

VAWSC Meeting, March 4, 2022

Stacy Lewis, VA Area World Service Delegate, Panel 62

Love, Laugh, and Grow Together

Panel 62 it started with a shoe

Delegates Report

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Chairman of the Board Meeting Highlights (2/18/23) – Debbie P., Lynette K., Jeri W.

- **WSC** – Love Gifts will be shared this year with all conference attendees. However, Virginia will be sharing items that we had leftover from the boutique during convention. Therefore, no additional gifts are needed this year due to the homemade generosity shared at convention.

Delegates will be allowed to receive cards with notes of support at the hotel – to be sent ahead of the conference.

Those wishing to send cards, please address cards as follows:

Stacy Lewis (Hold for WSC 4/20-4/23, 2023)

The Founders Inn and Spa

5641 Indian River Road

Virginia Beach, VA 23464

Important – please send them to arrive AFTER April 15, 2023. Also, use this address as a return address so cards can be forwarded to me if delayed in the mail.

Stacy Lewis

3920 County Street

Portsmouth, VA 23707

The WSC will be paperless – trees are dancing with joy!!

- **Finance** – While literature were slightly below YTD budget, our contributions hit a record 3.3 million!! Overall 2022 came in under budget by approx. 224k. Great news on the budget front – please thank all our members for their personal contributions that are necessary to make sure AI-Anon is here for the future. On a lower note, the reserve fund did take a loss in 2022 (we had a nice gain last year) but that is not really surprising due to market and economy.
- **Road Trip** – The 2023 Road Trip will be held on October 28, 2023 in Southern California. Information about applying to host the 2024 Road Trip will be available at the WSC.
- **International Convention** – Registration is \$200 through May 9, 2023 and will be \$225 after. For the first time, the convention will also be hybrid! The registration fee is \$145 and includes access to all 3 Big Meetings (speakers), various sessions and access to the event app to connect with all attendees.
- **Thought and Task Forces** – The Board chose 3 topics based on conversations discussed by members on various AFG Connects communities. The work has already begun by the Delegates and will continue throughout 2023 to be presented at the 2024 WSC. The topics are:
 - Task Force:** Personal and Service Sponsorship
 - Task Force:** Revitalizing Alateen
 - Thought Force:** Eliminating Regional Trustees

My personal choice was to work on the Public Outreach Committee.

- **Strategic Projects Update** – Here is what the WSO is working on for 2023
 - International Convention
 - Improvements to the Online Store
 - Transforming Electronic Groups
 - Alateen electronic group feasibility
 - Al-Anon Family Groups Mobile App* refresh

Additional Items of Interest

- **In-reach Follow-up** – I had a question about a topic I shared during Assembly in October. While browsing the Al-Anon.org website, I had found a list of discussions about In-reach. Intrigued, I looked further and uncovered a new term that is really something that every group discusses – how to KEEP members in our rooms. We welcome the newcomers nearly every week but then share our discouragement when they never return. What are we doing wrong? The million dollar question. Then what about the member who sits in the chair every week yet never engages in service or attends workshops?

I encourage your Districts to revitalize within – not just sharing Al-Anon outside of your meetings, but rebuilding the fellowship and sense of belonging that has been on the back burner. Everyone knows the book ‘When I got busy, I got better’ and that is the truth! Go back to my Delegates report from the fall (on our website) to review all the amazing ideas your Districts shared to get and keep members.

To find more In-reach ideas, go to the Al-Anon.org website and look here:

Members/World Service Conference/Chosen Agenda Items Index. Then use the drop down menu under Index Filter to find all references to Inreach. Find topics about member retention, building Alateen and Diversity – just to name a few.

- During the summer, I would like to try to continue visits to your District Meetings. The sharing of information between GR’s and DR’s is invaluable and critical to my responsibilities as your Delegate. I will reach out again later in the spring to get schedules of your meetings.
- And....