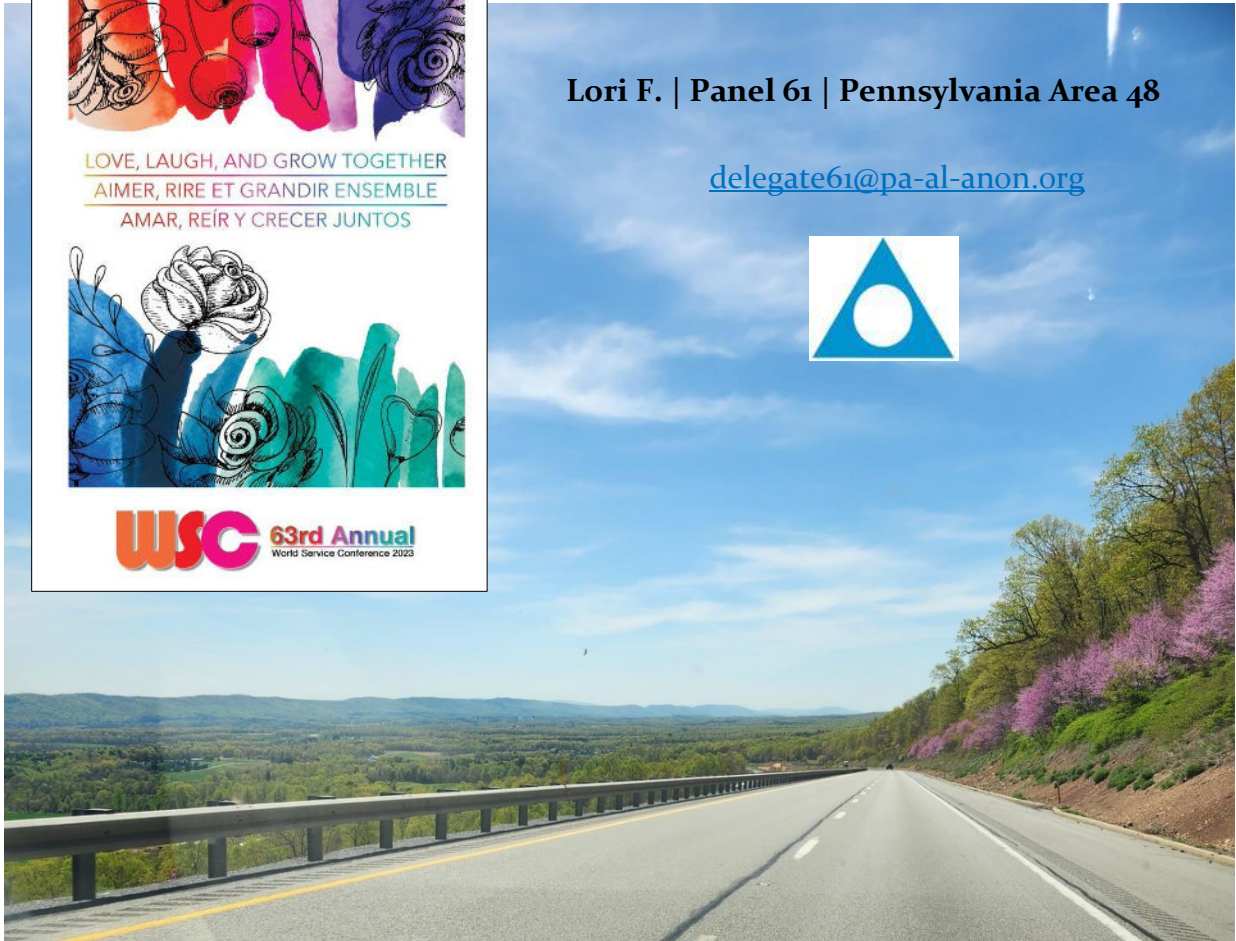


Lori F. | Panel 61 | Pennsylvania Area 48

delegate61@pa-al-anon.org



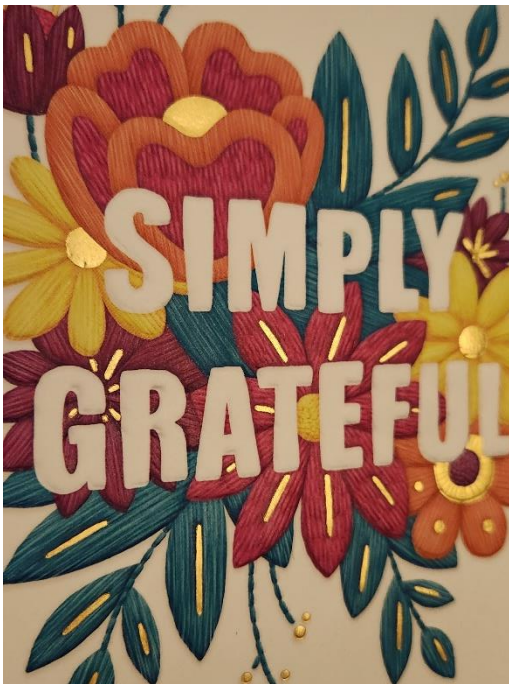
Greetings Friends!! I am glad we able to get together again for the business of PA Al-Anon at our May AWSC meeting! Thank you for being here and thank you for the opportunity to serve and grow as your Delegate. My hope is that your enthusiasm is growing on your service journey and that you are finding that service can be fun and you are reaping the rewards of giving back! If you are new to service, **welcome**, and I am glad you are joining us along this journey as we all in Pennsylvania service are – **"Embracing the future in unity and courage" "Abrazar el futuro en unidad y valor"** (PA AWSC Panel 61 Theme).

Hope you enjoy this report and enjoy the AWSC meetng experience! I wish you all well as you return to your Districts to share all the happenings and all you learned this weekend. Thank you for your service to the worldwide fellowship of Al-Anon/Alateen! Let me know if you need additional information on any of these topics or others. **Thanks!**

2023 Word Service Conference was a blast!

At the end of April I attended my third World Service Conference as Delegate! Last year the WSC was in New York and this year it was in Virginia Beach, VA!!. It was amazing to attend the conference this year being more familiar with how things may go and having grown in my

relationship with so many people around the WSC structure. The trip was 560 miles for me each way and it was about an 11 hr drive. The trip across the bottom of PA 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 Wednesday, April 19th through Monday, April 24th.



I can not express how much all the cards and messages meant to me during conference. Thank you and please pass along to your members and groups my appreciation. I very much looked forward to checking my mail folder each day for my 'Love Gifts'!! PA is rocks and you sure did my heart good!

I love entering also in a deeper way into the relationship with Al-Anon. That is one thing being Delegate has been like for me. Getting to know better Al-Aon the fellowship and Al-Anon the organization with each new day, meeting, report, discussion, and person I meet. Neat when I think about it because before Al-Anon and

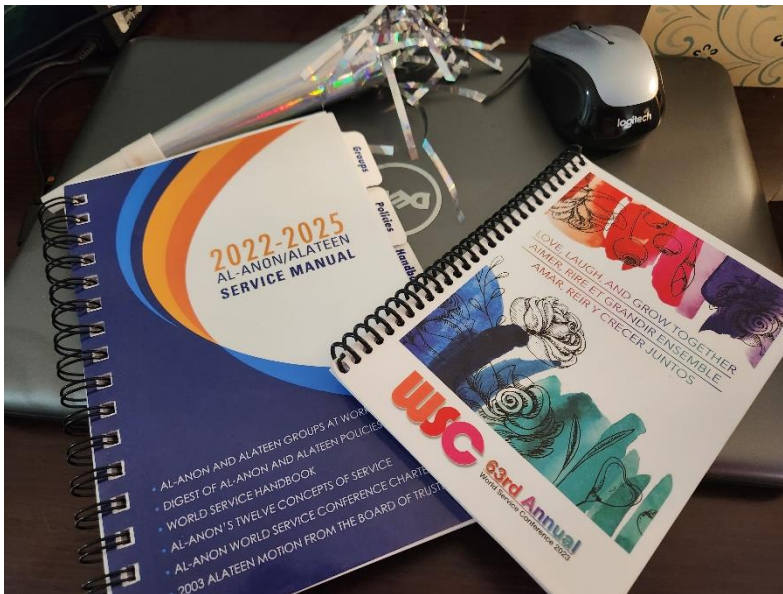
prior to service I was caught in the disease of relationships, the family disease of alcoholism. Recovery in service is teaching me how to get to know myself, God and others in a more profound and healthy way. To grow in a relationship we give, and that is what service has given me the opportunity to do – give of myself to each moment. I know it to be true that the closer I am to people the closer I am to God.

Part of the day leading up to the opening of conference, us Panel 61 Delegates were asked to reflect on the question, "In what ways you have fulfilled your responsibility of being a communication line between the WSO and the Area?" All of us on Panel 61 chatted about this topic and we were given the opportunity to give a short presentation on it. The following is what I wrote for my part.

"We try to be consistently available and present, pass on what's new and finds answers to questions."

If I had to pick one word to describe the WSC, I would choose the word ‘Grace.’ I was able to watch and interact with so many people doing things with grace. What a gift! It was wonderful to see what God’s grace looks like over so many days together at conference. Many trusted servants doing the best we can to serve and do what we are called to do - 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. It was a gift to experience the leadership of those responsible for bringing us the WSC. I think Bill W.'s essay is spot on and this quote is meaningful to me, “A good leader originates plans and policies for the improvement of our fellowship.” (2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual v2, p.200.)



The theme for the 2023 WSC was –

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

This theme hit deeper this year because us outgoing Delegates were asked to give a 3 minute talk on the theme. I so much enjoyed hearing all the talks and it was an amazing experience giving mine.

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!

It is my absolute honor and privilege to serve as your Delegate! Thank you for honoring me with your trust. Now I would like to offer some information about the 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?

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. This year we had an International Representative from Germany!



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.

A little more about the Delegate: ***“In addition to listening to, participating in, 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.”*** – 2022 WSC Summary. pg. 9.

You can learn more about the Delegate in Concept Two and Three as well as the World Service Handbook part of the *2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* and specifically p. 167-168. And coming this summer, the full 2023 WSC Summary will be available electronically on al-anon.org and then later in print form.

World Service Office Visit – “Welcome Home!”



On Friday we took a trip to the World Service Office! What great experience that was. We were welcomed by all the staff and trustees and we were taken on a tour to meet everybody and see our headquarters. Lots of work being done for the good of our worldwide fellowship for sure. I left with a heart full of gratitude and amazement. Our contributions at work, literally!!

Motions at the 2023WSC

We had many motions at the WSC. Some are necessary each year and some are added to the agenda each year. Here are details of the two of the motions:

MOTION #4 – (83 yes, 6 no, 1 abstention, 0 void) – CARRIED

To give conceptual approval to develop a comprehensive piece on sponsorship and service sponsorship using personal stories from Al-Anon members.

MOTION #5 – (87 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention, 0 void) – CARRIED

To amend the text of the “Conventions and Other Events”: “Workshops” and “Conventions and Other Events”: “Announcing Events” portions of the “Policy Digest,” which appear on page 90 and pages 91-92 respectively of 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/P27) v2 as presented. A pdf document of these approved changes will be forthcoming as well as a v3 of the Service Manual at al-anon.org.

For the full list of Motions click here > [2023 WSC Motions](#)

Happenings at the World Service Office (WSO)

My favorite time of presentations at the WSC is when the WSO Staff report on all they have done in 2022 and all that is new since the new year. The 2022 Annual Report is packed full of information, and I would like to just highlight a few items. We voted to approve the report at WSC. The full report (English Version) is available at this link > [2022 WSO Annual Report](#) and soon it will be available on the [al-anon.org website, members tab](#) for distribution in all three languages – English, Spanish, and French.

The WSO Staff is working very hard to serve the fellowship. It is great to hear their enthusiasm. A treat was meeting Tanya J., Associate Director – International, who is our WSO speaker at this year’s Assembly! She and Sarah Smith, Director of Programs, will be coming to Assembly! Here are some highlights from the staff’s reports:

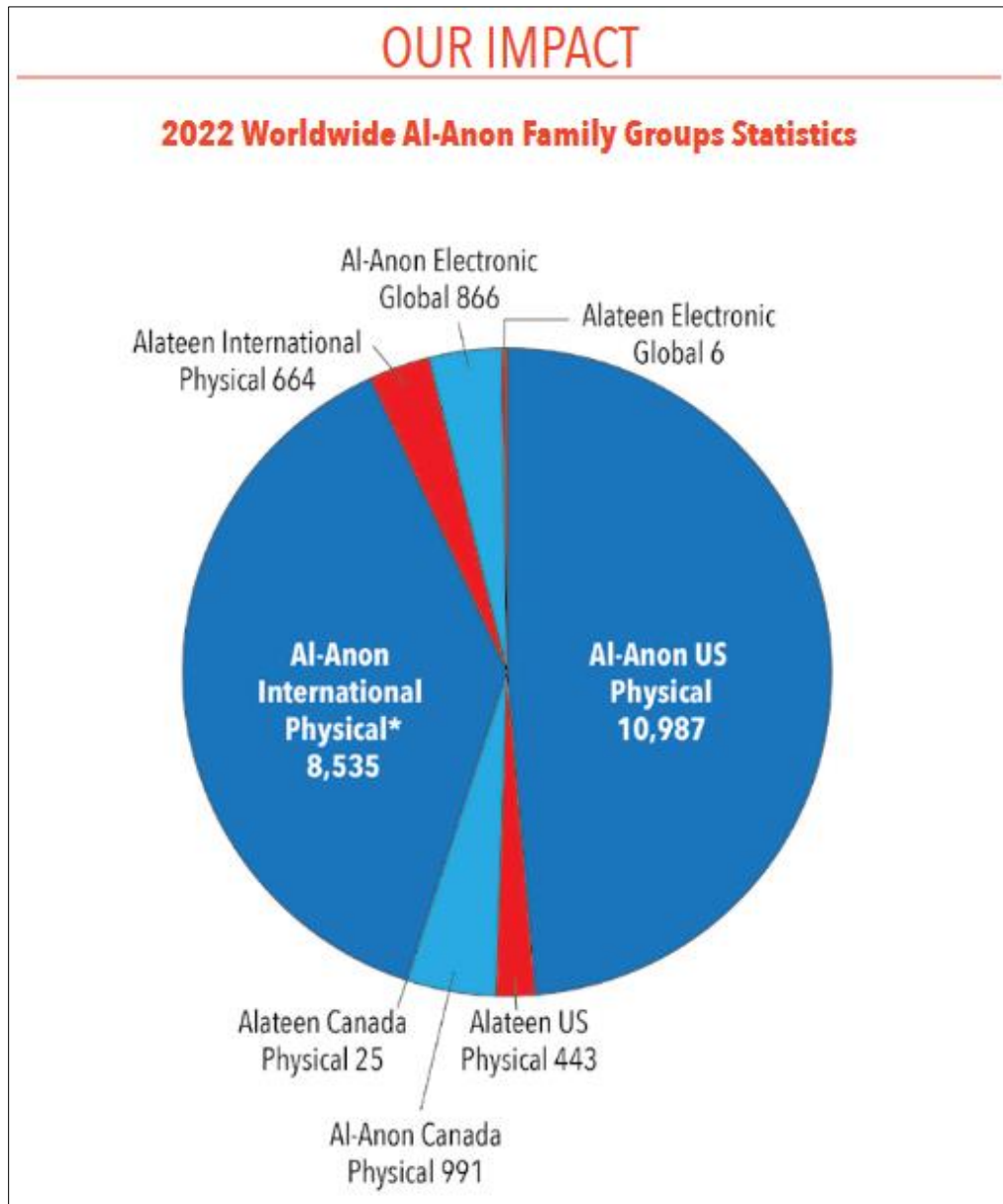
OUR NEW DAILY READER – “A LITTLE TIME FOR MYSELF”

The new Daily reader, “A Little Time for Myself – A Collection of Al-Anon Personal Experiences” (B-34), is still on track to be released at the 2023 Al-Anon International Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico for \$17.00. After the convention it will be available for sell at the literature depots and on the online store at al-anon.org.

OUR IMPACT

At the preparing of the 2022 Annual Report there were 21,379 Al-Anon / 1,138 Alateen Groups worldwide – for a total of 22,517 Al-Anon Family Groups

Al-Anon / Alateen Physical Groups: US (10,987 / 443), Canada (991 / 25), International (8,535 / 664). Al-Anon / Alateen Electronic Groups: 866 / 6



COST OF SERVICES PER GROUP \$321.25

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, translocation, and volunteer oversight. Here is the breakdown in the following graph. **On average about 61% of groups contribute to the WSO.** PA is above that percent at 70% for an average of \$174 / contributing group which is below the overall average of \$208 / group. Click here for the [2023 WSC Contribution Sheet](#).



Some ongoing projects are needed technology improvements for electronic meeting transformation, the Al-Anon mobile app and website, planning for the 2023 International convention, the World Service Conference, increased staff and volunteer travel resuming, execution of the Strategic Plan initiatives, and interpretation needs for improved communication with international structures. Above is a pie chart of the cost per group breakdown from the 2022 Annual Report.

International Al-Anon General Services Meeting (IAGSM)

What a powerful presentation put on by the International Coordination Committee. They traveled to Europe to attend the International Al-Anon General Services Meeting (IAGSM) in London. The theme of the meeting was – “Connecting Hearts and Minds Around the World “. Prior to the meeting they did many international visits to many countries through the region - Norway, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Turkey, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Switzerland.



AFG Inc. Audit & 2023 Budget – Thank You for the Support!!

The [2022 AFG Inc. Audit](#) went well and the Audit firm issued a clean opinion. Last year, income from operations totaled \$5,685,503 in the General Fund, and expenses for the year were \$5,589,860. As a result, the General Fund’s net assets decreased by \$(44,482). The decrease in net assets was a result of literature sales still being lower than pre-pandemic. The Reserve Fund decreased in 2022 due to invest fluctuations based on the stock market. We had a loss in investment accounts of \$1.6million. The Reserve Fund is nine months of operating money.

Literature sales yielded a gross profit of \$2.1 M, and contributions for the year were \$3,337,918. The contributions were highest in the history of Al-Anon! The June 2022 special appeal was a big part of the contributions being over \$3 million. Income from magazines totaled \$247,368. Subscription income from the sale of premium content in the Mobile App totaled \$48,174. Click here for the [2023 Audit Presentation](#) from WSC.

The 2023 Budget shows that expect expenses are equal to revenue; therefore having a balanced budget. WSO is forecasting a total revenue of \$5,860, 430 of which literatures sales make up \$3,504,970. They are forecasting a 28% increase in literature sales over 2022 because of the new daily reader. Contributors are budgeted to be less than 2022 at \$2,532,900. Click here for the [2023 Budget Presentation AFG Inc.](#) from WSC.

What's the Bottom Line?

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP HEADQUARTERS, INC.			
2023 OPERATING BUDGET			
	2023	2022	2022
	Preliminary	Revised	Audited
	Budget	Budget	Actual
Total Estimated Revenue	5,860,430	5,620,790	5,685,503
Total Expense	5,860,430	5,953,520	5,729,985
Net increase(decrease) from Operations	-	(332,730)	(44,482)

How can I do my part? Discuss Tradition Seven and encourage the importance of consistent contributions by your groups, Districts, Area, and AIS, think abundantly, create a budget (Groups & Districts), and buy literature to have at our meetings.

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 group. 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. Providing a link to items on al-anon.org is the most accurate way to go.

At our February AWSC meeting we decided on two Chosen Agenda Items to submit to the 2023 WSC for consideration. Among ours, there were 57 CAIs submitted by the WSC Conference members. Out of all those, the ones the WSC members voted to discuss at conference were:

First Chosen Agenda Item – *Open discussion on attracting members into Service. What works? What doesn't work? What are the barriers to service participation.*

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 other into Service? It is important because as our Service positions go unfilled, those serving become overwhelmed with the amount of work required.

Second Chosen Agenda Item - *How can we better tap into our wealth of experience with our Past Delegates at the Area and Conference level?*

We have a wealth of Al Anon knowledge, history, lore, and love that we have not yet found a way to cycle back into our service structure. The gap between Conference Service and the opportunity to apply to be a Trustee is the most precious time to have our Past Delegates in service in both our Area and Conference. Can we create both Area Coordinator and Conference Level Committee positions and assignments for our Past Delegates?

Read about these discussions as well as all the happenings at the 2023 WSC in the WSC Summary (S-46) coming soon! It will be posted soon on the al-anon.org for viewing and download and will be available in the printed form for purchase in the months ahead.

WSC Presentations

There were three presentations given as part of the 2023 World Service Conference. They were entitled:

[2023 Transforming Electronic Groups](#)

[Copyright and Trademark Protection](#)

[Electronic Alateen Group Feasibility Strategy](#)

[Practicing the Seventh Tradition](#)

All of these presentations were packed with great information. I am sharing this with you as part of my report for your reference and sharing.

2023 Al-Anon International Convention

It is getting closer! 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.

Did you know you can attend virtually? Who is planning to go either in person or virtually? Check out the webpage devoted to the International > <https://al-anon.org/international>. You can still register! Currently, there are 3,400 people registered so far. The virtual program will be through the Whova app. It will have the three big meetings, six daytime sessions, and will replay 12 hours later.

Timely Topics



We are accepting Timely Topics! As we did at our in-person and virtual 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 during the entire AWSC weekend by the paper form (in your mailbox) or electronically.**

Electronically, topics can be emailed to me at delegate61@pa-al-anon.org or submitted using this google form: [Timely Topic Submission Form](#). 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 as part of the AWSC agenda as time permits. We ask for your contact info to offer replies but that is optional. All answers will be presented and summarized anonymously.

Thank you / Gracias / Merci !

What a delight to share with you and serve alongside you representing the collective conscience of a loving God! Thank you for reading this report and thank you for your continued service to PA Al-Anon and to our worldwide fellowship as we carry the message of help and hope to families and friends of alcoholics. Please don't hesitate reach out to me on my cell or email me at delegate61@pa-al-anon.org. Let me know how I can help. All my best!

Your friend,

Lorú F., PA Delegate - Panel 61 (2021-2023)



For more information visit the [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, Website Committee, for all your work keeping our Corners going for us all!

Want News from the WSO?—Subscribe to [“In The Loop”](#) * Be Informed! Also, keep up on all the Pennsylvania Al-Anon news and events from around the Area – Join our mailing list [“The Al-A-Gram”](#) to receive the PA quarterly newsletter * Stay Connected!

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