

## **TWO DAY FALL 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

The Area World Service Committee meeting was held on Saturday and Sunday , October 14-15, 2023, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Columbus 600 Metro Place N, Dublin, Ohio 43017. Chairman Theresa M opened the meeting at 12:30 PM with the Serenity Prayer, and welcomed all attendees. Daisy A , from Hudson Saturday Serenity, read the Twelve Traditions; Mary Ann, from Saturday Night Acceptance AFG read the Twelve Concepts of Service and Sue T, from Wednesday River East, read the General Warranties Of The Conference.

Theresa M asked Cecila S to review the meeting etiquette guidelines. Theresa M then read the Declaration approved in 1984 by the WSO and found in Many Voices One Journey and How Al-Anon Works. Alternate Delegate Rose R , Genoa Giving & Giving oriented the new GR's earlier in the morning and asked the new GR's to introduce themselves. They were: Susan P Hope & Release, Jim L Monday Discussion & Study, Elizabeth B Tuesday Morning, Carol L Boardman Tuesday, Charlane D Hope & Release, Mary J Tuesday New Hope, Sharon B Twinsburg Thursday, DaShawn W, Monday Night Hope, Amy Hudson Morning, Chris 4th Step, Ellen Serenity Seekers, Anne S Westerville, Susie M West AM New Way, Sandy D Monday Afternoon, Cindy How to Recover, Madeline Fifth Tradition. Welcome new GR's and alternate GR's!

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the 2023 Spring Assembly meeting were previously electronically distributed to all of the Committee members. There were two corrections: from Ann F stating a task force was formed at the Spring Assembly to review the AMIAS Packet, and recommend updates that will update the Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedure.

Irene B, Ohio AAPP, agrees to Chair of Task Force and volunteers to be

Task Force Members: Ann F., Rose R., Sue T., Maryann S., Mikey P.

From Cheryl to state that the projected budget line item was approved. Sydney P Westside Women's Weekday moved and Sheri B Mount Washington seconded to accept the minutes as distributed with two corrections. The motion passed.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:** –Merri G

Dear Al-Anon Family,

After several days of going over the books, I have failed to balance. I realized after midnight last night that excel had crashed a couple of weeks ago, and I recovered it, but I failed to pull the recovered version up and instead was working off the old one. In addition, the bank did not post the deposits that I made on Saturday or Monday until Wednesday due to the holiday. So, today I choose to practice acceptance and to give myself grace , so I have created a summary below.

Below are the numbers from January 1 2023 thru October 11, 2023.

Our Income from January through October 11, 2023 is \$13,547.42

Regular Donations from groups were approximately \$8,137.87, but this number may change once I re-enter in the recovered version of excel.

Donations as a result of the plea letter were: \$5002.00

We have had 292 group donations since January. (152 regular donations and 140 as a result of the plea letter)

Personal Donations-\$75 and \$20 from a virtual group called Wednesday Sunrise Virtual.

We had a bank refund of \$29 on a check where the number and the written number did not match, so they gave us a credit of \$29.

We brought in \$205 from the Spring Assembly for 41 Voting Members and one member donated \$5 bringing it to \$210.00

Our Expenses from January through October 11, 2023 were approximately \$10,939.58

We had to refund the Greater Cleveland Al-Anon Office \$79.90 on check # 552 and Cleveland Alateen in the amount of \$39.90 on check 553 and then I did a bill pay of \$3 to the Greater Cleveland Al-Anon office in the amount of \$3 because one group sent a payment for literature to us in error.

Our current balance is as follows:

Our Main Checking account balance as of 10/11/2023 is -\$34,776.70

Our Event account balance as of 10/11/2023 is -\$5200.00

We have three outstanding checks in the amount of: \$145.80

We currently have 3 CD's"

1. Huntington Business CD -expires 03/05/2024-\$10,000
2. Huntington Business CD-expires 07/05/2024-\$10,028.65
3. Huntington Business CD-expires 09/10-2023-\$5,000

Our Total Cash on Hand as of 10/11/2023 is \$65,005.35

Once I figure out where the error is, I will have our secretary send copies of the treasurer reports to your email address. Also, if you have access to a computer, copies of the treasure reports will be posted on the web: <https://www.ohioal-anon.org> under documents.

Please forgive me if some of these calculations change once I am able to balance the treasurer report.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merri Giacomazzo OAA Treasurer Inc. Panel 61

Beginning balance as of 31 December 2022 – \$62,398.75

Income 1 January – 2023 11 October 2023 – +10,847.02

Expenses 1 January – 2023 3 August 2023 – -7899.83

Ending Balance as of 3 August 2023 – \$65,345.94

Morgan T, Pataskala, moved and Sheri B, Mount Washington, seconded to accept the report. The motion passed.

**ALTERNATE DELEGATE & NEWSLETTER EDITOR REPORT:** –Rose R

The last issue of Ala-Notes is in process. I have a total of four sharings (including mine). Maybe the subject was not clear or could be. Subject is - what I have learned from past members who have served at any level.

Everyone has been busy and focused on other things. Hopefully I'll get a few more and I can get it out. The GR Orientation 21 folders 20 copies of By-Laws and Handbook. 12 + 1 who didn't attend Orientation not all were new.

**DELEGATE'S REPORT:** –Ann F

Welcome Al-Anon Family, I am Ann F, a very grateful member of the Worldwide Fellowship of Al-Anon and Alateen. I want to keep this brief as we have a lot to accomplish this weekend.

Starting with a short recap of the report I made to AWSC in August.

From our World Service Office July Update

Contributions year to date have exceeded expectations, and literature sales do not yet reflect the sales from the new daily reader. The new budget anticipates net income of over \$64,000.

Projects accomplished this year have included the International Convention (IAC), the Alateen recertification process, publication of the Public Outreach Toolkit, along with the 2023 WSC, and updates to the Employee Manual.

The 2023 IAC had record attendance of 4,517 registrants. Literature sales at the IAC included over 8000 copies of the new daily reader, A Little Time for Myself. Sales totaled \$152,421.

2024 WSC will be held April 18-21, 2024, at the Founders Inn, Virginia Beach. The theme will be announced toward the end of 2023. Plans will be made to hold the 2025 WSC in NY or a surrounding area to allow a trip to Stepping Stones. Alateen Feasibility - a motion was passed to identify next steps in creating Electronic Alateen Safety & Behavioral Requirements (EASBR). All of this and much more is available to read on the WSO website, [al-anon.org](http://al-anon.org).

**New News**

The October edition of "In the Loop," the WSO newsletter included a call for resumes for at-large members of WSO Committees. At-Large members must have at least five years of continuous Al-Anon experience to serve. Submit résumés by October 29, 2023.

Al-Anon members interested in serving as an At-Large member of the Executive Committee for the 2024-2025 service year must submit a completed résumé by Wednesday,

November 15, 2023.

Also please take a moment to complete the Literature Survey "In the Loop".

As Delegate I have received the Biannual Group Contributions Report. Through June 2023, 175 groups in Ohio have contributed a total of \$14,628.61. If you would like specific contributions by group or district, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,

With love in service,

Ann F

Ohio Delegate

Panel 61

**REGISTRATION:** –Lee R

It was reported that a total of 54 GR's are registered for the meeting: 11 officers/coordinators and no visitors. Tomorrow there will be 37 present to vote. \$475 was collected.

**BUDGET COMMITTEE:** –Cherryl C

Our committee met over the summer to review our spending and are pleased to report is in line with the Budgeted Line Items. In fact, we are underspent as Merri has shared in her Treasurer's Report. We did discover that the approval of the Budget during the Spring Assembly had not been recorded in the Minutes, so we have requested that this be corrected. Today we will make a motion to approve an increase in Per Diem expenses ( see Handbook p.23) to be allowed. With a look at inflation since 2013 ( last review) we agreed to recommend to you that we increase both the Banquet allowance (from \$35 to \$45 ) and the hotel cost ( ½ being increased from \$60 to \$80) as always encouraging that rooms be shared. We believe this will be more in line with today's costs. As Merri has already shared, we do have a lot of money in Reserves. Given this and our efforts to maintain a Prudent Reserve (handbook p.20) we urge you to consider making a donation to AFG, INC ( WSO) of no less than \$5,000 At this time.Future items for consideration include: Review of best method to support Delegates and Past Delegates funding for RDM ( Regional Delegates Meetings). It has been a pleasure working with Ann, Theresa, Merri, Ginny and Barbara over the last three years! Also, to receive your great questions and guidance along the way.

Three votes:

- 1) to add to the Spring Minutes 2023 that " Assembly voted and approved the proposed Line Item Budget"
- 2) A motion to approve the Per Diem increases was approved.
- 3) a request to send \$5,000 to WSO ( AFG, Inc) was approved.

**SATURDAY VOTING:** –Barbara M, election chair & past delegate.

Voting occurred in between reports (to tabulate ballots).

New Delegate: Rose R

New Alternate Delegate: Merri G

New Chairman: Ann F

New Secretary: Daisy A

New Treasurer: NEEDED (See Sunday Voting)

New Alateen Coordinator: Lauren B

Archive Coordinator: NEEDED (See Sunday Voting)

Forum Coordinator: Irena H

New Group Records Coordinator: Nancy S

AAPP Coordinator: Irene B will continue

New Two Day Fall/Convention Advisor- Shelly C

Literature Coordinator - two candidates

Public Outreach NEEDED

Budget Committee Chairman: NEEDED (See Sunday Voting)

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS –**

**AA LIAISON COORDINATOR:** –KIm R (absent) Theresa M, chair summarized her AWSC report

I'm happy to report cooperation and collaboration with AA on the Ohio Area AA conference with AI Anon participation, held August 11-13, 2023 at the Holiday Inn in Fairborn Ohio. The event attracted nearly 300 people from the Ohio Area, from both AA and Alanon. Much joy and cooperation were shared among the participants and between programs, with highlights including:

A skit from CA, not Cocaine Anonymous but Carnivorous Anonymous, a fictitious but highly effective way to look at our fellowships.

A lead from Trish L, AA Past Trustee at Large from Canada including stories from Argentina, Bolivia, and Paraguay.

Workshops on God Boxes, Brotherhood with all people, Learning about humility, Grandmother /granddaughter reflections on the family disease of alcoholism, and Men's AI-Anon panel.

Mark this date for next year, August 23-25 2024, in Independence Ohio for the next convention.

**PUBLIC OUTREACH:** –Sheri B

The 2022-2023 PSA campaign generated 807 air plays in Ohio from August 2022 through July 2023.

The WSO has not yet shared information on the 2023-2024 PSA campaign, but it is likely that stations are continuing to pay the current PSAs.

If you hear a station play our PSAs, please reach out to thank them and encourage them to continue to air the PSAs.

If you heard other stations air the PSAs in the past, but have not heard them recently, please encourage them to air the PSAs again.

If stations inquire about airing the PSAs, most radio stations can access our PSA through the PSN Bank. If they don't have access to the PSN bank, they can send their contact information including the Station call letters, contact name, number and email address to [media@al-anon.org](mailto:media@al-anon.org) and the AI-Anon PSN will get them access to the radio PSAs. Small TV stations, colleges, school districts, community organizations, and other non-media related groups can access and feel free to share the 15 second, 30 second, and 60 second video PSAs on the AI-Anon YouTube channel.

The WSO continues to provide a monthly menu of articles and ads for use in group, intergroup, district and area communications, which I attach to the monthly public outreach update sent toward the end of each month. If you want to be included in our updates going forward, please send me your email address.

In January we started a monthly public outreach collaboration that meets on zoom on the last Wednesday of each month to share the outreach efforts we are engaged in across our area. We had very good participation in the winter and spring, but have seen attendance fall since then.

Our next meeting is Wednesday October 25, 2023 at 7 pm eastern at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88488409759?pwd=S2F2eXUyeURLOERHMjBCU3RzNDIRUT09>

Zoom ID: 884 8840 9759

Passcode: Outreach

One tap mobile: +16469313860,88488409759#,,,,\*85615428# US

At this assembly, we are providing 30 Public Outreach Kits to GRs to take back to their groups and use to spread the message of AI-Anon in their communities. If there are not enough kits for every GR that wants one, they are encouraged to partner with another GR or two in their community to share the kit and consider asking their groups to work together to achieve their public outreach goals. Each kit contains:

AI-Anon Faces Alcoholism Magazines

AI-Anon half-sheet poster/flyers

AI-Anon Public Outreach bookmarks

White labels for groups can print their local AI-Anon contact information and affix to the above materials

Information about how to independently obtain additional materials

In addition to leveraging these kits, there is much we can do individually to reach individuals and professionals in our own communities, including:

Resharing Al-Anon's social media content if you are comfortable with it.

Using the public outreach resources published on the [alanon.org](https://al-anon.org/public-outreach/) public outreach page

at: <https://al-anon.org/for-members/public-outreach/>. The WSO continues to develop and post electronic materials we can easily customize and use locally.

Emailing our contactless flyer to professionals and organizations in your district.

Using our printable wraps for distributing Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism to professionals or groups in your district.

Adapting our public outreach posters for use locally.

o Using our printable contact cards to share your contact information with newcomers or professionals

o Emailing electronic materials to professionals and organizations. Materials can be downloaded at no cost at:

o <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/literature/downloadable-items/>

o <https://ecomm.al-anon.org/Commerce/Shop/Commerce/Store/StoreLayouts/Home.aspx>

Mailing or dropping off print materials where appropriate.

Encouraging colleges, school districts, community organizations, and other non-media related groups to publish our PSAs. 15 second, 30 second, and 60 second versions are available on the Al-Anon YouTube channel.

My term as the Area Public Outreach Coordinator comes to a close at the end of this year. It has been a joy and privilege to partner with you in this important work.

Sheri B has the records of the PSA's played by Ohio radio and television stations. She asked that we contact those stations and thank them for airing the PSA's.

**REVIEW COMMITTEE:** –Terri N

Merri G sent the statements from the bank to review and everything was correct and in order. Make a note that the reason the Premier checking dropped off is because we voted to turn them into 2 CD's.

**COORDINATOR REPORTS –**

**ALATEEN:** –Sara M absent, no report.

**ARCHIVES:** No coordinator, no report.

**FORUM:** –Cathy C

AFG Connects and Forum Meetings provide her with lots of good ideas. Here are the reasons why to promote the Forum: 1) news from WSO, 2) GR suggests Forum sharings, 3) helps newcomers, 4, great value, 5, every imaginable Al-Anon subject, especially for meeting topics. It's important to collect any copies made for meetings. Submissions are edited (qualifier instead of alcoholic loved one - do not use codependency rather use "the effects of the family disease of alcoholism", use I instead of we, if traditions are misquoted, it's corrected. Reviewed by three other people, then reviewed a second time by the executive director.

**GROUP RECORDS:** –Shelly C

In Area 44 (Ohio Database) there are:

335 Active in person groups

146 Inactive in person groups

10 Active Electronic groups

7 meetings in No Mail Status

Rainsboro Saturday AM District 17

Green Hills Cincinnati District 14  
Tuesday Noon Mansfield District 56  
Voices of Hope District 18  
Venice AFG District 12  
4 th Step Tuesday District 34  
Solon Charity District 38

3 groups in Bounced Email Status  
Tuesday Morning in Warren District 09  
Monday Garfield Gratitude District 02  
Choices Thursday Gahanna District 28

0 meeting reported Not Meeting

**LITERATURE:** Irena H, Coordinator, absent and Theresa M asked Mary Jo M, secretary read the report:

Thru 2.5 years as a Literature Coordinator during and immediately after Covid, conducted 34+ Workshops on zoom – focusing on practical applications of 12x12x12, especially Concepts and Warranties using (and promoting) How Al-Anon Works, Blueprint For Progress, Reaching For Personal Freedom. Zoom access (ID and passcode) were provided to many Ohio Al-Anon members and Officers

New Al-Anon Manual - introduced new Manual to the Akron Intergroup; provided copies to selected groups in District 51

New daily reader A Time For Myself was introduced at the International Convention; sales in Akron Area were very active, until WSO placed sales on hold 2 weeks ago; (personal note – my flight to Albuquerque was canceled so I did not attend the conference; WSO Conference Registration Committee would not refund the registration; about 2 weeks ago I've received directly from WSO a copy of the reader A Time For Myself with no note. Therefore, I consider that I have the world's most expensive copy of the new reader - \$225.00 worth)

Presented (description and availability) Many Voices, One Journey and As We Understood at the Gratitude Night – Akron (150 attendees from North-East Ohio); provided 5 copies of each for a raffle

Provided for a raffle 3 (three) Alateen Books - Just for Today, One Day at A Time, Courage to Be Me – to Buchtel High School in Akron – it was a Neighborhood Fair organized by high school to make the parents and the student aware of the resources available in the immediate neighborhood

Attended (thru zoom) a first-time meeting with a co-chair of the Literature at WSO; some ideas were mentioned from other areas of USA; mostly topics involved the publication of the new reader and the purchases of literature in small amounts – it was suggested to make those purchases thru closest LDC, since a) WSO is short on staff and small orders clog the system, b) local LDCs support their operation thru literature sales

Note 1.

1. Order of some literature is delayed due to the financial and printing constraints at WSO – presently the new reader A Time For Myself is on hold; please just be patient

Note 2.

I realize that this might not be completely Ohio Area interest/activity, but still involves the literature and few polish speaking Al-Anon live in or close to Ohio - I've conducted 25+ workshops to the Polish speaking Al-Anon around the world (including Japan, India, Canada, Europe) focusing on books translated and approved by WSO - Blueprint for Progress, ODAT, Courage to Change, From Survival to Recovery, Dilemma of the Alcoholic Marriage and brochures Sponsorship and Merry-Go-Around

**AAPP LIAISON:** –Irene B

(as of 7-28-23)

2023 Area 44 Ohio annual Certification was completed with 54 active AMIAS and 15 active Alateen groups.

Since then, we have added one new AMIAS and one new Alateen meeting.

The Task Force that was established at the Spring Assembly, has met and submitted a Motion with Proposed Updates for AMIAS Packet (Ohio Handbook of General and Committee Working Procedures)

Update the AMIAS packet (see attachment) and present motion for legal review fees.

AMIAS Motion #1 brought by Irene B AAPP seconded by Terri N Friday Morning Revelations

AMIAS Motion #2 brought by Irene B AAPP seconded by Sydney P Westside Women's Weekday

**TWO DAY FALL ASSEMBLY / OHIO AREA CONVENTION LIAISON:** –Sandy F

Changes to the Handbook have been made based on motions passed in May 2023. This version is posted on the Website.

At the Spring Assembly, the Handbook and Bylaws Committee presented the KBDM to make changes to the Handbook regarding the Secretary and a suggested motion as well. The motion passed.

Ginny C., Handbook and Bylaws Committee Chair

Shelly C will send and update: Findlay Inn and Conference Center October 12 & 13 2024.

**Sunday, Oct 15th**

Opening of session delayed until AV restarted. Ann F met with registration volunteers for next year meetings until able to start the

session with serenity prayer at 9:10

Announcements were we could stay until positions filled and that fruit and coffee were available at the alcove across the hall.

Reminded to turn in lanyards before leaving. Lanyards of those still attending at the close would have drawings for two OAC

registrations and for some gifts.

We said the Serenity prayer at 9:10 am and started the meeting.

**Registration report:** voting members (38 members).

**SUNDAY VOTING:** –Barbara M, election chair & past delegate.

Voting occurred in between reports (to tabulate ballots).

New Archives Coordinator: Sydney P

New Literature Coordinator: Sharon B

New Treasurer: Carol R (North Lima- Thursday night Boardman)

New Public Outreach Coordinator: Valerie G, New Hope Canton Monday

Handbook and Bylaw Committee Chairman: Cheryl C, volunteered

Budget Committee Chairman: Terri N (volunteered after Assembly ended) and was accepted by the Officers.

Theresa asked all elected members to give their contact information for the updated roster to Shelly C.

Barbara M received a standing ovation for her service as Election Chairperson.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS –**

**HANDBOOK COMMITTEE:** Ginny C–

Ginny C. reported that the Handbook has been updated to include motions from covers from Jan 1, 2023 through Sept 12, 2023. Changes to the Handbook have been made based on motions passed in May 2023. This version is posted on the Website. At the Spring Assembly, the Handbook and Bylaws Committee presented the KBDM to make changes to the Handbook regarding the Secretary and a suggested motion as well. The motion passed.

**WEBSITE:** –Mike K was absent, but sent this report (see the diagram at the end of minutes).

1. Next year (2024) in February, we'll be receiving an invoice from our domain registrar (Dynadot) and an invoice from our web hosting provider (Dreamhost).

- The Dynadot invoice will be to renew the domains\*:
  - a. ohioalanon.org (renewal due 02-11-2024)
  - b. ohioal-anon.org (renewal due 05-23-2024)

Your options from Dynadot are\*:

- Estimated 1-year renewal for each: \$10.99 (\$21.98)
- Estimated 2-year renewal for each: \$21.98 (\$43.96)
- Estimated 3-year renewal for each: \$32.97 (\$65.94)

Vendor: [www.dynadot.com](http://www.dynadot.com)

• The Dreamhost invoice will be due on 02-11-2024 and will be to renew the hosting subscription for our website. (ref: [www.dreamhost.com](http://www.dreamhost.com)).

Your options from Dreamhost are\*:

- Estimated monthly: \$13.99 (I don't recommend this option)
- Estimated 1 Year: \$155.88
- Estimated 3 Years: \$395.64

Vendor: [www.dreamhost.com](http://www.dreamhost.com)

NOTE: When the time comes, I'm willing to pay the invoices with my credit card and request reimbursement, or I can send the Treasurer the invoices from each vendor for mail-in of the payment to each directly. Please let me know which you prefer by the end of January 2024. Thanks!

\* Prices are higher than originally as we are past the promotional pricing period for both Dynadot and Dreamhost. Also, with inflation the way it is, you might want to put in a 20% buffer in case the vendors raise their rates between now and Feb of next year.

2. According to the roster (that I have), there appears to be no one serving Archives. Do you have another email address that you would like for me to forward this to?

3. Site Usage Report [see PDF attached]. Feel free to let me know if you need an explanation.

4. To my knowledge, no one has come forward to inquire about or take over the Web committee chair position. I can continue supporting the site, domains, and emails remotely as I did in the a couple of years until someone is found.

Discussion: Website had reports that were shown about website usage, the willingness to go ahead and pay for the updating of website domain and website vehicle, and be reimbursed this year. The Assembly agreed to purchase for one year since no changes will happen until after the Task Force reports on findings.



**FORUM COORDINATOR:** Cathay C sent the following report:

Subscriptions were up from January 2023 (818) to October 13, 2023 (838) for Ohio.

Carol C., the Forum editor moderated Web Conference calls of Area Forum Coordinators twice in 2023. Experience was shared, questions were asked, frustrations were vented, support was offered, and ideas were generated. The latest one was October 11 and I listened to the replay. All the conference calls, presentations, and emails are on AFG Connects.

The Top Five Reasons for Your Group to Subscribe to "The Forum" was one such email. Someone had a question about was it okay to print the web page and the answer is yes. As with any Inside AI-Anon articles and WSO Notes, please include the credit line: "Reprinted with the permission of AI-Anon Family Group Headquarters Inc., Virginia Beach, VA.

There was a question about why *The Forum* does not accept poetry submissions and also the guidelines for submitting photographs for The Forum. One good suggestion about poetry was to have it included in your AAIS newsletters.

The next paragraphs are direct quotes from Carol C., the editor of *The Forum* to explain the process that members' writings go through to be included.

All submissions received are reviewed by the Forum Editorial Advisory Committee (FEAC) and a "thank you" acknowledgement of receipt and status of the submission is sent to the member. All submissions are the property of AI-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. and may be used in whole or in part. When a submission is selected for publication, a notice and complementary copy of that particular issue of *The Forum* is sent to the member.

In addition to the sharings being reviewed and recommended by the FEAC, once sharings are selected for publication, they go through a few more steps at WSO.

First, they are edited by the magazine editor, Carol Cowan. At this point, I might make changes such as replacing the word "qualifier" with "my alcoholic loved one" or replacing the term "codependency" with "the effects of the family disease of alcoholism," in keeping with our AI-Anon policy of avoiding labels and therapeutic language. Similarly, if a sharing is written using "we" throughout instead of "I" (reflecting the member's own personal experience) but otherwise has a lot to offer, I would change the "we" to "I" to avoid the appearance of giving advice or speaking for someone else. Sometimes our literature or the Steps or Traditions are misquoted, which I also correct. Making these types of edits allows us to publish the wonderful, heartfelt, valuable sharings of members while ensuring the integrity of AI-Anon's message and adherence to AI-Anon policy.

After the editor has completed the edits, the manuscript is reviewed by the Associate Director-Literature, the Copy Editor, and the Director of Programs. Articles written by WSO Staff also go through this review process. Once the magazine has been designed, all those people review it another time. Finally, it is reviewed by the Executive Director before being sent to the printer. So, there are many safeguards in place to ensure that the articles published in *The Forum* conform to the Traditions and values of AI-Anon.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve as your Ohio Area Forum coordinator these past three years.

### **CONVENTION & ASSEMBLY REPORTS:**

**TWO DAY FALL AND OAC COMMITTEE CHAIR:** –Sandra F

I have been working with the 2024 OAC Committee finding a location for the convention in 2024. It has been narrowed down to two possibilities.

The other committee I am helping is the 2024 Two Day Fall committee who has a location secured for Assembly next fall.

Upcoming events committees who need to be working on plans are: OAC for 2025 to be hosted by District of Cleveland and 2025 Fall Assembly to be hosted by District of Akron.

It has been my pleasure to serve as the OAC/Two Day Fall Liaison for the past 6 years. I have treasured all the times I had to meet with committees and get to know my sisters and brother in recovery from around Ohio. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve AFG of Ohio.

**2024 OHIO AREA CONVENTION:** Michael B reported

First, my thanks to Sandy F. for her advice and coaching in setting up this event! The location is tentatively set for the Holiday Inn Beechmont for either late August or mid-September of next year, depending on availability after they resolve some current quote requests. The date should be set by the end of next week. The location used for the last two conventions held in Cincinnati is now a senior living center and no longer available for events. I visited or contacted 13 locations and got quotes from 8. This location was suggested by an AA friend, and has hosted multiple AA and NA events. It's a large and flexible facility with in house catering, is just adjacent to I-275, and the management just "gets" what we need. Sandy and I both feel that they will do a fine job, and could be used for future events. Our first committee meeting was held this past Thursday. The theme is tentatively set as "A Little Time for Myself" per the new daily reader. One committee member is contacting a couple of her acquaintances to see if they can serve as keynote speakers for Saturday evening. Carolyn D., who currently serves as our Intergroup treasurer has graciously agreed to serve as the treasurer for this event. We have volunteers for registration, hospitality, and programs. I've visited six meetings in addition to my own looking for help, but we definitely need more people. I've asked the current volunteers to try and recruit their own Al-anon friends for additional help, and plan on visiting more meetings in person.

**NEW BUSINESS**

2028 Al-Anon

Ann F announced that the bidding now is open for an Area to host the 2028 Al-Anon International Convention. Sandy F and Stephen M (shared his story at the banquet on Saturday) are ready to work on this. The entire assembly gave the go ahead for Ohio to submit a bid. Ann explained that the WSO asks that 400 volunteers are needed – greeters, monitoring number of people in the breakout rooms (levels set by Fire Safety regulations), helping with locations, etc - usually just a several hour shift. In addition, this is just submitting a bid to host the event. More will be revealed.

2. Addressing AFG of Ohio, Inc. tech needs

Sandy F is proposing that we have a 3-year tech person for all our area level meetings on a trial basis. Sandy F is explaining why she suggested a 3-year trial period.

Cecilia S (Interim tech coordinator) has a suggestion for a NEW TASK FORCE: Arrange for Website Support: At spring Assembly

present few options from consulting firms who support websites Valerie G New Hope Canton Monday night is including service level

commitments and pricing work in conjunction with companies to understand how they typically structure these arrangements. Task

Force work: Define what changes we want to make without assistance. For example – email forwarding, calendar entries, posting of

files for download. Interested Members are contacting her to be on the Task Force.

Sandy F is proposing that we have a 3-year tech person for all our area level meetings on a trial basis. Cecilia agreed to continue as

needed during this panel and was affirmed by the Assembly for this as a Standing Committee position.

3. New Thought Force

Sandy F (past delegate) talked about our area appointing a coordinator instead of electing one. Sandy F, Ginny C, Barbara M,

Theresa Cecilia Shave volunteered to be on a thought Force to address this.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Discussion regarding a one year trial basis of accepting electronic groups into the Ohio Area was conducted.

After discussion, a motion made by Mary Ellen Hubbard Friday night was to remove the last line in Section II, D from the Handbook and replace it as follows -

“The procedure will be in effect for one year, trial basis” (Page 3, May 2023 edition). This was seconded by Mary H Steps and Traditions (Waterville)” and carried (see below). Ohio has inherited a bunch of speaker tapes and had asked about getting them digitized at Fall AWSC. Robin R from Toledo offered to investigate the tapes digitized after the AWSC meeting. Sydney P announced that Robin R is now part of the Archives committee.

**NEWLY ELECTED OAA PANEL 64 (term starts January 1, 2024 and run through December 31, 2026)**

New Chairman: Ann F  
New Delegate: Rose R  
New Alternate Delegate: Merri G  
New Secretary: Daisy A  
New Treasurer: Carol R  
New Alateen Coordinator: Lauren B  
New Archive Coordinator: Sydney P  
New Forum Coordinator: Irena H  
New Group Records Coordinator: Nancy S  
New Two Day Fall/Convention Advisor- Shelly C  
New Literature Coordinator - Sharon B  
Public Outreach Coordinator: Valerie G  
Budget Committee Chair: Terri N  
AAPP Coordinator: Irene B will continue  
AA Liaison - Kim R will continue

**Last minute remarks**

Thankful applause again to Barbara M for guiding us through this election.  
Ann F thanked Theresa for her fabulous contribution as a chairperson to the Ohio Area for these past 3 years.  
Sandy F is addressing a question from Ask IT Basket. “What is my favorite part of my service ?”— You have pushed me to learn concepts and traditions in my daily life. Service gave me the opportunity to learn that in Al-Anon and Alateen to Let It Begin with me.

Drawings for registration vouchers for the 2024 Ohio Area convention – Irene B, Christina M.  
Motion to adjourn put forward by Sydney P (Westside Women's Weekday), Rose R (Genoa Giving & Giving) seconded.  
The meeting was adjourned after the Al-Anon declaration.

Let It Begin With Me  
When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen always be there  
and let it begin with me.

**2024 DATES:**

Spring AWSC March 23, 2024 Just North Church, Columbus  
Spring Assembly May 18, 2024 Just North Church, Columbus  
Fall AWSC August 10, 2024 Just North Church, Columbus  
OAC date is August 16-18, 2024 in Cincinnati,  
Two Day Fall will be October 12-13, 2024 in Findlay, Ohio

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo M  
Area Secretary

The minutes of this meeting were electronically distributed to all members of the Area Assembly on  
on: \_\_\_\_\_

The minutes of this meeting were then presented for approval on: \_\_\_\_\_.

Corrections or omissions:

\_\_\_\_\_ moved and \_\_\_\_\_ seconded to approve  
the minutes. The motion carried.

Mary Jo M  
Area Secretary

# OAA Website Traffic/Usage Report - 2023

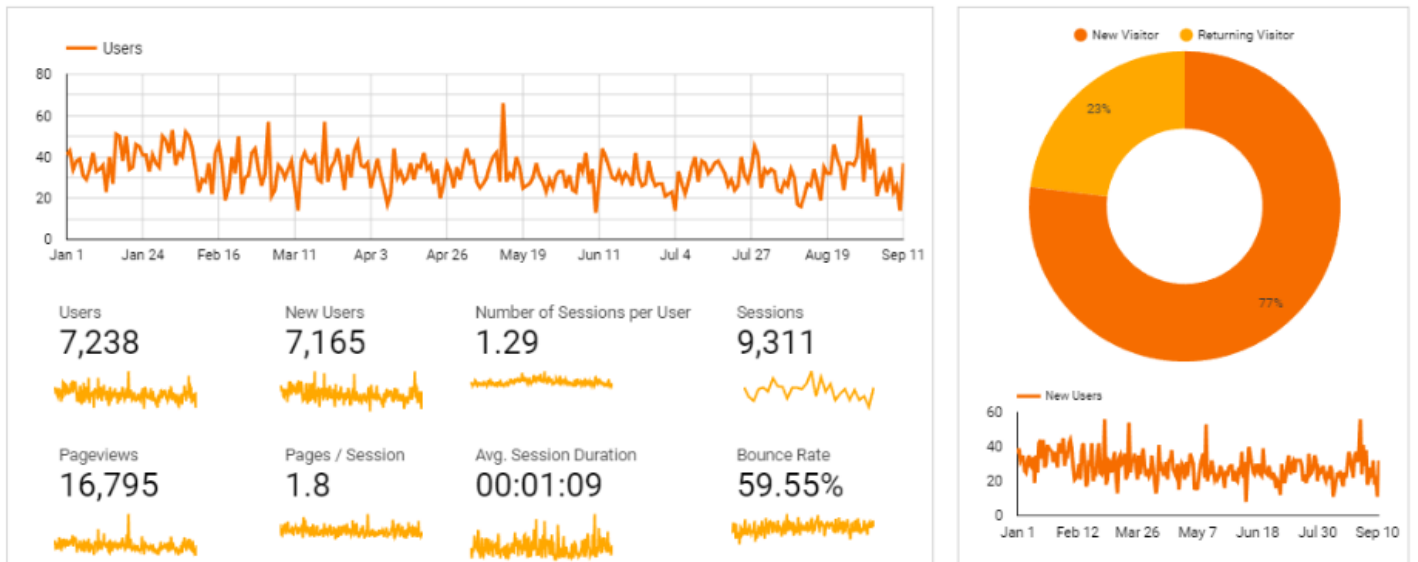
The report (below) covers Jan 1, 2023 thru Sept 12, 2023

NOTE: Bounce rate is a web traffic metric that measures the percentage of visitors who leave our site after viewing only one page. Normally a high bounce rate would be of concern however, it's likely many visitors are being directed to our meeting finder page and leave our site after they get that info. I'm therefore not that concerned about this. - Mike

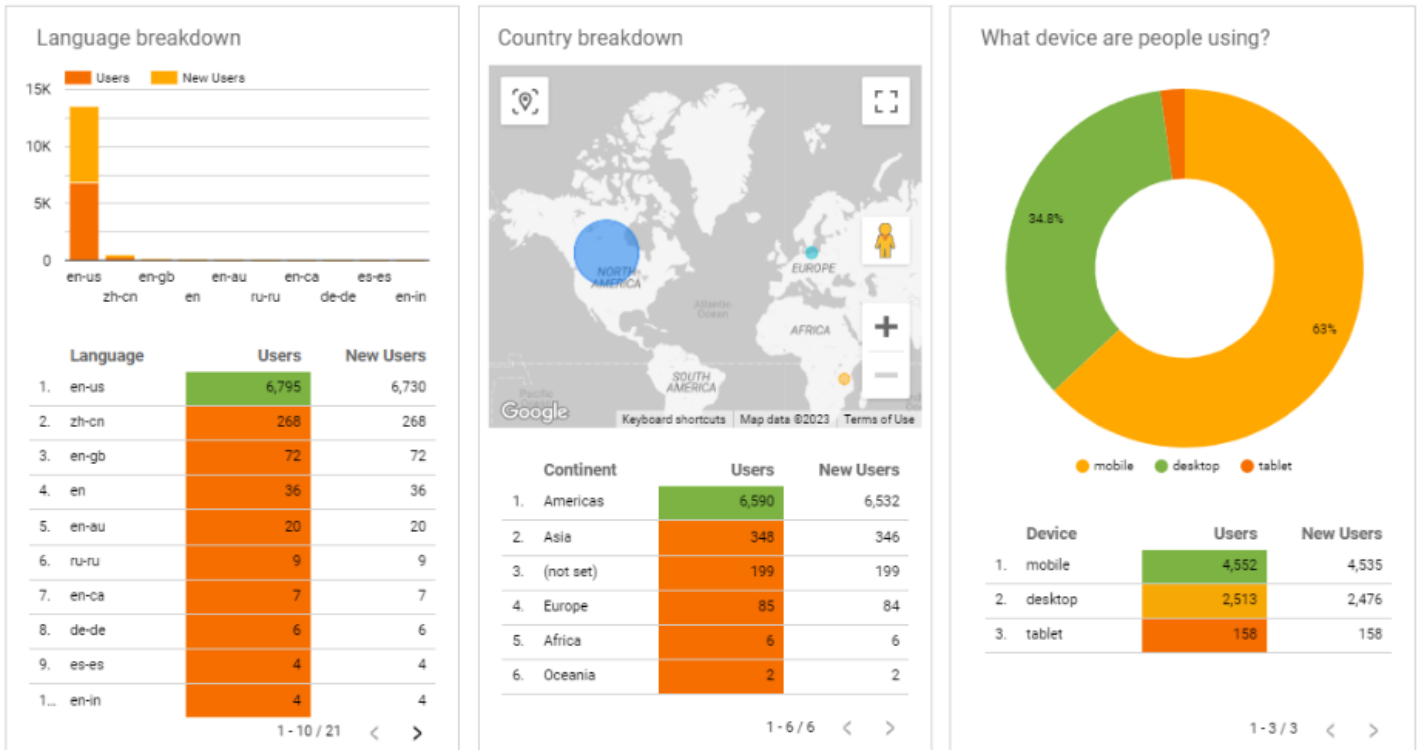
## Google Analytics Audience Overview

Continent ▼ | 
 Region ▼ | 
 Channel ▼ | 
 Device ▼ | 
 Jan 1, 2023 - Sep 11, 2023 ▼

### Your audience at a glance



### Let's learn a bit more about your users!



**MOTION FORM**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MADE BY:** Mary Ellen GR Hubbard Friday Night  
(Name) (Position – GR & Grp Name / Officer / Coordinator / Cmte Chair)

**SECONDED BY:** Mary H GR Steps and Traditions (Waterville)  
(Name) (Position – GR & Grp Name / Officer / Coordinator / Cmte Chair)

**MOTION:** To remove the last line in Section II, D from the Handbook, "This procedure will be in effect f  
(Please print clearly and state entire motion)

a one year, trial basis." (Page 3, May 2023 edition).  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**MOTION #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Motion for:** Handbook Bylaws

**Simple Majority (votes needed):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Substantial Unanimity (votes needed):** \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR:** \_\_\_\_\_ **AGAINST:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ABSTENTION:** \_\_\_\_\_ // **PASS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_