



**Delegate's Report
Assembly – June 7-9, 2019
Florida North – Area 9**



Hello Florida North! It is so exciting to be getting together in June for our Assembly. I left our 2019 World Service Conference energized and hopeful. Our theme this year has been: **Action is Attraction: There is no growth in the comfort zone L'Action, c'est L'attrait: Il n'y a pas de croissance dans la zone de confort: La Accion es Atraccion – No ha crecimiento en la zona de comodidad.** The many topics we discussed, and the presentations from Trustees, Staff and Delegates were powerful and sometimes challenging exercises in practicing spiritual principles and working deeply with the Legacies. **We are a trilingual organization, but until now we have not truly had an ability for trilingual participation – and I was able to attend the very first, truly trilingual World Service Conference!** What an active, attractive and growth enhancing experience!

This written report will be fairly long and full of facts, as well as having several documents attached that will be posted on the Delegate's Corner. I will not be reading this from the microphone in June. Hopefully we will have ample time throughout the year to go over, discuss and gather information about the various topics. I hope you find them helpful and relevant.

DELEGATE TRAVEL:

DISTRICT: I have had workshops, presentations and participation with Districts 1, 2, 5 and 11. I look forward to the ones I have scheduled in District 8, District 12 and District 4.

AWSC in February was a terrific opportunity to explore how the Spiritual Principles operate in our business meetings, and I think you'll find those resources helpful as you work with the Knowledge Based Decision Making process to reach informed group cons. I also attended a Board Meeting for NFA AFG, Inc. in March.

SERDGT: Twice now, I have had the opportunity to attend the Southeast Regional Delegate Get Together (SERDGT). This year it was in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. This weekend was filled with opportunity to share experience, strength and hope with new Delegates, past Delegates and several Area Chairs and Alternate Delegates. Each year we connect in fellowship and attention to detail as we prepare new Delegates for their first Conference. We share and bring information back to our individual Areas. Next year SERDGT will be in Puerto Rico!

WSC: 2019 World Service Conference (WSC) was held April 12-18 in Virginia Beach. I was able to arrive a day before and stay a day after, which allowed me to work on several different committees with other Delegates and Trustees. The whole experience was fun, challenging, joyful, serious, confusing, exciting and actually quite serene! I believe it's only in Al-Anon that we can experience so many emotions and know that we're in a safe place to do so, and that we, as well as those around us, have tools to work with. I feel like I have grown a lot – and mostly because there were lots of opportunities to get outside my "comfort zone"!

- Thank you all for the Love Gifts. I received oranges, pens, cards, bookmarks, handwritten notes and other thoughtful and caring gifts to share with the Delegates, Staff and WSO Volunteers. I'll have a table at Assembly with photos and cards and something for each District Representative to take back and share at your District Meetings. This is such a kind and loving experience. It truly is a special time for all the Conference Members to share our Area love with each other.
- Conference Goals – I'm attaching a beautiful presentation on our Conference Goals as laid out by the Conference Leadership Team. These Goals were ever before us, and I am happy to report that by focusing on them were able to remain focused through several difficulties. I like to think that we embody these same goals when we come to Assembly:
 - 1. The spiritual tone of the Conference will prevail by the demonstration of AL-Anon's core principles in action: Trust; Faith; Gratitude; Respect; Unity; Participation; Goodwill; Equality
 - 2. The Conference will provide guidance to Al-Anon's Board of Trustees and the World Service Office on services to the fellowship and guardianship of Al-Anon's Twelve Traditions.
 - 3. Conference members will understand the purpose of the Conference, relationships within the Structure, and be able to articulate Conference discussions and decisions: Ask Questions; Ask for Help; "Listen and Learn"; Communicate
- We had Spanish and French interpreters for the entire Conference. This was an amazing experience on many levels. From the participation of members across language barriers to becoming used to a different sound in the room to watching the principles of Al-Anon become manifest in the professionals who had no idea what they would be experiencing and seeing them come to understanding in a way that was so beautiful and mysterious. This was a tremendous first for our WSC and I am grateful to have been present.
- WSC Motions and Decisions – there were several decisions made, and I am including a list of these in the Delegate's Corner. We approved several changes to language in the Service Manual. The changes will become available first in the online versions (hopefully by August) and the newly printed and corrected Version 2 of the Service Manual should be available in all three languages in November.
- Chosen Agenda Items – We had three CAIs this year.
 - **Board of Trustees Chosen Agenda Item Discussion: Whether or not a group that has a period of meditation or quiet time as part of its format is following the Legacies.**
 - * Does a group violate the Traditions when it includes meditation as part of its meeting format?
 - * Is holding a period of meditation as part of the meeting format an appropriate exercise of group autonomy through its group conscience?
 - * What can a group do to assist and advise newcomers should a group use meditation during their meeting?
 - **Encouraging service and Group Growth-** we will have a break out at Assembly

- **Virtual and Electronic Meetings** – There will be a presentation on this at Assembly.
- Thought Forces –
 - Welcoming New Members who come to Al-Anon because a family member is addicted to drugs.
 - Electronic Meetings and how they fit into the Service Structure
- Task Forces –
 - Bylaws for both the US and Canada – updates and changes
 - Clarifying language in Concept 5 descriptive text
 - Clarifying language regarding WSO staff at Conference
 - Clarifying language in Alateen Policy section
 - Grammatical Change to Warranty 3 – The Comma!
- Affirmation of new Trustees and Officers of the Executive Committee. Current terms ended on the last day of the World Service Conference, and the new terms started. I expect the new Chairman of the Board letter to come out soon, and will update you with that information at Assembly.
- Open Board Meeting – allowed us to see the Board in action as they discussed and updated Bylaws. They also discussed upcoming Thought and Task Forces, and budget topics.
- Open Policy Meeting – gave us an opportunity to observe policy discussions.
- Sharing from Panel 57 Delegates – I have recordings that I'm happy to share
- Sharing from Trustees on various topics of what it means to be a Trustee
- Road Trip Report – 2018 was in Texas East. 2019 will be in Seattle WA. We have the invitation and procedures and will continue to put our name in for a possible experience. More information is available in the Delegate's Corner.
- TEAM Event updates: the TEAM event will be discontinued after 2019 and at WSC 2020 a new event will be unveiled.
- Regional Trustee process is ongoing until August 15, 2019. If we have a candidate who would like to stand, the Expedited Trustee Process Guidelines are on our website.
- I am currently on a Thought Force to discuss and bring forth resources regarding "Fear of Change" – I'm really excited about this work, and look forward to sharing that with you!

WSO FINANCES

- Finances of the WSO are healthy and very exciting. There are many new strategic plans and I am posting detailed reports including the Budget Presentation and the Audit Report. I have notes from the Annual Report, and the detailed Annual Report will be published with the World Service Conference Summary. Here are some highlights:
- 2018 Audited actual: bottom we ended the year with net profit of \$140,002. **THANK YOU!**
- Literature sales were up significantly in 2018 due to new literature release

It is important to understand that the *share of income from contributions is getting closer to the share of income from literature*. This is not due to decrease in literature sales which was a concern when electronic literature was introduced but rather because contributions have increased. **THANK YOU!**

- What have received from the funds expended? In 2018 the website has been improved and made more relevant, there were 3.5 million hits on the website in 2018, a record number and we have already had 1 million hits in 2019 first quarter putting us on track for another record. The new electronic group records updates and online search tools have been of particular benefit to those of us in rural areas, or members who have the need for meetings in a non-traditional time and space.
- The 2019 WSO budget is a deficit budget and we in Area 9 understand what that means: We are making an investment for the future; we are planning with a lower set of contributions and a higher set of expenses in order to allow for spiritual principles to expand; we understand that Al-Anon does not live in a world of scarcity.
- What is our worldwide fellowship investing in during 2019?
 - * New strategic plan with measurable objectives and detailed timelines being measured
 - * A new mobile app for the WSO website is being developed, and available this Fall
 - * New PSAs being developed with tracking ability to measure impact
 - * Online store being redesigned
 - * Upgrades to meeting search abilities, and navigation on the Website

These are just some of the reasons that we can all be grateful for, and generous with, the WSO and all that they do on behalf of each member of Al-Anon!

LOOKING AHEAD

I will be sending monthly updates via Email and placing items on the website – this will help you all stay up to date with the topics and items that are moving through the Executive Committee, Board of Trustees and WSO staff strategic plans.

I hope that you will contact me if you have any further questions or want more information about any of the items in my report. Believe it or not – this does NOT cover everything we did at Conference, but some items we need to wait to dive into until after the Chairman of the Board letter and the World Service Conference Summary! So I hope this gives you some interesting things to consider, and to better understand our connection to the WSO and our worldwide fellowship.

Thank you for letting me serve as your Delegate,

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