Convention Coordinator Report for the 2023 Fall Election Assembly September 30, 2023

Welcome to all who are attending the New York North Area 2023 Fall Election Assembly here at the Embassy Suites Hotel in East Syracuse. A special thank you goes out to the 2023 Fall Election Assembly Committee chaired by Ruth S. and her committee including Walt S., Kathy M., Jackie T., Helen H., Arlene K., Diane C., Cathy W., Carla K., Nancy P., Patty M., and Julie S. Thank you all so much for your hard work!!

Please do not forget that there are raffle baskets, a 50/50 raffle, and a special raffle of a quilt that was donated to the committee by Arlene K. from District 3. The quilt is 52 x 64. Colors are a white background with blue and golden pattern. Tickets are \$5 for a single ticket and \$20 for 5 tickets. The drawing for the quilt will be held tonight. As long as we have a name and contact information winner need not be present.

There is also a small Hospitality area available with prepackaged snacks and bottled water will also be available. Al-Anon Conference Approved Literature is also available for sale, including copies of our new daily reader, "A Little Time for Myself" (B-34, \$17.00) and the Al-Anon Service Manual (P24/27 \$11.00).

Looking ahead to 2024, we are still in need a District or Districts to Host the **2024 NYN Spring Convention and Assembly.** At the 2023 NYN Virtual Spring Assembly, no District or Districts stepped up to host the **2024 Spring Assembly** so the issue was tabled until the 2023 NYN Election Assembly being held today. We also will need a District or Districts to Host the **2024 NYN Fall Assembly**. Currently, it has not been decided on whether these Assemblies will be inperson, Hybrid, or Virtual only. We will be discussing this at the Assembly meeting today. Please, would your District consider Hosting or Co-Hosting one of these events, Help is always available in Al-Anon.

Since Covid, the level of participation at our Area Assemblies has gone down considerably. Prior to Covid, our in-person Spring Conventions usually had between 175 and 250 attending members and our in-person Fall Assembly attendance had usually been between 90 and 130 members attending. Prior to Covid, there were over 355 registered groups in the NYN Area. Since we started meeting virtually, we have only been having a participation rate of 20 – 40 voting members. The in-person registration fees and donations we used to receive from these events not only completely paid the costs of putting on the Convention or Assembly, they usually also contributed a substantial source of revenue for the Area from the after-expense profits that they generated.

Finally, during today's Election Assembly Meeting, elections will be held for all New York North Area Officer and Coordinator positions, including the Convention Coordinator position. I have found this service to be very rewarding and I would like to encourage any Al-Anon member to consider standing for this position. Like everything else in Al-Anon, you never have to do something alone. There is always help available from past convention coordinators, past assembly and convention chairs, and other people who have worked on assemblies as well as myself. I have a flash drive with every Spring Convention and Fall Assembly document that I have from the NYN Area Archives and from my own personal journey in service. I have found that working on conventions and assemblies is not only fun, it also has been a boost to my own recovery in Al-Anon.

Love in Al-Anon Service,

Jim M. Convention Coordinator NYN