



## Virginia Area World Service Committee (VAWSC) Meeting Minutes

WebEx - Hosted by Becky D.

March 2, 2024

9:00 am to 3:17 pm

### Opening:

- Area Chair, Debbie P., opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer, reading of Concept Five and the Purpose of VAWSC (Service Manual, Area World Service Committee Meetings pg. 159).
- Chair introduced Kerry B., DR Eastern Shore.
- We are voting on Slido.

### Welcome and Introductions:

Officers introduced themselves. Roll Call was completed through WebEx polling (full list can be viewed at file: 1-Roll Call Shared Polling Result). VAWSC Members present:

Ann S., Ava B., Becky D., Carito S., Cheryl L., Chris B., Cindy L., Debbie P., Diana A., Duane F., Ed W., Ellie F., Emily M., Katherine, Kerry B., Laura L., Lee N., Lisa R., Maria N., Meg P., Michelle R., Mitch M., Patty M., Robynn B., Sophie L., Stacy L., Terry W., Wendy R.

**Note: Reports and documents discussed and referenced in these minutes can be found on the VA Area website at <https://www.vaalanon.org/vawsc>**

### Approval of August 5, 2023 VAWSC Minutes-Debbie P.

***Motion: to approve the August 5, 2023 VAWSC Minutes as written by Deb T. made by Patty M., seconded by Ava B. Slido Poll initiated: Approved-26, Opposed-0, Abstained-1***

### Treasurer's Report-Laura L.:

Bank balances are similar to end of 2022. Contributions are down slightly. Expenses are down. The website came in over budget. What we thought would be billed in 2022 was billed in 2023 which put our website expenses over. Everything else was way under budget. We came out in a good place. People are putting group numbers on checks. Encourage Group Treasurers and DRs to look over the 2023 Year End Treasurer Report. The Area Tax return has not been prepared yet. Hoping to have return prepared by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

- Lee N.-Lines 70 and 71, we show budget amounts of \$8200. Assembly cost is half the budgeted amount.
- Laura L.-We changed the way we keep the books in 2023. It is because of assigning the classes. We budgeted \$8200 as the Area cost for Spring and Fall Assemblies. The \$26,000 and \$28,000 were the actual checks we paid out. Our cost for Assembly since we have gone hybrid has gone down. The registration income at the top has to be applied to expense numbers at the bottom.
- Chris B.-If any checks came in from our district (Springfield/Annandale), are those checks listed on the Treasurer's Report?
- Laura L.-If you don't see your contributions listed on Attachment D for group contributions, go to the end where you see the missing ones. If you see your contribution is missing, then you would need to go to the end to the individual and other. Just let me know and I can go in and change it.

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- Duane F.-You can also see the date and that would help identify it.

**Motion: to accept the 2023 Year End Treasurer's Report as prepared made by Patty M., seconded by Emily M. Slido Poll initiated: Approved-27, Opposed-0, Abstained-0**

### Delegate's Report-Stacy L.:

Our new World Conference Theme is "Our path toward grace, unity, and understanding." I am purchasing pins to distribute to delegates at the conference. There will be no love gifts. We are still encouraging cards. Send directly to the Founder's Inn after April 13<sup>th</sup>. You can also send them to my home. Al-Anon Board members are discussing diversity and inclusion and I am learning more about it. The nominating and application process for Trustees in World Service is being revised to make the application less confusing and questions more welcoming. Our Area has not had a Trustee for a while. Al-Anon had a great year financially. Contributions are up. Literature sales hit a record. The Reserve Fund added a million dollars due to the market. The 2024 Road Trip is in Columbia, SC. and will be held on our Assembly week-end. You get to meet the Board. Share this information with your groups. We will not be conducting a poll to check with members whether Stepping Stones is an activity worth continuing. We don't have enough information yet. Every 3 years, Conference holds its meeting in NY and that location allows delegates to visit Stepping Stones. Moving the World Service Office to New York is costly and a trip to Stepping Stones requires hiring busses. The trip to Stepping Stones was the highlight of my Conference experience and I would hate to not have that experience for others. E-books are being offered globally. The online store is being updated. Working on electronic Alateen meetings. AA 25<sup>th</sup> International Convention will be in Vancouver with a big Al-Anon presence. Will be working on the Al-Anon 2028 International Convention site. Inreach/outreach: It is important to reach out to our existing members. Keep newcomers coming back and into service work. Work on retaining our members, revitalizing meetings, and take a look at how things are running. I will attend any District meeting. Let me know and I would love to come and visit. Be thinking about the new panel. I will get dates of upcoming World Service.

- Terry W.-Last panel, Tom and I had one person interested in serving as Southeast Trustee and we had never had one in Virginia Area before. We had to invent a process. We need to set a deadline for the Area. Board of Trustee date is August 7. Ideally, we should have the nomination in time to present it to the preceding Assembly because it requires an Assembly vote. We have Area experience should the opportunity come up again. As far as delegates visiting Stepping Stones, I did not get to go (as part of the panel I was on). They have an Open House in June and I intend to go.
- Michelle R.: not sure what Trustee does.
- Stacy L.-Trustees are members that go through an application process to make decisions outside of what WSO makes for Al-Anon. This is explained in your Service Manual. They make sure we do everything by the book.
- Terry W.-The Board of Trustees is comprised of Trustees from various regions. We belong to the SE region. There are some Regional Trustees and Non-Regional Trustees at Large. Basically, responsible for operating the Al-Anon World Services. The WSO is the administrative manifestation of the Board of Trustees. They are charged with protecting our literature copyright. They have administrative responsibilities. Responsible for us as an organization. Concept 7: The Trustees have legal rights. It's an administrative function like any organization has to have. Authorize the new publication of literature.
- Ava B.-Current Service Manual pp. 69-72 discusses Board of Trustees.

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### Guide for VA Al-Anon/Alateen Group and Treasurers-Wendy R.:

The Guide for VA Al-Anon/Alateen Group and Treasurers is being updated to reflect today's environment with online payments and the new banking procedures. Focus is on getting groups to be diligent about Treasurer's Reports. Monies received each week and expenditures should be noted in writing and a report presented at business meetings. Guide provides examples for small and large groups of how to keep records and information to be shared. Many banks require a tax id number. Guide includes a process to do that. A social security number is required on the Tax ID Number Application Form. The social security number is tied to the employer ID number to establish that group as being official. It's not used in any other manner. The alternative is to set up account in a person's name and that could generate contact. Best thing to do is get a group name on the bank account, get the SS-4 Form, complete it, take it to the bank, sign cards, and get a tax ID number.

- Emily M.-does that mean the Treasurer's social security number stays with the account when established?
- Wendy R.-they just need that number.
- Ann S.-thank you. This is really helpful and will help groups feel more comfortable. Is this on the Area website?
- Wendy R.-it is with VAWSC documents. It will be posted permanently.
- Meg P.-thank you. It's great to have this to give to our treasurers. It is a pain to get but it is so important. I had a treasurer that stepped down but kept the money and it took a year to finally get those funds away from that person and back to the group.
- Terry W.-Does anyone have advice on threshold of when this would make sense to do?
- Wendy R.-most banks have accounts that do not generate interest and they don't have a minimum. If it looks like your group is going to last and it will grow and eventually get more money, I would talk about it in your business meetings.
- Maria N.-would the name on the bank account be group's name?
- Wendy R.-yes. Names on checks would be group names. Address would be Treasurer's address. If you do online banking, you don't have to worry about changing the address later.
- Laura L.-I am seeing Area contributions come in with that Area number dash District number dash Group number preprinted on the check. If you are starting a new bank account, that is a possibility. If that is an option, please have that number pre-written on your check.
- Wendy R.-when you download the SS-4 Form, I have highlighted what you need to fill out.
- Wendy R.-Percentages were removed because we didn't feel they were universally applicable. We have an order to it, according to need. District first, then Area, then Alateen Conferences, Information Services, Distribution Centers, World Service Office.
- Patty M.-has that been posted?
- Wendy R.-they are posted on the meeting part of our website.
- Debbie P.-once approved, it will be posted to the website.
- Ellie F.-our district donates to an Alateen fund. Should that be in here?
- Wendy R.-Those last 3 needs to be interpreted by each District.

**Motion: to accept The Guide for VA Al-Anon/Alateen Group and Treasurers made by Ann S., seconded by Lisa R. Slido Poll initiated: Approved-27, Opposed-0, Abstained-0**

### Job Descriptions-Debbie P.: (See reports at <https://www.vaalanon.org/vawsc>)

First set of job descriptions are without changes to content. We checked format and consistency.

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**Motion: to accept the job descriptions as prepared without changes made by Catherine, seconded by Kerry. Slido Poll initiated: Approved-25, Opposed-0, Abstained-0**

Second set of job descriptions are with minor changes to content. We checked format and consistency. Area Chair is the signatory for Area Contracts which is in line with Area Guidelines. Alt Delegate had a list of AAPP items that were removed. Convention Treasurer made it consistent as far as signatory. Convention Treasurer is not independent. It is Area Alt Treasurer so we'll attach to Convention Guidelines. Rather than having separate job description, we just put job duties and put it with Convention Guidelines. Website Coordinator job description: There was a sentence removed and applied to Group Records Coordinator. Long Range Planning Chair: Three areas were removed to make it more consistent. Development and Research Committee Secretary: We put in signature area that was not in there. Updated verbiage for Secretary. Alt Secretary: checked out verbiage, formatting, and updating on job responsibilities. Area Treasurer: added signature area because it was not there. Updated verbiage and sentence structure.

- Terry M.-we are voting on changes but we will not see changes in advance of vote?
- Debbie P.-Old job descriptions are on website and new ones are in VAWSC.
- Becky D.-there are links to job descriptions. You can look at each individual one.

**Motion: to accept the job descriptions as prepared with changes made by Diana A., seconded by Ann S. Slido Poll initiated: Approved-24, Opposed-0, Abstained-1**

**VA Boundary Procedures-Val P./Debbie P.:** The LRPC re-worked the Boundary Policy with focus being on links of service. Objective to make sure that changes were as few and as infrequent as possible. Discourage as much moving around as possible. Make sure we maintain our links of service and keep consistency. Make sure that it was documented and there was opportunity for every voice to be heard. Most common reason for change is that the district becomes too large. Example might be Richmond. We wanted to include the possibility of an Overlay District. The group would have to decide if it wanted to belong to the Geographic District or the Overlay District. Boundary Form was shared. The form is to document what happens, make sure that everyone has been notified as to why the change is made. Completed form would be kept by the Area for documentation.

**Motion: to approve the VA Area Boundary Policy for Changing District and Area Boundaries of the Virginia Area, and send it to the VA Area Assembly for their approval in May 2024 made by Area Officers, seconded by Patty M. Slido Poll initiated: Approved-25, Opposed-0, Abstained-2**

**Spanish Speaking Overlay District-Debbie P.:** Debbie P. read the Motion and reviewed the history of the request for formation of a Spanish Speaking Overlay District.

- Cheryl L.-in group naming, WSO won't allow you to use, for example, "Alcoholism." In naming a district, I'm not sure they can name it what they want to name it.
- Debbie P.-it will be known as District 11.
- Diana A.-was this chosen by groups? This name was "help alcoholism" in Spanish.
- Debbie P.-yes. The group did choose this name.
- Robynn B.-would Overlay District participate in our Area Assemblies and Conventions and if so, the issue of a translator would come into play.

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- Debbie P.-I believe that would fall on them as to what their needs are going to be and they would bring to the Area their needs.
- Mitch M.-is there a translation for what we are in Spanish?
- Debbie P.-I do not know.
- Becky D.-I think this is an issue. I don't know where we go from here though.
- Duane F.-today the thing is to consider the Overlay District. Today we're looking at whether or not to accept the Overlay District. They may be able to solve translation issue within their own district or community and then bring them into Assembly. I don't want to project issues.
- Katherine-If we pass this with that name and the WSO does not accept the name, what happens?
- Debbie P.-that would come back to us.
- Terry W.-no. In a non-overlay district, if a group chooses a name not accepted, they are told to choose a name that is in compliance. It is not an Area responsibility for the Area to monitor groups for compliance. We don't have to get in WSO's business. Our job as an Area is to determine the process to request a Spanish Overlay District. The naming of the group is between the individual AFG and the WSO.
- Emily M.-if we can approve this but ask them to come up with another name before assembly.
- Debbie P.-that's a possibility, yes.
- Stacy L.-This is an Area thing. The WSO will have final say of approving or disapproving but I think we can be involved in the naming of a District. Districts are typically locations. In Virginia, that's how our Districts are named.
- Terry W.-I was thinking in terms of an individual AFG. Never mind.
- Cheryl L.-It is up to the Area to allow or disallow the naming of a District and I would discourage this name. It should reflect what they are which is a Spanish Overlay. It is a District, not a Group.
- Ann S.-In the Service Manual, there is a whole thing about naming Groups.
- Kerry B.-Are Overlay Districts common?
- Debbie P.-yes. There are Overlay Districts in California and other states.
- Patty M.-We're here to vote on how it works and not get stuck on the name.
- Debbie P.-It will be District 11.
- Cheryl L.-I think it's up to the VAWSC to name the District.
- Diana A.-Call it District 11 Overlay.
- Sophie L.-Did we ask Carito what it means?
- Ellie F.-I would like to amend the motion by erasing the name.
- Stacy L.-name should be in English.
- Sophie L.-They are a Spanish speaking district and they want to attract Spanish speaking people.
- Laura L.-We're getting in the weeds. Let's move on with the Overlay District. We can work on a name later. Can we move forward with removing the name?
- Terry W.-I think we should table the Motion of the name and take it out of the Motion with the understanding that the Area Chair will continue the conversation with members of the new District. We are in new territory. If we took out after Spanish Overlay District and strike using (specific name) and let the conversation happen outside of a Motion mentality. I don't think we should be governing here.

**Motion: to approve the formation of a Spanish Speaking Overlay District using District 11 and send it to the 2024 VA Area Assembly for their approval in May 2024 made by Becky D., seconded by Cheryl L. Slido Poll initiated: Approved-27, Opposed-0, Abstained-0**

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- Debbie P.-The Motion will stop at District 11 and will remove the name chosen. We approved without the name. Will come up at Assembly for a vote. Thank you for all hard work.
- Carito S.-Thank you so much.

**VAWSC Inventory-Debbie P.:** The VAWSC Inventory will be reviewed at Fall VAWSC.

- Ellie F.-I do not have everyone's response. I have 9 responses.
- Terry W.-Is there a way to set this up for it to be anonymous?
- Ellie F.-Do you want me to change emails?
- Debbie P.-Yes.
- Ava B.-I was confused as to when it is due.
- Debbie P.-I put in the email that we would review it at Fall VAWSC.

**Area Assembly Elections in October-Debbie P.** Reference 140-157 Service Manual. Group elections need to take place before District elections and District elections need to take place before Fall elections. For officers, outgoing GR's will be voting for Area Delegate. Start talking in your Districts about elections.

- Patty M.-We just elected officers 3 months ago. Is that an issue?
- Debbie P.-If the GR is willing to continue through the new term.
- Do the new GRs and DRs come to the assembly?
- Duane F.-They are highly encouraged to come.
- Stacy L.: They come as observers. They cannot vote.

**Area Sponsorship workshop (Webex)-Debbie P.** How was it received? Feedback indicates it was well presented.

Ellie F.-Inspiring. Excellent.

Meg P.-Informative.

Diana A.-Thank you as an Area for putting this on. I liked hearing the different views expressed.

Terry W.-I thought it was very well done. I had requests from people who wished they could go back and watch it. If this is done in the future, recording it might be helpful.

Debbie P.-We had a member of the committee who did not want it recorded so we honored that wish. Would you like to see another segment?

Patty M.-how to choose a sponsor would be good.

**Spring 2024 Hybrid Assembly Agenda:**

**Review Area Fall 2023 Area Assembly Evaluation-Debbie P.:** Debbie P. shared the chart of evaluations. 75 responses. She reviewed each question and the results. Overall positive, mostly 5's. Comments: Mark Hospitality Room better. Make rooms more clearly marked. Comments on Boundary Policy discussion. Improve interface between online and attendees, especially when voting. Some improvement but issues remain with connectivity through Webex and in-person.

**Assembly Report-Mitch M.:** Goal is that after this meeting, we send out May Assembly registration information and links.

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- 147 registered for Spring and Fall Assembly. 112 voting GRs registered for Spring and 94 in the Fall. 23/25 districts were represented.
- We will continue using RegFox for registration. In-person registration will be available through 3/27 to give us time to secure our numbers with the hotel. Online registration will be available through 4/26. If you check-in before 3 PM, there is an early bird check-in fee. There is a chance that if a no-show, we will be charged for the room. Single night double occupancy rate will be \$140. Saturday night-only single occupancy will be \$193. Virtual will be \$140.
- Debbie P.-the prices have not gone up. Assembly will be hybrid. There will be a voting option. Tech team initial set up started 3 weeks ago. We will still have break out rooms as before. Encore will still have our contract. The letter I sent about the hotel needs to be shared with GR's. Hotel is requiring a deadlocked date for in-person registration to end. Encourage everyone to do a swift registration.
- Patty M.-Can you send out letter again?
- Debbie P.-Yes.

**2024 Fall Assembly (Hybrid)-Debbie P.** Officers voted to continue a hybrid Assembly for the Fall. The cost for attendees remains the same. We will be using Slido for the voting. You will want to share with your GR's that Slido will be used.

- Duane F.-We are in discussions about the 2025 contract, looking at prices and taxes. We were told the hotel is undergoing renovation soon. We'll try to get them to give us a date of renovations. There are talks of rate increases for rooms so we're looking at alternatives to get the best deal. By Assembly, we will hopefully have contracts in place for 2025.
- **Encore Spring 2024 Contract-Debbie P.** 2024 Spring contract with Encore is approved at a cost of \$5687.53. There was a slight increase. I asked them to hold that price. If we had not held that until we voted, it probably would have been more.

**2024 Spring Assembly Agenda Review-Debbie P.:** Tech team will be there Friday night to make sure we get set up and connected and all is working properly. Officers meet at 7:15 in the board room. Saturday morning, GR and DR sessions will still be in same locations. They will be hybrid and last for an hour and a half. Lunch. Start the 1:00 sessions. Debbie will start with introductions. LRPC Val P. will be in Turkestan so she will be joining us. She will be at the 1:30 time slot to hold discussion on the Boundary Policy. Then GR and DR roll calls, approval of Minutes and approval of Treasurer's Report. Stacy L. gives her report followed by the Spanish Overlay and Job Description discussion. Break at 4:00. 4:30 reports. Shortened time to 4:50 for completing reports. DR highlights. Break for dinner. Dinner 6 to 7:15. Convention skit at 7:15 in Shenandoah CD room. Area Assembly Inventory Workshop. When you get your registration, virtual people will have 4 topics to pick from. There will be 7 topics for in-person registration. Maximum of 15 people per topic. At Assembly at 7:30, we will have tables marked with topics for in-person, one in Parlor A and one in Parlor B. Should be sufficient time with this schedule to go over one section, discuss, and time to come to the microphone and give a summary of what that group discussed. You will need a Facilitator and someone to do a report.

- Stacy L.-We're doing this for the next panel so we have information about how things are feeling.
- Ellie F.-do we want to put Night Owl at 9:15 and remove the break? 9:20 starts.
- Laura L.-Treasurer's Report time needs to allow time for discussion.
- Debbie P.-Add word "discussion." Time is fine. Sunday morning: Early Bird Meeting. Breakfast is 7 to 8:30. Should be plenty of time. Reconvene session at 8:45. Then we'll break for check-out. Check-out is

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11:00. Reconvene at 10:30 for Delegate Report continued. We will do roll call (verbal). Then we'll go into voting items (Boundary 2/3 vote, Spanish Speaking Overlay and job descriptions). The rest of the reports at 12:15. Continue those and then 12:35 DR Highlights, complete evaluations, questions and comments, Ask-It Basket from the floor, raffle drawing, and closing.

- 12 Steps: Patty M.
- 12 Traditions: Katherine
- 12 Concepts: Ann S. (We will repeat #4.)
- Hospitality Room – Peninsula, Virginia Beach, Norfolk
- Literature Table-Northern Virginia Service Center
- Night Owl – Lisa R. in-person
- Early Bird – Diana A. in-person
- Facilitators-facilitate tables for each group. Guide participants through the sheet.
- Virtual Facilitators-Cynthia E., and Robynn B. (Wendy R. virtual if needed)
- In-person Facilitators-Laura L., Ava B., Cindy L., Lee N., Lisa R., Wendy R., Ann S., Diana A., Michelle R.
- 25 minutes on group topics and then groups come together and share at the microphone.
- DR and GR chat in Shenandoah C and D. Officers share information re. hotels, WebEx, and items impacting the next panel.
- Spiritual speaker-Speaker is a retired WSO staff member from Montana. Speaker coming from Montana. Claire R. will be host and will introduce speaker.

### Area Coordinator Reports (2 min.) (Reports can be found at <https://www.vaalanon.org/vawsc>)

- Website-Becky D.: Going fairly smoothly. Upgrade for Drupal 10. Underpinnings for the website. Bruce B.'s report is online.
- Communications-Becky D.: CISCO Webex decided to do overhaul of apps with many changes. Slido is now integrated with Webex. I commend Ellie for her bravery in stepping up for that. I have appreciated the support of the tech team and Debbie as a Chair and I have been inspired by all of them. This may look easy but it is not easy. Debbie's vision has been a guiding light for me and I am going to continue through the end of the panel. I need people to train for the next panel. Anybody interested in sitting in on the team, send me an email.
- Group Records-Cheryl L.: at the end of this panel, I will not be filling these shoes. Anyone interested or has questions, please contact me to do group records. We have 297 active meetings and 84 inactive meetings. That includes Alateen meetings. If you have a change to an Alateen meeting, send that information to me. Among those meetings, there are still 24 meetings that are listed in their meeting instructions as temporarily online. I have a goal to get all of those meetings to have group consciences and either go back in person or remove the "temporary" from that listing. Those 24 groups are spread over 10 Districts. Please encourage them to have that group conscience. Group record changes should be sent directly to me. All DRs should have access to their District's group records in view-only mode at WSO. If you have questions, I refer you to Ed W. because he is a DR and can view and walk you through how to do it.
- LRPC-Val P.: Her report is on the website.
- Area Convention-Diana A.: The Convention is August 9-11 at Natural Bridge Hotel and Conference Center in Natural Bridge. We had one person step away from the Workshop "Finding Our Joy." Let me know if you know who may be willing to help with that. The Registration Page will be ready mid to late March.



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We are using Mail Chimp to communicate with the fellowship. We have volunteers in place for the Planning Committee but always looking for volunteers for the Convention itself. There will be a place on the registration page where they can click if they are willing to volunteer at Convention. We are going to have a tremendous time.

- Terry W.-What about gift baskets and boutique?
- Diana A.-We will be doing gift baskets and information will be coming out. We will be doing something different with boutique. We will only be doing baked goods. Information will be coming out on that as well.
- Lisa R.-I might be willing to help with Workshop on joy.
- Alateen-Lisa R.: We have planned virtual trainings for the year March 16<sup>th</sup>, September 21<sup>st</sup>, and December 7<sup>th</sup>. We will try to have monthly sponsor meetings. I have some calls and emails about starting Alateen meetings. I have been making sure they know about trainings coming up.
  - Sophie L.-what are the Sponsor Meetings?
  - Lisa R.-Yes. Talk about how things are going. I wanted to try and bring everyone together more. I am hoping to do one later this month.
- AAPP-Patty M.: We have 83 certified AMIASs. We are down 5 people. Started the recertification process for the year. We have 15 active Alateen meetings, 7 inactive. We're up one. We had our second annual AMIAS chat. It was well received. I attended Northern VA Service Center about how to reach out and get more teens in. Good meeting there. Delays from State Police getting stuff back. Need to get word out in our Districts. Talk about Alateen, Conventions, and trainings coming up to try and inspire our GR's about having an Alateen Meeting in their District.
- Literature-Ann S.: big news is that Tom Coffey is stepping back as Associate Director of Literature at WSO. Carol C. is stepping up. Please continue to encourage groups to get a subscription to Forum. It is the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Cool stuff about Al-Anon history is being put into the Forum. They are putting together a Guideline for Sponsorship part of the Forum. It will probably be in booklet form. They are taking writings on that subject. There's a lot of talk on AFG Connects about literature copyright laws. If you make copies at your meeting, collect them after the meetings or make a note as to where that was copied from. Encourage use of different Conference Approved Literature at meetings for topics.
- Service Centers: NoVA-Lisa R.: We changed the meeting time from the weekend to the second Thursday of every month via Zoom. This is an election year. If anyone is interested in an Officer position with the Service Center, please let me know. We have a very cohesive group. Districts working very well together. Districts have donated to us this year. We have started a Strategic Planning Committee Meeting. Coming up with vision and procedures for the next panel looking at the future of the center. Our CAL sales have gone up a little because we're back to attending workshops. Sales of \$4,000. We need volunteers so we can expand our hours. Donations were lower than projected. Some report news that we don't need the money but that is not true. We are using \$600 more a month than we are taking in to cover our expenses. Tidewater-Lee N.: we now have a webmaster. Had a gratitude breakfast. Huge success. Big fundraiser for service center. We are updating our Bylaws. Have started re-doing job descriptions. Sept 21<sup>st</sup> is our General Membership Meeting. I was voted as Chair. Next membership meeting will be via Zoom April 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. Our attendance at General Membership Meetings has not been stellar. Hoping that doing it by Zoom will allow more people to come. AST has purchased our own Zoom account. Our webmaster has created a user-friendly website for us. It's much easier to follow than it used to be. We have a Nominating Committee to fill our slots. We are open between 3 and 4 hours a day Monday through Friday. We still don't have an Alt Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, or anybody with public outreach. We have no public

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outreach plans at this time. We have yet to prepare a budget. Hopefully by assembly, we will have one in place. Our contributions are ok, not great. We're meeting our bills.

- Public Outreach-Michelle R.: I have been going to WSO and district meetings and talking with individuals. I thought about having a workshop helping people with public outreach. I sent out an email survey asking about dates and times. I send out a monthly newsletter with public outreach. Let me know how I can help.
- MEAC-Diana A.: Gathering contributions for Alateen conference. Will be at conference July 26-28<sup>th</sup>. Kids have selected being superheroes as the theme. Will be having a meeting in March and again in June. We have participation from Alateen in NC as well.
- Archives-Margaret R.: does not have a report.

**DRs – Share a Glow and Grow (2 min) (See reports at <https://www.vaalanon.org/vawsc>)**

### **Summary and Closing Remarks-Debbie P.**

- Make sure you send your events to alanon.org so they can know about things coming up.
- I will be sending letter about hotel to VAWSC so they can share that information with GR's.
- I will be sending out the link again for the VAWSC inventory. Please fill that out.
- Registration should open up by Monday for Assembly. The registration deadline for in-person is March 27<sup>th</sup>. Encourage GRs to register early. Registration for Virtual is open until April 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Coordinators and Liaisons: Talk about your positions with other people. Encourage others to consider those positions.
- This is an election year. Talk about the upcoming October election. Have your District elections and group elections finished before October Assembly.

Closed at 3:17 pm

Respectively submitted,  
Cindy Lamm  
Area Alt Secretary, Panel 62

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<u>Upcoming Dates of Importance</u>		
<b>2024</b>		
April 18-21	WSO Conference	Virginia Beach
May 3-5	Spring Assembly	Midlothian, DoubleTree
June 8	Area Officers Meeting	Webex
July 26-28	MEAC Conference	Albuquerque, New Mexico
August 3	Fall VAWSC	Webex
August 9-11	Virginia Area Convention	Natural Bridge
October 25-28	Fall Assembly	Midlothian, Double Tree
<b>2025</b>		
January 11	Area Officers Meeting/Hand Off to New Panel	Webex
March 1	Spring VAWSC	Webex
May	Spring Assembly	Midlothian, DoubleTree
June 7	Area Officers Meeting	Webex
August 2	Fall VAWSC	Webex
October	Fall Assembly	Midlothian, DoubleTree

### Agenda Acronyms:

AAPP	Area Alateen Process Person
ADR	Alternate District Representative
AFA	Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism
AIS	Al-Anon Information Service
AGR	Alternate Group Representative
AMIAS	Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service
ASC	Al-Anon Service Center
CAL	Conference Approved Literature
DR	District Representative
ESAC	Eastern Seaboard Alateen Conference
GR	Group Representative
GEA	Global Electronic Area
LDC	Literature Distribution Center
LRPC	Long Range Planning Committee
MEAC	Mid-Eastern Alateen Conference
SERDGT	Southeast Regional Delegate Get-Together
VAWSC	Virginia Area World Service Committee
WSO	World Service Office
WSC	World Service Conference