

**SPRING ASSEMBLY  
MARCH 17, 2018  
CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1000 3RD STREET NE, MINOT, ND**

8:30 Registration  
9:00 Assembly begins

The meeting was called to order by Sheila S. at 9:00 AM.

The Serenity Prayer was said by everyone.

Sheila read the Preamble. Sheri S. read the Steps; Tanya V. read the Traditions; Gayle D. read the Concepts; Carol T. read the Warranties.

Tradition 7 – “Passing the Basket” was read by Sheila S. and an anonymous container was passed.

Diane D. shared that one of their long-time members, Merilee, passed away. She shared a little about her legacy and service work and brought a program from the funeral for anyone to see.

Introductions: Everyone introduced themselves.

The twelve voting members were: Lana N., Cathy S., Diane D., Elizabeth V., Brenda G., Donna J., Darcy A., Judy J., Sheryl H., Steve B., Tonya V., Belinda S.

The six non-voting members were: Gayle D., Connie B., Carol T., Sheri S., Sheila S., Erin S.

Sheila S. welcomed the three new comers and Connie distributed Area New Comer packets to them.

Secretary Report

Motions were read by Sheri S. Diane V. made a motion to accept the secretary’s report. Sheryl H. 2<sup>nd</sup>; motion carried unanimously.

Impromptu Speaker

Sheri S. gave a 10 minute talk on her story.

Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer’s report and appeal letter were distributed by Connie B. The “BALANCE FORWARD SEPTEMBER 9, 25017” should be 2017. Connie B. pointed out that we paid the full expense for the World Service Conference, the first time we’ve ever paid the full amount. It was noted that the list of donations on the report should be titled as 2017, not 2018.

Lana N. made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brenda G.; motion carried unanimously. Sheri S. will attach the report and the appeal letter to the minutes.

**District Reports**

District 1: Tanya V. - No updates.

District 2: Donna J. - One addition - May 5<sup>th</sup> is the District Roundup at the Abby in Richardton. Flyer will be on the website.

District 3: Brenda G. brought flyers for an upcoming event called "Hands Across The Border" being held May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at the Lakeside Christian Center at Lake Metigoshe. It is being sponsored by groups from America and Canada.

District 4: Darcy A. – No updates. She posed a question as to how other groups/districts handle situations when meetings are cancelled due to weather. Some groups post a sign, notice could be announced on the radio; some have a call list.

District 5: No one attending. Connie B. reported she is still getting donations for the Area from this District.

District 6&8: Sheri S. reported there were no additions/corrections to the report in the Alavine. She brought an example of the District 6&8 Group Representative Manual the District has developed for everyone to look at. Discussion. Sheri S. will share a copy with members via email.

District 7: Gayle D. share the following report.

*This district has been without a DR for quite some time. In January of 2018, Gayle D. and Ellen B. agreed to a co-chair this position. Gayle will do the travelling to assembly meetings and Ellen will accept mailings and correspondence. District 7 meets every other month on the first Thursday of the month from 6:00-8:00 pm. In January we also filled the positions of District Secretary and District Treasurer. They are hoping to fill the Public Outreach/Literature position in the near future.*

*The District participated in two local events; one by the police department and one by the NE Human Service Center during the month of September. They had a table with Al-Anon meeting lists and literature available. "How Can I Help My Children" and "Al-Anon, You and the Alcoholic" flyers were popular with those attending.*

*The District 7 open Al-Anon meeting is the third Thursday of every month at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 24<sup>th</sup> and Cherry. Attendance has been increasing gradually.*

*On April 21, District 13 AA Spring Round Up with Al-Anon participation at Sharon Lutheran Church. Aaron F. from Fargo is our Al-Anon speaker and they will also have an Al-Anon panel. Tickets are \$15 and that includes lunch and dinner. The deadline for tickets is April 10<sup>th</sup>. Tickets at the door will be \$8 but will not include lunch and dinner.*

*District 7 is looking forward to continuing growth.*

### **Coordinator Reports**

Alateen - No one attending.

Alavine - Darcy A. had nothing further to report.

Archives – Darcy A. brought some of the archives for Cheryl. She'll bring more to the fall meeting.

Forum – Darcy A. stated for Liv there was nothing additional since the Alavine report.

Group Records - Nancy H. was absent.

Literature – Carol T. did share that WSO will be sending out the updated service manual to each group for at least this next update. Lana has ordered some.

Public Outreach – Brenda G. brought a rough draft of the letter to go to the libraries. She read the letter and asked for input from the group. There was a suggestion that the information on the WSO be included should libraries be interested in purchasing more literature. Also each district may want to add some of their own information. It was suggested that these letters be hand-delivered. The consensus of the group was that this could be put on our website and DR's can share with their districts. Sheri could also send this out with the minutes.

Website – Darcy A. expressed concern that there is still inaccurate information on the website about group meeting times. Carol asked if the annual fees had been paid. Connie stated Erica has been authorized to renew.

Literature Distribution Center – Lana N. announced that at the end of this year she will no longer do the LDC. Anyone interested could take this over. Sheila will place this on the fall agenda.

### **Break: 10:30 AM**

Delegate Report – Carol T. referred to her report in the Alavine. She indicated that she is not sure the receipt of mail is set up at the hotel being used for Conference. She will update everyone if that is not an option.

Carol T. shared that the surveys are not showing a clear presentation of our membership. We need to get the word out about surveys. All surveys are available on the WSO website and you can also get the results of those surveys. Traditionally, all the surveys are compiled into a document that shows the changes in our membership. To find out what surveys are available, go to the WSO, members, research and surveys.

Carol T. shared the donations from our Area each year since 2013. She asked that we all try to share back information with our groups

Carol T. shared the letter from Chairman of the Board. This is available on the WSO, members section.

Carol T. talked about the visit from a trustee in Fargo at the Round-Up. There is an open Al-Anon workshop at the Roundup at 3:00 p.m. that Saturday. The Trustee will not do this open workshop. We do need to vote on whether or not to actually have the Trustee make this visit. Sheri S. made a motion that we invite the Trustee to attend the Fall Round-Up. Cathy S. seconded; motion passed unanimously. Carol will communicate this back to WSO. There was a question about the flyer for this event being put on the ND Al-Anon website. Darcy shared that at the last meeting it was decided the host district would be responsible for creating a flyer. This year, that will be District 6 & 8. Carol passed around a sign-up sheet for people to volunteer to be on a planning committee for the trustee visit.

### **Old Business**

1. Motions document – this is on the jump drive kept updated by the secretary and archives also has a copy. Sheri S. asked about the current copy of the Area Policies and Guidelines as it is not on the jump drive. Connie has this and will email it to Sheri.
2. Preparations of member packets – Connie B. has 12 packets made up and it was suggested we have another 50 made up. Sheri S. suggested that the documents for these packets might also be kept on the jump drive. That way all the Area documents will be kept in one place and backed up as there is a second copy with the Archives.

**Lunch Break: 11:30 – 1:00 PM**

Workshop: Steve B. did a workshop on writing for the Forum

**New Business**

1. Alateen Group – Walt G. , Steve B. and Joan M. are looking into getting certified so they are prepared should there be interest in District 4. There was some discussion on the requirements for a program and how it works.
2. Fall Assembly – Fargo, September 15, 2018. The State Round-Up will be held in Williston in 2019 and members there are concerned about costs for rooms, etc. since they have just one group and the costs may be high. It was the consensus of the group that Area would help with expenses for assembly. The expenses for speakers at the Round-Up itself are the responsibility of AA.
3. Fall Elections – The incoming and outgoing Group Reps for all groups should attend the fall assembly. Everyone should be thinking about positions they might be interested in.
4. Budget Review and the Audit were completed by sub groups. During this time the rest of the group had round table discussion. The following topics were discussed.
  - a. Principles Above Personalities – Discussed how these situations were addressed.
  - b. Service – How do we get more people involved? Ideas: have a meeting to talk about what service means and how it can be helpful in recovery; meeting formats; ask if everyone would like to share how/why they got to Al-Anon; have a list of readings appropriate for new comers; give new comers phone numbers of members and get theirs if possible so you can reach out to them; if group is large enough, separate into smaller groups with one being a new comers meeting.
5. Impromptu Speaker – Steve B. spoke about doing a group inventory. His group did an inventory recently and took 3 weeks to do that. They planned this 2 months ahead and picked a date. Guidelines 8A and 8B were used. They found there were some areas where they were in a rut. The inventory has strengthened their group and have 8 new members since completing the inventory.
6. Sheila S. read the closing.
7. A motion to close was made by Lana N. and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Connie B.; motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM.

Humbly in Al-Anon Service,  
Area 43 Secretary  
Sheri Schweitzer

MARCH 17, 2018  
CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MINOT ND

BALANCE FORWARD SEPTEMBER 9, 2017		\$ 3,120.99
INCOME:		
FALL 2017 REGISTRATION	\$ 220.00	
FALL 2017 TRADITION 7	\$ 165.00	
GROUP DONATIONS	\$ 3,221.65	
WEB/ALAVINE	\$ 120.00	
INTEREST	\$ .94	
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 7,268.58
EXPENSES:		
WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE EQUALIZED	\$ 2,443.00	
FALL 2017 COORDINATOR TOKEN EXPENSE	\$ 320.00	
FALL 2017 CHAIRPERSON EXPENSE	\$ 134.45	
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$ 2,909.05
BALANCE AS OF MARCH 17, 2018		\$ 4,359.53

RESPECTULLY SYBMITTED  
CONNIE B  
AREA TREASURER

## FEBRUARY 2018 APPEAL LETTER

As I sit here with the wind chill at minus 25 I think about how grateful I am for the friends (old and new) that I have today and that keep reminding me when I need it that I can only change how I respond to life around me and I can't control what anyone else is doing.

Today we have our conference approved literature, face to face meetings, online meetings and the great fellowship of the Al-Anon program. **Where would I be without this?** I think back to when I started this program so many years ago and all the changes that have happened in this world of ours including the Al-Anon program. I am so grateful for the opportunity to look back and see how far I have come since that first day when attending my first meeting. I pray that the program will always be here for everyone who is dealing with someone's addiction.

Will you and/or your Al-Anon group be the "one" that financially helps Area 43 Al-Anon (North Dakota) function and survive? Some actual and/or estimated expenses coming up for Area 43 are as follows:

Spring Assembly Expenses:	
--Delegate/Chairman	\$1,490
--Coordinators/Other Officers	520
Delegates Token to WSC	400
WSC Donation**	60 (?)
Northwest Regional Delegates Mtg.	400
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,870</b>

\*\* The question mark (?) by the WSC Donation means we "vote on each year".

Please send all group and individual donations to me (address below). Your Alavine subscriptions and website donations can also be sent to me at the following address:

**Connie B.  
604 Douglas Ave.  
Henning, MN 56551**

**REMINDER:** Elections are coming up for a new term of service for 2019-2021. I would like to challenge anyone who is willing to stand for a position you are interested in whether it be at group, district or state level. If you have any questions about the job talk to the person who has it now.