- A total of 8 new groups have been welcomed; 6 Al-Anon & 2 Alateen.
- I have participated in 2 conference calls; one for Area Alateen Process Person And a conference call for new delegates. I have also received a Trustee's call.

I have been assigned a conference mentor, she is Jacki S. a third year delegate from Norman, Oklahoma.

Committee assignment: I will be serving on How to strengthen AIS Thought Force. These are short term committees on a specific topic.

Chosen Agenda Items to be discussed: 1. Al-Anon's Public Relations Policy---Is it becoming more like Promotion rather than Attraction? Are we embracing Traditions Six & Eleven in all Al-Anon's Affairs? 2. How can Areas, districts, and groups approach unhealthy meetings in a positive and productive way?

Sessions to participate in; 1. Knowledge Based Decision Making and 2. Shared Leadership - Bring the Culture of Trust to the Area level.

Sharing Area Highlights: Taking the coordinators reports out of the various Action Committees; Membership Outreach Committee- forming two committees; one to look at helping DRs and the other to looking at the needs of new GRs. Committees to address the finances of the Area, one to help in the development of the Area Webpage and one to review Area Policies. The implementation of the KBDM at the Area level. Knowledge Based Decision Making.

Vacancies at WSO: Trustees-at-Large and Regional trustees we will be considering someone this year for the NER, there has been a change in the time line. Advisory Committees for Alateen, Public Outreach, Forum and Literature. ECRPM – Executive Committee for Real Property Management. What one needs to know about each of these positions and the necessary forms are available.

A new revised RSS Plan has been put forth and it sounds exciting. More will come following Conference. It is a more flexible and adaptable to meet the needs of one or more Areas.

Procedure for Use of Excess Funds has been proposed. This was partially addressed in the update to our Policy Manual see page 85.

I have been going over the 2009 Preliminary Budget and have submitted questions concerning it.

I am still working on the 2008 Annual Operational Report and the 2008 Strategic Plan Update which come from the Director of Business Services and the Executive Director, for any questions I have concerning these two documents.

NERD I attended the weekend of March 13-15 with Connie D., Anne F., Marion W. LaVaughn R. and Bob C. There were a total of 46 current or former delegates, three of whom are current Trustees serving at WSO. A report was given by Frank R. the current North East Regional Trustee. We had a discussion of two Timely Topics which were selected from the six or seven that were proposed. The new program to replace the RSS as we have come to know them was discussed and Keeping Events going in lean economic times was the second topic of discussion. Each of the twelve Areas present gave the highlights of their Area activities. Massachusetts has already done one of these New Special Events which was quite successful. They held a three hour session on Conflict Resolution and had 155 participants with input from WSO and not a lot of Area expense. Some other key ideas heard were: Lightening Up Dark Districts, Letters to Pastors when paying the rent, Discovering Choices, and Leadership. The weekend concluded with the new Panel #49 delegates sharing our impressions of NERD and a spiritual speaker. As a new delegate I now feel a little more comfortable as I move toward Conference. Not everyone will be a stranger. And I have been given many good tips to help make the experience a good one. The HUGE amount of experience, strength, and hope present, the LOVE of program and the people involved in it was just AWESOME!!!!!!!!

I will continue to receive information from WSO and try to stay on top of it. I have just received the Auditor's report and a letter from the Policy Chairperson, Mary G. reporting that no motions to the WSC have been submitted as KBD is still in progress. The Policy Committee agreed by consensus, that since the Service Manual will not be published in 2009 it would better serve the fellowship to continue those discussions that are using KBDM so that our work is sufficiently prepared before making a motion.

I will leave for Virginia Beach on Friday, April 17 and will be there thru Friday, April 24. On Saturday, April 18 I will begin my journey by registering and joining in the new delegates orientation.

I hope all are visiting the WSO website and are making use of what WSO is providing us there. Don't forget to visit the Blog.

Grateful to be in service, Elaine R.