

UTAH AREA SPRING ASSEMBLY, MARCH 17-19, 2023

Opened by Heather M, Area Chair

Steps: Macae H. Traditions: Kim C.

Concepts: Jenny _ Conference Etiquette: Cindy D.

GR Training: Jane McQ, Alternate Delegate

- The GR is very important in Al-Anon Service,
- Every GR ought to have the current, 2022-2025 Service Manual,
- Become familiar with GR Guidelines (G-11, distributed),
- Q&A on GR responsibilities and requirements (GR is the voting member and this office leads to area offices so that AA members are asked not to serve at this level or above),
- Some of the comments for serving as GR and Reporting to your groups: Mentor others, remember attraction not promotion, show your gratitude, get/be a service sponsor, ask for help, invite members to meetings/events.

Review Secretary Minutes of Fall Assembly, 2022: delete note about insurance thought force, as it was determined this was no longer needed following that discussion.

Treasurer: Insurance was found and instigated for all area events and AAIS. Area EIN was reinstated so that Area WSC and AAIS are not-for-profit while remaining unincorporated. Q&A re: insurance: groups needing liability insurance for their meeting place may need to go it on their own. Some groups have found solutions, contact the Treasurer for references.

Make up of the Finance Committee will be for a three year term (panel), with 5 members including Treasurer, Area Chair, 1 Area Officer and two interested Al-Anon members.

Finance committee guidelines:

- try to make service easy for every Area member,
- try to find ways to meet expenses in advance, rather than by receipts,
- pay out actual expenses as opposed to suggested-amount stipend,

- proposals will be posted on the website.

Pat D. noted that contributions had fallen short of budget goals*. Discussion on methods to turn this around:

- combine fundraising with social/fellowship activities,
- increase use of 7th Tradition baskets,
- develop an online contribution method,
- explore members' talents,
- highlight joy and gratitude in service activities,
- silent auctions,
- partner with the community (remember the principle of declining outside contributions),
- use the WSO website for ideas.

*After the discussion Pat D found that a sum of contributions had been mis-identified and the shortfall was not as great as earlier reported.

Breakout sessions led by District Representatives: WHAT IS SERVICE, HOW TO INCREASE SERVICE PARTICIPATION

- What is Service? Being willing to show up, take part in, make a commitment to the fellowship,
- Obstacles: time – we all have busy lives,
- My service doesn't have to be like everyone else's,
- Offer the best YOU can do,
- I got into service because my wife was in service – I went with her to Public Outreach events,
- "Get in the Car!"
- My first service activity I was invited to "get in the car,"
- The activities attracted me – skits, laughter,
- Inspired to follow someone else' example,
- I'm grateful for what I've done,
- Find a support group.

Delegate Day: the purpose was expounded on by Mary Y. with her experiences as Delegate.

Task Force: How will Utah integrate electronic groups into the Area Service Structure:

Questions were fielded:

- concerning participation at district level – if a member of an electronic group stood for District Representative in a geographic district, what accommodations would be required?

A: There will be an electronic district made up of electronic groups (only) and they would send the DR to the Area. It is the Area that needs to resolve this question.

- If our group has decided to remain virtual do we need to change our group record or re-register with WSO?

A: only those groups that are permanent electronic groups need to do this.

Following a lunch break, elections were held to fill positions of Area Secretary and Area Technology Coordinator

Election of Area Secretary: Dawn M stood for this position and related her service history which includes all levels of service from Group to Area. Dawn was elected by the assembly.

Election of Area Technology Coordinator: Kimberly C (Kim) stood for this position citing that she had wanted to get into service after having moved to Utah from another area. This position is associated to life and professional experience; she further related that she had “gotten the nudge” to stand. Kim was elected by the assembly.

SWRDM Thought Force report and review led by Patrick M, chair. After changes in SWRDM host rotation schedule it was noted that the suggested Area rotation of Alternate Delegate, Immediate Past Delegate and Area Chair to attend SWRDM would sometimes be disrupted. The recommendation was made that the change be adopted and it was sent to a Task Force for completion.

Web Coordinator report: A QR code will be found on the Contact page, clicking on this will get you directly to Area positions for questions/assistance. Schedules posted on the website are in whole documents and cards. Please note changes for cards (individual groups) when submitting a whole schedule with updates.

Please use PDF format for submissions. (It was noted outside the meeting that this was an impediment to posting the Alanews on the website.)

AAIS report: Jeff J, AAIS Coordinator asked that groups share a contact person where one does not appear on the district schedule. This would be used by AAIS volunteers to better connect callers with groups.

The AAIS annual fundraising Soup & Chili with Dessert Auction would be May 13. A flier will be posted.

Part of the AAIS mission is to provide Speaker contacts for the fellowship activities, and presently that page is blank. Volunteers desired, with call for GRs to extend this to their groups.

Public Outreach report: Miriam S has been communication with volunteers in Salt Lake and Ogden od district activities. District 3 has an event April 6 at Intermountain Health speaking with health professionals. District 8 is placing ads in the city busses with a CR code connecting the user to WSO information.

Al-Anon members have been invited to share their ESH on a podcast produced by a local church. Miriam is always looking for ideas and suggested upcoming community/cultural events where Al-Anon might have a presence: Dia Del Muerte (October or November) or Independence Day (mid-September) are two Hispanic celebrations.

Utah Area Fall Assembly: We have been invited to meet at time & place with AA. A save the date flier was provided by Jane McQ, Alternate Delegate. It will be held at Sons of the Utah Pioneers center in Salt Lake City. The question was asked: will it be hybrid (Face to Face and Virtual/zoom). A Thought Force was requested to study how Utah Area Meetings will be set up in the future.

Fliers for Delegate's Day were also available with date/place.

Alateen Process & Training: Crystal H. reported the timeline for Utah Area recertification of our Alateen program, which includes annual recertification of ALL Alateen groups and AMIAS. She noted that YUP fingerprinting centers will give a group discount and bill the area, please let them know you are with Al-Anon when you go in. Other places, where YUP is not available: County Sherriff offices, Police Departments, Some mail/shipping companies.

Ked K. talked about Mandatory Reporting on the topic of Alateen. He spoke about Alateen Safety training schedules and resources. UTAC is scheduled in June, and in order to meet, it requires AMIAS volunteers. Beverly J. brought save the date and registration fliers.

Breakout Sessions were held. One to discuss anonymity and the other an Alateen Safety Training.

Assembly adjourned.