



*"The well of love refills itself." – Lois W.*



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**Greetings!!** I am glad we are able to get meet again for the business of PA Al-Anon as we enter the third year of our term and Panel. Thank you for the opportunity to serve and grow as Pennsylvania's Delegate. My hope is that, like me, you are finding that the more you give of love the more you have to give! 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. 2023 World Service Conference
2. Knowledge-Based Decision Making (KDBM)
3. Chosen Agenda Items (CAIs)
4. AFG Connects
5. Update: 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual
6. 2023 Al-Anon International Convention
7. The Al-Anon Welcome! – Back to Basics
8. Timely Topics
9. Delegate's Corner & other Area News

10. *Thank You! – with all my heart*

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

## 2023 Word Service Conference is coming up!



This spring will be my third World Service Conference as Delegate! Last year the WSC was in-person in New York and this year it will be in person in Virginia Beach. I am super excited to attend in person again and experience the conference in a full way with all the fellow trusted servants I have come to know over the past couple years!! The trip is 560 miles (each way) for

me and it looks like about a 9 hour drive to VA. Good thing I love road trips! I will leave Wednesday, April 19th and make the trip home Monday, April 24th 😊

### 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.

## DATES AND THEME

The 2023 WSC will be held April 20-23, 2023, at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach, Virginia. There will be a visit to the World Service Office during the 2023 WSC. I find the theme very sweet and the theme for the next WSC is –

*Love, Laugh, and Grow Together*  
*Aimer, rire et grandir ensemble*  
*Amar, reír y crecer juntos*

## LOVE GIFTS

Love Gifts will be handled a little differently than a typical in person WSC due to some guidelines that are in place. Cards will be distributed to delegates during the conference that are received at the hotel; however, packages will not. If your group has Love Gifts that they would like me to give to the other Delegates they can send them to my house prior to the Conference and I will take them along with me to pass along. Also, I would welcome cards in Virginia Beach and you can send them to this address:

Lori F. (Hold for WSC 4/20-4/23, 2023)

The Founders Inn and Spa

5641 Indian River Rd.

Virginia Beach, VA 23464

Please plan to have your cards arrive **after April 15th**. Remember to use my name and home address as the return address in the event that mail delivery is delayed.

I also welcome texts/calls, and emails ([delegate61@pa-al-anon.org](mailto:delegate61@pa-al-anon.org)) during the conference to help me along the way! Also, groups or individuals could consider making a contribution to the WSO as an alternative form of a *Love Gift*. Thank you for all the love and support! It means the world to me and others!

## WHO ATTENDS THE CONFERENCE, AND WHY?

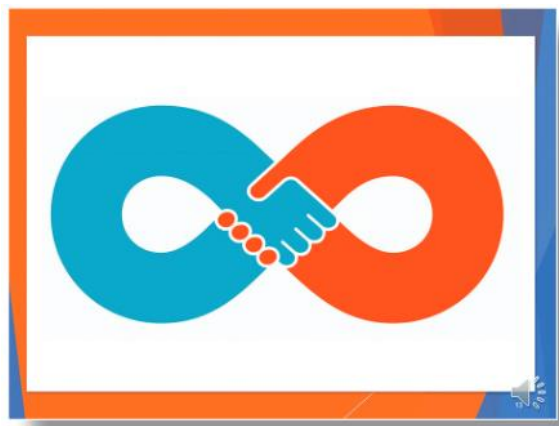
In the [2021 WSC Summary](#), p.6 there is a great description of all the people who attend the WSC and what their role is. Concept Four is our guide! The Conference is attended by 68 Delegates (from USA, Canada, Puerto Rico, Bermuda, and the Global Electronic Area), WSO Volunteers, our Board of Trustees, 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 member listens and participates in discussions and votes on these matters.

A little 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*.

So, does all this spark your interest? I love to describe the Delegate's role further. Let me know and also please check out the *Service Manual* and the [PA Area Al-Anon Bylaws](#) for more information. **Happy Reading!**



## NEW Knowledge-Based Decision Making (KBDM) - A PA Al-Anon Service Tool



We have talked about Conflict Resolution and Informed Group Conscience frequently during this Panel. To take those topics a step deeper I wanted to provide you with a document I drafted that detailed Knowledge-Based Decision Making (KBDM). This document outlines the key elements, principles and the

questions that are used in this process. KBDM is used to help reach an informed group conscience. By taking the time to answer these questions, members of a group, committee, Thought Force, or Service Arm can move forward with their decisions. **Feel free to use and share this document and presentation in your groups, districts and in your service work as a tool.** Click here for the document > [KBDM PA Al-Anon Service Tool.pdf](#) Click here for the presentation > [KBDM Presentation Feb 2023.](#)

### 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 will discuss what Chosen Agenda Items (we can submit one or two) we would like to submit for consideration for the 2023 WSC. The deadline for Delegates to submit topics is March 24, 2023.

## AFG Connects

Are you connected to your service community on AFG Connects? If you need help logging on, please reach out for help to a fellow Panel member or myself. It is searchable by topics and you can post your own questions or topics. DRs, your Districts group records are at your fingertips, 24/7 and you can link to the online change form from the online group records! Your username and password follows you through your service positions. You are not alone on your service journey!



This online community is a great tool for those in Area Service. Most Panel positions have an AFG Connects community where you can engage in discussions, receive announcements from World Service and search a document library. And as a reminder, DRs can view their District's Group and Alateen Records as part of their DR community login. Please let me know if I can help in any way.

Please click here for a User Guide that you may find helpful for additional information > [AFG Connect Reference Guide](#). Sign In page: <https://connect.al-anon.org/>

Training Video: <https://al-anon.org/media/AFGConnects User Guide Video.mp4>

## Update: 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual

The **2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual [P-24/27]** is available in an electronic format in English, Spanish, and French on al-anon.org, members tab. Here is the link for the interactive online version > <https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/manuals-and-guidelines/service-manual/>



The print version is scheduled to be available at ***the mid-February*** (price \$11.00). It will be able to be purchased by visiting the WSO online store (<https://ecomm.al-anon.org/>) or your local Literature Distribution Center. The delay in the arrival of the printed *Service Manual* is the result of supply chain issues and paper shortages as well as assuring that the changes approved at the 2022 WSC was included in the new version. The goal of the WSO was to release the *Service Manual* in all three languages at the same time. Thank you for your patience and understanding and I hope you find the electronic format easy to use and helpful.

Updates to the *Service Manual* will be noted with the use of vertical lines in the outer margins throughout the manual.

**I encourage all members to read and study the *Service Manual*.** The *Service Manual* provides us with a clear and concise understanding of our fellowship, its function, and our primary purpose. It helps us solve group problems, find answers on how to relate to others and maintain unity and harmony within our groups and our fellowship worldwide. Reflecting the collective experience of our members, the *Service Manual* offers interpretation of our Traditions and Concepts and offers us guidance on conducting meetings, public outreach, and service.

Be assured you are not alone and help and guidance are available. Our *Service Manual* is a great tool to keep close. The more you use and consult the *Service Manual* the more comfortable you can get with it. ***Have you considered starting up a Service Manual Study in your District?***

## 2023 Al-Anon International Convention

Are you up for a serious road trip? Or plane trip? Or Motorcycle ride? **It's not too late to register for our next Al-Anon International. 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!

Who is planning to go? Check out the webpage devoted to the International > <https://al-anon.org/international>. Registration is open!

The registration fees are as follows:

- Prior to **January 11, 2023**—\$175 US

- Prior to **May 10, 2023**—\$200 US
- After **May 10, 2023**—\$225 US

## 2023 International Convention Special Event Add-Ons!



Take advantage of everything the 2023 Al-Anon International Convention has to offer by adding a ticket to the Day of Connecting or the Trailblazers Breakfast on Route 66—or both!

Already registered? Simply click on the “To view your statement, please click: HERE” link at the bottom of your registration confirmation email to add these exciting events.

### Day of Connecting

This pre-convention event on Thursday, June 29, celebrates the third leg of our recovery, service! Spend the day alongside Trustees, Executive Committee members, World Service Office Staff, and Area Delegates in various sessions and workshops. Hear an Al-Anon-friendly professional share how they learned about the Al-Anon program and about their experience referring clients to Al-Anon. Tickets are \$55 US and include lunch.

### Trailblazers Breakfast on Route 66!

Formerly known as the Pioneer Luncheon, this event on Saturday, July 1, celebrates Al-Anon Trailblazers. We’ll honor longtime members as well as those blazing trails on the digital frontier. Tickets are \$75 US and include breakfast.

Be sure to add these events when you register at <https://al-anon.org/international>.

Already registered? Simply click on the “To view your statement, please click: HERE” link at the bottom of your registration confirmation email to add these exciting events.

**Language of Love Parade** – registration for the parade will open in mid-May. The parade will kick off the convention on Friday Morning, June 30<sup>th</sup> with music, displays and costumes.



## Attend the Al-Anon International Convention Virtually



Registration is now open for virtual attendees to the 2023 Al-Anon International Convention.

The registration fee is \$145 US and includes access to:

- All three Big Meetings
- A slate of sessions (two on Friday and four on Saturday)
- The International Convention Event App to connect with members attending in-person and virtually around the world.

**Register soon to secure your spot!**

[Register for the Virtual Event!](#)

## The Al-Anon Welcome! – Back to Basics



The *Al-Anon Welcome – Back to Basics* document is an updated version of my earlier Memo entitled *The Art of Welcoming Today* which focused on the challenges of

welcoming in the virtual world. Now, many groups have settled back to their physical locations, and some have made decisions to become permanently electronic. The principles remain the same for all groups. It is important to acknowledge what we do well today. Also, it is helpful to remember the things we did before that were rewarding but we may have gotten away from. May this sharing shed light on how a warm welcome offers love, comfort, support, help and understanding to those that seek it. Alcoholism is a devastating disease. In Al-Anon, we help ourselves and others by offering the hope of our program and connecting with others.

Thank you for reading, sharing and applying this document. I hope you find my thoughts helpful. Moving forward, please continue to consider the Al-Anon basics when we strive to give comfort and welcome to our members at our groups. The hope we offer may be the magnet that draws others to their next meeting. “We do want everyone to feel welcome in our Al-Anon and Alateen meetings!” (*Welcoming Checklist*)

Here is the link to my sharing > [The Al-Anon Welcome! – Back to Basics](#). Feel free to share this document with your groups and members.

## 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 or topics of discussion 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 during the entire weekend of this virtual AWSC.**

You can email me at [delegate61@pa-al-anon.org](mailto:delegate61@pa-al-anon.org) with a Timely Topic or submit your question using this google form: [Timely Topic Submission Form](#). The link to the electronic form can also be found on our February 2023 AWSC meeting webpage <https://pa-al-anon.org/awsc61feb2023/> 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.

## Delegate's Corner



There are some updates to my [Delegate's Corner](#) and on our PA Al-Anon website, please share the paid with your members. Check back now and then for new articles on all the Corner pages. 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 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! – with all my heart** ❤️

**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 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. 😊  
We are **Heart to Heart!**

Please don't hesitate to call my cell at or email me at [delegate61@pa-al-anon.org](mailto:delegate61@pa-al-anon.org).

***Thank you for your contuned service!***

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

