

Delegate's Report to the Fall Assembly 9/29/12

The process to choose a Northeast Regional Trustee continues. In early September members of the RCT (Regional Committee on Trustees) received copies of the resumes and additional question responses from the candidates for the Northeast Regional Trustee. The RCT is made up of Delegates from each Area in the Northeast Region and 3 Delegates from other regions at were chosen by lot at the WSC. We will need to score each candidate and submit these scores to the Chairperson of the RCT by October 1st.

The Chairperson will tally these sheets and submit the combined scores to the Executive Director before the deadline for the October Board meeting.

As I explained at the August AWSC meeting the Nominating committee with impute from the RCT will select two candidates from the Region. The names will be forwarded to the Chair of the RCT. The Chair will send these names to members of the RCT. Members of the RCT have until December 15th to file any objections.

At the January Board of Trustees meeting, with the needs of the Board in mind one of the two candidates will be selected as the Northeast Regional Trustee. The name of the nominee will be presented to the World Service Conference in April for traditional approval. At the Annual Board meeting following the Conference the new trustee will be elected.

I know we all wish Anne F. the best in this process.

At the July Board of Trustees meeting the theme for the 2013 World Service Conference was chosen. The theme is: "Our Legacies: The Spiritual Journey of changing "Me" to "We". The theme embodies the essence of group conscience. I feel this is very relevant to us right now. When I bring my voice to the group and listen to a thorough discussion, my group makes a decision based on an informed group conscience and the "me" becomes "we". This same principle applies to the Area.

This same process takes place when I work the steps. I am no longer alone in my struggles with the disease of alcoholism. "me" becomes "we" with a home group and a sponsor. I am very excited to see how this theme will unfold with the 2013 World Service Conference.

I am thinking that we will be very busy at the 2013 WSC. With the August letter from the Chairperson of the Board we were informed that there would not be a trip to the World Service Office. This decision was not taken lightly. There is a lot of work to be done including discussion and adequate consideration of the proposed updates to the "Digest of Al-Anon/Alateen Policies" section of the Service Manuel. The Manuel is scheduled to be reprinted in the coming year. While I am disappointed that I will have to wait until 2014 to visit the WSO and am looking forward to the tasks we will be working on at the Conference.

The Board of Trustees continues to look at the Conference Structure Proposal. The trial period will be for 6 years beginning with the 2012 WSC. If an Area were to begin its trial in 2013 and after a 3 year period felt that their plan was working for the area they could petition the Board and Conference to have the change become permanent? As I said in my spring report if the Structure in your Area is working well there is no need to make changes just for the sake of making changes.

The Finance Committee and Board of Trustees have reviewed the costs of the 2013 World Service Conference (WSC). After this review the Equalized Expense amount for the 2013 WSC has been set at \$1280. The full amount for a Delegate to attend the WSC has been set at \$1968. Last year 10 Areas gave amounts greater than the Equalized Expense and 38 Areas contributed the full amount to send their Delegate to the Conference. In the 2012 NYN budget we had allowed \$1550 and for 2013 the proposed budget allows \$1650. NYN is making its way to paying the full amount. The 2013 World Service Conference will be held from Sunday, April 14th, through Thursday, April 18th.

The 2012 Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc. Membership Survey is now open. The questionnaire opened on September 10th and will be open for participation until October 21st. It can be found on the Member's Web site, www.al-anon.alateen.org/members. The findings will be used to improve and increase awareness of Al-Anon Family Groups for Professionals, the media and the general public.

Questions on the survey include; relationships to drinkers, age, ethnicity, and marital status. Members will also be asked for information about their physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual wellbeing, as a result of attending Al-Anon.

Some background information on the survey;

- This study is the 10th Al-Anon Family Groups World Service Conference Approved Membership Survey conducted by the WSO. It is conducted every 3 years.
- Any Al-Anon member in the US, Canada, Puerto Rico, or Bermuda can participate.
- A computer with access to the internet is necessary to complete the questionnaire.
- The online questionnaire will be available in English, Spanish and French
- Members' anonymity, the confidentiality of their email addresses, and identity are protected.
- The survey results will be available in December 2012/January 2013 and posted on the WSO's Public Outreach and Member's Web sites.

I hope that you will visit the member's Web site and look at the survey. Once there I also hope that you will take part in it, I know I have.

At the August AWSC meeting I reported on the progress of our newest piece of CAL, “Legacies Workbook” (working title). At that time I told you that the the workbook had been completed and approved by the Literature Committee, it had been sent for policy review. I can now report that it has been approved by Policy Reviewers and by the Executive Director. The Titling Committee will be meeting next month to determine what the final title will be. This newest piece of CAL is on course to be ready to debut at the 2013 Al-Anon International Convention.

My final topic this morning is the 2013 Al-Anon International Convention which will be held July 5-7, 2013 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. I have a short PowerPoint from the WSO which I would like to use this morning.

Evening and Sunday morning “Big Meetings” feature US, Canadian and International Speakers Al-Anon workshops are held during the day. There are a variety of recovery topics. Workshops feature several speakers and include time for audience sharing. Alateen workshops and AA daytime meetings are held at the same time.

The official 2013 Al-Anon International Convention web site is, www.al-anoninternationalconvention.org. Includes everything you need to know, everything you wish you knew, even some stuff you don't care to know.

Information you'll find on the convention web site;

- Registration
- Housing
- Canadian entry requirements
- Day of Connecting (July 4th)
- Language of Love Parade
- Pioneer Luncheon
- Much, much more

Registration is open. Please note that persons who have committed or been convicted of a crime, including alcohol-related driving offences, may not be able to enter Canada without first obtaining a special waiver in advance. Please visit the Canadian government's web site, www.dc.gc.ca/ for information.

Paper copies for the registration form have been mailed to all registered groups. Once your registration is complete you will receive information about housing. It is an easy process to register online if you are able. I know because I have completed my registration and have also booked my hotel. I know Vancouver is a long way from Northern New York but I do hope some of my fellow NYN members will be joining me in Vancouver.

I want to thank you all for your attention this morning. I am so grateful for the opportunity to be your Delegate and hoping I am serving you well. Thank you again.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruth Shirley