

AL-Anon Information Service (AIS) MEETING MINUTES April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Faith Lutheran Church

Carol C	X	Woman's 12 at 12 GR/DR D14	afg.district14.nyn@gmail.com	
Elaine R	X	Mon Noon Canandaigua		
John B	X	Treasurer/ISR	treasurer@aisrochester.org	
Loron	X	Chair/ISR Hamlin Sunday night		
Mel	X	Webster Monday ISR		
Mike H.	X	Faith & Hope ISR		
Pat H.	X	Website Chair/Canandaigua Monday noon		
Rebecca B.	X	Book Depot	bookdepot@aisrochester.org	
Rose B.	X	Serenity on Saturday ISR		
Russell M.	X	Simple Beginnings		
Sheila S.	X	AIS newsletter editor	newsletter@aisracheater.org	
Jeff M.	X	AIS Secretary		
Lisa m	X	Eastside ISR		
Diane M	X	Alateen – Irondequoit		
Jen B.	X	Courage to Change		

**Opening:** moment of silence and serenity prayer-Loron. 12 Traditions -Lisa M. 12 concepts-Shelia S. Warranties-Russell. Expanded version of concept 4-Loron.

Roll call-see above

**Reports**-see attached and discussions below

**Chair/secretary**-Loron

- Minutes for Last month approved w/o corrections. Motion made by Mel and seconded by Pat
- We ask todays attendees to review sign in sheet and correct if needed. Secretary will compare this to our mailing list for minutes for accuracy.
- Loron asks members to perform simple outreach with newsletter, Al-Anon faces alcoholism in churches. Offices or libraries.
- Lisa M. will go to the May New York North Al-Anon Family groups spring convention and represent AIS May 17-19, 2019. Thanks to all attending and encourage your members to attend. Information for sign up on AIS website.
- Loron asks meeting attendees to raise hands to assure everyone is recognized and can finish their comments/suggestions. Group agrees.

**Treasurer: John B.**

- We are close to goals for 2019 financial plan. 23% of donations as compared with 2019, book sales 29% of last years. We have spent 25% of what has been budgeted.
- Tureen supper to be completed in next months report. Attendance a bit down this year. Donations close to last years.

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- Remind groups that donations to AIS should include in line group # or name so John can attribute donations to group. This may explain why donations made by group are not attributed to a meeting. John includes group donations in the monthly report.
- Appeal letter -May have worked- not all groups did receive the postal service mail.  
**ACTION**-please make sure that your group responds to this months WSO letter confirming mail contacts, postal and electronic and that one person is assigned this role. Please update and return to WSO. This will assure letters and updates get to the groups.
- Motion to approve treasurer report for April made by Mel, seconded by Loron, motion passed. And thanks to John for his careful bookkeeping.

### Book Depot-Rebecca

- Catalogue and order form on the AIS website have links to the publication and alpha numeric listing of Literature. Website has been modified – Rebecca is contact for literature questions.
- Rebecca will be at the Conference of the Lakes with literature.

### Outreach-Kathleen -report next month

- Loron asking for Flower City Fellowship coordinator.
- Tureen supper has a volunteer for next year and needs a partner

### Newsletter-Sheila

- Sheila's concerned that some names have been dropped off mailing list for the newsletter. How does that happen?
- Should we send out a request to see if folks still want to get the newsletter? Discussion followed including when last update was done? One year ago, so list should be accurate. If members find they are not getting expected newsletter, please email AIS.
- Sheila has reviewed other newsletters for ideas and format. Our financial report is several pages-is there a way to condense or link to spreadsheets from the newsletter? Discussion included these points. 1. This group voted last year to include all pages of financial report in the interest in transparency. 2. Some newsletters do not include the full report monthly; would we consider publishing full financial report quarterly? 3. This is an electronic document, so the length does not matter? 4. The scope of a newsletter can be defined as brief comments and highlights about AIS and Al-Anon, if we had a smaller report this would leave windows for other information. 5. Printing of the longer newsletter can mean a lot of paper; however, folks can pick and choose what they want to print. 5. We think the financial corner section of the website is terrific, as is the accuracy and format of the reports and spreadsheets. Would a link to this from a shortened monthly report suffice? Some members think the full financial report monthly too much information for the newsletter. Our fearless treasurer agrees to do what the group decides.
- The conflicting proposals focus on transparency of financials and easy access to full financials AND/OR a briefer format that would lend itself to more compact reporting and links for more information.
- **ACTION**-we will note above and discuss resolution at May 2019 meeting.
- Reminded group the deadline for newsletter is 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

### **Volunteers-Mel**

- New volunteer starting soon, we have 5-day coverage. Thanks to all who support our office. The office times are posted on the website.

### **Website-Pat H.-including May conferences and TEAM Event**

- New meeting in Geneseo Monday nights.
- ASWC meeting-met March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. AWSC- (Al-Anon world service committee). They meet 4 times a year, including the May meeting. Lisa M. will represent AIS in May. Loron and Pat will meet with Lisa before the meeting and review her duties at the May meeting.
- See attached report for calendar for upcoming events, conferences and TEAM Event. The May convention schedule of (Al-Anon & AA) panels and workshops is listed on our website and was distributed. **Spread the word! Spring Convention May 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>** RIT Inn and Conference Center.
- Safety Concerns. WSO has distributed safety policy for groups to review and update.
- Newest Alateen meeting is in Corning. NYN has 17 listed meetings, 6 have no teens at this time.
- NYNorth needs AAPP (area alateen process person)- to process AMIAS (Al-Anon members involved in Alateen service) certification and keep track of Alateen meetings and groups supporting the meetings.
- If your meeting is not getting mail from the WSO, please contact records at nynafig.com and Patti M. will help you correct information. Your District rep can look up contacts also.

### **Alateen-We welcome Diane to this meeting**

- Diane has been supporting Alateen for 5 years and was most recent Alateen Committee chair for AIS. She is committed to growing Alateen. Groups thanked Diane for her service.
- Barriers: parents not transporting children. Schools have not followed through with interest in Alateen.
- Alateen group sponsored by Simple Beginnings D-19 group. Individual teens show up one or 2 at a time and sometimes come back. The group remains small. Book depot has had a request for literature from a pediatrician's office and sent information.
- Carolyn added she will speak to a group of educators/counselors representing schools throughout Monroe county. She and Diane will collaborate before this presentation.
- Updated Alateen guidelines to be voted on during May Assembly.
- Group agrees that Alateen growth will be supported by members.

### **Old business**

- New AIS Rochester **Bylaws** were sent to members on mailing list and no changes suggested. The Bylaws will be voted on at group conscience May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Mel will attach definitions of acronyms with the bylaws. Group thanks Mel and this group for their work on the Bylaws.
- Tureen supper-next month agenda

### **New Business**

How to collect donations for groups and events? This was prompted by request for funds for Alateen conference through NYNAC.

- WSO recommends each group has a checking account to avoid sending checks to individual members and keep the process transparent and not funneling through a members personal checking account. The decision to do this is done through group conscience. Reference, see Page 57 of Service Manual.
- What do groups do now? Some groups have checking accounts, and many do not. Some districts do have checking accounts. AIS has checking account and funds sent to AIS for Alateen can be noted in line item on treasurer's report and directed to Alateen.
- Discussion points. John- Are group checking accounts workable given turnover of group treasurers and need for volunteers for this position? Elaine and Pat H. are members of groups that have had bank accounts for many years' w/o problems. Loron -aren't the fees prohibitive-many groups have less than 30-100\$ on hand? Diane shared that sponsoring Al-Anon group often helps the teens with finances, literature and conference support. Pat shared that some banks work with small non-profits.
- Pat passed out "Dollars and Sense – a look at group finances", "Suggested Guidelines for group treasurer" and application for a tax # needed when applying for accounts. This information would help a group conscience understand how to proceed. She stresses that having the checking account with two persons needing to sign checks keeps funds secure.
- Alateen appeal for conference funds needed for September was sent out with contact person for checks recently. Diane says she would prefer folks sending checks to the sponsor Al-Anon group. See bullet 3 of this section and below.
- **ACTION**-Lisa and Russell will share checking account information with their group and see if this account will be established. They will report back to AIS next month. **Members will ask** meetings about checking accounts and review information from WSO about use of funds.
- **Action**-Newsletter article about checking accounts from Loron.

May meeting-who will chair?

- Loron out in May and no vice chair to cover. Loron asked for volunteer and Rose will chair AIS meeting May 11, 2019. Loron will have meeting agenda prepared and meet with Rose before hand on how to get up to date information for the meeting. **ACTION**- Loron will have tentative agenda and reports available sent to the group by May 6<sup>th</sup>. Rose will have access to items submitted after this report to distribute to members.

Motion to close meeting-passed

Al-Anon declaration and Serenity Prayer

Next meeting May 11<sup>th</sup> 10 am Faith Lutheran Church 2576 Browncroft Blvd. Back entrance.

Respectfully submitted: Loron O. and Jeff M.

Reports attached below-Treasurer's report under Treasurer's corner on website.

### **AWSC meeting-March 30th, 2019**

All reports for the Officers and Coordinators for NYN (New York North) are on the website: [nynaafg.com](http://nynaafg.com) Click on NYN NewsFlash, then click on Coordinator and Officers Reports.

### **NYN Delegate Report**

Upcoming Events - **Pioneer Day** - a day to honor the Founders of Al-Anon will be held on Sunday May 5th at the Wilson House in East Dorset, VT. Flyer is available on the NYN website for more information.

**TEAM** - Together Empowering Al-Anon Members is a very special event organized in Partnership with the World Service Office staff (WSO), World Service Conference Trustees (WSC) and members of an Al-Anon Area. Two are scheduled in 2019 in the North East Region.

1. NY Area South had the honor of being selected to host TEAM, as 1 of only 9 such events held annually in the United States. Come join us in celebrating and demystifying Al-Anon service. June 2, 2019 8:00 am - 4:30 pm includes light breakfast & registration. Location: Westchester Marriott, 670 White Plains Rd., Tarrytown NY 10591. Register online at [www.nysaafg.org](http://www.nysaafg.org) - click on Events and scroll down to "TEAM EVENT".
2. Pennsylvania also has a TEAM event scheduled for Saturday, September 28th, 2019 - 9 am - 4 pm at the Church on the Mall, 500 West Germantown Pike, #1900, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462. More details by May 15 at <https://pa-al-anon.org>. For questions, contact: [PA-Team-Event@pa-al-anon.org](mailto:PA-Team-Event@pa-al-anon.org)

The World Service Conference is coming up April 13th - 17th, 2019 in Virginia Beach. Delegates always appreciate hearing from the fellowship throughout the WSC. To assist members who wish to send a card, the address is Sheraton Virginia Beach Oceanfront, 3501 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451. Please include in the address the delegates name (Molly Collin) and address in the return address section of the envelope in the event that mail delivery is delayed. **Please plan to have mail arrive after April 10th.**

**A Safety in Al-Anon Meetings** document drafted by WSO to aid groups in discussing and creating workable solutions to safety issues was mailed to all registered groups in December 2018. The purpose of this document is to help groups maintain Tradition One, with the understanding that our groups are not impervious to the same difficulties that affect the world around us, by discussing in advance how to address situations should they arise.

WSO sent an alert to all registered groups on the importance of discussing and creating safety guidelines. We trust the Safety in Al-Anon Meetings document will aid you in that process. We hope this tool will promote an environment of safety and unity throughout the groups your Area, so they may focus on their primary purpose—to help families and friends of alcoholics.

Please note, this document applies to Al-Anon meetings, groups, events, and members: For Alateen safety, please refer to your Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements.

The WSO is currently evaluating whether to post the Safety in Al-Anon Meetings document on

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al-anon.org and requests that Areas not post it on their websites. Feel free to distribute print or electronic copies within the fellowship and encourage Al-Anon Family Groups in you Area to discuss safety.

Please feel free to email me with any questions or concern you have at [delegate@nynafg.com](mailto:delegate@nynafg.com). The issues addressed by the WSC (World Service Conference) each year comes from our members.

### **NYN Treasurer**

The mailing address for donations is:  
NYN Area Assembly  
P.O. Box 2183  
Syracuse, NY 13212

### **NYN Alateen Coordinator**

Our newest Alateen group is in Corning and meets on Tuesday evenings-district 11.  
There are 17 "active" Alateen groups. There are 11 groups that have teens and 6 with no teens.

The updated Alateen guidelines are on the NYN website - please review before the Spring Assembly/Convention, they will be voted on.

### **AAPP** - Area Alateen Process Person

This position is currently vacant. This person certifies new AMIASs (Al-Anon Member(s) Involved in Alateen Service) via the WSO process upon receiving all the required Area Forms set forth in the NYN Area Alateen Guidelines.

Files and retains all AMIAS paper work upon completion of registration.

Re-certifies all current AMIASs each year based on the NYN Area Guideline requirements, per the WSO recertification process.

For more information go to [nynafg.com](http://nynafg.com)

### **Conventions**

Spring 2019 - hosted by districts 14, 25, 29 @ RIT Inn and Conference Center - May 17th-19th Rochester, NY

Fall 2019 - hosted by districts 4 & 21 - @ Comfort Inn & Suites - 6701 Buckley Rd., North Syracuse - September 20th-22nd.

### **Group Records**

Does your group receive mail from WSO?  
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If your answer to either of these questions is “no” then chances are that the contact information listed with WSO is incorrect.

Your DR can look up the groups’s information for you to verify or you can contact me (records@nynafg.com) and I can check for you.

To correct or update any information go to al-anon.org, then member, then group resources, then group records. There you can complete an update form that will come directly to me.

### **NYNAC** (New York North Alateen Conference)

NYNAC this year is September 13th, 14th, 15th at Casowasco Moravia, NY

A thought force (p. 71 in our Service Manual 2018-2021). A temporary unit of people established to brainstorm ideas and to develop strategies on a single defined task or activity.

This is a new committee being formed and if interested please contact our Chairperson, Ruth, at chairperson@nynafg.com

Gratefully,  
Pat H.

### **AIS chair report April, 2019**

Thank you to all our members who volunteered at the Tureen Supper March, 2019 and the Flower City Fellowship. This month I have shared information on tureen supper and Flower city fellowship service. With Lisa and Jeff’s help we have ais meeting minutes ready for the newsletter. I have also been asked about how to receive donations when groups do not have bank accounts?

I am thankful for the members working on our bylaw’s revision, this thoughtful document will be discussed at the April AIS. As the meeting chair, I will help meetings be informative and allowing all folks to participate and avoid interrupting each other.

My outreach to groups included visiting 2 groups and offering new literature and suggesting ways to advertise the program. For my part I have distrusted al-anon faces alcoholism to libraries and MD offices in my town.

I will not be at the May 11 meeting, will supply the needed information to volunteer chairing May ais meeting.

### **Secretary report:**

Please see last month’s notes, is this an ok format? May goal will be for the January and feb minutes to be forwarded to the website. Jeff and Loron are working together to get the minutes to the website by the Wednesday after the ais meeting.

### **Alateen information**

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We continue to need volunteers for our young people. How can people designate funds for alateen or NYNAC? We will discuss options at April Meeting.

Outreach-Report next month. Have someone interested in flower city fellowship, lora to follow

### **Newsletter Report**

#### **April 2019**

There have been 6 additions to the subscription list and 2 deletions.

Have introduced some humor into the Newsletter.

LINKS to other Newsletter:

- [www.okcalanon.org/newsletters](http://www.okcalanon.org/newsletters)
- [afg-akron.org/newsletters.aspx](http://afg-akron.org/newsletters.aspx)
- [al-anon-co.org/newsletter.org](http://al-anon-co.org/newsletter.org)
- [www.al-anon-alateen.org](http://www.al-anon-alateen.org)
- <http://texas-al-anon.org/ftworth/newsletter/>
- [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dT0bp8ZnKh2lzuFuPQ\\_N7aYDqaGk69Id/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dT0bp8ZnKh2lzuFuPQ_N7aYDqaGk69Id/view)