

Delegate's Report
CT AFG Fall Assembly
November 2, 2013

Dear Friends,

Good afternoon and welcome to the Al-Anon/Alateen Fall Assembly. I hope you enjoyed the workshops Ann B., Alternate Delegate organized this morning. I truly appreciated the Past Delegate's participation who provided helpful information for the Group Representatives and District Representative to be successful in their service positions. We have many service tools to assist and allow the trusted servant to do their jobs and to be successful in service. The Quick Reference Guide is now available. The LDC has the Conflict Resolution using our Twelve Traditions(S-72) which fosters more productive discussion and move toward a solution. The Group Representative is the vital link in the continuing function, growth and unity of this world wide Al-Anon/Alateen fellowship. There is always conflict in all different types of relationships, but we no longer need to struggle in isolation. We have spiritual principles to guide us in all our affairs. Is it polite, courtesy, is it necessary? The service structure has a place to air our grievances and sometimes we need to put aside personal grievances for the betterment of the whole. As we conduct our business today may we apply our spiritual principles and listen to our Higher Power.

I would like to extend a special welcome to the Group Representatives who have the responsibility and authority to approve an Annual 2014 Budget and the election of new Area Officers. The next Delegate will represent you at the 2014 World Service Conference in Virginia Beach, Virginia. This person will carry your voice to the conference and return with a broaden knowledge of our worldwide fellowship. I encouraged you to listen attentively and be guided by your Higher Power when making your important selection. I hope to see all who have the willingness to stand, stand for the Assembly Officer positions. Service is a great way to strengthen your program and give back to your Area. It is in giving that you receive. You will also have the opportunity to hear many reports, when clarity is needed please ask questions. A reminder to the Assembly that we are all equal members with different roles and responsibilities. All Assembly members have a voice at this meeting and at times may need to ask for clarity, concise and necessary information, to be able to reach an informed group conscious. It's important to allow background information to come forward and base decisions on an informed "me" which becomes a united "we".

I would like to thank the District 5 & 6 for hosting the Assembly. It's very exciting to be part of something bigger than yourself. To be involved in providing information, maintaining a connection and gaining a deeper knowledge of the program. An opportunity to help make sure the Al-Anon/Alateen program is there for the newcomer.

WSO News

- Each Delegate is invited to submit a Chosen Agenda Item (CAI) for consideration during the 2014 World Service Conference. Please forward items that shape Al-Anon as a whole and cannot be answered in the Service Manual. Please describe the topic in 300 words or less the relevance of the question.
- Meet the Board- The World Service Board of Trustees will consider all Bids and make a decision which Area they will hold their 2014 June Board Meeting, by 2013 December.
- Al-Anon Audio Book-How Al-Anon Works for Families and Friends of Alcoholics is now available. Please see Jackie Z., Area Literature coordinator, for details.
- Revision to WSO Guidelines are available on the Member's Web site: www.al-anon.alateen.org/members
- Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2014-2017 will be available early 2014. All registered groups will receive a complimentary copy from the World Service Office (WSO).
- We had a brief discussion at the World Service Conference about translation. The conference will continue to be in English only; but the Leadership team will provide translation of the International speakers and will assist conference members on an "as needed basis."

Area News

- Thank you Sandy S., Al-Anon/AA Events Coordinator & committee members for their cooperative spirit in working on A.A. events with Al-Anon/Alateen participation.
- Awesome experience visiting District 8 & 10. I look forward to a few more District visits.
- Kudos to the CT Al-Anon 2013 Fall into Recovery Workshop, Marcia F., Chairperson & the Committee for a great job done. A great day of fellowship and a healthy message from the speakers.
- A call for 2014 Area Coordinators: Al-Anon/AA Events, Alateen, Area Alateen Process Person, Answering Service, Archives, Lifeline Editor, Literature, Long Range Planning, Schedules, and Webmaster resumes was made on October 4, 2013, please inform interested member to send all resumes to the Delegate at ritapanel51ct@yahoo.com by December 4, 2013. All Al-Anon/Alateen members, who are not in A.A., are eligible to serve. Please review the CT Gratitude in Working Clothes for the description of duties and the responsibilities of the position. Guidelines for Area Coordinators from WSO can also be found on the WSO Members' Web site.

- Thought Force: Study the implications Pros & Cons of posting Convention Speaker tapes on the Web site. The discussion has started and I look forward to the committee members recommendations.
- Task Force: The revision of the Alateen Behavioral & Safety Guidelines has been completed. I look forward to the distribution of the document. Thank you Bob B., Chairperson & the Task Force members for getting the job done.
- Translation equipment and interpreter will be available for the morning GR workshop and the Assembly. The Delegate's Assembly report is in Spanish and will be posted on the CT Web site.
- The CT AFG Board has asked me to initiate a Thought Force and then a Task Force to brainstorm ideas, pros & cons and to develop strategies on a single defined task. Moving the fellowship forward and coming to an understanding of the needs of the fellowship regarding the LDC/Office. I look forward to John B., President of the CT AFG Board's presentation on the management and future of the LDC and the role the Board wishes the membership to take on this important task.

Inclosing, I wish to express my gratitude to the Al-Anon Family Groups for electing me to represent you as Delegate. It is hard to believe that three years has nearly come and gone. I will soon complete my service commitment at the close of 2013. I will carry this experience with me for the rest of my life and know that I will continue to reap the benefits in the years to follow. I hope you have gained a better understanding of the activities of the World Service Conference/World Service Office and an interest in participating in service at the Group, District, Area, and WSO level. This service opportunity has afforded me many gifts. I know I can start and finish something. I know that I do not have to have all the answers but I can find out. I can humbly ask for help and break out of isolation. I can make mistakes, change my mind but stay focus and get the job done. I have received much love and support throughout this experience and I'm truly grateful for your dedication to the program. The members who have walked in my shoes thank you, thank you to my service sponsor and personal sponsors, thank you to the members who continued to work together and pushed through challenging experiences. Changing "Me" to "We" giving me the opportunity to broaden my perspective and knowledge of this wonderful worldwide fellowship. A special thank you to my son Miguel James and my husband Miguel Angel for believing in me when I didn't believe in myself. For your encouragement to keep moving forward, to be true to myself and to keep an open mind. I have grown beyond my wildest dreams and have made friendships to last a life time.

Love in Service,

Rita C., Delegate
Panel 51 CT