

Spring Assembly 2015 Delegates Report

On the day I was elected to be Delegate (Fall Assembly 2014) many people came to me and gave me Hugs and words of encouragement. A couple of my dear and closest friends came up to me and said: **Congratulations, does this now mean that we need to bow down to you and call you the Grand Poobah? And I jokingly said “why yes”! I then put my hand out to have them kiss my Ring!!! So today I want to where my New Hat that Represents My idea of being the New York North Delegate and the Grand Poobah!! (You can call me Lady Di if you want too).**

Now on to my Official Duties!!

The 55th World Service Conference held in Virginia Beach on April 19-23, 2015. **The Conference Theme was Living Our Spiritual Principles: Expanding Our Vision.**

I must say that the experience was a very eye opening experience and that you have to be there to understand. I thank my previous delegates who did their best to prepare me and to all of you who I know were with in spirit and Prayer.

Saturday Evening I met with my Conference Sponsor (Donna J. from North Dakota) who showed me how things worked and to put together last minute items in my Conference Notebook. This was a very helpful and I am happy this is a part of the Event. After attending Orientation and Lunch on Sunday Morning we all attended went to our assigned Task Forces.

I was assigned to a new Task Force about Meeting Types. Our charge is to develop a list of potential types of meetings that meet a variety of group needs while remaining consistent with Al-Anon legacies We are looking at meetings that are conducted now such as Topics, Literature Studies, 12 Step or Tradition Studies, speaker Meeting, Beginner Meetings, Online Meetings etc. (See Guideline G-13.) We are looking at meetings that would be helpful to Moms who are home with young children or Parents who have young children who have no babysitters in the evening, Long time members who might not be able to get to meeting because they can't drive in the evening or illness, or for busy working people who only have a short lunch hour. Could we consider phone meetings, Skype meetings, remote access meetings, potluck dinner meetings? I will continue to let you know what happens with this as we continue the process

Financial Things

(Money, Money Money) Person comes in singing this passing out Money) **Show Audit Report**

As many of you know it is hard to talk about Money. Many of us either didn't have it, still don't have it or many a family argument was over it. (**Show your hand if this is true for you**) But, many of us know that our Groups, Districts, Area or World Service cannot do any of the things we want without it. So let get started is talking about the Finances of the World Service Office

Auditor's Report: (show on Screen)

The 2014 Audit was conducted by Dixon Hughes Goodman, LLP of Norfolk, Virginia on March 5, 2015 and covers the time period from January 1, 2014- December 31, 2014.

Please note that this report is for Anon Family Groups, Inc. and not Al-Anon Family Groups.

Al-anon Family Groups, Inc. is a not-for Profit Corporation that publishes and distributes books, pamphlets and other materials directly related to Al-anon program of assisting families and friends of alcoholics in dealing with the problem of alcoholism. It also assists in the formation of new Al-anon and Alateen groups and coordinates policy among all such group throughout the world. (Groups are not individually incorporated so that they do not need to be audited by a professional Auditor.)

Note some of the following:

Literature Sales for 2014 were \$3,861,570. As compared to 2013 sales of \$4,118,601
 The cost of Sales was \$801,520 as compared to \$975,096 in 2013
 Forum Subscriptions were down. \$242,117 to \$252,757 in 2013
 Contributions were up in 2014 \$1,521,388 as compared to \$1,405,814 in 2013 Investment income (loss) took a loss of \$232,139
 Convention income was down 0 as opposed to \$69,821 from 2013 International in Vancouver.
 Loss on disposal of property and equipment was 0 in 2014 as opposed 15,060 in 2013
 Making total Revenue or 2014 \$, 5031,373 for 2014 compared to \$5,536,399

Functional Expenses were \$5047, 568 in 2014 and \$4,954,934 in 2013
 (Includes Member Services, Communicational Services, Literature distribution Services, and General Administration)

As you can see we get a lot of bang for our buck but we still serve the groups throughout the World even when the income is down. This is because of a Prudent Reserve that we can borrow from if we need to but it is not to keep doing this year after year. If you are interested I have the audit with me.

Budget Report: (have it projected on Screen)

Total Projected Labor Cost	\$3,486,000
Total Operating Expense	\$5,089,000
Total Depreciation (Exc. Building)	\$58,000
Total Projected Expenses 2015	\$5,117,000
Estimated Revenue	
Literature Sales	\$3,050,000
Contributions	\$1,700,000
Forum Subscriptions	\$250,000
Investment Income/ Transfer from Reserve Fund	\$65,000
Total Est. Revenue	\$5, 065, 00
Net Increase for 2015	(\$52,000)
Net increase Actual 2014	\$(16,195)

What can groups in New York North do to help?!

- We can continue to give as much or more than we gave last year. 57.9% of our groups in NYN contributed to WSO in 2014 with an average of average of \$83.61 per group. For a total of \$15,050 in 2014 compared to \$14,015 in 2013
- We can Think Abundantly about the Spiritual Gifts that this Program has given us and Think abundantly about our Seventh Traditions.
- Let your groups know that when they contribute they are helping the World Service throughout the World a lot of territory to carry the message to.
- Bottom line is we need to Break the Buck Barrier, Subscribe to more Forums and to think abundantly when we give to the Quarterly Appeal! Together We Can Make It"

Phew!!!!!!!!!!WE MADE IT THROUGH THE Money TALK!!!!!!!!!!

Chosen Agenda Items: (show on Screen)

Chosen Agenda Item #5

Is the current model of Alateen the best model for the future of both AI-Anon and Alateen?

Explain the importance of this CAI and how it could shape AI-Anon as a whole:

In Bill's "Essay on Leadership," he speaks of revisiting past decisions to see how they're working out. Much has changed in Society since the advent of Alateen safety and behavioral Requirements. Cellphones and texting are now the norm for teen communication, background checks (and the administrative costs associated with them) are common and schools, once welcoming, are now reluctant to deal with us for fear of litigation over the inclusion of the three legacies. In short, is AI-Anon wasting resources maintaining the current model of Alateen? If so what changes should be made? In some Areas, what is stopping our kids from coming to Alateen?

Explain the importance of this CAI and how it could shape AI-Anon as a whole:

The Alateen Groups are up and running and we are not getting the teens to some of the groups. What could be stopping the kids from coming to Alateen? Discussion was as followed.

Alateen Literature Rocks

Adults who are committed to making Alateen work by focusing on spiritual Principals and letting Alateens run their own meeting

Alateen Friendships from Conferences

Alateen Conferences empower the October is Alateen Awareness Month Activities

AI-Anon and Alateen co-chairs of events when appropriate

When Alateens do the works and raise their own money

When alateens sponsors support and train each other

WSO is a vital resource

What does Not Work?

Teen attendance

Weak Al-Anon Meetings

Not enough rotation of Service (AMIAS don't step up)

Nothing like Young People in AA

Teens too medicated? (Depression) dulling feelings

Teens grow up and leave the meeting with no strong core

Not enough who can Professionals to refer teens to alateen

Not enough Public outreach to Professionals who can refer teens

Al-Anon's not working their program during Alateen activities (giving advice, controlling, being judgmental)

Not enough input from teens

Not enough teen participating in chat rooms

Not enough chat room meeting

Unsanctioned Alateen Facebook pages

Untrained adults

3-5 year Vision?

Centralized training for sponsors, similar to Tennessee's (uses WSO's training modules)

Need more involvement from experience teens (possibly asking them to encourage Alanon to refer their teens to Alateen even though they are not old enough to be AMIAS or Sponsors)

Recognize Young Adults in Al-anon Meetings

Include Alateens in Al-Anon Activities

Business Cards for Teens to use for Outreach.

Chosen agenda Item 3

How can we clarify our primary purpose while welcoming members who need our program who may have a drug addicted friend or family member?

Explain the importance of this CAI and how it could shape Al-Anon as a whole:

Many people are coming into Al-Anon affected by others having problems with both alcohol and other substances, or sometimes only other substances. Our primary purpose is to help families of alcoholics and our only requirement for membership is a problem with alcoholism in a relative or friend.

Some groups respond by stating Al-Anon is for families of alcoholics and addicts, although that is inconsistent with Tradition Five. If groups do not have strategies to welcome newcomers in a manner that protects Al-Anon's focus while encouraging them to determine for themselves if they belong, we risk Al-Anon's ability to offer recovery.

CAI:

Is Al-Anon becoming friends and families of addicts? Is the focus more on addiction than alcoholism? Are we diverted from Tradition Three and Tradition Five? How can we support groups and maintain Al-Anon's primary aim? Is the Al-Anon program being diluted?

Explain the importance of this CAI and how it could shape Al-Anon as a whole:

I continue to hear more talk of addiction instead of alcoholism at all service levels and within the groups that I attend. Our responsibility is to ensure Al-Anon's survival as a resource for families and friends of alcoholics. How do we ensure Al-Anon's survival as a fellowship for families and friends of alcoholics? There are many different types of addiction and we risk our program being diluted more and more as different types of addiction are entering our meetings.

LOOK TO THE TRADITIONS

Traditions 3: the only requirement for membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism in a relative or friend

Traditions 5; Each Al-Anon Family Group has but one purpose: to help families of alcoholics, we do this by practicing the Twelve Steps of AA ourselves, by encouraging and understanding our alcoholic relatives, and by welcoming and giving comfort to families of alcoholics.

Page 40 of the 2014-17 World Manual

We are given the opportunity as new member to decide for ourselves whether we belong or not. 65% of Families Served by professionals don't know whether they have been affected by Alcoholism or not. They only know that their loved one's problem is hurting them and other and that they were referred to us.

We need to keep the Focus on Ourselves. When we tell our Stories we need to share about How Alcoholism affected us and to concentrate on our own feeling and attitudes rather than on the details of our situation,

Newcomers to Al-Anon and Alateen are usually nervous, lonely and are often desperate. Provide them with Literature, a list of phone numbers in order for them to contact us afterwards with their questions.

A Smile goes a long way and if they are open a Hug will also help.

If possible provide a Beginners Meeting in order for them to feel comfortable and to provide a regular meeting for others who attend.

Always remember we cannot be all things to All People and we have a tendency to want to Fix everyone who has a problem (when Anyone, Anywhere Reaches out for Help, let the Hand of Al-anon and Alateen Always be their) we set ourselves up to open our doors to everyone and now we are concerned.

If the meetings go off topic and someone starts sharing about the Addicted person in their family, gently bring the Meeting back to our primary purpose.

WE ARE NOT THE AL-ANON POLICE.

Alcohol is always available when people cannot get other substances

Practice our Program: Patience, Tolerance and Acceptance

Thought and task Force Reports (Show on Screen)

Thought Force: Create Strategies to show Spiritual Connection of being a Registered Group (Show on Screen)

Framing

In many Areas, there are groups that do not feel there is a benefit to being registered with the World Service Office; other groups have multiple meetings but only elect one set of officers; and some even feel that if they were to register, it somehow implies control by the WSO. Just as many of us before and even early in program remain convinced we can manage on our own – potentially hesitating before reaching out to an experienced member to be our Sponsor—some groups are unaware of how the spiritual connections of the program are strengthened and enhanced by being registered to the worldwide Al-Anon fellowship and structure. Those who have had the opportunity to be part of a strong, registered home group understand the value of being connected to the whole. Perhaps they learned of opportunities to attend conflict-resolution workshops which help individuals and groups grow in unity, or to understand how groups internationally blossomed despite having only one book available in their language because they took accountability together for their Area or country connection. For those who have never experienced such a group, fear of the unknown and the ever-present draw of isolation can be strong motivators to remaining unregistered.

Spiritual principles/core values of being a registered group

The Thought Force started our journey by identifying a list of the spiritual principles or core values we felt were enhanced by being a registered group:

- **Unity**
- **Accountability**
- **Participation**
- **Responsibility**

Approach

To create the strategies below, the Thought Force considered what might be appropriate to reach different categories of groups:

- Groups that don't know about being registered.
- Groups that don't want to be registered.
- Groups that don't understand the benefits of being registered.

We also brainstormed strategies from the perspective of districts, Areas and the World Service Office which might implement the strategies.

Strategies that show Spiritual Connection of being a Registered Group

Use the Traditions and Concepts and Warrantees to show the Spiritual Benefits

These are the questions we need to Ask Ourselves;

- Which Strategies would help your Groups and Districts Members to convey the message of the Spiritual Benefits of being a Registered Group?
- Are there other Strategies other than the what you heard here
- Are District Representative working with Groups that they know of that are not Registered to encourage them to register?
- We should encourage NEW Groups that start up to wait at least 3 Months to see if they are having regular attendance before they register in order to see if they will be a viable groups. We can make these meetings places known in order for members to show support and to encourage people to attend and that these new meetings are available and need support. Then they should Register with WSO so that they can receive information in from WSO and to receive there Group Number.

I will share the Full information of this Thought Force with you in a future Northern Highlight Article as it has some very concrete ideas for you all to use.

Thought Force: Create Strategies to Help the Membership Welcome New Practices into the Fellowship

Revised Charge

Identify the difficulties that keep the membership from considering, and perhaps embracing, new ideas within the fellowship and create strategies that could help the membership welcome new practices into the fellowship that are consistent with our spiritual principles.

Strategies

1. Create communications/workshops
2. Encourage discussions about change
3. Explore technology as a means of introducing/encouraging change
4. Encourage innovative thinking
 - Encourage expansive brainstorming at all levels
 - Offer methods for withholding judgment during discussion
 - Create environment and atmosphere of dreaming big, envisioning Al-Anon's future without limiting thinking

- Some of the Change we have seen over the Past 15- 20 years :
Alateen Safety Requirements (1986-2004)
Ownership of Property (1990's-2011)
Electronic Communications- Online Meetings, Blogs, E-Books and e-Communities (1997-Present)

Thought Force: Importance of Abundance and Spirituality in Money Discussions

The Thought Force used the following process:

- At the 2014 WSC, the members of the Thought Force reviewed the discussion on Abundance from the *2012 WSC Summary* (found on page 46).
- Members brainstormed the Five KBDM Questions.
- Final recommendations of strategies that show the “importance of gratitude, abundance, and spirituality in money discussions” were developed.

Thought Force members shared what they learned during their discussions and review using the KBDM process:

BARRIERS

- a) Our members may have a lack of understanding about the use of contributions and the cost of WSO services, including the cost of changes to literature.
- b) Our members may be unaccustomed to discussion regarding spirituality and finances, thus promoting an atmosphere of uncertainty and fear when this topic is introduced for discussion.
- c) It takes time in Al-Anon recovery to move from a feeling of deprivation and loss to an expression of gratitude and abundance, and be able to speak about it.

STRATEGIES: (some not all)

- Encourage members to share their experiences of gratitude, giving, and abundance in financially based discussions at all levels of our service structure.
- Acknowledge a spiritual link of abundance to our Higher Power.
- Discuss financial challenges using Al-Anon’s spiritual principles and Legacies.
- Lead meetings and convention workshops on gratitude, abundance, and spirituality, and how our thinking has evolved on those topics.
- Since repetition is essential in getting the message across, propose re-wording of the *Service Manual* (page 9) regarding passing the basket, emphasizing a spiritual link to abundance.

Statement: Through the KBDM process we became aware that discussions of money are often done with little mention of abundance or spirituality.

Thought Force poses the following question to the WSC:

What do you perceive as barriers and strategies regarding discussions of abundance and spirituality pertaining to financial matters?

Maybe this can be a Topic of Discussion at Future Assemblies and AWSC Meeting. Also consider discussing this at your Group Business and District Meeting.

Task Force: Identify, Gather and Present Practices that Demonstrate a Healthy, Thriving Group (show on Screen)

Practices that Demonstrate a Healthy, Thriving Group

A Thriving Al-Anon/Alateen Group

“Thriving” as defined by merriam-webster.com: Characterized by success or prosperity <*a thriving business*>. Synonyms are: flourishing, going, prosperous, and triumphant.

- Characteristics of members:
 - Show up early and/or stay late.
 - Commit to weekly attendance.
 - Encourage all members, including newcomers and long-timers, to return.
 - Encourage the use of Sponsors.
 - Willing to be available to newcomers.
 - Avoid outside issues.

- Meeting Protocol or Practices:
 - Has a structured weekly group format.
 - Use the Preamble, Opening, and Closing from the “Al-Anon Alateen Groups at Work” (P-24).
 - Remember that “Al-Anon is spoken here” – members of other Twelve Step programs leave those programs at the door.
 - Maintain the anonymity of group members at all times.
 - Encourage enthusiastically service work and is self- supporting though members’ voluntary contributions in order to cover rent, purchase of literature, support of trusted servants and Al-Anon’s service arms, and rotates the service positions on a regular basis.
 - Has regular business meetings at times chosen by the group.
 - Practice Tradition Four; “Each group should be autonomous, except in matters affecting another group or Al-Anon or AA as a whole”.
 - Has literature available for a variety of group members
 - Is mindful of the use of acronyms, especially when talking with newcomers or members who are fairly new. (Ex. *One Day at a Time*, instead of ODAT.)
 - Use the wealth of Conference Approved Literature and service materials available.

- Member Participation
- Share their experience, strength, and hope about recovering from the effects of loving and living with alcoholics.
 - Keep their sharing's focused on their recovery in the meeting, and may share details with their Sponsors or others on a one-on-one basis.
 - Support Alateen members transitioning into Al-Anon groups.
 - Listen actively and attentively during member sharing without other distractions.
- Group Problem-solving
- Use the group conscience process to make group decisions.
- Conduct group inventories at regular intervals.
- Use available Conference Approved Literature, i.e. (K-70)
- Review the "Three Obstacles to Success in Al-Anon." ○ Practice principles above personalities.
- What do you see in your Areas that demonstrate Thriving Groups? Is there information you would like to see added?
- **Give them a Job to Do (Greeter, Setting Up, Holding the Key etc.**
- **Share the Ride**
- **Participate in Links of Service**
- **Beginner Meetings**
- **Fellowship After the Meeting**

Policy Discussion on Memorial Contributions Memorial Contributions Frame (show on Screen policy discussion on Memorial Contributions)

At the 2013 World Service Conference (WSC), a Policy conversation began on accepting memorial contributions from a non-member on behalf of his or her deceased family member who belonged to Al-Anon. This conversation came at the request of the 2011 WSC in response to a discussion on identifying information for a guideline on memorial contributions. The Policy Committee began the discussion in July 2011 in light of Tradition Five and "giving comfort to families of alcoholics." Once this Tradition was fully explored, the Policy discussion expanded to include a review of all Legacies and extensive archival research. The presentation, which included the archival timeline Delegates were provided on e-Communities in preparation for this discussion. During the discussion, members requested clarification on the definition of "family," "member," and whether there would be a limit on the memorial contribution. WSC members also requested safeguards to ensure no undue influence or "ear-marking" and questioned whether a change to Al-

Anon's policy would affect AA as a whole. At the end of the 2013 discussion, the Conference members requested the conversation continue.

At the 2014 World Service Conference, in response to the work of the Thought Force, Conference members discussed the definition of "family" and "member". Due to time restrictions, the discussion was unable to reach conclusion. Conference members requested to continue the discussion at the 2015 World Service Conference

Memorial Contributions Definitions Requested at 2013 World Service Conference

1. Definition of a "member of Al-Anon?" Who is a member?

In accordance with Tradition Three, anyone claiming to be a member is accepted as such. "Anyone who feels his personal life is or has been deeply affected by close contact with a problem drinker is eligible for membership in Al-Anon/Alateen." (Page 81, *2014-17 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*)

2. Definition of Family

"Family," for purposes of Al-Anon, is considered in the broadest sense. "Family" means any person who plays a significant role in an individual's life. This may include a person who is or is not legally related to the deceased member. In the context of memorial contributions, the individual donor defines his/her relationship with the deceased Al-Anon member.

3. Safeguards to ensure no outside influence

1. Do not solicit the contribution
2. Allow contributions from self-defined Family members only
3. Place monies into the General Fund. No earmarking of funds by the donor.
4. Allow non-members to make a one-time only contribution per deceased member.

4-A. Discussion - Limiting the dollar amount of a Family Memorial Contribution

1. Protects against perilous wealth or diverting Al-Anon from its primary spiritual aim.
2. Ensures that members are always primarily responsible for the financial health of Al-Anon as a whole.
3. Allows family members to express gratitude and grief without violating Al-Anon's principle of self-support.
4. Protects Al-Anon from outside influences through the built-in safeguards created by our fellowship.

4-B. Discussion - Not Limiting the dollar amount of a Family Memorial Contribution

1. Allows contributors to give freely, with no strings attached, in loving memory and gratitude for Al-Anon.
2. Recognizes the dollar amount behind giving is not the issue. Great or small, the donation represents love and respect for the deceased member and is appreciated equally. People give according to their ability.
3. Recognizes that generally, members are unaware that, under current policy, contributions can only be accepted from the member, from member's monies.
4. Takes into consideration Lois' question, at the 1963 WSC, "Why the families, who have benefited emotionally and in all sorts of other ways from Al-Anon, should have to give that money to some other organization..."
5. Alleviates the need to engage a grieving family member in a discussion of Al-Anon Policy.

5. Maximum amount of contribution

There are two approaches we could take on this.

1. Limit the amount to a fixed dollar amount.

Use a percent limitation like we do with other contributions.

After much Discussion it was decided that we did not have a consensus as to what to do so that we decided to continue to discuss this, The Policy Committee will continue to look at some of the Definitions and our Traditions to see what can be done. This will be a topic at the 2016 WSC

Board Task Force- Updating of Descriptive Text of Concept Eight and Eleven (Show on Screen)

Each Delegate was given of the Current Wording of the Descriptive text for Concept Eight that is in the 2014-2017 Service Manual. We went over it word for word checking for any minor changes. A motion was made to ADD Text to show the History of Purchasing of Real Property in Virginia Beach and the Setting of the Board of Real Property Management. This Motion was carried.

Each Delegate was given of the Current Wording of the Descriptive text for Concept Eleven that is in the 2014-2017 Service Manual. We went over it word for word checking for any minor changes. *Motion to amend the descriptive* text of Concept Eleven on pages 207-214 in the 2014-2017 Al-anon Service Manual Twelve Concepts of Service Section. The wording showing the updated Charter of the Canadian Board to reflect their legal designation (needed), and to reflect the current administrative duties of all Board Members and Staff

members. We did not have time to fully check and discuss these changes so we will continue to review it and bring it for a vote if possible at the 2016.

The Delegates were presented with a Slate of Name of People that the Board recommended for the Following Positions, Regional Trustees, Trustees at Large and the Board of Trustees. The Conference reviewed the recommendation and gave our Traditional Vote on Each one.

The Board gave it Legal vote at the Board Meeting on Friday of the Conference. The names and positions will be listed in the Conference Summary

Conference Members were assigned to Committees to review resumes for the 2016 Regional Trustees. I will have more information at a later Date.

Other Presentations:

Presentation on Area Highlights.

- Because it is not sent out in Paper Copies anymore many Delegates thought it had been discontinued. It can be located on the Members Website under Service Structure- Scroll down to Area Resources

Finance Presentation on Area Dreams-

- Each year the Finance Committee provide a presentation to the Conference based the Conference theme. This year's theme of "Living our Spiritual; Principle: Expanding our Vision" we were as to look at our Dreams. Delegates had submitted their feedback and were grouped accordingly:

Area Dreams (Show on Screen)

Each year, the Finance Committee provides a presentation at the World Service Conference based on the conference theme. This year's theme of "Living our Spiritual Principles: Expanding our Vision" encourages us to look at our dreams for the future. The August 2014 Chairperson of the Board letter requested Delegate feedback on the question, "What dream would you like to accomplish in your Area?" The following dreams have been grouped according to general topic:

- 1. To hold an Area event**
- 2. To increase participation at Assembly**
- 3. To increase the visibility of AI-Anon Family Groups**
- 4. To ensure financial support of AI-Anon Family Groups**

5. To strengthen Alateen groups

6. To strengthen Al-Anon Family Groups

Forum Editorial Advisory Commiesttee Presentation:

Discussion of the Possibility of a Book of Past Issues of Forum Stories (Show on Screen)

After much discussion and careful consideration of the pros and cons, FEAC agreed to bring this proposal forward for Conference approval for two reasons:

- FEAC believes that *The Forum* regularly publishes important and thoughtful sharing that represent the diversity of the fellowship today. These sharing have insight into Al-Anon recovery that is not currently available elsewhere in Al-Anon's literature. The best of these sharing deserve to be read for years to come, but they are likely to be lost and forgotten in the continuous flow of new *Forum* stories published every month, unless they become Conference Approved Literature (CAL).
- FEAC also believes that this book may help a wider cross-section of the fellowship to become aware of the value of the magazine. *The Forum* plays a vital role in communicating the benefits of participating in Al-Anon service and promoting Al-Anon unity, but is read by only a relatively small proportion of the fellowship.

Background:

Forum Favorites is now out of print. The third and fourth volumes in this series were approved by the Executive Committee and the World Service Conference in 1989. Volume 3 was printed in 1991. Volume 4 was introduced in 1993. The World Service Conference rejected a proposal for a fifth volume in 1994 because Volume 4 had been produced so recently.

- It is directive.
- It is teaching or preaching.
- The focus is mainly on the alcoholic, instead of the hope of recovery.
- When it focuses on any outside issue, including drugs or other addictions.
- In addition to CAL criteria, FEAC members and *Forum* editors also consider several other factors:
- Geographic diversity

- Gender diversity
 - Diversity of Recovery
 - Diversity of alcoholic relationships
 - Alateen must always be included.
- To be included in the book, sharing's should be compelling, unique, and honest. They must create an emotional connection between the reader and the writer, and reflect the needs of a diverse AI-Anon fellowship as it exists today.
 -

Presentation- Making Copy of Louis Remember and Lois the Pioneers from VHS to a CD

This was presented by a delegate from New Mexico/ El Paso whose area wanted to use the film and discovered that it was on VHS. There rea conference offered to pay for it be transferred and to give a copy to WSO. The Archivist said that that couldn't be done because it was under Copy Write., after much discussion noting that we would be losing our History if we did not do something to show our Memories about how we started. We all felt that it would hurt Alanon as a whole if something was not done a Motion was presented to Request that the Conference give Permission on for the Conversion. Of the Film Lois Remembers and Lois and the Pioneers to a DVD Copyright Protected Motion Passed.

Because this Report has been lengthy and I know you are tired I would just like you take a Few Minutes to put your Head down to Rest. Take time to Dream Good Dreams for New York North. I will ask someone to pass out lips of Papers to ask you to share your Dreams with us this afternoon. This will help our Officers and Coordinators to do their Job and help to Make New York North a Vital Part of the AI-anon family Groups.

Throughout the Week Outgoing Delegates form Panel 53 Shared their Personal Stories relating to the Theme of the Conference and How they used the Spiritual Principle to expand their Vision of AI-Anon and there Recovery- Very Moving.

On a Personal Level I just want to Share with you that this was an eye Opening event. I met so many new AI-anon Friends, I realized that I have a lot to learn, I felt a Part of Something greater than myself. I hope you will continue to Grow as you live the Spiritual Principals and Expand your Vision of Life and of al-Anon

MOTIONS vote.

- To Seating Motion – The Director of Business Services, International Representative from Mexico, and the UK&Eire, Chairman of the Executive Committee for Real Property Business, Director of Marketing Information analyst, And Staff Member who were in but don't vote and no voice.- Passed

- Audited 2014 Financial Report- Approval- Passed
- Approval of the 2015 Finance Committee Report-Passed
- Approval of the 2014 Annual Report=
- Request to Transfer from WHS to DVD the Films Lois Remembers & Lois & the Pioneer with Copy Right. - Passed
- To approve the amending wording of to the Descriptive Text in the next service Manual. –Passed, based
- To develop a CAL Book or Piece based on Favorite Forum Stories –
- The World Service Conference Requests that World Service Office send out to any member requesting permission to subscribe to the New(E-Communities) called AFG Connects who it becomes Technically Possible (later in the Summer of 2015.- Passed
- To adopt the following Definition of Universal Recovery- Family Recovery is a process of healing and growth for the Family Members affected by someone’s drinking, This process helps these individuals make healthier life choice and develop relationship that more positive and supportive.

I HAVE MADE UP A DISPLAY BOARD SHOWING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS THAT MIGHT BE OF INTEREST TO YOU;

Getting my OFFICIAL PIN FOR THE PANEL 55 2015 World Service Conference

Three Minutes Spiritual Talks from Outgoing Panel 52 Delegates,

Flags from Countries that Alanon Families Groups are represented in the World

The Atlantic Ocean (felt the Hand of My Higher Power’s Presents)

Footprints’ in the Sand

Some other Panel 55 Delegates Traveling on the Beach

The Anonymity is Important even on the Beach

At Virginia Beach Airport waiting to Travel to New York City

At Stepping Stones (Bill & Lois Wilson’s Home)