Fall Assembly 2022 in Moses Lake, WA. Kathy D. (Chair) opened the meeting on October 8th at 9:15 am with the Serenity Prayer.

The Steps (in Spanish) were read by Isabel, the Traditions Tom and Luke, the Concepts Brianna and the Warranties Monique (D13).

Kathy D. (Chair) did introductions to the attending past and current Delegates, then read a passage from “How Al-Anon Works” relating to service.

Voting Guidelines and Procedures were read by Kathy M, and Kathy D. (Chair). Isabel volunteered to translate for the Spanish speaking members. Roll call was taken by Denise A. (Secretary). Substantial Unanimity was established as 61 with 91 voting members attending both in person (40) and virtually (51).

The Minutes from August 2022 AWSC were read by Robert C. (D14), Cecelia P. (D14), Marcia B. (D8) and Joe W. (D1). While waiting for the calculations of substantial unanimity Kathy D. (Chair) shared that since August AWSC several Districts have volunteered to host next year’s events. George S. (D8) made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Cooki P. (D10) 2nd. Total AWSC voting members 33, substantial unanimity 22, yes-27, No-0, Ab-0. Minutes approved.

Officer Reports-see WA Wanderings for full report from Officers.

Delegate-Katharine R. The new Al-Anon app has 120,000 registered members, 1,000 new users every week, 37 Al-Anon family groups with 101 new meetings and 6 Alateen groups meeting regularly. The newly published April 2022 WSC Conference summery is available to download, or you can purchase a hard copy for $5.00. Katharine read some excerpts from the summery, including that there is a new Area made up of only PEM’s (Permanent Electronic Meetings), and that the WSC is looking at ways to re-engage members in service. We learned there are 20,707 Al-Anon family groups worldwide, and the cost to the WSO per group is $281.88. Katharine touched on the need for tech volunteers both globally and locally in order to continue offering virtual meetings, and how we as an Area will move forward addressing PEM’s. There is a new audio version available of “Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses”. Katharine is now a member of the WSO Literature Committee. They are working on a “Just for Tonight” bookmark for Alateens.

Alt. Delegate-Kimberly H. Has been assisting the Area Treasurer with contracts, and in June virtually hosted the Budget Committee for the proposed 2023 Budget. She will continue the GR workshops on the 2nd Thursday and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Our Area website has information on how to join these meetings. Kimberly also did some research into PEM’s.

Alt. Chair-Shelly T. SSA 2023 will be held at Warm Beach in Stanwood, WA. May 19-21. The cost of $240 will include a Friday night dinner. Shelly talked about the challenges of finding an affordable venue, then thanked District 2 and 24 for volunteering to do Mealtime Meditation and Registration. Julianna B. (D25) tentatively volunteered her district for the Spiritual meetings, Ayme (D13) volunteered for Fun & Frolic and Amy D. (D26) for Hospitality. They still need a District for the Welcoming committee.

Treasurer-Melissa M. Talked about the challenges of keeping our contractual obligation to the venue with the attendance numbers changing so many times before the Assembly. She has revised and renumbered the line items on our spread sheet, added an “In and Out” sheet, is cleaning up QuickBooks, worked on the WA Area Budget Committee, corrected our status as a business back to non-profit and all that went with that process. She opened a virtual mailbox to receive Area donations (WA Area AFG-12128 N. Division St. PMB 1531, Spokane, WA 99218). An Audit Committee was formed. It took 2 hours to complete the audit. Melissa sent a check for $2989.10 to the WSO to cover the full expenses of our Delegate to attend the WSC. The full Treasure Report was read.

Secretary-Denise A. No official report.

Kathy D. Chair) had us break into small groups of 6 to discuss why we came in person, or attended virtually, then one person from each group shared highlights of the discussion with the other members.

Break for lunch.

A motion to approve the Treasure Report was made by Jamie (D8), Jackie (D23) 2nd. Yes-64, No-0. Passed

The Seventh Tradition was collected with a total of $315.

Coordinator Reports-see WA Wanderings for full report from Coordinators.

Alateen-Eliza D. Gave her report via Zoom.

Website-Leslie N. Talked about the challenges of having her phone hacked and losing her contacts, as well as her emails as a result of issues with her carrier.

Newsletter-Mary P. Talked about how to get a copy of the Washington Wanderings, and what type of information you will find in our newsletter. She modeled a new tee-shirt which had ‘Read On” in English, Spanish and French. She shared that a volunteer stepped up and translated 18 pages of the WA Wanderings into Spanish. At this Assembly 2-3 more members have offered to help translate, but she could use more volunteers to help. Please contact her for more information on getting involved. You can contact her for current and past issues of WA Wanderings, and by going to our WA Area Website.

Alateen Safety (AAPP)-Michael S. We had 93 AMIAS complete the recertification process. New applicants can be trained at any time, with one more training session planned before the end of the year. We currently have 8 in-person meetings in the Washington Area, however we previously had 25. They are trying to get them build them back up. Monday at 7:00 there is an Alateen meeting, sponsored by WA Area, held virtually through the new WSO app, and 5 more meetings as well through the app. ASTAR (Alateen Sponsor Training And Recovery) was held virtually on September 10,2022. In 2023 they are planning to go back to an in-person event, held at Lazy F Camp in Ellensburg, WA. on April 14th-16th. The expected cost will be about $150. WAAC 2023 (WA Area Alateen Conference) will be held in-person at the Lazy F Camp on July 7th-9th at an expected cost of $135-$140. The ASTAR bank account currently is $1,788.15 and the WAAC bank account $8,241.02. There is a separate training to help with the Monday night meeting held on the app, contact Michael for more information.

Archives-Nena T. She is excited to report that she now has a committee of 5 other members to help with Archives. They are going over procedures and job descriptions, and will meet again in November to finish this up.

Literature-Ruth F. She addressed the question:” When will we have enough paper to get more literature published”. There are many pieces to this issue, and the WSO is working hard to resolve it as best they can. She shared some ideas on how to get your hands on literature through sharing with other groups and members. We were encouraged to write and submit to the FORUM or other Al-Anon publications.

Group Records-Yvette O. No official report. She talked about how/when to send an update to Group Records.

Alateen Safety Guidelines Motion, (please refer to all the proposed changes to the Alateen Safety Guidelines sent to the AWSC on 8/30/22) Part 1: To approve changes to Alateen Safety Guidelines Section 7: A-1 & 2. Questions and discussion followed. Cooki P. (D10) made a motion to approve, JB (D2) 2nd. Yes-80, No-0, Ab-0. Passed.

Discussion: Zelle-Melissa explained her research into Zelle. She would like the GR’s to go back to their groups and discuss, we would address it again at February AWSC 2023, and then possibly bring it to Pre-Con 2023 for a vote. We learned during the discussion that our bank offers it for free, and that all the current payment options available today have the potential for some type of issue.

Housekeeping Motion- Amendment to Excess Funds Motion: “Washington Area shall amend its Bylaws such that, at the end of each calendar year, WA Area AFG will set aside 50% of funds above the Ample Reserve (formerly Prudent Reserve), defined as the excess funds, for Area projects while sending the other 50% to WSO. The excess funds will be spent on WA Area Outreach, Alateen, operational, or on other WA Area special projects. Each year, the WA Area Chair will appoint an advisory committee of up to 7 members to include the Chair and Delegate to determine how to spend the excess funds during the new year. Members of the Excess Funds Task Force are not eligible to submit requests for excess funds. The Excess Funds Task Force must submit their plans to use of the funds according to priority; the Area Chair will include on the next AWSC agenda and if approved, the list will go to the next Assembly for vote. If any excess funds remain unspent during the new year, those funds will return to the Area.” Cooki P. (D10) and Mary P. (Newsletter) accepted the above friendly amendment. Yes-73, No-4, Ab-5. Passed

Alateen Safety Guidelines Motion, Part 2: To approve Alateen Safety Guidelines Section 7-B: 1-2 & 3-13. Questions and discussion followed. Susan R. (D23) made a motion to approve, Joe W. (D1) 2nd. Yes-84, No-0, Ab-2. Passed

Committee Reports:

1. Audit Committee-report read by Joe W. (D1) for Bob C. They met on August 28th and consisted of 3 committee members. They concluded and were satisfied that everything was in good working order with WA Area finances.
2. Tech Team-Kathy D. (Chair) acknowledged CB & Pam’s contribution to our ability to have the Fall Assembly virtually.
3. Excess Funds-Kathy D. (Chair) and Katharine R. (Delegate) The committee consists of 4-5 members. They have not discussed any proposals as none have been submitted this year.
4. PEM’s (Permanent Electronic Meetings)-Kimberly H. (Alt Delegate) Has talked with DR’s and researched other Area’s and the WSO, but has not held any committee meetings. She has resigned as the committee Chair but would like to continue to be involved, as this is a topic that is important to her. She shared some of the things which will need to be considered going forward, GR’s, Greeters, Literature, Expenses, their own District number? etc. Some Area’s are beginning trial periods.
5. Speakers Convention-report read by Cooki P (D10). Reviewed the details of the upcoming convention being held on October 21st & 22nd at South Puget Sound Community College in Lacey, WA.

Alateen Safety Guidelines Motion, Part 3: To approve Alateen Safety Guidelines Section 7: C 1-3, D 1-2, E, & F. Questions and discussion followed. Kim (D14) made a motion to approve, Kriss (D27) 2nd. Yes-88, No-0, Ab-0. Passed

Budget Committee: Prepared the budget via Zoom over the course of a whole Saturday in June. Committee members; Kimberly H. (Alt. Delegate), Melissa M. (Treasurer), Kathy D. (Chair), George (D8), Julianna (D25), Amber (D27), and Katharine R. (Delegate). Questions and discussion followed.

1. Proposed Motion: To approve the 2023 Budget. Shannon (D2) made a motion to approve, Cooki P. (D10) 2nd. Yes-72, No-5, Ab-6. Passed
2. Proposed Motion: “That Washington Area increase ample reserve to $50,000 using a percentage of additional funds until our ample reserve reaches $50,000. Percentages being as follows: 50% of end of year additional funds to ample reserve, 20% of end of year additional funds to Area projects, 30% of end of year additional funds to WSO. Additional funds will revert to previous motion of 50% to Area projects and 50% to WSO once the $50,000 ample reserve is reached. Any additional funds for special projects not utilized will go into ample reserve until the $50,000 balance is reached.” Questions and discussion followed. \*(This motion was continued and the vote was taken the morning of October 9th). Amy D. (D26) made a motion to approve, Markie (D1) 2nd. Yes-58, No-10, Ab-4. Passed

Alateen Safety Guidelines Motion, Part 4: To approve Alateen Safety Guidelines Section 7-H. Questions and discussion followed. Kim (D14) made a motion to approve, Elizabeth (D26) 2nd. Yes-83, No-0, Ab-2. Passed

Katharine R. (Delegate)- Shared that our Service Manual is available to download for free, and also how to download the WSC Summary. She had two copies of the Summary that she gave away to members after a number guessing game.

Kathy D. (Chair) opened meeting on October 9th at 9:00 am with a reading, “Just for Today”, and the Serenity Prayer. Cindy (D8) read the Steps, Shelly T. (D23) Traditions, Jackie (D23) Concepts and JB (D2) the Warranties.

Budget Committee Continued:

1. Proposed Motion: Replace wording of the WA Area Handbook: Section 2.1.A #’s 4 & 5 with 2.1.A #4: “Members may choose any form of transportation. Reimbursement will be equivalent to, but not more than calculated mileage, whichever is less.” Questions and discussion followed. \*Roll call was taken by Denise A. (Secretary). Total voting members 78 (36 in person and 42 virtual), with substantial unanimity 52. Kathy D. (Chair) shared on behalf of Yvette O. (Group Records) that according to the WSO we have 405 total meetings, 282 active, 93 inactive and 30 without mail. Motion continued: Shannon (D2) made a motion to approve, Cooki P. (D10) 2nd. Yes-72, No-0, Ab-0. Passed
2. Meal Reimbursement: Proposed motion to Section 2.1.E in the Area Handbook, “Registration package is paid by WA Area. Other meals not covered in registration package are to be reimbursed up to GSA (Government Services Administration) per-diem rates at destination, whichever is less. Alcoholic beverages will not be reimbursed.” Questions and discussion followed. There was a request for paper ballot. Susan R. (D23) made a motion to approve, Shannon (D2) 2nd. Yes-69, No-3, Ab-3. Passed

Kathy D. (Chair) thanked all the individual volunteers involved with Fall Assembly 2022.

George S. (D8) volunteered to be the Communication Coordinator.

Upcoming Events that need help:

1. February AWSC 2023-District 26 volunteered to host
2. Pre-Con March 31-April 1, 2023 at Campbell’s in Lake Chelan, WA-District 6 volunteered to host
3. ASTAR (Alateen Sponsor Training and Recovery) April 14-16
4. WAAC (WA Area Alateen Conference) July 7-9
5. August AWSC 2023 (August 5th) District 15
6. Fall Assembly 2023 (October 6-8) District 2