AL-ANON - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WORLD SERVICE (SCWS)
AREA WORLD SERVICE COMMITTEE (AWSC) MEETING - SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026

Draft MINUTES

Virtual: Zoom **9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

Documents/Presentations could be found on the SCWS website at https://www.scws-al-anon.org/area-world-service-committee-meeting-information/ **and go to 2026 August.**

8:30-8:55 a.m. – Sign in, change virtual name tags 9:00 a.m. – Starting time

1. **Chairperson's Report (15 minutes)** — chairperson@scws-al-anon.org **Irene C.**
   A. Moment of Silence – Serenity Prayer
   B. Welcomed the Past Delegates, new District Representatives (DR) and new Coordinators
   C. Chair instructed members to chat to "Delegate" with their position and question or comment to be included in the Minutes, if they did not want to be included in the transcript.
   D. Chair reviewed the Guidelines for Zoom Meeting Participation & Who Has a Voice and a Vote
   E. AWSC Survey will be posted in the chat and on the SCWS website.
   F. Calendar for 2026
      - August 22, 1 to 4:30 pm, Hybrid Longtimers Celebration
      - November 7, 10 am to Noon, Zoom GR Workshop
      - November 21, 9 am to 4 pm, Election Assembly

2. **Traditions** read by: Maria, Hospitality Coordinator

3. **Roll Call – Group Records Coordinator** – grouprecords@scws-al-anon.org **Cathy W.**

   Total voting members present: 39 in the morning, 34 in the afternoon

SCWS SERVICE PANEL POSITION	NAME	PRESENT/ ABSENT AM	PRESENT/ ABSENT PM
Alternate Delegate & Forum Coordinator	Sean N.-G.	P	P
Chairperson	Irene C.	P	P
Delegate	Teresa F.	P	P
Secretary	Donna E.	P	P
Co-Treasurer	Mary M.	P	P
Co-Treasurer	Sandy W.	P	P
Immediate Past Delegate	Tim P.	P	P
AIS-LDC Coordinator	Yoly W.-H.	P	P
Archives Coordinator	Kathleen G.	P	P
Area Alateen **Communications** Coordinator	Selena J.	A	A
Area Alateen **Events** Coordinator	Jeri M.	A	A

Area Alateen **Member** Coordinator	vacant		
Area Alateen Process Person	Betty D.	A	A
Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator	Tina N.	P	P
Bulletin Coordinator	vacant		
Cooperating with the Profession Community	Wendy B.	A	A
Group Records Coordinator	Cathy W.	P	P
Hospitality Coordinator	Maria N.	P	A
Institutions Coordinator	Shauna S.	P	A
Insurance Coordinator	Chris C.	P	P
Literature Coordinator	Annah H.	P	P
Public Information Coordinator	Cherie S.	P	P
Spanish Coordinator	Marilen H.	P	P
Technology Coordinator	Sue B.	P	P
Website Coordinator	Heather G.	P	P

AIS-LDC LIAISON	NAME	PRESENT/ ABSENT AM	PRESENT/ ABSENT PM
Inland Empire	Steve F.	P	P
Los Angeles County	Brad R.	A	A
Orange County	Star L.	A	A
San Diego County	Joy B.	P	P
Spanish Intergroup/Chair	Eliazar F.	A	A

CONVENTION CHAIRPERSONS	NAME	PRESENT/ ABSENT AM	PRESENT/ ABSENT PM
AFG Convention	Melody	A	A
Southern CA Alateen Conference	Bernadette H.	A	A
SoCal AA Convention/Al-Anon Chair	Charlene H.	P	P

PANEL	PAST DELEGATE – NAME	PRESENT/ ABSENT AM	PRESENT/ ABSENT PM
2003-2005	Miriam M.	P	P
1997-1999	Willie W.	P	A

D#	DR/ADR	PRESENT/ ABSENT AM	PRESENT/ ABSENT PM

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03	Delfina M.	A	A
06	Sarah H.	P	A
08	Jessie S.	A	A
09	vacant		
10	Loreina C.	A	A
12	Newt G.	A	A
15	vacant		
17	Ann H.	P	P
21	Eddie D.	A	A
24	Barry D.	P	P
27	Nate S., DR Micheila, ADR	A (DR) P (ADR)	P (DR)
30	Gloria S.	P	P
33	Sandra L.	P	P
36	Coy C.	A	A
39	Gerardo L.	A	A
40	Peggy B.	P	P
42	Emelinda M., DR Joe A., ADR	A (DR) P (ADR)	A (DR & ADR)
45	Patricia D.	P	P
48	Dora Luz L.	A	A
51	Sandra M.	P	P
54	Laurie M.	P	P
57	Diane M. P.	P	P
60	Karen G.	P	P
63	Diane McC., DR Doris C., ADR	P (DR)	A (DR) P (ADR)
64	Zully C.	A	P
66	Alfredo G.	A	A
69	Werner B. Sandra L., ADR	A (DR, until 10:30am) P (ADR–until 10:30am)	P
72	Randy B.	A	A
75	Trenta T.	P	A
78	Luz	A	**A**

4. **Secretary** – secretary@scws-al-anon.org **Donna E.**
   - **Approval of February 21, 2026 Committee Meeting Minutes**

   https://www.scws-al-anon.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/draft-minutes-february-2025.pdf
   The Minutes were accepted as written and posted.

5. **Reminders** – chairperson@scws-al-anon.org **Irene C.**
   - The Technology Coordinator explained how to use the Spanish Translation function, using a QR Code, which opened a link to read a translation of the meeting on members' mobile phones.
   - Officer, Coordinator, and DR Bulletin Reports: reminded participants that their reports are due by August 29. DRs encouraged to include:
     - How many registered meetings are there in your District?
     - How many registered Group Representatives (GR)? How many attend your District meetings regularly?
     - Share information about key events, projects, public outreach activities, and future plans.

A. Reminders

- Website and anonymity regarding DR email addresses; reminded them not to use last names or work email addresses. Use "bcc" when emailing to groups.
- Check and update District Information on Website: https://www.scws-al-anon.org/district-meetings/
- Encouraged GRs to update Group Records Information and make sure they are registered before Assembly Meetings before the first of the month in May and November for voting purposes: https://www.scws-al-anon.org/group-records/
- DR Information on Website: https://scws-al-anon.org/area-world-service-committee-meeting-information/
- Assembly Information on Website: https://scws-al-anon.org/area-assembly-meeting-information/
- Contact Us: https://www.scws-al-anon.org/contact/
- Knowledge-Based Decision Making (KBDM) Information: https://scws-al-anon.org/knowledge-based-decision-making/
- Notify Chair and Group Records when not attending or if an Alternate will represent you. Email Reports to present as needed.
- To submit potential AWSC or Assembly Agenda items and project suggestions, complete and email the SCWS Suggestion Form: https://scws-al-anon.org/awsc-suggestion-form/

6. Delegate's Report – delegate@scws-al-anon.org **Teresa F.**

A. Bylaws Update
   - Special Assembly July 25, 2026. The Draft Minutes are on the website, along with the presentations from that day.

B. Charter Task Force
   - The Southern California World Service Charter Task Force has been meeting to develop a Charter using the Al-Anon World Service Conference Charter (in our *Service Manual*) as our model. This document will be the "bridge" between the Assembly and the Area's Board of Directors (of SCWS of AFG, Inc.) .
   - The TF will define the distinctions between the legal and the traditional aspects of the Assembly and the SCWS Board of Directors, and will explain the relationship between them.
   - The Charter will be a spiritual agreement and an informal document, not a legal one, which will maintain the traditional authority of the Group Representatives.

C. WSO Update
   - Presented a *Small Delegate's Report*. The Board of Trustees will be holding a Road Trip in Illinois, October 26, 2026.
   - July 20-23, 2028–Al-Anon Convention in Minneapolis. Estimated cost for one member to attend = $1,776.

D. The Delegate attends quarterly Chairperson of the Board letter presentations. These letters are posted on the "Delegate's Corner" section of https://scws-al-anon.org/delegates-corner/
   - Please encourage groups to continue to contribute to the WSO office.
   - 62% of California's groups contribute to WSO.
   - How many Trustees are there presently? The Delegate will check on that; she thought that there were currently 17. Confirmed that number during the meeting.
   - Which staff member from WSO advised the Board when rewriting the Bylaws? The Executive Director of WSO (Vali F.) attended our November Assembly and gave a presentation. She also consulted with the Board of Directors and the Delegate to offer suggestions and give feedback several times, as the Bylaws went through multiple revisions.

7. Alternate Delegate's Report – altdelegate@scws-al-anon.org **Sean N.-G.**

A. Ask-It Basket – if members had questions, they could "Chat" to Sean, Alternate Delegate.
B. District Representative (DR) and Group Representative (GR) Workshops–new DR/GRs were especially welcomed, but any members interested in these positions were invited to attend.
C. January 16, 2027 Sharing of Service (SOS) Workshop Report–Any members interested in helping to plan this event were asked to contact Sean.

D. The *Forum*—encouraged members to subscribe to, and write articles for, the monthly magazine.
E. Alateen Resolution Committee–working on a "refresh" of the Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements (ASBR). No major changes are being considered.
F. Alateen Electronic Thought Force–Electronic Alateen meetings are organized through the World Service Office (WSO). Areas can decide whether or not to host electronic Alateen meetings. Any Alateen Members Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS) are invited to join a committee to discuss the possibility of welcoming these meetings in our Area. An email will be sent to all AMIAS to see if they want to participate in this committee.

8. Hospitality **Maria N.**

- These are the Districts who were asked to contribute to the upcoming November Assembly: 3, 10, 24, 33, 42, 51, 54, 69, 72. District 69 contributed to the February Assembly and will be removed from the upcoming roster. District 75 will be taking their place.
- Requested that the DRs respond to Maria's emails. Districts can contribute food or financial contributions toward the purchase of hospitality – food, drink, utensils, etc.
- Setup for the Longtimer's Meeting at the Glendale Church will begin at 9am.

9. Treasurer's Report – financials@scws-al-anon.org **Mary M./Sandy W.**

A. Financial Position Report through 7/31/26 –
   - Southern California Alateen Conference (SCAC) has $10K in ample reserves. Total $35,126.83.
   - SCWS – ample reserve currently $70K. Total funds/current assets $170,758.47
   - Some Area expenditures noted by the Treasurer: background checks for AMIAS ($1,172.38), website expenses ($1,454.41), Hybrid meetings ($2,000), Bylaws ($1,500 legal fees), Tax prep ($1,885), Translation ($1,200), Longtimer's ($2,000), Insurance ($6,754–actual annual cost, approximately $12,000), Southwest Regional Delegates Meeting/SWRDM ($7,000).
   - Number of in-person/hybrid = 784 groups = 957 meetings.
   - SCAC Financial Report (Sandy W.) – They had 38 registered Alateens
     - Total revenue: $20,760
     - Total expenses: $15,868
     - District contributed: $4,000
B. Income and Expense Report through 7/31/26
C. SCAC Financial Reports through 7/31/26
D. **Vote** to Accept Financial Reports
   - Accept SCWS Financial Reports through July 31, 2026 as presented:
     - **VOTE: Yes 25 No 0 Abstain 4** (Yes= 86.21%)
   - Accept SCAC Financial Reports through July 31, 2026 as presented.
     - **VOTE: Yes 30 No 0 Abstain 4** (Yes - 88.26%)

BREAK – FROM 10:35am TO 10:45am

E. Finance Committee (FC) Update
   - Two FC's – one for SCAC and the other for SCWS. Agenda, Minutes, subjects discussed, review reports. These reports and Minutes are sent along to the officers.
   - Most recently, they were reviewing the budget for 2027.
F. CD Renewal–the bank suggested options when CDs mature. In this case, it was a $25K CD that matured on August 11. A new CD will mature July 11, at 2.96% (11-month maturity)
G. WSO Contribution to go to November Assembly
   - Mary presented a "proposed WSO Contribution" presentation. $60K in the checking account. If we contributed $36K to WSO, the balance left would be $24K. We continue to receive income for the remaining months of $25K. That would leave $49K in our checking account *after* contributing $36K to WSO.
   - The recommendation of the Finance Committee is that we contribute $36,000 to WSO for 2026.

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- What is the net operating expense for each SCWS groups (versus $360 for each group for WSO)? We have not determined that in the past.
- Might be helpful to project our expenses, not only our income, for the rest of the year.

H. 2027 Budget to go to November Assembly
- **SCAC budget** (Sandy W.): similar to 2026. Increased revenue projection slightly, based on 10 more participants than this year (49 teens and 25 AMIAS): $21,500 projected income. Expenses projected to be $21,500.
  - Request for the 2026 figures to be provided to the GRs for the November Assembly so that they can compare the two years.
  - Does revenue from one year roll over to the following year? Yes. After meeting their expenses and ensuring that their ample reserve is funded, then surplus funds are contributed to SCWS and WSO.
  - Will SCAC continue to meet at the University of Redlands? Yes–that is the plan for 2027.
- **SCWS budget**: Proposed estimate of contributions and costs, based on 2026.
  - Total projected income = $75,000
  - Total projected expenses = $75,000
    - Public Outreach is on the report twice. How are those different? It might be for two kinds of expenses: administration versus literature.
    - Are all of the Sharing of Service (SOS) expenses accounted for in one place? They could be combined, but they are separated on the budget report.
    - Contributions to WSO are not a budget line item. The recommendation is based on the excess funds from the previous months.

I. 7th Tradition–participants could contribute toward the cost of today's meeting on scws-al-anon.org website, via the *Contributions* tab. If members mail in contributions, specify the District number when making a District contribution. Also DRs were encouraged to remind their District's members to specify their Group WSO ID number when sending in Group contributions.

J. *Income and Expenses: Excess Funds* Powerpoint presentation described how Groups, Districts, and Areas distribute their excess funds.
- San Diego is actively pursuing putting billboards up at the border. What is the Area's role for Public Outreach projects such as this? That billboard project is a great example of public outreach and it is supported locally. It is specific to the geographic locale.
- What are "Area-wide projects" versus "local" projects? The Public Outreach Committee is exploring that.
- In one district, some meetings have been collecting contributions for their Al-Anon Information Service office. How do members find out about the budgets for AIS offices?
  - As nonprofits, the AIS offices should be sharing information regarding budgets and contributions to any members who have questions.
  - Any member can and should ask questions and get answers.
  - Financial reports should be provided at every quarterly meeting plus posted on their websites.
- A few years ago, SCWS had trouble filling the Treasurer position. Perhaps changing the position to a co-Treasurer (2-person) position would attract more candidates.
- The Districts operate in isolation and are not unified in their approach to public outreach projects.
- Neither Groups nor Districts are incorporated, so they are not legally required to disburse their excess funds. That is a traditional obligation. Al-Anon's tradition is that the various entities do not hold excess funds beyond an ample reserve.
- One new DR found the presentation to be helpful. Follow the plan – "say what you mean, mean what you say, and don't say it mean." If anyone has additional comments about the presentation, please provide those on the after-meeting Assembly survey.

11:55 a.m. Lunch Break – (30 minutes)

12:25 p.m. – Reconvened

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Concepts read by: Patricia D. District #45

10. Old Business

A. Public Outreach Committee **Tim P.**
- June 20 held a workshop for about 40 people.
- Highlighted public outreach projects in Southern California.
- They are planning a workshop for the Area's Spanish-speaking members.
- There will be a new edition of *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism*, which is designed for professionals. At a minimum, we could reserve money to buy copies of that publication for our Public Outreach Coordinators to distribute.

B. Charter Task Force–discussed earlier in this meeting (see #6, Delegate's Report) **Teresa F.**

C. Policies and Procedures Handbook Task Force Update **Mary M.**
- Sending the most recent revision to the Officers to review.

D. Insurance Update **Chris C.**
- We will be getting a quote this month for next year's policy.
- They need current email addresses for the requestor as well as a specific facility contact email for any groups that request a Certificate of Insurance. The update for that is on the insurance form: https://scws-al-anon.org/insurance-certificate-request-form/.

E. Longtimers' Celebration **Kathy G.**
- Next Saturday, August 22, 2026 from 1:00 to 4:30pm. Light refreshments. The speakers will be taped. Those can be downloaded for $5 at your convenience or provided to individuals for $10.

11. New Business

A. Officer and Coordinator Applications and Timeline **Irene C.**
- Please review and note dates for applications. The officers of the Assembly will be affirmed to become the Board of Directors.
- August 15 – Officer application form, Job Descriptions, requirements are on the website
  - Due by October 22, 2026
  - Please note the qualifications that were voted on by the GRs at the Special Assembly
    - Reside in Southern California
    - Be in Al-Anon for at least 5 years
    - Be a DR for minimum for 18 months
    - Be in good financial standing with the Area
- Coordinator applications due December 1, 2026.
- Chair strongly urged qualified members to stand for open Officers and Coordinator positions.

B. November Assembly Agenda **Irene C.**

1. Elections
2. Financial Reports
3. WSO Contribution
4. 2027 Budget
5. Insurance Update
6. Task Force and Committee Report Updates
7. DR and Coordinator Reports
8. Vote on disbanding District 15 (the Electronic Overlay District) – no groups in that District.
9. Discussion on a topic or a guest? Any suggestions?
   - How to involve people in public outreach? Perhaps some of the presentations from the Public Outreach workshop be presented to everyone – to encourage everyone to carry the message.
   - We could invite a speaker from WSO. They could attend in person – and help count paper votes at the Assembly.
   - Invite all Al-Anon members to all Assemblies.
   - When people talk about SWRDM or SCAC, they were encouraged to say the entire title of the entity, instead of the acronym.

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- The aging of the people in our organization. Maybe this is outreach – but how do we replace ourselves with younger people.
- The meetings are getting small in one District and the DR is not sure what to do about that.

12. **Coordinators Reports (2 minutes each; Reverse Order)** Please submit written reports for the *Bulletin* by August 29. The reports will be submitted for the *Bulletin* and will be posted on scws-al-anon.org

AIS-LDC Coordinator	ais-ldc@scws-al-anon.org	**Yoly W.-H.**
Archives Coordinator	archives@scws-al-anon.org	**Kathy G.**
Area Alateen Communications Coordinator	alateencommunications@scws-al-anon.org	**Selena J.**
Area Alateen Events Coordinator	alateenevents@scws-al-anon.org	**Jeri M.**
Area Alateen Member Coordinator	alateenmember@scws-al-anon.org	**Alateen**
Area Alateen Process Person	aapp@scws-al-anon.org	**Betty D.**
Area Alateen Sponsor Coordinator	alateensponsor@scws-al-anon.org	**Tina N.**
Bulletin Coordinator	bulletin@scws-al-anon.org	**Open**
Cooperating w/Professional Community	cpc@scws-al-anon.org	**Wendy B.**
Group Records Coordinator	grouprecords@scws-al-anon.org	**Cathy W.**
Hospitality Coordinator	hospitality@scws-al-anon.org	**Maria N.**
Institutions Coordinator	institutions@scws-al-anon.org	**Shauna S.**
Insurance Coordinator	insurance@scws-al-anon.org	**Chris C.**
Literature Coordinator	literature@scws-al-anon.org	**Annah H.**
Public Information Coordinator	publicinformation@scws-al-anon.org	**Cherie S.**
Spanish Coordinator	spanish@scws-al-anon.org	**Marilen H.**
Technology Coordinator	technology@scws-al-anon.org	**Sue B.**
Website Coordinator	webhost@scws-al-anon.org	**Heather G.**

13. **District Representative Reports (2 minutes each, 60 minutes total)**
DRs submit written reports for the *Bulletin* which are posted on the scws-al-anon.org website.

***Break**

14. **Convention Chairperson Reports –** Chairs asked to submit reports for *Bulletin* and scws-al-anon.org
    - **AFG Convention** (Chair not in attendance) **Cathy W., AGRC**
        - Cathy provided details about an upcoming fundraiser: see website for information
    - **So Cal AA Convention (Al-Anon)** **Charlene H.**
        - October 16-18, 2026 in Rancho Mirage.
        - Various fundraisers. View website to see speakers, events, etc.
    - **SCAC** (Chair not in attendance) **Bernadette H.**

15. **Intergroup Liaisons Reports (10 minutes)**
    - **Inland Empire –** Steve F.-- will provide report for *Bulletin* and posting on scws-al-anon.org
        - Their attendance was so low that they were in danger of losing their nonprofit status.
        - One of their members stepped up and has been helping to attract more participation, fundraising, changed their Bylaws for more flexibility re attendance, sent out an appeal letter for the AIS office
    - **San Diego County** (In attendance; not available to speak)
    - **Los Angeles County** (Liaison not in attendance)
    - **Intergrupal Hispana (San Diego)** (Liaison not in attendance)
    - **Intergrupal Hispana (L.A. County)** (Liaison not in attendance)

16. **Ask-It Basket – Q's & A's: Alternate Delegate** (if time permits)

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- Will the current Board officers and Coordinators be leaving their positions at the end of this year? Yes. This is the end of the current 3-year panel. The only position that continues from one panel to the next is the Delegate position as the outgoing Delegate becomes the incoming Immediate Past Delegate in the subsequent panel.

- At the November Assembly, the incoming Officers of the Assembly will be voted in as the Board of Directors of SCWS of AFG, Inc. which will begin their term as of January 1, 2027. The outgoing Board of Directors will be holding that vote at the Assembly, immediately following the election.

17. Al-Anon-Related Announcements

Closing time - 2:25 p.m. - Close with Al-Anon Declaration (43 participants)

Informal Fellowship (20 minutes) – Not included in Minutes

Respectfully submitted,
Donna E.
AWSC Secretary

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