

# THE 2018 VIRGINIA AREA AL-ANON FALL ASSEMBLY MINUTES

October 20-21, 2018

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

## S A T U R D A Y

### 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 Ann F., Nancy W., and J.C. L.
- New Groups and first time Assembly attendees were recognized - there were 4 new groups registered since Spring Assembly 2018.
- Past delegates in attendance were introduced: Don Feick and Sherri Staples.
- Valerie P. welcomed all present and introduced the Area Officers, Coordinators.

### ATTENDANCE AND REGISTRATION

- The Registration Committee reported 174 registered attendees, 132 group representatives, 16 district representatives, 12 officers/coordinators, 12 guests, and two past delegates. For your information - payment via Paypal = 102; registration via paper = 40.
- Loudon District will handle registration for 2019 Spring Assembly.
- Roanoke volunteered to coordinate registration for Fall 2019 Assembly.
- VAWSC members present: Don F., Sherri S. Valerie P., Duane F., Terry W., Bruce B., Wendy R., Tom S., Stacy L., Rick A., Yumiko A., Chris B., Christy B., Becky D., Mahender D., Tina E., Peggy F., Ann F., Ginny K., Leslie K., Justin L., Darren L., Laura L., Merri M., Allyson M., Barbara M., Molly S., Jim S., Sue V.
- Not Present: Bob A., Diane B., Robin B., Gina B., David D., Jeff H., Samantha H., Alex M., Jenna M., Pat M., Juanita P., Yasi S., Brook S., Judy T., Beverly W.

The Agenda was approved by voice vote.

### ASSEMBLY MINUTES: Wendy R.

- Minutes from 2018 Spring Assembly were emailed to the Registration Committee for inclusion in the registration packets.

### MOTION

Made by: Jenks H.

Second by: Jill S.

That the 2018 Spring Assembly Minutes be approved.

Motion Passed: voice vote

### OFFICER REPORTS

- Treasurer Report: Bruce B. (report available upon request)
  - Group contributions declined 2012-2014 but have increased steadily since 2015.
  - We've merged Convention finances with Area operational finances.
  - We have a debit card with a credit limit of \$1500 which isn't high enough to be very useful but that should change with time.

- Budget Discussion:
  - VAWSC has recommended we add money to line item for Southeast Regional Delegate Get Together (SERDGT) to approve a maximum travel allowance for Delegate, Alternate Delegate and Past Delegates to attend.
  - VAWSC has recommended the Area purchase a copy/subscription of Office 365 for use by VAWSC members. They also recommend the purchase of Turbo Tax for the Area Treasurer and Convention Treasurer.
  - Need to consider potential purchase of laptop and possibly other equipment depending on our needs.
  - Treasurer suggests we boost website line item to \$4000 to cover needed upgrades.
  - Stacy L., Alateen Coordinator, suggested we increase the Alateen Coordinator budget line item to cover costs of printing which we are currently getting for free.
  - A question about liability insurance and whether it covers the Convention was answered by explaining that the Area does not currently have liability insurance but the Long Range Planning Committee will take it up next year.

**MOTION**

Made by: Christy B.  
Second by: Jim S.

That the Treasurer's report and 2019 Budget be accepted.

Motion Passed: voice vote

- Delegate Report – Duane B. (report available upon request)
  - There seems to be an emerging consensus regarding the need for General Liability Insurance at the Area level to cover Officers and potential liability for larger events. Duane suggests this issue be taken up by the Long Range Planning Committee.
  - WSC has developed policies regarding Area 'Do Not Refer' lists. First, the WSO is to send a statement alerting all registered groups to the importance of discussing and creating safety guidelines. If an Area wishes WSO to discontinue telephone and online referrals, the Area must submit a fair and balanced written policy to the WSO Policy committee which will then review it to ensure it complies with the criteria set out in the 2012 WSC discussions. Groups not being referred by the WSO remain active and registered.
  - WSC is taking up the issue of how best to address the need for Spanish and/or French translations across the fellowship. WSC is offering oral translation services on 3-year trial basis for WSC meetings.
  - Vali F., Executive Director, - WSO, will be our Spiritual Speaker at Spring 2019 Assembly.
- Alternate Delegate Report – Terry W. (report available upon request)
  - The Alternate Delegate has been the Forum Coordinator, the Convention Liaison, the Delegate's back up and the leader of the GR opening session.
  - Reading from: Forum October 2018 p. 2 - When I Started Saying Yes
  -

**COORDINATOR REPORTS (most available upon request)**

- Alateen – Stacy L. – In 2018 we held 6 Alateen sponsor workshops. Several of these workshops were held to promote future Alateen meetings.
- Literature – JC L. – 'Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships' is now available. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition of One Day at a Time is also available for \$15 while supplies last.

- Archives – Sue A. – put together Notebook of all available material from past Area Conventions. We have several ideas for projects going forward.
  - MEAC/ESAC – Sonia A. – ESAC, the oldest Alateen Conference, had 35 attendees for our second year at new location in Charlottesville. MEAC will be looking for a new location as well due to rising prices at current location.
  - LRPC – Bruce B. – want to focus on ideas for attracting a more diverse membership; engage young people via social media and more attractive website; establish a small web content subcommittee
  - Group Records – Leslie K. –
  - Northern VA Service Center – Yumiko A. – a new panel was elected on October 13; Gratitude Brunch is November 3.
  - Tidewater Service Center – Stacy L. – the quilt raffle generated over \$300 for the Service Center; Gratitude Breakfast is November 3.
  - Website – Sue V. – working with 3 Waves on updates previously discussed. The heavy lifting has been done, now we are tweaking the website to conform to our needs.
- SKIT – Members of the Area Convention Committee – Patti C., Christy B., Sue A., Peggy F., Wendy W., Wendy R.
- Convention – Christy B. – Boutique and Silent Auction flyers available, merch for sale in lobby, registration available quite soon. Treasurer Rpt: checking account balance is \$14,233.96.

#### BREAK FOR WORKSHOPS AND DINNER

#### ESTABLISHING CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION OF PANEL 59 OFFICERS

- All eligible members were given the opportunity to stand for each position.
- In preparation for the election, Falls Church and Alexandria Districts caucused to elect their respective incoming District Representatives
- Acceptance of the Election Method

#### SUNDAY

- Serenity Prayer

#### SPIRITUAL SPEAKER – BRUCE B.

#### ELECTION/DR REPORTS

##### **District Reports given during balloting:**

Albemarle – Ginny K.  
 Alexandria – Molly S.  
 Arlington – Mahender D.  
 Blue Ridge – Tina E.  
 Bull Run – Tom S.  
 Central Valley –  
 Eastern Shore –  
 Fairfax – Chris B.  
 Falls Church/Vienna/McLean – Darren L.  
 James River South – Ann F.  
 Loudoun – Beryl D.  
 Nansemond – Leslie K.  
 New River –  
 Norfolk – Merri M.  
 Northern Neck – Jim S.  
 Peninsula – Ami S.  
 Piedmont – Peggy F.  
 Rappahannock – Allyson M.

Richmond North - Rick A.  
Roanoke/Alleghany - Christy B.  
Seven Hills - Laura L.  
Southside - Joyce M.  
Southwest -  
Springfield/Annandale - Becky D.  
Triangle -  
Virginia Beach - Fran B.

**MOTION**

Made by: Becky D.  
Second by: Don F.

That for any office where there is only one person standing, the Assembly be able to vote that person in by acclamation.

Motion Passed: ayes - 130 opp - 1 abstension - 2

**2019-2021 Panel of Officers Elected:**

DELEGATE: Terry Woodside  
ALTERNATE DELEGATE: Stacy Lewis  
CHAIR: Tom Spillman  
ALTERNATE CHAIR: Rick Arsenault  
SECRETARY: Laura Lovern  
TREASURER: Bruce Burrows  
ALTERNATE SECRETARY-TREASURER: Molly Singerling

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition basket

**CLOSING**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Rowden  
Area Secretary

Valerie Palamountain  
Area Chair

**Let it Begin with Me**

**UPCOMING DATES**

- **December 1, 2018 - Joint Area officers meeting (old and new officers) - Doubletree Koger Center, Room 801**
- **March 2, 2019 - VAWSC, Johnston-Willis Hospital, Stalker Auditorium**
- **May 4-5, 2019 - Spring Assembly - Doubletree, Midlothian**
- **August 3, 2019 - VAWSC, Johnston-Willis Hospital, Stalker Auditorium**
- **August 23-25, 2019 - Virginia AFG Convention - Westfields Marriott, Chantilly, VA**
- **October 19-20, 2019 - Fall Assembly - Doubletree, Midlothian**