

Oregon Area Assembly

July 16 & 17, 2011

Host District 17

SATURDAY

The Assembly was called to order by Chairperson, Rita, B, at 9:00 am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Steps were read by Caralynn W. and the Traditions were read by Carolyn H.

Announcements: Rita B., Chairperson, read the 'Microphone and Voting Statement'.

Roll Call - New GR Introductions and Welcome: Mary W., Secretary
Absent – Vickie H, DR District 3;

Secretary's Report: Mary W.
Minutes of March 2011 Assembly were approved with suggested changes.

Housekeeping: Host District 17, Lynda S.

Report on 2012 SSM: Chris K., District 1, May 18-20, 2012; "Carnival at the Coast - Come Discover the Fun"

Treasurers Report: Bunny G, Oregon Area has \$11305.99 as of 6/30/2011. Bunny requested that checks sent to Oregon Area have the group name, WSO ID #, District #, and Group # on the check. Please don't put Al-Anon on the envelope. 19 cents is being used for mileage reimbursement. (see Attachment 1).

Audit / Budget Report: Sue B, The books were audited and were found to be in balance for the 1st and 2nd quarter. The accounts for 2011 SSM and Communicator will be audited as soon as they have been completed and turned in.

Membership Outreach: Chris K. handed out a survey on how members use the website. (see below)

Delegates Report: Bette R., showed pictures of this year's World Service Conference and talked about the Thought Force that she was on. The Thought Force is on how to involve dual members (members of both A.A. and Al-Anon) in Al-Anon activities.

Paula J., Forum Coordinator, presented that WSO is developing ideas for literature on sexual intimacy. Older literature on Sexual Intimacy is in pamphlet, P77, which is no longer available. WSO would like members to submit sharing on topic of sexual intimacy and dysfunction in sexual lives because of alcoholism.

Barbara L., Website Coordinator, showed how to use the internet to find Oregon and WSO websites.

Norma P., Literature Coordinator, presented the new book, "Many Voices, One Journey" and will have skit on this book tomorrow. "How Al-Anon Works" soft cover book was developed with the idea of using in a similar way to how AA hands out the "Big Book" to newcomers. Martha

from "Serenity Trails" shared her groups experience in starting a fund to allow them to give the book to new comers.

Carolyn H., Alateen Coordinator, talked about the chat rooms for Alateens. She is inviting all of the Oregon Alateen sponsors to start their own chat room. These chat rooms are international. The sponsor is in the room with the kid and has the control to gag or ban people as disciplinary action to ensure safety of the group.

Joanne C, Public Information Coordinator, talked about the DVD "Al-Anon and Alateen Role in Family Recovery" for \$5.00 that has 3 focuses, adults who deal with alcoholism, Alateens and professionals.

Alateen Panel: Carolyn H

Sharing by Cathy and Doug, Alateen sponsors, and Morgan and Abby, Alateens,

2011 State Speaker's Meeting (SSM) Report: Sue B

District 7 will be contributing ~\$6000 from SSM.

TEAM Report: Colleen (see Attachment 17)

\$2531.61 will be sent to WSO from TEAM event.

Action Committees / Judy J / New GR Orientation / Billie L

The Action Committees met while Billie L. gave the New GR Orientation.

Coordinator Reports

- ♪ Alateen: Carolyn H (see Attachment 2)
- ♪ Archives: Jodie P (see Attachment 3)
- ♪ Communicator: Lisa B (see Attachment 4)
- ♪ Cooperating with the Professional Community (CPC): Cheryl H. (see attachment 5)
- ♪ Forum: Paula J (see Attachment 6)
- ♪ Group Records: Helen M, Helen was not here so Bette R. read her report. (see Attachment 7)
- ♪ Literature: Norma P. (see Attachment 8)
- ♪ Public Information (PI): Joanne C (see Attachment 9)
- ♪ Website: Barb L (see Attachment 10)

AIS Liaison Report: Ted B

Dreamweaver software – a request for Dreamweaver software for the website coordinator was put out to the Assembly. No response was received.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Oregon Area Assembly Agenda

July 16 & 17, 2011

District 17

SUNDAY

The meeting was opened at 9:00 a.m. with a moment of silence and the serenity prayer.

Service Manual questions:

Group 1

Dee: Question 1 regarding dual members cooperating with AA. Why do we not cooperate with other anonymous programs.

Answer: Al-Anon was developed specifically to deal with spouses with alcoholics not to deal with other problems. Traditions 3, 6 and 10, pages 77 and 15.

Question 2: Can other anonymous program members do service above the group level?

Answer: pages 34, 45, 46, 77, 79, 138, 140, and 142. *At the 1977 World Service Conference, it was voted that our policy is clearly defined, that Al-Anon/Alateens holding dual membership are not eligible for the office of Group Representative.

Question 3: How do you find out if AFG members are also members of other anonymous organizations if they're not supposed to break their anonymity?

Answer p190 concept 9. We operate on trust and presume good will. It is not our business to know affiliations of others. Our response is to educate our members on qualifications and guidelines before we ask.

Group 2

Chris Question 1 Where in the service manual does it say that dual members (AA) cannot serve above group level as Bill W stated it. Answer: p78

Yvonne Question 2 A woman has a personal phone with her name that is used for her town's meeting info. The district has an info-line. Ask her to take her number out?

Answer: p 90 There may be some who are not familiar with our personal anonymity. We ask that no Al-Anon or AA member be identified by full name. Anonymity is essential to protect our family members.

Dave Question 3. Our district minutes and info line are stored via a Google site. The "Google" logo shows up when we print our minutes. Is this promoting an outside source? If so, how do we use the program that seems to work the best for us?

Answer: Tradition 6. P107 public relations cooperation vs affiliation. The group felt it was more on cooperation side. Need to read this and meditate on it.

Nancy Question 4 How do PSA not conflict with Tradition 11?

Answer: Tradition 11 we need always guard with special care the anonymity of AA members. P 107

Group 3

Question 1. How is an "Al-Anon member" defined (relevant for determining ability for deceased to bequeath \$ to Al-Anon if a member.)

Answer: Tradition 3. Relatives of alcoholics when gathered together for mutual aid, the only requirement is that there be the problem of alcoholism in a relative or a friend.

Question 2. What is the standpoint of the structure of group contributions at the level of district, state, and WSO. Is it the Group conscience to donate to which of those they choose or is it suggested to contribute to all?

Answer: Groups may contribute to the district, area, WSO. P54 If a group is not able to support beyond the group level, it may need to rethink its location and what it is paying for rent.

Group 4

Deanna

Barb, Question 1: Is it appropriate to observe the 7th tradition at a district meeting? It's not a group so does it abide by the traditions?

Martha Answer: p 156-7 Collections at district level are a practical way to raise money to support the district.

Question 2 What about district coordinators? Doesn't mention this specific level in the service manual. Are district positions autonomous?

Deanna. Answer: p78-79 2nd paragraph Because of the unique nature of both programs, Al-Anon/Alateen members who are also A.A. members do not hold office beyond the group level, as these positions could lead to membership in the World Service Conference (WSC). They need to focus on the Al-Anon program and the possibility of a conflict of interest at Assembly and world service levels led the WSC to its decision not to seat Al-Anon/Alateen members who are also members of A.A.

Bette. Focus on thought force that Bette is serving on is to change focus from what dual members cannot do to what they can do. It depends upon what the individual situation is. Hoping that fellowship will look at all the ways that dual members can serve and not just focus on what they can't do. The policy has a clear reason and at the same time we want the dual members to be appreciated and use their talents.

Group 5

Jahna

Question 1. How do we handle it when more involved members are trying to control district?

Answer p79 regarding group problems tradition 2 p51 group problems and solutions suggest taking a group inventory and rededicate group focus concept 5 minority appeal p24 Three Obstacles To Success, number 3 is dominance. Create a comment book and hand it around to get member's input.

Question 2. How do we encourage members to get over that \$1 contribution hump?

Answer: Chair a meeting on 7th tradition. P21 p53 "We suggest you make a donation of blank" Take care of your group and local expenses first and then WSO

Report back from Action Committees

Group Services: Trish M (see Attachment 11)

Membership Outreach Action: Lisa B. (see Attachment 12)

Fellowship Communication: Dave B. (see Attachment 13)

Public Outreach: John O. (see Attachment 14)

Business Services: Kim F. (see Attachment 15)

November 19 – 20, 2011 Assembly, Portland District 10: Barb B, The Assembly will be at the Red Lion Inn in Jantzen Beach and will be collocated with AA.

March 2012 Assembly will be hosted by District 6 in Eugene.

July 2012 Assembly will be hosted by District 5 in Bend/Redmond/Sisters/Prineville (see Attachment 16)

2013 State Speakers Meeting: District 15, 14 and 11 and 12 together bid for the SSM. District 15 won the bid.

The Assembly was adjourned at 12 pm with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Attachment 1

Treasurer's Report
Bunny G.

- Continue to mail out letters to a few groups – usually group giving for the first time giving in my term.
- Group Expense Form – Form was passed out to get you familiar to handing in expense forms – you are our future leaders.
- Reminder about not listing the full name of Al-Anon on envelopes.
- 19 cents today for those requesting reimbursement for mileage.

Attachment 2

November Alateen Coordinator Report

I have been busy pulling together an accurate email list of all Oregon Area Alateen sponsors in order to communicate with them all. A work in progress. I have introduced myself to them all so they may communicate with me and visa versa.

I have invited them all to be chat room sponsors and have had two interested in more information and am hoping for more interest.

I'm coordinating the Alateen chat room process and hope to see it come to reality soon and you will all know when this is available.

I have responded to many emails from families looking for meetings for their kids and from professionals looking for information to relay.

A request for literature from a counselor was sent to me so that she could give it out to her clients. An Al-Anon friend and I had an opportunity to share the Alateen and Al-Anon program in a Linfield College Class room by the professor's invitation. I know he was really looking forward to seeing an Alateen meeting in their area. I told him we are growing and I am very hopeful.

I have attended a couple of the Portland Area Alateen sponsor meetings getting to know the Sponsors a bit and appreciate all the work they are so very passionate about. They love these kids!!!

I had the privilege of going to the Alateen Round up in April. There was around 20 sponsors and about the same amount of kids attending, we all sat outside the kids circle quietly and listened and watched as these kids had their meetings. The kids ran the show from beginning to end; it was such a gift to be in the same room as these kids worked it. As I looked around the room at all the Sponsors it just brought me to tears to see the love and respect they have for these kids. At breaks I saw all that love and respect reflected back from the kids to the Sponsors, AWESOME. I stayed for the dance and saw some of these kids having the time of their lives. One kid sent his Dad home 4 times because she wasn't ready to go and he was so sweet to her and seemed grateful that she wanted to stay longer. My heart was very blessed that day...I don't think I was alone in these feelings. These kids are so very supportive of each other, it was outstanding to watch. They love this program, I can't tell you how many times I heard them say those words. Their meetings are just like ours only they are teens. The Sponsors role was a quiet gentle presents at this event, well except those who danced and danced with the kids 😊

LOOOVVVED IT.. Kids are just the greatest teachers as they are students.

I am in process of trying to create an easy form to follow for the Alateen Sponsor Procedure and with your help I think we can figure it out.

Next weekend I get to go to the WAAC (Washington Area Alateen Conference) I hope to learn a lot about how to hold a conference and what that is all about. Maybe we could have OAAC (Oregon Area Alateen Conference) oooowwahh that sounds like a great idea. I know the Teens will amaze me some more and I look forward to sharing with you all my experiences.

Thank you Oregon Area for letting me serve.. I am so grateful for you all in my life and for the recovery you share so freely with me.

Love in Service

Carolyn Hayes

Attachment 3

Oregon Area Archives Coordinator

Hello, I am a grateful member of Al-Anon and Oregon Area Archives Coordinator.

My goals are:

1. To preserve the existing archives
2. Make the archives accessible to the fellowship
3. Utilize the wisdom of the fellowship to determine how to accomplish my vision

The Oregon Area Archives are presently located in Milwaukie in a 5x10 storage unit consisting of a 3 file cabinets (one is fire proof), a suitcase with SSM paraphernalia, and a box of international cassettes.

As archives coordinator my job is to:

- Collect – group histories both Alateen and Al-Anon, long time member questionnaires, and items of interest of the Oregon Area
- Catalog – Oregon Area Archives Inventory

- Preserve – acid free sleeves/photo albums

Between thought and task forces, committees and reasoning things out with one another, we have determined that :

- Our archives can be scanned
- Scanning can be costly
- Anonymity is an essential consideration when scanning or placing items on a website (Anonymity can be established by release of information and confidentiality clause)
- Members do seek out archives
- Back up measures are needed for scanned items

Reasoning things out with one another:

I've been corresponding with Montana's Archivist, who at present is scanning their Area Archives including most of their old correspondence, minutes, motions from assemblies, flyers and programs from Roundups and special events, group and individual histories and Area Newsletters scanned. By the way, they are the first and only to split into two positions – Coordinator/Archivist.

Mary keeps thumb drive of minutes (AWSC/Assembly)

Via group services committee – After sending out the inventory one response received from Ted X Business – minutes AWSC/Assembly

Change – motions, group histories, long time members, past delegates, audiotapes

Fun – SSM items

I received a question that I will take the group services committee: What do disbanded groups do with their archives? Flyers/minutes

With all that said – presently we are pricing scanners. Again I reasoned things out with another member – we talked about flat (bound items) vs. feed scanner, whether to save as doc or pdf and something about a jump drive. We also discussed a drop box on the Oregon Area Al-Anon Member only site for archives.

So this brings me to the present – I will be sending out a survey with inventory attached to be completed by the November Assembly 2011 to the DRs.

Last but not least, I am excited about attending the 15th Annual National AA Archives Workshop with Al-Anon Participation in Helena, Montana in September. I will be doing a workshop at the November Assembly, so this will be a good opportunity to gather a great deal of wisdom from multiple sources.

Your humble trusted servant,
Jodie P.

Attachment 4

JULY 2011 COMMUNICATOR COORDINATOR REPORT

- I have just finished my 5th Communicator edition. If you have not received it yet, I'm sure it will be waiting for you in your mailbox when you go home. I apologize for the delay - there were circumstances beyond anyone's control.

- One of the greatest challenges that I did not expect when I took the Communicator Coordinator position was dealing with the US Postal System. Every time I take in a bulk mailing to the post office in Hood River, another new rule or change has occurred. This last time I discovered we can only receive the lower mailing rate if we have 150 newsletters going to the same zip code. We don't. Now all the newsletters have to be separated by zip code and put in their own mailing trays. We use about 10 trays. Portland USPS will fine us if it is not done correctly.

- All GRs are invited to email me something to be included in the next Communicator. The deadline is October 18. I would love to print something about how your group holds business meetings, uses the Forum and other CAL, or anything else about your position experience. If you go to the Oregon Al-Anon web site and select the Contacts tab - Coordinators - Communicator, you can attach your sharing to an email to me.

- I have been very grateful to experience the love and help of so many of our members. When my feelings are hurt, I can call someone for perspective. When I have no mailing labels, I can call and email others for solutions. When I am not sure about some member's submissions, I can contact former editors and get clarification.

- My goals for the next newsletter is to have a page dedicated for Alateen submissions AND bring my Higher Power onto every page and every issue.

Purrs!
Lisa B.

Attachment 5

CPC Coordinator Report

To All My Fellow Al-Anon Service Members,
I am struggling. I know I need help to do a good job in my CPC coordinator position. I am from District 15 which is VERY small; only 4 meetings, yet I am delighted that we actually have four meetings! It just makes it difficult to find support within our district and I hope I can find others willing to help me from other districts. At TEAM I asked Joanne C. to be my service sponsor and she accepted which gives me great hope. She also suggested that I ask other districts to begin to compile a directory of therapists from their district and so we can build a notebook as an ongoing resource!

I am new at this, but I know that with the support of other members and God, all things are possible. Al-Anon has repeatedly shown me that this is true over many years.
Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl H.
CPC coordinator

Attachment 6

Forum Coordinator Report July Assembly 2011

Oregon Al-Anon has a history of supporting the *Forum*. In May, 2009, Oregon Area members had a higher number of subscriptions per group than most other Areas. In 2010, in response to a big member awareness drive, the number of *Forum* subscriptions in Oregon rose to an average of 2.02 per group. At that time, in Oregon we were one of only seven Areas in the U.S. to have that high a subscription rate.

Now in 2011, we have the highest subscription rate in the United States. It is 2.26 copies per meeting! Congratulations, Oregon Area! Thank you all GRs and all members who subscribe for helping the *Forum* be successful!

Would you like to see the *Forum* on line? We can make it happen! To bring the *Forum* on line, we will need electronic innovation and software and communications. These things take money. As we develop our awareness of abundance (versus lack), we know that we as a fellowship can do mighty things. By contributing to WSO during our quarterly appeal, we can make our dreams come true.

We have much abundance in our own personal histories, as well. Please consider calling me to have your district sponsor a *Forum* writing workshop. I would love to come and visit you and put one on for you!

Together we have abundance,

Love in service,
Paula J.
Forum Coordinator
July 2011 Assembly

Attachment 7

The Oregon Area currently has about 214 active, registered groups.

WSO has a new and better reporting system currently in use. The Group Records Coordinator can now make changes directly in the WSO database. The Area Group Records Coordinator only has access to that information with a special password to protect the database.

MAKING CHANGES FOR YOUR GROUP: The following information may seem like a “primer” in many ways, but we have a system that really works at the Oregon level. As usual, the Groups are the most important entity in the reporting system. Members are an important part of that reporting system as well.

Members need to use the LINKS OF SERVICE – GROUP, DISTRICT, GROUP RECORDS COORDINATOR for changes to an existing meeting. If it is a new meeting they, the new group, needs to fill out the GR 1 form, that can be downloaded from the WSO members website, www.alanon.alateen.org. The completed form should be sent directly to WSO, who registers the group and assigns a group ID number. Remember, WSO has the duty to change the name of the group if the name selected implies affiliation with any other organization. They will also add AFG at the end of the name.

Most districts that publish meeting lists do not list the meeting unless it is registered with WSO and has a Group ID number assigned. See Page 33 of the Service Manual.

The process for me could not be easier. Our beloved Webmaster is a true partner in making the system work. She will send back any information to the originator regarding changes, unless the changes are sent to me first. After I make the change in the WSO database, I then give her information based on the template shown below. She lets me know when the website has been updated. The LINKS OF SERVICE WORK very smoothly, when done correctly.

Personally, I wish to thank Billie and Vicki F. from District 4 for taking care of “the box” for me, and for all of you who are patient and kind and make my job easier.

For all the love and support, especially from Barb. L., our Webmaster, we will all get it done together. I have been reminded time and again this is a “WE PROGRAM”. I need to keep all informed and ASK FOR HELP.

It hasn't been easy, but I am learning, and my Higher Power is extremely patient with me.

Yours in Service,
Helen Murphy Area Group Records Coordinator

Attachment 8

Literature Report
July 2011 Assembly
Norma P
Area Literature Coordinator

Hi, I am your new Area Literature Coordinator. My name is Norma.

I am very grateful to have this opportunity and humbly begin this time as your trusted servant. God gives us what we need when we need it, so I am moving forward with confidence and happiness, with your help, and have already learned a ton.

For example, what is E-Communities? For me so far it has been an easy and fun way to communicate with WSO and other literature coordinators across the USA and Canada. What a thrill! When I check into this website, I can find posts by Mary C. from Tennessee or Sandy S. from Nevada or Alveda from Calgary and see what they have been doing to bring CAL alive for members.

We members have an incalculable resource in our Conference Approved Literature. Not only do the current books and pamphlets speak to us every time we pick one up, expanding our Circle of Hope, but we can pick up the very words of Lois in her first writing, sharing with us even today the love that brought Al-Anon together into first days and years.

I find our new book, Many Voices, One Journey, really interesting and fun. Chapter One tells about 1925-1950, the period of active alcoholism and isolation that started our founds, Lois and Bill, on the road to Recovery and gave our Program its beginning.

Let us show you now how this worked for them.

Thank you for attending to our skit today. Please notice the literature table that is available for you today and remember to enjoy your Conference Approved Literature, a fabulous tool.

Norma P.
Area Literature Coordinator

Literature Skit

Introduction

(Lois, Narrator 1 and Narrator 2 go to podium.)

Lois: Anybody can start something, but carrying it out is the real challenge. And all the rest of you are doing that job. You're all founders in your own right, carrying the message." (Lois steps back, turning to face mid-stage. Narrator 1 stays at podium.)

Narrator I: The wives of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) members began to gather for mutual support long before the founding of Al-Anon Family Groups. Initially, they came together because they wanted to support their husbands' recovery. Eventually they decided to practice the Twelve

Steps themselves, for their own spiritual growth. Years later, friends and family members of alcoholics came to believe that they could strengthen their recovery by uniting together as Al-Anon Family Groups. Since then, two aspects of Al-Anon have continued to thrive in tandem – Al-Anon, the fellowship; and Al-Anon, the organization that Lois W. and her friend, Anne B., created to serve the fellowship.

Lois saw the presence of a Higher Power – “a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience,” according to Tradition Two – as the primary force in Al-Anon growth and development. Al-Anon defined its own identity over time, as it matured and gradually separated from A.A. Members learned to let go of the alcoholic’s recovery, leaving that to the alcoholic’s Higher Power, as they put the focus on themselves and their own spiritual growth.

(Placard carrier carries card #1 “1925” across stage. Bill enters to center stage in motorcycle gear and just stands there for the count of 10. Big laugh comes from audience. Lois is standing nearby, ankles crossed, looking at fingernails.)

Bill: “Varoom! Varrrooom! Let’s go, Lois!”)Bill “rides off” stage, alone.)

Narrator 3: “Lois W. had a secret motive when she and her husband, Bill, left New York City in 1925 for a year as “motorcycle hobos.” Bill wanted to discover investment opportunities by visiting companies across the country and learning about them first hand.”

Lois (center stage, to audience): “My reasons for wishing to take the time off were quite different. Although I thought Bill’s stock theories were sensible, I wanted to get him away from New York,,, with bars (saloons they were called then) on many corners, and away from his buddies, both of which I considered contributed greatly to his excessive drinking. A year in the open, which we both loved, would give me a chance to straighten him out.”

Narrator 3: “Lois believed she could change Bill by changing his environment and removing him from the bad influence of certain friends. She had been married to him for seven years. She was 34 years old. Her expectations were unrealistic, as several incidents on the motorcycle trip showed.

One weekend, they were camping out in the country – far from the saloons, drinking buddies and other negative influences of the city. However, Bill had supplied himself with enough liquor for the weekend. Lois did not admit that her plan to straighten Bill out had failed, at least for that weekend. Instead, she herself got drunk – in an attempt to teach Bill a lesson.”

Lois: “As there was no one to see me “get potted,” I thought it was a splendid opportunity to hold a mirror up to him and to show him what a fool a person appears when drunk. However, the moment was not auspicious after all, for Bill thought it a great game, and encouraged me to drink more and more until I was so sick I couldn’t hold up my head. In the morning, he had only a little hangover – mine was excruciating, and all for nothing.” (Lois exits stage after Bill.)

Narrator I: “Another incident on the motorcycle trip highlighted the contrast between Lois’ expectations and the reality of Bill’s uncontrollable compulsion to drink.”

(Bill and Lois enter stage together on motorcycle, stopping at flag which indicates the border from Canada to the United States.)

Bill: “I want some cigarettes.”

(She gets off motorcycle and steps aside; he continues, “riding” off stage.)

Lois (aside, arms crossed in disgust): “This was nonsense, as cigarettes were more expensive in Canada – but liquor was cheaper. I could do nothing but wait and wait, hour after hour, parked on the bridge plaza, with no car keys or money, since Bill, who had been sober for some time, had them with him. It was getting dark and the area was full of saloons. I searched every one of them until at last I found him, hardly able to navigate – and the money practically gone!”

Narrator 2: Another woman might not have waited so long before trying to find her husband or stayed so long in such a relationship, after such hurtful neglect. However, Lois still thought that the motorcycle trip was an improvement.

Lois: “The trip was a partial success from my standpoint because it slowed down Bill’s drinking temporarily.”

Narrator 1: “Lois saw the trip as a partial success because at that time she had not yet let go of her belief that Bill’s drinking was manageable – by her. She had not yet accepted that she was powerless over alcohol.

Narrator 3: “FOR DISCUSSION IN GROUPS (Scene 1): Lois did not mention Bill’s drinking in her original letters home to her mother. How much of my relationship with an alcoholic have I kept secret from my family and friends? How has my shame and embarrassment about someone else’s drinking affected the way I interact with my family and friends?”

Scene II, 1934, Ten More Years

(Placard Carrier carries card across stage.

Scene: Two chairs and a lamp [homelike scene – the home of Dr. Bob and his wife.]

Narrator 1: Lois suffered through ten more years of Bill’s drinking as his disease progressed. He was hospitalized several times, attended Oxford Group meetings and attempted several other cures before he found continuous sobriety. In late December 1934, while a hospital patient, he underwent a profound spiritual experience. Five months later, when he was struggling to maintain his sobriety, instead of resorting to drink, he reached out to another alcoholic struggling for sobriety – Dr. Bob S. Bill worked with him for a few weeks before Dr. Bob had his last drink on June 10, 1935, which they later designated as the start of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.).

Narrator 2: Before the end of that month, Lois visited Bill at the home of Dr. Bob and his wife, Annie, where Bill stayed for about three months.

Lois: I loved Annie and Bob from the moment I saw them. They were so warm, so gracious, so good. In the years to come, their home became a haven for those in trouble, both alcoholics and their families.”

Narrator 3: “Annie’s daughter, Sue, considered her mother’s spiritual approach to alcoholism to have been a great influence in Al-Anon’s later development. She pointed to her mother’s spiritual journal: (points to journal) “It’s all there – share with people, don’t preach, don’t argue, don’t talk

up or down to people, share in terms of your own experience, be willing to live a day at a time, an hour at a time, surrender, pray for guidance, and have a daily meditation time.”

Narrator 1: Lois expressed appreciation for what Annie did for alcoholics and their families until her death in 1949.

Lois: Annie’s part in the formation of AA and consequently in the foundation of Al-Anon should never be forgotten, especially Family Group members. Although there were few family groups during the 13 years of her activity, Annie did much to instill the spirit of Al-Anon in many of the families of alcoholics. God bless Annie’s memory.”

NARRATOR 3: FOR DISCUSSION (Scene II)

Bill found sobriety after having had a spiritual experience, but Alcoholics Anonymous did not start until he carried the message of his recovery to Dr. Bob. What does “shared recovery” mean to my Al-Anon program?

Annie S. recognized the pain that the family members felt and showed compassion to them. How did I feel at my first Al-Anon meeting? What encouraged me to “Keep Coming Back?”

Scene Three: 1935, Lois’ Own Spiritual Awakening

(Scene: Bill and Lois’ bedroom: A lamp, a chair)

Narrator 3: Lois had her own spiritual awakening in 1935. In a moment of anger, she swore and threw a shoe at Bill. At that moment, she realized that it was time to concentrate on her own spiritual growth, after so many years of focusing all of her attention on trying to solve Bill’s drinking problem. She was 44 years old.

(Lois is getting dressed.)

Bill: Lois! Hurry up! I don’t want to be late to my Oxford Group meeting!

Lois: Damn your old meetings! (hurling shoe across room – at him)

Lois: (to audience) I was very angry! Nowadays when people quote me, they usually don’t tell the whole story and they try to soften what I said to protect my image, or something or other. But there wasn’t that much of a surprise factor, really. I was well known in my family for having a temper. In my autobiography, I will tell the story again with the swearing and that isn’t all! I will say more about how I felt. After all those years of effort to stop the drinking, I was disappointed in the life we were leading. We were seldom alone together; we had none of the conversations that I treasured. I wanted to be more important to him than all his new friends! I felt angry, jealous underappreciated and unhappy.

It’s true that I decided I needed to take the Twelve Steps for myself, my dears, but no matter what you read about me, just remember that I didn’t feel better overnight; it took a while – and once Al-Anon was up and running, I didn’t have to do it alone.”

NARRATOR 3: FOR DISCUSSION (Scene III)

Does helping other people enrich my life – or justify it? Where do I draw the line between caring for myself and caring for others?

Lois said she had to work hard to let go of resentments. How do I let go of resentments?

Scene Four: 1939, The Fellowship Begins

(Scene: Five “members” sitting in chairs in a circle. One is Maureen. Placard Carrier carries card across stage.)

Narrator 1: Fellowship among the families of alcoholics started in the mid-1930’s, when the alcoholics and their families went to meetings together to find help for the alcoholic. These groups were not identified as Alcoholics Anonymous until after the publication of the book, *Alcoholics Anonymous* (1939).

Member 1 (Maureen): We congregated at Lois and Bill’s house. We families – composed of wives, children, mothers and fathers, and sometimes just friends – met with the alcoholics and considered ourselves part of this group of people who were trying to help themselves... Families went to meetings out of interest and to help the alcoholic. We did try to live by the same program, but often only in a superficial way. I can only speak for myself, but I think most of the families felt as I had at first – that I didn’t need further spiritual development. We had gone through such ordeals at the hands of the alcoholics that we thought this, in itself, set us above them spiritually. By degrees, however, we recognized that we could not handle our own affairs. We saw our mates growing spiritually, and jumping way past us. Now many of us realized we were lagging behind. Very spottily, throughout the groups, some of us began to recognize that we had better do something more about our own lives, and seriously strive to live by A.A.’s “wonderful principles.”

Narrator 2: Prior to the national publicity generated by the publication of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, there were only seven groups for alcoholics in existence – two in the Midwest and five on the East Coast. Members and their spouses drove great distances between cities to reach out to each other.

Lois: We used to travel about. If anybody had a car, we’d hop into it and go to a meeting in New Jersey, Philadelphia, or Akron, often driving all night. At these times, we families would gather together, sometimes for a serious meeting, sometimes to play bridge, or just for a chat over a cup of tea. But when we traveled, we visiting wives would always tell the home families we had learned that we had to work on the same program as our husbands, for our own growth and serenity.

NARRATOR 3: FOR DISCUSSION (Scene IV)

These early groups of alcoholics and their families traveled great distances to attend each other’s meetings. How does a wider circle of shared recovery strengthen my program?

THE END

Attachment 10

Oregon Area AFG
Website Coordinator Report
July 2011 Assembly

It was just this past March that I became the Oregon Area Website Coordinator. The transition team worked very hard to create accuracy on the Area’s website. They did a wonderful job and this team is now disbanded. I now have the responsibility of the website. I do not take this lightly.

My goal is to keep the meetings listed on the website to be the accurate reflection of what is really out there. The meetings in your community deserve to be listed for all those who want to come; they deserve to be accurate; they deserve my very best. That is my constant goal... accuracy in the meetings listed on the website.

Helen M, Group Records, sends me changes and I get them onto the website as timely as I can. Sometimes I need to ask for clarity with some detail. I may then send an email asking Helen and the DR to assist me in resolving my questions. It is as smooth a system as I think we can make it. If a GR asks for a change, I will respond that it needs to go through Helen first. I always cc to Helen to include her in the process. The links of service to change or correct a meeting are GR to DR to Helen to me.

I have had a very busy time since March and have made no progress on creating a "new and improved" looking presence for Oregon on the internet. I was on the committee for TEAM DISCOVERY and served as Treasurer for that event. Also, I am part of the committee that has staged this assembly. I have been BUSY. Creating a new website with password protected pages is still a goal to have happen before this panel is over.

I am getting the minutes of AWSC meetings and the Assemblies posted for you to have when you need them. The communicator was available online shortly after Lisa sent it to me.

If your group or District is having a function and you want a flyer to be available to everyone, please follow the guidelines for creating the flyer and submit it to the flyer committee. Send the "paperwork" to Bunny G., our Treasurer. I will post the event on the calendar (on the EVENTS tab) with the flyer available to all when she sends it to me. Area events will be posted on the home page with the flyer available.

I have also been working with Jodie P., your Archive Coordinator. The website currently has many different items that are no longer timely but could be handed over to her for the archives. This will be an ongoing communication.

I want to tell you all that I am deeply grateful you voted me in to this position. I had no experience and yet you felt I could do the job. I am learning. It is fun. And I will continue to be there as you want me. Thank you for allowing me to serve the Area as your Website Coordinator.

Barbara L.
Website Coordinator

Attachment 11

Group Services

What is Group Services? Well, we service the groups. In an effort to help the groups we discussed different possibilities to do so. Jodi gave her report as the Archives Coordinator. She is still wading through all of the archives for our area. In an effort to keep the archives well kept, she gave an archives list to all of us. We viewed the survey using an asterick* or a ? to indicate which ones are the most important. Jodie will email this list to all DR's for input and would like the results back before November Assembly.

We decided to get more participation from the groups, we developed a Voice Box. This is a container of any kind presented at the meetings where members can put any questions or comments anonymously. We reviewed the ones that came back. Many were more like Ask it Basket questions so we gave them to Rita to be answered during the HOT TOPIC session on Sunday. The remaining ones were set aside to plan for a workshop or up coming panel. We want to continue the Voice box idea.

Carolyn H., our Alateen coordinator, gave us a report. At the AWSC we decided that simplifying the Alateen sponsor application. Carolyn will work on this and give to Judy J. for distribution to AWSC. There will be only 2 pages to fill out thus lessening the confusion. The sponsors must supply 3 references to be contacted by the DR. If the DR feels the sponsor will not be a good candidate they may not approve the candidate. The DR may then pass this on to Billie, the Alternate Delegate.

Don't be scared to be an Alateen sponsor. Usually the first five minutes are tough but then it gets better. You must be certified to be involved with the Alateens in any way at all. Mail, call or write Carolyn with any questions. Kids can kick someone out and sponsors can kick someone out if necessary. Carolyn will make a checklist to help DRs when interviewing the perspective sponsors.

Our goal is to have the kids (Alateens) have a page in the communicator. So we are asking the districts to pass this on to the Alateens, send in stories, poems, drawings, photo's whatever. Have them express themselves and their program anonymously or with their names and groups. Carolyn will make a flyer to encourage the Alateens to submit writings. Deadline for next Communicator is October 18th. September is recovery month. Hopefully every group will do an outreach project. The booklet P-90 has a great list for Public Outreach. Groups learn the basic tools.

AND: Continue using your voice box....we like what we heard and want to hear from more of you.

Attachment 12

MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH ACTION COMMITTEE MINUTES - JULY 2011 Membership Outreach Report

The MO Action Committee calculated the surveys taken by all present at the July Assembly. The results:

#1 Web site

- 26 people present have no problem using it
- most use it to get information about upcoming events or meeting information
- some are not sure which web site to use for what (ie AIS, Oregon Al-Anon, WSO, etc)
- some people want it to be easier to contact people, information about where to send money, more Alateen information and more event information/ fliers

#2 Communicator

- 13 have never seen it
- more people at this Assembly like the paper copy instead of reading it online
- most common use of Communicator - announcements at meetings

#3 Membership Outreach

- ideas:

- create flier/ table tent explaining links of service
- put on meeting schedules and on web site/ table tent when and where district meetings happen
- GRs and DRs could be more active
- put who is who (links of service) in Communicator

Ted will spend more time with the surveys and email the action committee members the results for us to discuss more next Assembly.

The Communicator Coordinator gave information about how the Communicator is distributed. It would cost \$1.04 (at the current rate) for a personal subscription, per Communicator. Coordinating the mailing addresses with Group Records will be very tricky.

The World Service Office is requesting the Oregon Area to not have the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions on our web site. Instead, they want us to create a link to their site. This is an issue our action committee will bring to AWSC and the Assembly to decide.

Attachment 13

Fellowship Communication Action Committee

Paula was group coordinator. We started with group introductions, welcome, and mission statement. We reviewed the assignment from the last Assembly, which was to read a piece of conference approved literature and report what we got out of it, which we discussed. Books discussed were: *Survival to Recovery*, *Discovering Choices* and the various daily readers. A suggestion was made to read page 269 from *Survival to Recovery* (which some people call "the Promises") and then share about it. Two people volunteered to do this. Then the group suggested other ideas for encouraging people to use conference approved literature. Someone introduced the question of : Is it OK to bring outside literature and beliefs into meeting shares? Members shared experiences on this topic. Some wished for more freedom. Others would prefer to keep meetings on topic. Still others felt that outside material can be OK, if it is kept brief. Several people mentioned that they were made uncomfortable by mentions of outside religions and also yoga. Bill M. looked up this topic in the Service Manual and read some sentences that pertained to it from page 101. The group then brainstormed for more ideas to encourage use of literature in meetings. Paula asked for ideas for a theme for the Fellowship Communications Committee. The group brainstormed more ideas for this. Several people came up with great ideas for ways to encourage groups to use more CAL. Moon presented an idea to create a list of literature to use as an inventory on a group and personal level. Bill suggested creating a pamphlet on how to use the conference approved literature. The group discussed both ideas and suggested that they would both need more time than we had that day. Paula asked: How do we encourage people to create submissions about sexual intimacy and also submissions for the Forum? Also the topic of what to do for the November meeting. There was further discussion on several of the topics that were introduced during the meeting. Last, we went over who would be presenting what for our Action Committee at the Sunday Meeting.

Attachment 14

Public Outreach Action Committee

We started out by reviewing what we did at our last meeting at the March Assembly.

The 15 second PSA based on the bookmark, is now running in Bridgeport, Springfield and Medford and District 7 will also be doing 3 more weeks at the end of the year. We discussed and approved running the PSA November 18th thru December 29th at Century 16 at Eastport Plaza and Pioneer Place in the Portland area and Old Mill Stadium 16 in Bend.

We also discussed doing banner ad's in collage on-line newspapers. After much discussion we decided to do a banner ad at OSU for the months of October and November as a trial. The results of this trial we be discussed after the trial period. Next we decided to purchase about 90 DVD's (AV-31) the Al-Anon Alateen Role in Recovery that you saw one section of yesterday, to be distributed at the November Assembly.

Since September is recovery month and doing Public Outreach scary to some members, I passed out copies of Why Do Public Outreach and 1000 Ideas for Public Outreach. This should help to give everyone a chance to PO in some way. This is something that I put together from various sources such as Area Highlights, C.A.L. and from various Area and District newsletters and Blogs found online. There are 10 in each districts mail boxes and more on the table if you need more for your groups.

Respectfully submitted
John O.
Public Outreach Chair

Attachment 15

Business Services Report

We are in the process of reviewing section IV, V, and VI of the Oregon Area Handbook to assist smoother operations of Assemblies including clarification of how Assembly monies are handled, who is in charge of bringing what items, and the creation of an ASSEMBLY BOX (ASS.-Box) which would travel from Assembly to Assembly with essential items. This will assist in smoother operations of Assemblies and encourage the care and consideration of Assembly tools.

Attachment 16

DR, District 5
Bid for July 2012 Assembly

Imagine....

Beautiful warm sunny days and cool evenings in July. Incredible views of snowcapped mountains. Driving leisurely over the mountain pass without the pressure of dealing with snowpack on the roads. Walking along the serene river trails in your spare time. A wide array of hotels and delicious eateries to choose from. A combination of the business of Al-Anon along with incredible fellowship in beautiful Central Oregon. Come join us in July of 2012 for the summer assembly as we submit our bid to host all of you in our beautiful area. Our district is eager for this opportunity to get involved and for you to experience Central Oregon Al-Anon.

Attachment 17

TEAM DISCOVERY Report (FINAL) for the July 16, 2011 Assembly

TEAM DISCOVERY was fully self-supporting and didn't require dipping into the areas' treasuries, though we felt very supported by them if the need had arrived.

And through the generosity of many, we were able to honor 8 scholarships for attendance!

We didn't know how much we "owed" until Sunday morning when Judy went to get the final bill. Our TEAM checkbook balance was around \$14,400.00. We were holding our breaths because we didn't know what our penalty would be for not getting the 200 full weekend packages we had hoped for. When Judy was presented the final bill it came to \$14, 102.00. We had fully met our contract obligation as a TEAM event and with the help of all of those attending, made this fully self supporting. It was such a great feeling to experience meeting the contract with Seabeck Conference Center.

And even when the members knew we had met the financial obligation, they asked that the basket be passed again and in that collection we were given over \$800.

So, we have been asked where did the money come from that is being sent to WSO?...We had a balance left in the check book after payment to Seabeck of a little over \$300. More was collected on registrations and meals that hadn't been recorded. With the help of the members bringing a snack to share, and very prudent committees we had very little overhead expenses. The basket was passed on Saturday and then by request on Sunday. Talk about ABUNDANCE! With a gracious thank you to all of the members attending, we are able to present Al-Anon Family Groups, Inc. with a check from the Washington and Oregon Areas for \$2,581.29.

I would like all of the members of the committee to please stand and be recognized. I would also like everyone here who attended to please stand. Thank you all for your participation in a richly rewarding event.

Colleen G., Chairman
TEAM DISCOVERY HOST COMMITTEE (RETIRED)