

Virginia Area World Service Conference (VAWSC) Meeting  
March 7, 2026  
Laura Lovern, VA Area World Service Delegate, Panel 65  
75 Years, One Purpose

Delegate Report

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**2026 World Service Conference Theme:**

75 Years, One Purpose  
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**Conference Mail:**

The address for those members in the Virginia Area who wish to send cards and letters of support to the Virginia Delegate at Conference is:

Laura Lovern (Hold for WSC 4/20-4/24, 2026)  
Newport News Marriott at City Center  
740 Town Center Dr.  
Newport News, VA 23606

Please plan to have cards arrive **after April 17**. Remember to include the trusted servant's name and home address (see below) as the return address, in case mail delivery is delayed.

If there are groups or Districts that would like to send handmade love gifts to WSC, they can be mailed to the Delegate prior to April 15 at her home address:

Laura Lovern  
1482 Thrashers Creek Road  
Amherst, VA 24521

**Reminder: Al-Anon's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2026. There is currently a waiting list for tickets, if anyone is interested in getting their name on the list. Tickets sold out faster than expected.**

**Sharing Area Highlights and Challenges feedback needed!!**

**Virginia Area Feedback on the Group Naming Policy Implementation:**

- We received feedback from 4 members. Two seem to be perceiving “inclusivity” as having something for everyone – i.e. having meetings for specific genders, etc., rather than perceiving “inclusivity” as being open to all.
- One stressed the importance of the visibility of our “Participants” filter, to ensure that we reach the underserved demographics we hope to reach, and that we include the same variety of participant types on the Virginia Area website as the WSO does on theirs.
- We have 24 meetings in Virginia whose names contain the words women, men, parents and adult children. Those are the qualifying words currently being used in our Area.
- I believe we have made it clear at Assembly that no meeting can turn away a member interested in attending any meeting. Every meeting is open to all.

#### **Virginia Area Feedback on the Electronic Alateen Survey:**

- Do you think teens want electronic Alateen meetings? 52% yes, 46% maybe and don't know, 2% no
- Do you think it is necessary to verify each teen's emergency contact information before participation? 36% yes, 26% no, 38% maybe and don't know
- Is the adoption of electronic Alateen meetings a positive way of meeting teens where they are, embracing their use of technology? 86% yes, 9% no, 5% don't know
- Do you believe that conducting a pre-interview with teens to ensure a secure environment justifies overriding anonymity? 60% yes, 36% no, 4% don't know
- To what extent do you think the pre-interview process will discourage teens from participating? 40% highly discourage, 20% discourage, 17% somewhat discourage, 16% discourage very little, 4% won't discourage at all, 3% don't know
- Do you think that teens in your geographic area have the ability to provide proof of age and photo identification? 51% yes, 42% no, 7% don't know
- Do you believe that requiring a photo for participation in Alateen meetings violates the principle of anonymity? 41% not if it is a legal requirement, 31% yes, 27% no, 1% don't know
- Are you willing to help create an Area policy or guideline for conducting pre-interviews? 74% no, 23% yes, 3% don't know
- Are you willing to participate in public outreach efforts to attract teens to electronic Alateen meetings? 50% no, 45% yes, 5% don't know

- Would the option of becoming an Amias-E make you more likely to become an Amias? 71% no, 23% yes, 5% don't know
- What do you see as the main obstacles to becoming an Amias-E sponsor? 34% lack of time, lack of technology skills 20%, lack of training 18%, mandatory reporting, background checks and personal safety concerns 28% combined
- Are you willing to participate in additional training specifically for online Alateen meetings? 55% no, 41% yes, 4% don't know
- Would attending Alateen meetings as an AMIAS-E online be easier than attending in person? 37% yes, 15% no, 46% maybe, 2% don't know
- Are you willing to create online security measures to ensure the safety and secure storage of participant information? 61% no, 36% yes, 3% don't know
- Are you willing to help develop a process for each group to have a secure email contact, including establishing consistent naming conventions for those email addresses? 49% no, 16% yes, 35% maybe and don't know
- Should the Virginia Area accept electronic Alateen meetings? 60% yes, 30% maybe, 10% no and don't know

On Saturday, February 21, 2026, I attended a meeting with Deb T., Alternate Delegate, Ava B., AAPP and Jill S., Alateen Coordinator and we agreed the feedback I take back to WSC, based on our survey results, is that the Virginia Area is not in a position, due to time restrictions and lack of service interest, to institute Electronic Alateen Meetings in the Virginia Area by July 2026. The survey indicated great enthusiasm for the Electronic Alateen Meeting opportunity and more will be revealed.

### **Single Trustee Application Process**

- We currently have two categories of Trustees on our Board of Trustees in Al-Anon – Trustees at Large and Regional Trustees
- Each type of Trustee has a slightly different application process, with the Regional Trustee process being more lengthy and requiring a much earlier start
- We have more members applying for Trustee through the Trustee at Large process, leaving consistently numerous vacancies in our Regional Trustee positions.
- WSO has been working on a means of streamlining the process so that there is only one application process, with all Trustees applying to be Trustees at Large, while ensuring all regional voices are still considered.
- The Single Trustee Selection Task Force has come up with three options to consider: (excerpted from the 2025 WSC Summary p. 20)

- **Option One:** This option would redefine the composition of the Conference Committee on Trustees (CCT) to include the geographic/regional voice across panels and expand its mandate to review all Trustee applications, eliminating the Area review in favor of an expanded CCT with a focus on regional representation.
  
- **Option Two:** This option would continue to have applications scored by both the Conference Committee on Trustees (CCT) and Regional Committees on Trustees (RCT) to ensure the Area voice is heard but eliminate the Area approval step.
  
- **Option Three:** This option would maintain the Conference Committee on Trustees as-is but expand its mandate to include reviewing all Trustee applications. Option Three would replace the Area approval step with a new process to obtain feedback from [Delegates] to ensure the Area voice is heard from all the Delegates in each applicant's Region.