THE 2017 VIRGINIA AREA AL-ANON SPRING ASSEMBLY
May 6-7

“Building Healthy Groups through Attention – Appreciation – Affection”
Recovery Through Service

SATURDAY

OPENING
- Valerie P., Area Chair, opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer followed by the reading of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of Service by Chris B., Darren L., and Molly S.
- New Groups and first time Assembly attendees were recognized.
- Valerie P. welcomed all present and introduced the Area Officers, Coordinators and Past Delegates.

ATTENDANCE AND REGISTRATION
- The Registration Committee reported 183 registered attendees, 127 group representatives, 20 district representatives, 33 officers/coordinators/other Al-Anon members, two past delegates and one out-of-state guest.
- Blue Ridge District will do Registration for 2017 Fall Assembly.
- A volunteer District is needed to handle registration for 2018 Spring Assembly.
- Not Present: Shannon B., Pat M.

ASSEMBLY MINUTES: Wendy R.
- Minutes from 2017 Fall Assembly were emailed to the Registration Committee for inclusion in the registration packets.

MOTION
Made by: VAWSC
Second by: Don F.

That the 2017 Fall Assembly Minutes be approved.

Motion Passed: voice vote
OFFICER REPORTS

- Treasurer Report: Bruce B. (report available upon request)
  - 501(c)3 application has been approved. Contributions to the Area by individuals and groups are now tax-deductible. Area purchases are exempt from sales tax.

MOTION
Made by: VAWSC
Second by: Kathryn P.
That the Treasurer’s report be accepted.
Motion Passed: voice vote

- Alternate Delegate Report – Terry W. (report available upon request)
- Delegate Report – Duane B. (report available upon request)
  - Complimentary printed copies of the WSC conference summary will no longer be distributed to WSC members. Digital copies are available online and printed copies are available for a fee.
  - Complimentary copies of the Service Manual are available to new groups. Printed copies will continue to be available for sale.
  - The Paths to Recovery Workbook is available for sale.
  - WSO is looking for Forum submissions – writings and photos.
- Convention Report – Phyllis F.
  - The 2019 Virginia Area Convention is scheduled for August 23-25, 2019 at the Westfields Marriott in Chantilly, VA. The committee has several open positions for anyone looking to participate in service work at the Area level.

VOTING ISSUES
1. The amended By-Laws were read to the Assembly. The second reading will be at the Fall Assembly. There will be no vote this weekend on the By-Laws.

2. The Long Range Planning Committee was established in 2012 to research and evaluate issues that may affect the business of the Area and to provide oversight for the voice of the Assembly by monitoring motions recorded in the Area Decision History. The Committee was to operate on a trial basis for four years after which the VAWSC and Assembly shall evaluate its merit for continuation. The VAWSC has made a motion that the Long Range Planning Committee be established as a continuing standing committee for the Virginia Area. We will discuss and vote on this tomorrow.
SUNDAY

- Serenity Prayer

SPIRITUAL SPEAKER – RENELLE M.

- GR Roll Call

COORDINATOR REPORTS

- Alateen – Stacy L. - upcoming workshops in Bull Run, Triangle and Front Royal
- AAPP - Diane B. - 6 new AMIAS since Fall Assembly
- Group Records - Leslie K. - tip sheet for DRs was emailed recently. Fill out the form with changes and Leslie will take care of the rest including updating WSO.
- Literature - JC L. - Intimacy book and Grandparents book are ready for the printer. Paths to Recovery Workbook has sold out and is now in its second printing. Courage to Change is available as an e-book. Workshop skeletons are available via AFG Connects. (report available upon request)
- Public Outreach – Brook S. – (report available upon request)
- Long Range Planning Committee – Bruce B. - 501(c)3 application has been approved. Electronic payment processing has helped with fundraising. We are looking into accepting direct credit card payments vs. going through PayPal.
- Website – Sue V. – the meeting list on the website is getting new filters; the Area Officers and Coordinators have new email addresses, DRs to be added soon.
- NOVA Service Center – Yumiko A. - the future of the Service Center is to be decided at a meeting in June
- Tidewater Service Center – Stacy L.
- MEAC –
- ESAC – Rose V. – new location outside of Charlottesville; theme – “Same Kind of Different”.

Long Range Planning Committee Motion:

**MOTION**

Made by: VAWSC
Second by:

That the Long Range Planning Committee be established as a continuing standing committee for the Virginia Area.

Motion was sent back to the VAWSC for further consideration.

There was discussion of an option to continue the trial period for another two years. It is recognized the LRPC is a valuable tool if we are to stay current and grow. LRPC considers more than just technology issues. They look at where the Assembly and VAWSC will be 5-10 years out. There was a consensus vote – do we keep the LRPC or not? The motion passed on a voice vote with one nay and
two abstentions. It was determined that we do not have enough information today to vote on the motion, therefore, it was sent back to the VAWSC for clarification of terms, membership, etc.

WORKSHOP REPORTS
- Technology: Sue V. Hands on lab assisting people with setting up MailChimp, Dropbox, discussion of email etiquette.
- Sponsorship: “Take the mess to your sponsor and the message to the meeting”
- Public Outreach and Diversity: “The Best of Public Outreach” on the website; use AFA a little at a time with ministers, rehab centers, correctional facilities, health fairs, libraries
- Healthy Groups: Catherine B. Things we would like to see happen in our groups – step up to service, attract and retain newcomers, group inventory, make traditions fun
- Finances: Gina B. and Ginny K. – budgets, prudent reserve, record keeping, break the buck, seed the basket
- Alateen – Peter M. – how to get Alateen meetings into schools; encourage everyone to become a sponsor

7th Tradition basket
Convention planning meeting announced: 1pm Midlothian room.

CLOSING
- Valerie P. closed the Assembly meeting with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Rowden       Valerie Palamountain
Area Secretary      Area Chair

Let it Begin with Me

UPCOMING DATES
- June 3, 2017 - Area Officers Meeting (web-ex)
- August 5, 2017 – VAWSC
- August 5, 2017 – Long Range Planning Committee
- August 5, 2017 – Convention Committee
- October 22-23, 2017 - Fall Assembly
- July 5-8, 2018 - International Convention – Baltimore, MD
- August 23-25, 2019 – Virginia AFG Convention – Chantilly, VA