

## Virginia Area Assembly

### 2022 Hybrid Spring Assembly

May 14-15, 2022

#### Delegate's Report

#### 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual World Service Conference Summary

#### “Enhancing Our Recovery through Abundance, Unity and Understanding”

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#### 1. What does a Delegate do?

- Represents all of the Virginia groups at the World Service Conference (WSC).
- Is the primary communication link between the groups and the WSO.
- Brings the views and the spirit of world-wide Al-Anon back to Virginia.

#### 2. What is the World Service Conference (WSC)?

- It is the largest Group Conscience of Al-Anon/Alateen in the world.
- It is the annual business meeting attended by 67 (now 68) Delegates from the United States, Bermuda and Canada along with Trustees, the WSO Executive Committee and some WSO Administrative Staff.
- There were 86/87 voting members in attendance.
- On Al-Anon's overall policy matters, the Conference makes the final decisions.

#### 3. What motions were addressed at WSC? (see attachment A)

- The most important item was the unanimous vote to admit the Delegate for the Global Electronic Area as a voting member of the WSC. Alaska was the last Area that was admitted to the WSC in 1987.
- A vote to amend the WSC Charter.
- A vote to amend the Social Networking section in the Digest of Al-Anon Policies section of the 2022-2025 Service Manual to reflect the World Service Conference members feedback. Full revision in Attachment B.

#### 4. WSO Finances

- The WSO anticipates that expenses will be \$350,000 more than revenue for the year. Overall expenses are expected to increase in 2022 due to restoring the WSO to full service after the reduced staffing of the last 2 years. This is Good! The program services that support your meeting were put on hold or cut due to staffing shortages – Covid – are now coming back. But this is also Bad! Contributions declined and literature sales suffered in the last 2 years. Virginia is home to the World Service Office for AI-Anon – Let's do our part to support the program that lives in our very own state.
- 52% of the WSO revenue is currently from contributions. Revenue from contributions exceeded literature sales for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row.
- **Please consider growing your personal and group library with AI-Anon literature. WSO revenue depends on it. *Our literature carries our message!***
- An additional appeal letter will be sent after the May letter.
- **100% of groups use the services of WSO. Only 52% contributed in 2021. Groups get registered, everyone reads CAL, members call WSO, use the mobile App, hear PSA's.**

#### 5. Global Electronic Area

- There are 249 GR's for GEA groups as well as elected officers.
- Ozzie A. is the new GEA Delegate and is from Miami.
- AA is looking at us to lead the way on GEA processes.
- WSO AFG group records will continue to manage the GEA for now while processes are established, but they are working diligently to give registration back to the groups.
- Work to be done: simplify forms, streamline the process, deliver incremental improvements.
- Areas are all at different points in the process of accepting electronic meetings. When Virginia is ready, we need to notify the WSO.

#### 6. Road Trip Event (Replaces old TEAM event)

- A one-day event where members can connect with Board, Trustee's and the Executive Committee.
- Next one is in Cleveland, Ohio on October 29, 2022. Registration and additional information will be out in August.
- Does Virginia want to consider applying?

#### 7. Stepping Stones – Katonah, NY

- The house is exactly as Lois left it when she passed. Lois wanted it left this way because she knew YOU would be coming to visit.
- The house sits on 8 acres and has been designated as a State & Historic Site
- Attachment C
- Slide Show

**8. Chosen Agenda Item: Helping members recognize that service participation is vital to personal recovery and to the future of Al-Anon (2 minute comments from all members)**

- Share about service ALL the time! Not just at Assembly.
- Create opportunities to lead and grow into service – potlucks, workshops, cooperate with AA.
- Read Bill’s letter in Concept 9.
- Service is part of relief – share how it helps you. Winners do service.
- Ask ‘What is holding you back?’.
- You cannot break Al-Anon! Just try it.

**9. Chosen Agenda Item: Rebuilding Alateen Meetings after the Pandemic (2 minute comments)**

- There is a misconception in AA/Al-Anon that Alateen is for young alcoholics.
- Start talking to AA and Al-Anon meetings again about Alateen.
- Add Alateen literature to the Al-Anon Newcomer packet.
- 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> graders have a health curriculum – get info to schools for this.
- High schools have drug awareness events – get info to schools for this.
- Consider adding babysitting services – future Alateens.
- Bring Alateens upfront – have them read Traditions, Steps at events.
- Alateens want to be in-person. Restart those meetings! Restart the Al-Anon in-person meetings associated with Alateen.

**10. Thought Force: Diversity Today (held for Fall Assembly)**

- The disease of Alcoholism does not discriminate.

**11. Thought Force: Maintaining a Sustainable Future Using Abundant Thinking (held for Fall Assembly)**

- Without contributions, Al-Anon would not survive.

**12. Task Force: Encourage Service Participation (see item 8)**

**13. Budgets – Group and District**

- \$283 – Let’s talk.
- The power of \$1.00. In 1952 the Appeal letter asked for \$2.00 individual contributions. Today, that dollar = \$6.50.

## 14. Miscellaneous

- These countries have reached out to the WSO for the first time for information on establishing a GSO (General Service Office): Dominican Republic, Hong Kong, Israel, and Antarctica. These countries have reached out after a long absence: Cuba, Norway and Greece.
- The WSO is made up of Al-Anon members – just like you and me.
- The new CAL is called 'A Little Time For Myself'.
- There were over 5 million website hits in 2021.
- Alaska has been conducting business as Hybrid for 15 years.
- There are over 1200 meetings in Southern California and 1/3 are Spanish speaking.
- The new Alateen bookmark will be delayed due to paper shortage – end of the year?

**ATTACHMENT A**

**2022 WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE (WSC) MOTIONS**

**MOTION #1 – (84 yes, 2 no, 0 abstentions, 0 voids) – CARRIED**

To admit the Non-Panel Global Electronic Area to the World Service Conference (WSC) Structure, whereby the Area's elected Delegate will serve as a voting member of the 2022 WSC as a member of Panel 62.

**MOTION #2 – (86 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions, 0 voids) – CARRIED** That the following persons be seated at the 2022 World Service Conference.

**With voice, but no vote:**

Niketa Williams      Director of Finance & Operations      Non-AI-Anon Member      Scot P.      Associate  
Director—Brand Communications      AI-Anon Member

**With voice limited to Executive Committee for Real Property Management (ECRPM) business, but no vote:**

Elizabeth (Liz) D.      Chairperson, ECRPM      AI-Anon Member

**MOTION #3 – (85 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention, 1 void) – CARRIED**

To approve the 2021 Audited Financial Report

**MOTION #4 – (86 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention, 0 voids) – CARRIED**

To approve the 2022 Finance Committee Report

**MOTION #5 – (80 yes, 5 no, 0 abstentions, 2 voids) – CARRIED**

To amend the AI-Anon World Service Conference Charter as identified in the track changes document as amended and posted to the WSC Members at 7:00 pm on April 29, 2022.

**MOTION #6 – (86 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions, 0 voids) – CARRIED** To approve the 2021 Annual Report.

**MOTION #7 – (86 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention, 0 voids) – CARRIED**

To amend the "Social Networking" section on page 127 of the "Public Outreach" section of the "Digest of AI-Anon and Alateen Policies" section of the 2022-2025

*AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27) v1* as amended to reflect World Service Conference members' feedback.

## **ATTACHMENT B**

### Motion 7

#### **Social Media**

Social media can be an important venue for carrying the message of Al-Anon as it fulfills its primary purpose of reaching those who are not yet aware of the existence of our fellowship. Given social media's global reach, members serving Al-Anon Family Groups are encouraged to understand their unique responsibilities to adhere to our Legacies when using this medium.

#### **Social Media—WSO**

The World Service Conference (WSC) has granted the WSO sole responsibility for creating public outreach messages with national and international reach. The WSO, in carrying out its responsibility, will continually look for new ways to do so, using the capabilities of social media and emerging technologies while adhering to Al-Anon's spiritual principles.

#### **Social Media—Areas, Districts, AISs/Intergroups**

Service arms (Areas and Districts) and service entities (AISs/Intergroups) can create blogs, profiles, or social media pages for public outreach relevant to the membership they serve, recognizing the need to adhere to Concept Ten by avoiding conflict with the service authority granted to the WSO by the WSC. Service arms and entities can create and post content consistent with Al-Anon's spiritual principles and Legacies except when to do so would violate copyright law. Only Al-Anon service arms and entities are given permission to use the Al-Anon and Alateen trademark names and logos for social media purposes. (See also "Copyrights" and "Symbols/Logos.")

#### **Social Media—General Service Offices (GSOs) & National Structures**

GSOs and national structures can create blogs, profiles, or social media pages for public outreach relevant to the membership they serve, recognizing the need to ensure consistency with public outreach messages created by the WSO.

#### **Social Media—Groups**

In keeping with Tradition Five, the purpose of an Al-Anon Family Group is to help the families and friends of alcoholics. Groups do not create social media pages. Groups are encouraged to support service arms and entities' public outreach efforts.

#### **Social Media—Individual Members**

To carry the message as described in Step Twelve, members are welcome to share Al-Anon WSO, service arms, and entities' social media posts for public outreach. Members maintain the principle of anonymity, never revealing their membership, and do not appear to speak for Al-Anon as a whole. They avoid actions, behaviors, or commentary that could draw Al-Anon into public controversy, harm Al-Anon's name, or distort its public outreach message. The names "Al-Anon" and "Alateen" are trademark names and may not be used as usernames, logos, or identifying characteristics on profiles (See also "Anonymity.") In order to adhere to the spiritual principles described in Tradition Twelve, individual members do not create Al-Anon/Alateen social media pages.

**Attachment C**

A limerick written by Lois W.  
On the front page of the first published AA Big Book.

“One time there was a funny man  
Who lived in 182;  
He had so many drunks around  
who didn't know what to do;  
So he nursed some, he nagged some,  
He Taxied some to Bellevue;  
Yet, the oddest thing about him was....  
He really fixed a few

His Wife”