Delegate's Report To The Connecticut Area World Service Committee and The AFG Meriden, Connecticut May 4, 2012

Dear Friends,

Good evening and welcome. I have returned from the 2012 World Service Conference titled "Our Spiritual Journey- we get as we give" with a full heart and a new perspective of our World Wide Fellowship. My role as Delegate is to be a channel in which information flows, a link between the Area and the World Service Office. We had long days with a full agenda and I was most impressed with the spiritual nature of the conference. The Spiritual Principles of the program were demonstrated in all our affairs. I truly appreciated the beautiful "love gifts" and words of encouragement from all the groups and districts.

WSO NEWS

The soft cover book "How Al-Anon Works" (B-32) priced at \$5.00 has sold 40,000 copies, which is an excellent public outreach tool to reach newcomers. The one year trial period has been extended. Let's all participate in this initiative to reach new perspective members and underrepresented communities.

The 2012 Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism can be downloaded on the World Service Office Public Outreach Website www.al-anon.alateen.org. New communication methods will continue to evolve. We are invited to continue the discussion on how electronic literature will impact Al-Anon/ Alateen World Wide Fellowship and various Service Structures and then, how we can address those issues. The World Service Office will continue to hire outside consultants and to explore various methods. The question of "how will this be done and" in what formats" will be continually addressed by the Board of Trustees. The Board Mission Statement "Anticipate the future and Al-Anon's place in it and ensure that the necessary resources are available." After having the opportunity to attend an Open Board Meeting and an Open Executive Committee Meeting I can affirm that they take their mission seriously and with great integrity.

The WSO initiated pages on Facebook and Twitter to share information about Al-Anon. We have 500 "followers on Twitter and Facebook postings have been read by 300 to 500 people. Do you currently have a Twitter Account?

Some of our Districts have requested more literature which focuses on the Parents of Alcoholics. I'm excited to report that printing of the Al-Anon Family Group Reprint "Parents of Alcoholics" has been approved and currently available at our CT LDC. Also, a laminated wallet size Conflict Resolution card can be ordered. It is a great simple guide to foster open communication and provides suggestions on how to handle difficult situations.

How many people will be Celebrating Worldwide Unity at the 2013 Al-Anon International Convention July 5-7, 2013 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada? Do you have a Passport? Registration information will be available on-line this fall. There will be an International Convention website set up this summer. Registration fee for Convention: \$ 115 by December 31, 1012, \$140 before May 31, 2013,

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and \$165 after June 1, 2013. There will be a Day of Service on Thursday, July 4. There will be a separate registration fee for this event.

I received notification from the World Service Office Executive Director, Ric B., that the 2018 Convention Site Committee has announced three sites which will be considered Baltimore, MD; Denver, CO; and Indianapolis, IN. The committee will visit the three sites this summer and then will recommend one site to the Board of Trustees. The BOT will vote on the recommendation at its October Board meeting. Once the announcement is made I will update our Area with the final site selection.

I'm excited to announce we will have a guest at our World Service Delegates Assembly. Ann F. our Regional Trustee from New York North Panel 40 will be in attendance. It would be wonderful to have all the groups fully participate in this event. Come join us and embrace the World Service Conference theme "Our Spiritual Journey- we get as we give". Ann will resubmit her name as Regional Trustee. However, interested and qualified candidates may contact their District Representative and then all submissions will be forwarded to the Delegate. Trustee at Large and Regional Trustee candidate resumes are due at the World Service Office by August 15, 2012.

Area News

I would like to extend a special thank you to Sam and the entire CT AFG Convention Committee for a successful event. Many people hand in hand worked together to help carry the message of hope and recovery to those who have been affected by someone else's drinking.

The Friday 10:00 a.m. Wallingford Group had an Anniversary on April 6, 2012 and provided translation equipment and a Spanish interpreter. The Group has extended their reach and has carried the message of hope to a diverse population. How does your group and district expand your circle of hope? Changing the face of Al-Anon and reaching new perspective members of different cultures will broaden our program. Are you willing to provide literature to an ethnic grocery store, local High School, and treatments centers? Please contact our Area Coordinator Deborah for ways to reach new perspective newcomers.

The 7:30 p.m. West Haven Tuesday Al-Anon Group had a 42nd Anniversary on April 12, 2012. The members of the group were energized by great speakers, fellowship and a potluck dinner. The group shared half of the proceeds from the raffle to a local Alateen group to help raise funds for their upcoming Connecticut Alateen Workshop Weekend (CAWW). Please contact our Area Alateen Coordinator if you are interested in becoming an Alateen Sponsor.

A résumé review committee met in February to review potential candidates for the CT AFG Board of Directors. The Nominating Review Committee decided not to forward the resumes, as of yet no new candidates have been selected. Each year you will have the opportunity to consider applying for membership of the Board of Directors. Please contact your DR for qualifications for the position.

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A Thought Force is currently reviewing the CT Alateen Guidelines. I would like to make amends to Bob our Alateen Coordinator for lack of clarity regarding the formulation of Area Thought and Task Forces. If you have ideas about a Thought Force and a Task Force please contact the Delegate. My role as Delegate is to appoint a Chairperson to the Area Thought and Task Forces. This procedural method has been successful and we will continue with this process. When I assign the Area Officers and AWSC members to certain tasks, please enthusiastically join and participate. Members with specific skills and interests will be asked to serve on committees and your participation is most welcomed.

I'm excited to announce that we have qualified resumes for the 2013 Co-Chairperson AFG Convention and the 2012 Fall Workshop Chairperson. The candidates will present their resumes and you will have an opportunity to ask questions. They will then be asked to leave the room and if for some reason you do not believe a candidate should stand, you are asked to share your concern. This method has been useful and encourages us to leave personalities out of the decision.

In Closing, I wish to experience my gratitude for your love and support. Together we can accomplish great things. I look forward to seeing you all at the largest business meeting in Connecticut. Come join the fun at the World Service Delegate's Assembly June 9, 2012, hosted by Districts 12 & 13 located at the South Congregational Church 277 Main St., Hartford CT (Site of the LDC).

Sincerely,

Rita C Delegate Panel 51 CT