



Delegate's Report-March 2010 Area World Service Committee

Good morning everyone. It's nice to see you "all in your places with bright shiny faces"! It's been a looooooong winter and a long time since we were here in October 2009.

In January 2010, ecommunities for AIS's was officially launched as WSO continues to increase its ability to communicate with more and more service links. Therefore, districts 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10 are able to participate in receiving information from this site. Any A.I.S.L. from these districts please see me if you haven't been on this ecommunity yet.

Here's some of the information from that ecommunity: There's soon going to be a new Alateen table card service tool. It is designed to sit on Al-Anon meeting tables to let members know where and when Alateen meetings are available. Every Alateen group was to be sent a sample card with the Winter 2009/10 issue of *Alateen Talk*, mailing in February. The Alateen groups are invited to take it to a nearby Al-Anon group to ask for their support. The text reads, "Has Al-Anon helped you? Then why wouldn't you want to give that gift to your child? Alateen meets weekly, [space to insert place and day/time]." The Alateen Table Card (English M-80, French FM-80, Spanish SM-80, \$0.10 each, available in March) will give our Alateen groups a new way to engage Al-Anon members in supporting their local Alateen group!!

There are also price increases on *The Service Manual P-24-27* and *The Conference Summery P-46* they are now \$5.00.

New order forms and Catalogs are now available. Please note the expiration date on them as well as the price changes.

LDC updates:

The Literature committee recently suggested ideas that can be used by Literature Distribution Centers “to engage the interest of our fellowship in Conference Approved Literature and encourage sales of specific books and pamphlets. If there are other projects your LDC has done that you would like to share with others, please send them in and we’ll add them to the list!”

- Add fliers and/or order forms about specific pieces of CAL with your literature orders and mailings.
- Survey each group in your locality to determine what books members have. The form should have all the books listed. This would give the LDC a good idea of what books would be good candidates for notices/fliers in mailings.
- Encourage districts to start literature study meetings or chair meetings using one of our books in addition to the daily readers.
- Suggest that meetings use CAL as a regular meeting topic at least once a month—this can be a general topic or a specific discussion about a passage from a pamphlet, booklet, or book.
- Recommend that groups develop a lending library. This will increase familiarity with a variety of CAL.

When describing Al-Anon/Alateen literature in the CAL Catalog (S-15), Order Form (S-16), on-line shopping cart, or newsletters, the WSO accompanies this information with the following statement: *Remember—when you buy from your local literature distribution center, you support your local services.* WSO suggests listing the services that your LDC provides as well as providing a periodic financial update with each order? “In this way, members will better understand why they need to order locally.”

The latest sales figures from the WSO show that the following ten books were our most popular during 2009: *Courage to Change* (B-16), *Paths to Recovery* (B-24), *One Day at a Time in Al-Anon* (B-6), *How Al-Anon Works for Families & Friends of Alcoholics* (B-22), *Hope for Today* (B-27), *Discovering Choices* (B-30), *Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses* (B-29), *Courage to Change Large Print* (B-16), *Al-Anon’s Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions* (B-8), *From Survival to Recovery* (B-21). A special note is that *As We Understood...* (B-11) has risen dramatically to #13. How do these figures compare with your LDC’s sales? The July 2010 issue of *The Forum* will feature sharings in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of *As We Understood...* (B-11). What a perfect time to tie into this feature by adding fliers/order forms about this book with your literature orders and mailings.

While Supplies Last: *Courage to Change on CD-ROM* (B-16 CD-ROM). Remember that this CD-Rom only works in PCs and not in CD players.

Sadly, it was also reported that *Forum Favorites Volume 4* (B-9d) is no longer available. I hope you all have *your copy*.

WSO is going to be launching a new *Public Outreach bookmark* at the 2010 Al-Anon Conference in April which will be replacing *The Crying House bookmark*. So, WSO is giving you a chance to order *The Crying House Bookmark* while supplies last. Please

place your order by March 12th so that we can get them out before the new one arrives. That's next Friday, so hurry!!!

Many have asked when the new *Service Manual* (P24-27) will be available. Well, the answer is the end of the year for the English and the beginning of next year for the French and Spanish. So WSO will be selling the old issue until August 2010.

If you haven't read your emails yet from your Public Outreach Coordinator, you're missing out! On April 25th, CBS Television will be showing a Hallmark Hall of Fame film about the early life of our cofounder Lois W. Although this film and the book it is based on are from outside entities and are not Conference approved, there may be renewed interest about Lois generated as a result of the broadcast. It's a great time to suggest that members read about Lois in her own words in *Lois Remembers* (B-7).

Al-Anon's 60th Anniversary Is Coming! In April of 2011, WSO hopes to introduce a new book about the recovery lessons members have learned from our 60-year history. "Now is the time to introduce members to our existing history books—*Lois Remembers* (B-7) and *The Al-Anon Family Groups—Classic Edition* (B-5)."

WSO is often asked, "Where can we find the Al-Anon Electronic Meeting List?" "The WSO recognizes the potential for offering hope and comfort to families and friends of alcoholics through various electronic means (Internet [email, chat and bulletin board] and telephone. The list of electronic meetings is posted on the Al-Anon/Alateen Web site www.al-anon.alateen.org. The Web site was recently updated and offers an easier-to-find place for people seeking Al-Anon Electronic Meetings. Scroll to the tab **How to Locate a Meeting**, and follow the link in the paragraph **Electronic Meetings—Internet and Telephone**. Members without Internet access can call the WSO main phone (757) 563-1600 and the receptionist will direct their call. The list is maintained by the World Service Office and ensures that only registered Al-Anon Electronic Meetings are listed."

WSO would like copies of your AIS newsletter. Again, this is for those districts, 1,3,5,7,8, and 10 that have an AIS. "Whether your AIS mails its newsletter or posts it online, please share your news with the WSO! Being able to share news more frequently with AISs is one of the benefits of e-Communities. Please e-mail the link to your newsletter or include the WSO e-mail address areahighlights@al-anon.org on your distribution list so that we can share your experience, strength, and hope with other AISs. If you postal mail your newsletter, please send us a copy and include "Group Services" at the WSO address on your mailing list.

Have you all heard of, seen, or contributed to the blog on "*Using Al-Anon's Steps in Our Personal Lives*"? This monthly blog is available on the Public Outreach site for newcomers and professionals as well as on the Members' Web site. Archived blogs of *Using the Traditions in Our Personal Lives* and *Using the Concepts in our*

Personal Lives are available on the Members' Web site
www.al-anon.alateen.org/members.

Other news :

Austria submitted a request to the Board of Trustees to be considered as a Trial General Service Office since they have met the criteria necessary to take on this responsibility. The Board approved Austria's request.

One more exciting piece of news is that the outline for Al-Anon's new history book, TRACING OUR GROWTH (working title) is now in the hands of the writer.

SERDGT :

I attended the SERDGT again in February. It was cold and wet. There was lively discussion on differing views regarding KBDM, difficulties experienced in other Areas, discussion related to past Delegates answering member questions rather than referring to the current Delegates. We met the current Southeast Regional Trustee who gave his report. It was also voted that next year's SERDGT will be held in North Carolina.

The 2010 World Service Conference will be held April 11-15, at the Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The Annual Meetings of the Board of Trustees will be held Friday, April 16.

"We trust our Higher Power through our informed group conscience. The 2010 Conference Theme reflects that message:

Celebrate! Embrace the group conscience to expand our circle of hope.

—50 years of the World Service Conference

¡Celebremos! Acojamos la conciencia de grupo para ampliar nuestro círculo de esperanza.

—50 años de la

Conferencia de Servicio Mundial

Célébrons! Intégrons la conscience de groupe afin d'élargir notre cercle d'espoir.

—Les 50 ans de la Conférence des Service Mondiaux.

This theme will be woven into many of the activities as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the World Service Conference.

Also the Conference Leadership Team announced that Frances L. Brisbane, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Culturally Competent Education and Training, Stony Brook University, NY, will be the guest speaker at the 2010 WSC, pending seating approval by the WSC. Dr. Brisbane is also a newly elected class A Trustee for A. A. This is also timely, as one of the chosen agenda items voted by the Delegates to be discussed at the WSC relates to cultural diversity and inclusion for Al-Anon Family Groups.

Love Gifts:

Do you all remember love gifts and their purpose? A past Delegate told me before my first WSC, that receiving personal mail and love gifts for Conference members was very

special. Indeed it is! Hotel storage is limited so packages won't be accepted before April 7th, 2010. To help the hotel sort and deliver the mail, please ask others to include the following information on the address label:

Terry F. (hold for WSC 4/11-4/15, 2010)
Wyndam Virginia Beach Oceanfront
5700 Atlantic Avenue
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451

Let's talk timely communication: As non-techie as I have been and really still am, we now live in a techie *culture*. As our Area Service Workshop highlighted, we have many new, fast-paced ways to get timely information out to our membership and the public. However, it is up to all of us in service positions as the voices of our positions to get information out. If you are confused or unsure about what to do or how to do it, please *ask*. As trusted servants, our doing our roles as best we can has a positive outcome for *our common welfare* in North Florida and for Al-Anon as a whole. We are all responsible to get our information off ecommunities and to the membership in the long spans of time BETWEEN Area meetings. We are also all responsible as trusted servants to remember deadlines to get our reports to the Legacy, and to our web diva. Just like with the public, we might, as individuals be the only association someone might have with Al-Anon as an example, we might also be the only example members have had with specific service positions. Are you an "attractive" and "attracting" person in your service role?

Please invite and remind members to attend Assembly. I will be giving my report after Conference, so it will be longer and remind folks of this fact so they're more prepared. I have chosen in this report not to give you more Conference details. There are some other neat things occurring and updates I will be giving in May.

I will close my report with a letter sent by Mary Lou M. from WSO, who attended and participated in our Area Service workshop in February. It was a good day for those able to attend.

I want you all to know how blessed I feel to be a part of North Florida. When I attended the SERDGT, I heard of several Areas struggling with challenges we do not. I heard of hostility, personalities, cliques, and a lack of "*common welfare*". I was reminded of how grateful I am to see our Area work to practice "these principles" as we carry out the business of Al-Anon for the good of Al-Anon in North Florida and Al-Anon as a whole.

Love in service,

Terry F.
Delegate, Panel 49