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| ENHANCING OUR RECOVERY THROUGH ABUNDANCE, UNITY AND UNDERSTANDING | ENRIQUECER NUESTRA RECUPERACIÓN A TRAVÉS DE LA ABUNDANCIA, UNIDAD Y COMPRESIÓN | ENRICHIR NOTRE RÉTABLISSEMENT PAR L'ABONDANCE, L'UNITÉ ET LA COMPRÉHENSION |
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WSC 62nd Annual
World Service Conference 2022

We Made History!!

I am held 😊



Lori F. | Panel 61 | Pennsylvania Area 48



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Greetings!! I am glad we able to get together again for the business of PA Al-Anon as we dive deeper into our second year of our term and Panel. Thank you for the opportunity to serve and grow as your Delegate. My hope is that your enthusiasm is growing on your service journey and that you are finding that service can be fun and you are reaping the rewards of giving back! If you are new to PA AWSC, **welcome** and I am glad you are joining us along this journey as we all are –

"Embracing the future in unity and courage"

"Abrazar el futuro en unidad y valor"

PA AWSC Panel 61 Theme

Please find included in this report the following:

1. *2022 World Service Conference – quite something!*
 2. *We Made History! - Admitting the Global Electronic Area*
 3. *Electronic Meetings Becoming Al-Anon Family Groups*
 4. *Other Motions – Service Manual*
 5. *Stepping Stones Visit*
 6. *Happenings at the World Service Office*
 7. *AFG Inc. Audit & 2023 Budget*
 8. *Chosen Agenda Items*
 9. *Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect*
 10. *2023 Al-Anon International Conventions*
 11. *Timely Topics*
 12. *Delegate's Corner & other Area News*
- Thanks – Together we can make it!*

Hope you enjoy this report and enjoy your Al-Anon service journey! Let me know if you need additional information on any of these topics or others. **Thanks!**

1. 2022 Word Service Conference was quite something!

This spring I attended my second World Service Conference as Delegate! Last year the WSC was virtual and this year it was in person in New York!!. Next year it will be held in Virginia Beach, VA. It was amazing to attend in person and experience the conference in a fuller way. The trip was 430 miles for me each way and it was about an 8 hr drive. The trip across the bottom of NY was beautiful and I enjoyed

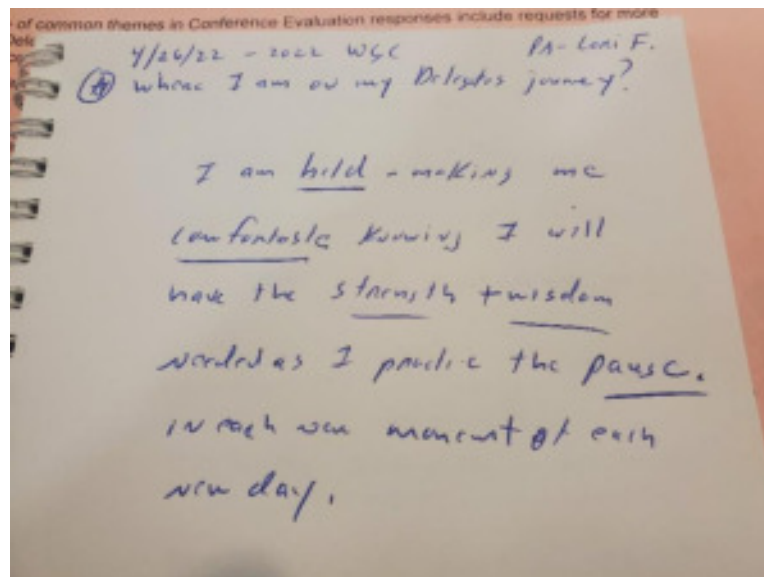
the ride very much. I love driving and listening to tunes and the trip went safe and smooth both ways. I was gone Monday, April 25th through Sunday, May 1st.



I didn't release it really until I was on my way home that what I was feeling was – being held! Held up by the prayers and support and by my God. I was expecting it to be much harder both physically and mentally than it was. Throughout the week I was wondering why it wasn't as trying as I thought. I would get filled up by the love gifts in my

room each day but I wasn't connecting it. I see now in a deeper way how God helps us when we are doing his will.

Part of the day leading up to the opening of conference, us Panel 61 Delegates were asked to reflect on the question, "Where I am on my Delegate's Journey?" The following is what I wrote. I knew it at the beginning of Conference, but it didn't sink in until I experienced it!



One of the ways I would describe Conference is like a ballet. Easing in, flowing from one thing to the next, being lovingly guided, allowing for us to take it all in, movements of intensity, movements of soft, movements of fun, movements of tears, and all members working together as one. It was truly amazing and all Al-Anon, all principles, and all human, all trusted servants doing what we are called to do which is serve – with a loving God always present and being expressed.

I was inspired by our Conference Leadership Team, Trustees and WSO Staff who consciously and seemed like inherently applied the loving message in our Tradition and Concepts providing us with an environment safe and easy to have principle-based discussions where all are heard and valued. They were so spiritually guided, you could really put your finger on it, not something far away, it was clear. It was a gift to experience the leadership of those responsible for bringing us the WSC. I think Bill W.'s essay states what we were seeing and feeling. "A leader is a person who can put principles, plans, and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us want to back him up and help him with his job." (Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2022-2025 v1, p.200.)

For me, I came to believe that what the WSC was for me was an opportunity to enter more deeply into my relationship with Al-Anon. Hard to explain how that is possible but that is what I did that week. I gave and many gave and we all received. Giving freely out of love for another person. Giving time because the relationship is important and worth investing in it for sure.



The theme for the 2022 WSC was –

Enhancing Our Recovery through Abundance, Unity, and Understanding
Enriquecer nuestra recuperación a través de la abundancia, unidad y comprensión
Enrichir notre rétablissement par l'abondance, l'unité et la compréhension

I will strive through this year to embody this theme in my thoughts, prayers and all I do in my service work. I would encourage you to do the same as we all work toward on a common goal – enhancing our recovery!

It is my absolute privilege to serve as your Delegate! Thank you for honoring me with your trust. Now in this report I would like to offer some information about the 2022 World Service Conference – what, why, who and the how of it all.

WHY THE WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE?

The World Service Conference (WSC) is the annual business meeting of the WSC members with is the Delegates, Board of Trustees, Executive Committees, and selected WSO staff members.

Our *Service Manual* tells us that “Our WSC is the active voice and the effective group conscience of our society in world affairs.”

Concept Two states: The Al-Anon Family Groups have delegate complete administrative and operational authority to their conference and its service arms.

Al-Anon’s **Tradition Two** states: “For our group purpose there is but one authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants—they do not govern.”

The World Service Conference makes the group conscience available and effective for all Al-Anon. It is the practical means by which the group conscience can speak; it is the voice of world Al-Anon and the guarantee that our world services shall continue to carry on under all conditions.

The Conference protects Al-Anon and Alateen against a service breakdown; it makes for unity and enables our fellowship to act as a whole upon important matters. This makes it the principal guarantor of Al-Anon and Alateen’s harmony and survival.

WHO ATTENDS THE CONFERENCE, AND WHY?

In the [2021 WSC Summary](#), p.6 there is a great description of all the people who attend the WSC and what their role is. Concept Four is our guide! The Conference is attended by now 68 Delegates (from USA, Canada, Puerto Rico, Bermuda, Global Electronic), WSO Volunteers, our Board of Trustees, WSO Volunteers, our Executive Committee, Voting members of WSO Staff, our Service Workers, Non-Voting WSO Staff Members, Chairperson of the Executive Committee for Real Property Management (ECRPM), Conference Recorders, International Representatives, and Interpreters.



The members of the WSC bring different knowledge and perceptions on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole. So together the Conference has access to spiritual guidance from its collective wisdom. Each members listens and participates in discussions and votes on these matters.

Alittle more about the Delegate: “Besides listening, participating, and voting on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole, Delegates bring the viewpoint of their Areas on matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole. They also return to their Areas to share a broader perspective of Al-Anon worldwide. Delegates are the bridge

of understanding that links the groups in the Area with world Al-Anon. They are the trusted servants of Al-Anon as a whole.” – 2021 WSC Summary. pg. 6.

You can learn more about the Delegate in Concept Two and Three (The right of decision makes effective leadership possible) as well as the World Service Handbook part of the *Service Manual*. Here is an excerpt from the 2022-2025 *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* v1, p. 167-168.

HOW IT WORKS

“A majority vote of the Conference constitutes only a suggestion to the Board of Trustees and our WSO; a two-thirds vote is binding upon them, subject to the provisions of Concept Seven (“The Trustees have legal rights while the rights of the Conference are traditional”).

On overall policy matters, the Conference makes final decisions. The Board of Trustees and the World Service Office are service arms of the Conference, a part of the whole fellowship. The Conference is empowered to pass resolutions, make recommendations to the WSO, direct committees to further study or refuse to act at all in a given situation. It cannot, however, mandate or govern the Al-Anon fellowship, which it serves. The Conference represents the Al-Anon membership, but does not rule it.

Prior to the Conference, all Delegates are invited to serve on a thought force, task force, or one of the Delegate Member committees. Upon arrival at the Conference, newly elected Delegates become acquainted with second- and third-year Delegates, as well as with members of the Board, members of the Executive Committee, and Staff.



The following are typical Conference activities in addition to those outlined in Article 11 of the Al-Anon World Service Conference Charter:

- Conference members—Delegates, WSO Staff, Board of Trustees, and Executive Committee members—interact and discuss matters affecting Al-Anon as a whole.
- Conference members of thought forces, task forces, and work groups make relevant presentations.
- Delegates have an opportunity to discuss successes and concerns with each others.”

2. We Made History! – Admitting the Global Electronic Area (GEA)

At the beginning of the Conference, our first motion to be voted on was to admit the Global Electronic Area into the World Service Conference. After discussion the motion carried 84 yes, 2 no. With the passing of this motion the Area’s elected Delegate, Ozzie A., became a voting member of the 2022 WSC as a member of Panel 62. This motion made history! And it may be the springboard for other countries to petition to join the WSC. The possibilities are numerous. There are many unknowns of where this will go, and we are encouraged to trust the process.

With the admittance of the GEO over 700 groups were added to the voice of the WSC! Our circle widen for sure! I did not expect it to be an emotional movement but when the whole room is on their feet, clapping, and crying I could feel the magnitude of this moment which was many years, prayers and hours of meetings and efforts in the making. The WSO Staff were involved in this whole process, helping the Electronic meetings from their beginning. I am excited for our fellowship and so proud of all the work undertaken for the good of many.

3. Electronic Meetings Becoming Al-Anon Family Groups

The WSO staff has nurtured Electronic meetings prior to the 2021 WSC and there after to help them. They guided them to be able to elect 249 GRs, hold two Assemblies, elect their Area Officers, and petition to join the WSC. As well as name their Area. The global part came from their desire to reach globally and the term electronic surfaced from a poll of all the CMAs who replied that they preferred Electronic over virtual.

Since the 2021 WSC four tracks have been doing work – the Non-Panel area which I described above, the WSO tech and group records updates, other GSO structures making decisions, and Areas working on their Area process if they have decided to permit Electronic groups. The WSO staff worked to update the online group records and forms and they found this work to be monumental. Currently, they are ready to have the physical groups and electronic groups incorporated into one Area database but are still handling registering electronic groups for now until Areas are ready to take over that process by their Area Group Records Coordinator.

Some interesting discoveries that surfaced centered around split meetings, hybrid groups and how groups were being reference. Here are some clarifying statements: groups that have two locations are considered two groups and should registered as such. As a matter of policy, groups can not have an electronic location and a physical location where the members are not meeting together. Early on in the transition to temporary electronic groups, it was thought that hybrid groups would phase out. However, it seems clear that they may continue after the pandemic. The WSO Staff are working on a way to express the electronic component of a physical meeting in the data base and meeting searches other than just in the location notes of the group. A hybrid group is a physical group that has an electronic option to attend. In regards to naming, it is naturally settling to Electronic groups and Physical groups. Currently there are no official acronyms that represent Al-Anon Family Groups other than AFGs.

One question that often arises is how long can a group continue to temporarily meet electronically. The answer is that that can continue while we are in a pandemic and also while an Area is working out its Area process for Electronic groups. Once the Area process is determined by the Area Assembly, temporary electronic groups will need to make a decision whether they will resume to their physical location or become an electronic group.

The important thing to know is that this is an evolving process, and we need to trust and not lose site of our legacies along the way. And as we make our decisions in Pennsylvania, we need to let WSO know so they can process new groups accordingly.

4. Other Motions – Service Manual

Two motions were carried to make changes to the already new service manual. With these changes there will be a Version 2. These changes will not be included in the printing this summer but will be provided as pdfs to print and add to your manual. I have provided copies as we voted on them at conference for your reference now. The first one was on Social Media and how groups and service entities are to handle it. And the second motion was to amend the World Service Conference Charter to accommodate non-geographical group and Areas.

5. Stepping Stones Visit

What a treat that was! On Thursday morning of the WSC we all boarded five busses and visited the home of Bill and Lois W. in Katonah, NY. Now their home is considered a historical landmark. As we arrived at Stepping Stones, the tour guide greeting us let us know that all was in order since Lois knew you would be coming to visit and that this was our home. Lois's flower beds were neat to walk through for sure for me. We got to tour the house and have our picture taken at Lois's desk. Also, we saw Wit's End where Bill W. wrote AA literature and got our picture taken at Bill's desk too! Lois has so many treasures and details and people were so important to her.



6. Happenings at the World Service Office (WSO)

My favorite time of presentations at the WSO is when the WSO Staff report on all they have done in 2021 and all that is new since the new year. The 2021 Annual Report is packed full of information, and I would like to just highlight a few items. I will be sharing with you in the days ahead the full report once it is released. We voted to approve the report now it undergoes translation.

The WSO Staff is working very hard to serve the fellowship. It is great to hear their enthusiasm. A treat was meeting Sarah S., Director of Programs, who will be our WSO speaker at Assembly! She was very energetic to say the least and leads the various departments forward at WSO with each new day.

Here are some highlights from all their reports:

OUR NEW DAILY READER – “A LITTLE TIME FOR MYSELF”

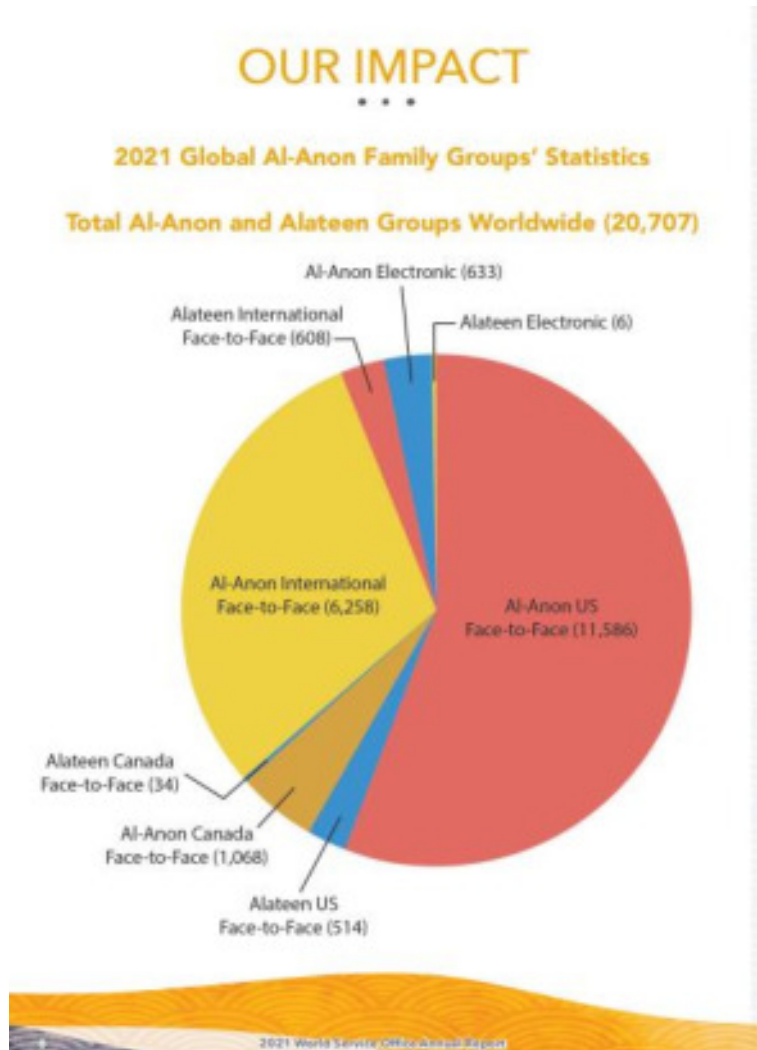
The new Daily reader has a title – “A Little Time for Myself – A Collection of Al-Anon Personal Experiences”. The book has gone through the Literature Committees manuscript selection process, passed through policy and the Executive Director’s review and now is undergoing design and translation into French and Spanish. It is still on track to be released at the 2023 Al-Anon International Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

UPDATED GUIDELINES

In 2021, in support of one of the Strategic plan initiatives, the World Service Office started a process to update all Al-Anon guidelines. The goal was to make updates available to the fellowship so English-, Spanish-, and French-speaking members would be able to use current and updated service tools in the language of their choice at the same time.

Also, they updated the Guidelines page on al-anon.org to allow for easy access to all the guidelines and to include the addition of search capability so members can more easily find the guidelines most relevant to their needs. Guidelines are available online, and can be downloaded for free on <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/guidelines/>.

OUR IMPACT



COST OF SERVICES PER GROUP \$281.88

What are all the services the WSO provides to each group? They are detailed on the back of each personal appeal letter. The main areas are group services, public outreach & digital strategy, CAL and magazine editing, Conference & Events, International support, translation, and volunteer oversight. Here is the breakdown in the following graphs. On average about 51% of groups contribute to the WSO. PA is above that average percent at 71% for an average of \$140 / contributing group which is below the overall average of \$170 / group.

Some ongoing projects are translation of the new daily reader, developing the mobile app, planning for the 2022 International Al-Anon General Services Meeting (IAGSM) in London, the 2023 International Convention, updating the online group records database and forms, supporting the formation of the Global Electronic Area, and the first longitudinal study. Here is the cost per group breakdown graph from the 2021 Annual Report:

Cost of Services Per Group \$281.88



7. AFG Inc. Audit & 2023 Budget

The 2021 Audit went well and the Audit firm issued a clean opinion. Last year, income from operations totaled \$5,173,609 in the General Fund, and expenses for the year were \$5,249,675. As a result, the General Fund’s net assets decreased by \$76,066. The decrease in net assets was a result of declining literature sales.

Literature sales yielded a gross profit of \$1,906,751, and contributions for the year were \$2,623,242. Income from magazines totaled \$238,040. Subscription income from the sale of premium content in the Mobile App totaled \$33,328.

In October 2007, the Board of Trustees (BOT) approved annual transfers to the General Fund; these transfers could total up to four percent of the average fair value of the Reserve Fund for the 36 months leading up to December 31 of the prior year. For 2021, this totaled \$225,600. And unlike the previous three years, this amount was not transferred back to the Reserve Fund. A net increase of \$1,861,543 was recorded in the Reserve Fund's net assets. The Reserve Fund income included realized and unrealized gains totaling \$2,076,279. Included in the change is a \$34,860 decrease from the estimated postretirement health benefits liability.

Building Fund expenses are charged to the General Fund as occupancy costs. A transfer of \$113,247 represents the occupancy costs for 2021.

The 2022 Budget shows that we expect expenses to be \$353,114 more than revenue for the year. We are estimating expenses to be \$5,813,175 and revenue to be \$5,460,061.

Overall expenses are budgeted to increase in 2022. The increase is related to restoring the World Service Office (WSO) to full staffing after two years of reduced staffing, the 2022 World Service Conference taking place in New York, the General Service Meeting in London, volunteer travel resuming, execution of Strategic Plan Initiatives, translation of the New Daily Reader, translation of the 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27), and technology related to electronic meeting transformation. Salaries are budgeted for normal cost-of-living and merit increases.

We are estimating income from 2022 literature sales to be slightly higher than the prior year but still below historical levels. Included in magazine sales are The Forum subscriptions and Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (AFA) sales. We are budgeting contributions to be \$2,850,000, which is higher than the prior year but aligns with our current needs. We will continue to depend on contributions to meet revenue forecasts until literature sales return to normal. Beginning in 2008, we agreed to transfer up to four percent of the fair value of the Reserve Fund to the General Fund. For 2022, we have budgeted a transfer of four percent again.

Please note that the deficit budget does not mean that it will reduce the reserve fund by that amount. It reduces the assets and the operating cash.

What's the Bottom Line?

| AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP HEADQUARTERS, INC. 2022 OPERATING BUDGET | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| | 2022 Preliminary Budget | 2021 Revised Budget | YTD Audited Actual |
| Total Estimated Revenue | 5,460,061 | 5,100,135 | 5,173,609 |
| Total Expense | 5,813,175 | 5,333,888 | 5,249,675 |
| Net increase(decrease) from Operations | (353,114) | (233,753) | (76,066) |

So what can be do to help? Distribute the Strategies for a Sustainable Future flyer, continue to think abundantly, create a budget (group & Districts), buy literature (one idea would be for each person or group to buy an extra book this year), and encourage contributions (personal, group, Service entities – District, Area, AIS).

8. Chosen Agenda Items

Chosen Agenda Item (CAI) discussions have been taking place at Al-Anon's Annual World Service Conferences since 1976. The purpose of the CAIs is to give all Conference members (Delegates, members of the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee, and voting members of the World Service Office administrative Staff) an opportunity to submit and select topics and issues of concern that affect Al-Anon groups and members worldwide for discussion at Conference.

There is an updated Index of the Chosen Agenda Items on the WSO website! Hover over the "Members" tab, then hover over "World Service Conference," then click on "Chosen Agenda Items." The Index of Chosen Agenda Items is a dynamic, user-friendly resource for all of our members. Please share the news with members in your District. For more information, follow this link: [Index of Chosen Agenda Items](#). Please note that because changes will occur to the Index as it is kept up to date, as well as any corrections that may need to be made, the WSO asks that links of service websites include a link on their website to the Index on the al-anon.org website.

At our February AWSC meeting we decided on two Chosen Agenda Items to submit to the 2022 WSC for consideration. There were 53 CAIs submitted by the WSC Conference members. The ones we voted to discuss at conference were:

Helping Members Recognize that Service Participation is Vital to Personal Recovery and to the Future Availability of Al-Anon to Family and Friends of Alcoholics

Historically, many members attend Al-Anon meetings for relief, rather than recovery, not recognizing that service is an integral component of this program. Two years of limited access to seeing service in action presents us with a unique opportunity to re-emphasize the necessity of participating in service for healthy personal recovery and to provide for the long term stability of Al-Anon Family Groups as an organization. How can we see Concept 9 come to life?

Open discussion on attracting members into Service. What works? What doesn't work? What are the barriers for new Service members?

It has become increasingly difficult to attract newer members into Service positions. We know we are a fellowship of attraction rather than promotion. What are some methods to use to attract others into Service? It is important because our Service positions often go unfilled. Those serving become overwhelmed with the amount of work required when jobs are unfilled.

9. Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect

Let's get in the car! The Road Trip! is back on and is set to be in Cleveland, Ohio on October 29, 2022. Registration will open in August so keep a watch out. This opportunity happens once a year at the conclusion of the Board Week. The location changes each year. All members are welcome!

We did submit a bid last year but it makes sense it will be held in the same city that was planned to hold the 2021 Road Trip! that had to be cancelled. Maybe in a couple years we can submit a proposal again. The Board does try to move the location around the WSC Structure so most likely it will not be back around to this part of the country for a bit.



10. 2023 Al-Anon International Convention

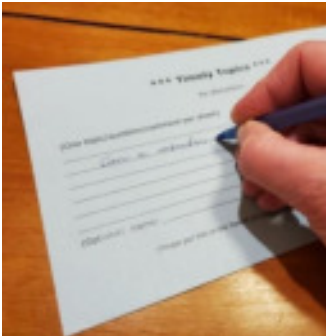
Let's mark our calendar and start making plans! It will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico from June 29 through July 2, 2023 to celebrate Al-Anon's Seventh International Convention!



International Conventions are fabulous combinations of fun, fellowship, and recovery, as well as opportunities to meet new friends, explore new attractions, and vacation in new locales. There will also be AA participation at the International Convention.

Wow, saying the Serenity Prayer with 5,000 people! Who is planning to go?

11. Timely Topics



Now accepting Timely Topics! As we did at our in-person AWSC and Assemblies, we are continuing this opportunity for information exchange. As many of you know, Timely Topics is where members in service submit their current questions to the Delegate for answers, guidance, or clarification. We do have segments at our AWSC set aside for answering these types of questions.

You can submit Timely Topics electronically one week prior to an in person AWSC, as well as during the entire AWSC weekend by the paper form (in your mailbox) or electronically.

Topics can be emailed to me at delegate61@pa-al-anon.org or submitted using this google form: [Timely Topic Submission Form](#). The link to the electronic form can also be found on our May AWSC meeting webpage <https://pa-al-anon.org/awsc61may2022/> We are interested in your timely topics. Ralph H., Alt. Delegate, and I will strive to help in your areas of concern. We will respond to topics either by email or as part of the AWSC agenda. A summary of all the Timely Topics answered at and outside of our AWSC meeting will be posted on the meeting's webpage. We ask for your contact info to offer replies but that is optional. All answers will be presented and summarized anonymously.

12. Delegate's Corner



Did you know there is a [Delegate's Corner](#) , [Alt. Delegate's Corner](#), and [Other Area News & Corners](#) on our PA Al-Anon website? Check back now and then for new articles. We do posts of information and stories for our Panel as well as to our General Membership. Thank you,

Ruth H., website coordinator, and her committee and Ralph H., Alt. Delegate, for your help with getting this up and rolling and its future management. And a special thank you to Donna A. for her prompt, professional, and welcoming work as she gets the posts up and accessible to our members on the corners!

Thank you & Together We Can Make it!

That Alateen slogan was voiced often during the WSC. And oh how true it is!! I would like to thank you for reading this report and for being of service to your District, our Area and our fellowship. Your support and prayers mean much to me and in a very special way as I planned for and attended the WSC. And be assured of my prayers for you. Let me know your thoughts and any other information you would like and how I can be of service. I value and welcome your feedback and comments. Wishing you the recovery that comes from experiencing service! Enjoy the journey and have fun along the way! Take it one day at a time, remember you are not alone and don't be afraid to put your heart into it. Please reflect on – *Why are you here?* and try to answer that at this meeting and let that carry you done the road! 😊 Pass on your JOY! And hope to see you at Assembly!

Please don't hesitate to give a call or drop me an email anytime at delegate61@pa-al-anon.org.



“Focus on what you can do then do it with all your heart.” – Lois W.

