

Definitions Used in the Virginia Area Assembly

1. Area Assembly – The Assembly is a business meeting attended by the Area Officers, Coordinators, Liaisons, District Representatives and Group Representatives. The purpose of the Assembly is to gather together to express a voice and vote on behalf of all the groups in the Virginia Area. During the Assembly, the Delegate reports on the activities of the World Service Conference. The Virginia Area Assembly is held twice a year, in May and October. Only Group Representatives vote at the Virginia Area Assembly. The Officers, Coordinators, Liaisons and District Representatives vote at the Virginia Area World Service Committee (VAWSC), which meets in March and August.

2. Conference – This is Al-Anon's annual business meeting, the World Service Conference (WSC). It is attended by all Delegates, the Board of Trustees, the World Service Office (WSO) administrative staff, the Executive Committee, and representatives from other countries. The Conference conducts the business of all of Al-Anon.

See the Service Manual, p. 171, for a diagram of the World Service Conference structure.

The term conference is also used in referring to Alateen conventions.

3. Convention – This is the term we use for an Area wide event focused on personal recovery and fellowship. In the Virginia Area, we hold a convention once during every three-year panel, over the course of a weekend. Area Conventions are put on by Virginia Area members for Virginia Area members, although anyone interested in Al-Anon may attend. A convention features Al-Anon and Alateen speakers and invited A. A. speakers. There are workshops focusing on personal recovery topics. Social events are also included. They are lots of fun!