please consider being an Alateen Sponsor and or having your home group sponsor an Alateen meeting.

Delegate Report - Ann B.

The interim Executive Director, Mary G., was introduced.

The Conference had 92 voting members this year. As we do here in Connecticut, we reviewed voting procedures.

Voting Procedures - Joan V., Past Delegate Panel 36

The Task Force charge was reviewed as well as the motion procedures. Eligibility to stand for positions as an Area Officer was reviewed.

Motion: That the Assembly Election Voting Procedures section of the Voting Procedures document be amended to read as follows - Who is eligible to stand for position -

- DRs who will have completed a 3 year term,
- Past DRs who have completed a 3 year term, and have been currently active at the Area level in any of the following positions that report directly to the Area: AWSC officers, Coordinators, Task Force Chair, Thought Force Chair, TEAM event Chair, Workshop Chair, Convention Chair.
- The DRs at the time of initial paneling who completed the term, and who are currently active at the Area level.
- DRs who filled an unexpired term for at least two years of a three year term as of December 31 of the election year, and are currently at the Area level as listed above.

Made by Donna C., GR District 7, seconded by Rich., GR District 7.

Question and answer period followed. Members asked for further clarification for eligibility.

Motion: To table the vote on the voting procedure.

Made by Dottie., GR District 12, seconded by Debbie HS., GR District 1

Vote: Yes 22, NO 51, ABSTAIN 15 (Total voting 88)

Motion Failed.

Motion: To vote on original Motion (as presented by Donna C., GR District 7)

Made by Sandy s., GR District 6, seconded by Mike., GR District 8

Vote on original motion: YES 57, NO 49, ABSTAIN 1. (total voting 107)

Motion Failed.

Delegate Report - Ann B.

The travels of the Trustees at the WSO to bring experience, strength and hope around the world, offers all of us the chance to make history happen as we offer support to those in other countries.

Archives Report - Marcia M.

Marcia reviewed her responsibilities and encouraged DRs to provide copies of meeting minute, fliers and other state happenings. She is scanning materials onto thumb drives for preservation.

Delegate Report - Ann B.

The revisions to Concept 11 wording has been completed along with the policy for memorial contributions. A onetime contribution of \$500.00 may be bequeathed from a family member who is not a member of Al-Anon. These policies are available on the WSO website.

The 2017 AFA (Al-Anon faces Alcoholism) will be out in September, when handing them out please include contact information.

Also out this fall will be a new PSA focusing on parents of problem drinkers. Go to the WSO website to view all the PSAs available.

Facebook is another way to increase public awareness. The Al-Anon Facebook page has 1 million likes.

Public Outreach Report - Mary Ann T.

Currently, 10 of the 13 Districts have PO Coordinators.

Projects include donation of CAL literature to public and high school libraries, maintaining display racks at libraries, food banks, shelters, rehabs and family centers. PO is also participating in health fairs. The billboard project is fully underway, with a recent siting in Waterbury.

The membership was treated with a skit on healthy group.

Delegate Report - Ann B.

Operating expenses outweigh revenues on the WSO budget with salaries and benefits being the bulk of expense. Although contributions were up 8.4% from last year, it still wasn't enough. WSO needs \$268.12 per group to cover the average cost of services per group. 67% of Connecticut groups contribute to WSO.

Last year we took a collection at this Assembly and sent \$750.00 to WSO.

WSO has taken 4% from our reserve fund to offset losses totaling \$426,000.00.

David Z., the current WSO Chief Financial Officer has announced his retirement plans and will be leaving at the end of the year.

BREAK

Delegate Report - Ann B.

Meet the Board was held in Canada last year with 60 attendees. The trial (Meet the Board) has been extended another three years. Is Connecticut interested in participating?

Motion: To put in a bid for the 2017 Meet the Board.

Made by Sandy S., GR District 6 and seconded by Donna C., GR District 7.

Vote: 82 YES, 6 NO, 4 ABSTAIN (Total voting 92)

Motion passed.

BOD Report - Pat S., Chairperson

Pat reviewed the functions of the Board of Directors.

The Board has been working to transition the LDC to paid staff. This includes searching for candidates, researching requirements for the corporation to become an employer, revising the job descriptions and obtaining quotes for payroll services and workers' compensation insurance. Our current manager, Marie B., will be transitioning into the role of LDC Manage employee on June 28, 2016. Applications are being accepted for the Assistant Manager position. Office hours will remain unchanged.

Our current LDC Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair will be completing his term in December, please consider this as a next service commitment.

Delegate Report - Ann B.

The Literature Committee has been revising the Just for Today Bookmark. Heated discussion continues utilizing our KBDM process.

Two pamphlets are available now, S-28 Links of Service and S-57 Joys of Service, Please encourage members to review and utilize our links of service appropriately.

WSO reports that Forum subscriptions are up 45%. The increase is attributed to the discontinuation of free subscriptions to the groups. E-subscription is also available. Consider giving a Forum subscription as a raffle donation.

WSO is looking for a magazine coordinator in putting together the Forum and Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism. Revisions to pages 85 - 86 of the 2014 - 2017 Service Manual regarding "Conventions" will be discussed at the WSC in 2017.

Literature/Forum Coordinator Report - Aimee L.

Aimee reminded all that WSO is looking for sharings for 3 conceptual pieces of literature. Alateen-Hope for Children of Alcoholics is available as an e-book as well as Courage to Change.

CT Forum subscriptions have increased to 331 per year, and 3 more will be raffled today.

Lifeline Coordinator Report - Margaret G.

Lifelines' purpose is to share our experience, strength and hope. In our rapidly changing world, Lifeline is not able to compete with on line information.

Margaret has changed the focus slightly, concentrating more on CT Al-Anon service. She suggested that it may be time to investigate the legitimacy of this publication in today's world of instant information.

Delegate Report - Ann B.

The 2018 International Convention will be held in Baltimore, Maryland on July 5 - 8. WSO is also looking for bids for the 2023 International Convention.

Convention 2016 Report - Gail L., Chair

This year we had 775 in attendance. This included 43 Alateens and 35 out of state members. The Friday night entertainment was written and produced by one of our own Alateens. Seed money was returned to the Area, a \$500.00 donation was sent to WSO, and \$3,753.75 was donated to the LDC.

Convention 2017 Report - Amy A., Chair

Committees are forming and chair/co-chair positions are open. Theme contest flyers have been sent. First planning will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Cromwell on Sunday September 18th from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

Delegate Report - Ann B.

The WSC listened to a Task Force presentation on how technology and anonymity work hand and hand with pointers to protect anonymity in using social media.

Website Coordinator Report - Sue G2.

Sue asked that requests to post events and to make corrections to information already posted on the site, be submitted via e-mail in a timely manner. We were reminded that Group meeting updates must be sent through the DRs.

Some @ctalanon.org email addresses are experiencing problems and are being perceived as spam, the problem is being worked on.

Delegate Report - Ann B.

Ann asked the Assembly the same question that was chosen as the WSC agenda item: How do we get younger members into Al-Anon?

Responses included; Offering young peoples' meetings, Invite Alateens to participate in service events with you, Ask an Alateen to share at your home group, offer combine Al-Anon/ Alateen meetings, encourage younger members to chair meetings, and offer the groups reminders that Alateen is part of Al-Anon.

As this was Ann's last WSC as Delegate, she took time to thank everyone for the trust and support she has received during her term.

Announcements

CAWW blanket raffle was won by a GR from District 12.

Pass the basket collection for WSO produced \$671.00.

Motion: To close the Spring Assembly.

Made by Dottie, GR District 12 and seconded by Janet, GR District 1.

Motion pass unanimously.

The Assembly closed at 4:08 PM with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectively Submitted,
Donna C.
Area Secretary