

## **Chairperson Report Fall Assembly – October 2-4, 2015**

We had a very productive AWSC meeting in August. We began on Friday night with a *Thought Force on Autonomy, Right of Decision and Service Authority*. On Saturday we broke out into small groups to do Thought Force work on Convention, Alateen Conference and our Service Workshop. We heard a dozen reports from Task Forces who had completed their work. We worked on the proposed 2016 Budget. I believe we used our time wisely, and we took care of ourselves while taking care of business.

The reports from these Thought and Task Forces can be found on our Website ([www.AFGArea9.org](http://www.AFGArea9.org)). The beauty of this new technology is that you can follow the history of our AWSC Recommendations. Clicking on the links of the Recommendations will take you to the path of discussion as the topic has made its way through our service structure. All information is available to all the membership.

This is Knowledge Based Decision Making to Reach an Informed Group Conscience (KBDM). Our World Service Office (WSO) and the World Service Conference (WSC) have provided an extraordinary model of the Al-Anon spiritual principles at work in Service. And I believe our Area 9 members are doing a remarkable job of upholding those same principles as we move forward with Area business. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication.

We continue to invite members of the Area to participate – there is a Task Force survey on the website if you are interested in participating in one of these working groups. We currently are forming Task Forces to review the Guidelines for Convention, Alateen Conference, our Alateen Requirements and other topical issues that members are interested in. Go to the web: [www.AFGArea9.org](http://www.AFGArea9.org)

I encourage all of you to read the 2015 World Service Conference Summary. It is a remarkable document of the incredible work being done at the World Service level. I am always humbled and amazed at the depth of our worldwide fellowship. There is so much good work going on.

Keep in mind the basic elements of our Knowledge Based Decision Making:

- Clear communication between leadership and membership
- Discussion before deliberation – reason things out with one another first
- All decision makers have access to the information – check our website
- We operate in a culture of trust – presume goodwill in yourself and others

Please bring your Service Manuals to Assembly – we really use them. You can find information about KBDM on page 68. We also use them in our meeting procedures – if you have a question, come to the microphone holding your Service Manual, and you will be called on to ask your question.

This will be our last Assembly at The Sheraton Lake Buena Vista. It has been a terrific hotel, and I'm very sorry it didn't work out for us to stay here. At the same time, I have confidence that you will enjoy the new site – The Hilton at Altamonte Springs. The Hilton is excited about renewing a partnership with our Area, building on our time in Ocala. They are offering us opportunities to save money while putting on a comfortable and productive meeting. I know change can be difficult, but I am confident this can be a growth opportunity as well. Our Higher Power is definitely in charge!

I look forward to seeing all of you at Assembly. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns, questions or suggestions!

Yours in service,

*Cindy J.*, Panel 55 Chairperson