

**2010 Al-Anon Family Groups World Service Conference
Delegate's Report to the Connecticut Area Spring Assembly
Hartford, Connecticut
June 12, 2010**

“Celebrate! Embrace the group conscience to expand our circle of hope.
50 years of the World Service Conference”

Dear Friends:

Hello and welcome to our Spring Assembly! On behalf of the 50th World Service Conference Committee members, they send their experience, strength and hope to preserve this program and share their love for growth in unity worldwide.

Are you ready to “Celebrate” today our last 50 years of the WSC? I will try to bring to you today what I experienced in Virginia Beach this past April 11-16th at the 50th WSC.

Will all the past delegates come up to the stage and join me in showing Panel 48's PowerPoint of the past 2 conferences and history of WSO and AFG? You can sing along and enjoy our circle of hope.

The opening dinner was exciting and very special with a big birthday cake being wheeled in by the WSO staff singing Happy Birthday WSC – 50 years. Also our speaker for the evening event was Claire R., Associate Director of Communications – Professionals. She had attended the 25th WSC and shared her memories of past conferences with Lois W. – our founder.

We will be having a birthday cake during our pot luck lunch today followed by singing a song Panel 48 wrote this year including the past 3 year's themes as part of our outgoing skit. I hope you all enjoy.

Also, when the bell rings past delegates will be coming to the microphone to read collection of passages from past WSC members. What a special gift for me to share with you today. I feel a deep love and understanding of the WSC history and AFG.

As you all know this was my last WSC. The first year at WSC I invited Linda M., area secretary, to our luncheon picnic at Stepping Stones as my guest and Rita C., our alternate delegate, as my closing night dinner guest. The second year I invited John B., area chair to tour the WSO and have lunch with me, and Ann B, area treasurer, as my closing night dinner guest. This last year at WSC, Kary L., area archives coordinator, was my guest for the week and attended the tour at WSO and closing night dinner. I have learned to share leadership and expand the Spiritual Bridge with my friends in the fellowship. Kary was a big help during the week with our love gift table – unpacking and displaying and packing other states' love gifts for us.

Please take what you like today and bring them back to your groups. Again, I would like to say thank you for each member or group who sent love gifts or cards! They were beautiful! CT ROCKS!

Each morning at 6 AM I attended an AL- Anon meeting in room 524 overlooking the beach! It was optional for conference members, but I chose to attend daily, giving myself the greatest gift of serenity that day!

MaryAnn R., Chairperson of the Board of Trustees opened the conference with a statement from Bill W. When Bill W. was asked to give the opening remarks at the first WSC in 1961, he began with, “Now comes the time when Al-Anon must function as a whole... you are now applying tradition two to Al-Anon as a whole. He further stated that each one of these yearly meetings could guarantee the future unity and functioning of our society”. MaryAnn R. stated that our spiritual strength comes from our informed group conscience.

One leadership workshop was entitled,” Embrace the Group Conscience” and a big question to think about is: What spiritual growth can the fellowship celebrate as a result of 50 years of its informed group conscience as expressed by the WSC? How has this expanded our circle of hope?

Breakout Session 1: Rita C. – Alternate Delegate
“Embrace the Group Conscience”

12 – 1 pm Lunch – Pot Luck and cake and sing-a-long – 50 years of WSC

Tradition 2 skit – District 13: Steven I, D.R. and company

We reviewed the four essential elements of the Knowledge Based Decision Making process to an informal group conscience.

1. Open communication between leadership and membership
2. Dialogue before deliberation
3. All decision makers will have common access to full information
4. We exist in a Culture of Trust

Final Fall Assembly 2009 Report: District 1 and 2 – Pat S. and Katie B.

Schedules – Gail L.

Policy: There was a great deal of work done on the Policy Digest portion of the Service Manual. The major work was done consolidating all the information about Alateen which was in various places throughout the manual. Now there is a new Alateen Policy section. It deals with Safety and Behavior Requirements, Sponsorship, Conventions and Alateen Events. Another topic was “use of Material at Al-Anon meetings” dealing with outside literature etc... The revised edition of the next Service Manual is expected to be published and sent to GRS in the Fall.

Password protected Alateen Chat room will be up soon and operational.

Alateen Coordinator: Wayne M.

We voted to give conceptual approval for a major revision of the pamphlet “Why Anonymity in Al-Anon” (P-33). In addition to the book of history which will come out with the 60th Anniversary of Al-Anon in 2011, there will be a Legacies workbook with sharings taken from the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts Blog.

Forum/Literature Coordinator: Ruth S.

LRP Coordinator – Taffy P.

We were shown the “Sketches 4 PSA” and handed a copy to bring back to our Area Public Outreach Coordinator and her committee to distribute to TV stations soon. I have been honored to serve on the Public Outreach Committee at the WSO for the last 3 years having an input in creating the PSA’S.

Public Outreach Coordinator: Deborah C. – (PSA Presentation)

The new Regional Trustee plan was voted on and accepted ending the three year trial. We, as part of the Northeast Region have a new Trustee, Anne F. from NY, North. She is our US Northeast Regional Trustee. I would like to thank Frank R., from Delaware our outgoing Trustee for all his service.

Board and staff members continued to reach out internationally by visiting South Africa, South America, Eastern Europe and the U.K.

Our international guests were – Peter from New Zealand, and Maria from Mexico.

The Financial Audit received an unqualified opinion which is the best report possible. The average group contributed \$100.97. 57.3% of our groups contributed to WSO. There are 15,595 registered groups in our service structure. There are 229 CT.AFG registered at the WSO. Connecticut has 63.6% of their registered groups contributing an average of \$113.28 per group. A basket was passed at the WSC, and over \$3,000 in individual contributions was collected.

Team: In the past six months, requests for Team events began to arrive at the WSO. A Task force was formed of conference members because of all the questions/concerns and I was asked to participate in a Team skit at the WSC. It was so much fun and each member had an opportunity to send in their questions prior to WSC and participate from the floor. The first Team (Together Empowering Al-Anon Members) was held May 1-2 by New Mexico and Texas West. It was a great success! Upcoming Team Events are: Utah and Arizona June 25-26, Kentucky September 10, Connecticut October 2-3, and Minnesota North October 1-2. A total of 5 team events this year! Awesome!

Team Chair and Co chair – Ann B. and Kay L.

“BREAK” 15 minutes

We had other special guests with us - John Colon who spoke to us about diversity and cultural competence. Also in attendance was El N. who is the A.A. Southeast Regional Trustee, who was an invited guest. She participated in events but had no voice or vote, but was very interested in how our conference works. John Colon (not an Al Anon member) is an Academic Lecturer from Stony Brook University, New York. He spoke to us about cultural diversity. He talked about learning our culture from our families and the need to adapt to our common language. He stated that while we may relate to people of our own cultural background we must learn to communicate in the host culture. The “host” culture is interpreted to mean the country where a person is living. We need to reach out and welcome cultures that are different from the majority. Another leadership workshop was on “Diversity – Understanding Ourselves and Others”

Breakout Session 2 – John B. – Area Chairperson
“Diversity - Understanding Ourselves and Others”

The International AA Convention will be held on July 1-4, 2010 in San Antonio, Texas with full Al-Anon/Alateen participation.

The International Al-Anon Convention will be July 3-5 in Vancouver, British Columbia, 2013 with full Alateen and AA participation.

CT AFG Convention Chair final report – Bob C. 2010

CT AFG Convention Chair and Co Chair 2011 – Angela B. and Sam C.
Update report

Property Ownership: see the member’s section on the WSO website. We will vote next year. The Task force gave a great presentation with open discussion. The 15 year trial period is over. Options are as follows:

1. End the trial and keep the building
2. End the trial and sell the building
3. Extend the trial for another period of years

The WSO building in Virginia Beach was completely paid off this year. More discussion will follow at the Fall Assembly.

CT AFG Office/ LDC Report – Sue G. – Manager

CT AFG BOD Report – Ellie L. – President

The 2011 World Service Conference will be held April 11-15, at the Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Only Panel 49 will be going to Stepping Stones in New York on April 9-10 before WSC. The conference will be in Virginia Beach because it is the 60th Anniversary of AFG. There will be an Open House on Saturday, April 16th

at the WSO followed by Anniversary Banquet Dinner. More information to follow. Come celebrate 60 years of AFG!

The WSC closed with a special dinner and we heard two great spiritual speakers. Panel 48, my panel, received our certificates of appreciation from Ric B., Executive Director and WSC Chairperson Carol V. I loved all the kisses and hugs too. Later that night Panel 48 performed our musical skit – Building Bridges, Embracing the Legacies and Celebrating our Circle of Hope!

I would like to take this opportunity to read my outgoing speech to you as I read it to my friends at the World Service Conference that Monday afternoon. The World Service Conference Summary will be out in August with a full, detailed report. Check for order forms coming soon.

I most humbly thank you for your trust and belief in me. It is an honor to serve. CT ROCKS!

Come – CELEBRATE! EMBRACE! HOPE!

Love in Service,

Gina R., Delegate
Panel 48 CT

UPCOMING EVENTS

Romienda Fronterar 2010 – AA Bi-lingual Sharing Day, June 13 with CT Al-Anon/Alateen participation Cheshire Grange, Cheshire, CT

2010 AA 75th International Convention, “Vision for You”, July 1-4, San Antonio, Texas with Al-Anon/Alateen participation

Ct Annual AA Convention with Al-Anon/Alateen participation, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell, CT – September 10-12, 2010

Team Spirit of Connecticut Event, October 2-3, 2010, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell, CT

CT AFG Fall Assembly, Sat., Nov. 6, 2010 (more info TBA)

CSCYPAA Convention with Al-Anon/Alateen participation, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell, CT November 26-28, 2010

Save the Date – Al-Anon International Convention, July 5-7th 2013, Vancouver, British Columbia (more info TBA)

World Service Website: www.al-anon.alateen.org/members

CT Website: <http://www.ct-al-anon.org/members>