**Delegate’s Report**

**December 13, 2019**

**WSO**

The International Coordination Committee (ICC):Met and worked on the 2020 International Al-Anon General Services Meeting (IAGSM) theme. Using a combination of an idea brought back from the 2019 European Zonal Meeting and the upcoming 2020 World Service Conference (WSC) theme, the ICC arrived at the 2020 IAGSM theme: “Practicing Universal Principles with 20|20 Vision.” The IAGSM will be
held in London, England in October 2020. Also, during the ICC meeting an update from the European Zonal Meeting (EZM) was reported. The EZM was held in Ankaran, Slovenia on September 20-22, 2019. It was attended by 15 countries, 17 structures, 32 Delegates speaking 30 languages. The Associate Director—International and the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees attended from the WSO. This meeting is conducted in English, as a common language.
Discussions included the General Service Office (GSO) KBDM on the topic “Representation, through voice and vote, for international groups at the World Service Conference.” The deadline for submission of the KBDM was extended. The ICC will compile all the responses and discuss
the findings at the January ICC meeting. On October 25-27, 2019 the Director of Programs and a Spanish-speaking Trustee will be attending the Ibero American Zonal Meeting in Mexico City.

The Nominating Committee: Met for a full day and reviewed all the résumés which had been submitted for Trustees
at Large, for Regional Trustee for US Northwest, US South Central, US Southwest, and for the Executive Committee for Real Property. The Nominating Committee works in a confidential and spiritual atmosphere and the sole purpose of the committee is to aid the Board of Trustees in discharging its primary obligation in filling all vacancies within the Board of Trustees or its Executive Committees with those of the greatest possible competency, stability, and industry. The Nominating Committee works in cooperation with the confidential work of the Conference Committee on Trustees and the Regional Committees on Trustees, all of which are Delegate-only committees. The Nominating Committee makes recommendations that will determine, to a large extent, the continuous success of our services and refuses to accept casual recommendations in its selection of candidates. Members selected to move forward for further consideration in the
Trustee nomination process will be invited to meet with the full Board in January. Names of those nominated to serve will be announced in the January COB letter.

Executive Committee At-Large member résumés are due by January 1, 2020. The Executive Committee is composed of three Al-Anon members – preferably not Trustees – elected by the Board, the Executive Director, an Al-Anon member from the administrative Staff of the WSO, the Chairperson of the Finance Committee, a member of the Board of Trustees (often the Policy Chairperson), and the Chairperson of the Board who serves in an ex-officio capacity with voice
but no vote. The Chairperson of the Executive Committee is elected by the Board of Trustees. In order to accomplish the duties bestowed on them, the Executive Committee meets monthly, either face to face or through web conferencing. For more information on the duties and responsibilities of this Committee, please see Concept Eight in the *2018-2021
Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* (P-24/27). If you feel you possess the skill sets and you have the time to serve, please consider submitting a résumé as an At-Large member of the Executive Committee.

**At-Large Committees:**At-Large Committee members can live anywhere in the WSC Structure which incorporates the United States, including Puerto Rico, Canada, and Bermuda. The WSO is currently accepting résumés for the following Committees. Click
on the link to review each Committee’s Guideline.
5 At-Large members, *Forum* Editorial Advisory Committee (FEAC)
5 At-Large members, Literature Committee
5 At-large members. Public Outreach Committee
2 At-Large members, Audit Committee
The deadline for résumé submission for all At-Large Committee members is January 1, 2020. To be considered for a position as an At-Large Committee Member, please submit this résumé. New At-Large members begin their assignment
in May and serve through April.

TEAM Event Replacement: In 2018, a Board Task Force was formed to look at restructuring TEAM Events. The Task Force was made up of WSO Volunteers and Staff. During the time the Task Force was working on improvements to TEAM Events, the WSO Staff was looking into ways to more efficiently use its resources. One of the ways they suggested was to not have Staff members participate in planning TEAM events. Given that there were up to nine TEAM Events per year and Staff were planning and participating in all of them, it would free up Staff time for other valuable Al-Anon work. During follow-up discussions, the Board decided to discontinue TEAM events and began to look at options for a new way for members to interact with Staff and Volunteers. A Task Force was created to come up with the next exciting, engaging, and energizing mode of connecting WSO Staff and Volunteers with other Al-Anon members. The Task Force has been working on a variety of ideas and we hope to be able to tell you more by the time we reach the 2020 WSC.

A.A. International Convention: The Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) International Convention with Al-Anon participation is being held in Detroit, Michigan on July 2-5, 2020. Online registration has been open since September 9, 2019 and we currently have 1,064 Al-Anons and 28 Alateens registered. It is with great pleasure that we announce the Program includes two large Al-Anon speaker meetings which will be provided with interpretation in Spanish and French. We are excited and looking forward
to seeing you there.

Strategic Planning Updates:

There is a proposal to begin clearing the backlog of translation for CAL in Spanish and French within the next few months.

• A needs assessment into how best to support and communicate with International structures;
• A competitive analysis to identify ways to help the public understand why Al-Anon is the most effective resource for recovery for those effected by the family disease of alcoholism;
• Expansion of our International meeting search locator;
• Increased protection of our Al-Anon name from trademark and copyright violations.
Of course, many Strategies started in 2019 will be ongoing such as continued translation of the Annual Report in all three languages, the development of an Al-Anon mobile app which we hope to launch in the first half of 2020, launch of the improved Al-Anon LinkedIn page, and increased Al-Anon YouTube presence.

Delegate calls: Two weeks following the posting of this letter, the Trustees will begin contacting their assigned Delegates. The purpose of this contact is to allow Trustees to offer clarification of any information contained in the letter. If so desired, they will provide an opportunity for the Board to hear Delegate comments on topics we are looking at. If Delegates prefer not to
have a Trustee phone them, they can let the Trustee know when initial contact is made, and we will honor that. We do appreciate how busy life can be; however, in the spirit of unity, we do seem to have the most success when we talk to each other and reason things out. Everyone’s opinions, comments, and insights are important.

• Do you find the quarterly Delegate Questions useful?• Would you like to see a synopsis of the Delegate calls on AFG Connects?

I would like to close this letter with a declaration of appreciation to the Panel 57 Delegates who will soon be leaving their current roles. We not only appreciate, but we value your commitment and dedication plus all the service which you have provided to the Al-Anon Family Groups. We wish you the best, and our hope would be for you to find your next avenue of continued growth and strength. (Of course, we can supply you with a list of opportunities, if you wish!!)

The following update is based on the unaudited financial statements for the period ending
September 30, 2019.

**Revenues**Gross literature sales for September 2019 were $279,513, which is $48,601 less than
actual September 2018. It is anticipated that literature sales will be less than prior year
2018 due to the new literature that was introduced in 2018. However, literature sales to
date are $100,586 (4%) higher than budgeted sales. Contributions for September 2019
were $158,008. This is lower than September 2018 contributions of $162,030. Year to
date contributions are trending above budget by $63,865 (4%) and above prior year of
$106,515 (8%) due to a significant bequest received earlier in the year.

Market conditions in September were positive for a return on investments. The General
Fund experienced a gain of $7,100 for September. The Board approved a 4% transfer
from the General Fund to the Reserve Fund of $17,900. Unrealized gains from our
investments in the Reserve Fund increased by $41,800 for the month due to moderate
performance in the market. At the end of the month, we had an unrealized gain of
$1,778,001 in the Reserve Fund compared to $1,713,070 at the end of August.

**Expenses**Expenses have increased by $48,637 compared to prior year but are in line with budgeted
expectations at 73% overall. No expenses accounts are particularly concerning.

**Net Assets**Change in net assets in the General Fund resulted in an operating surplus of $173,235.
The increase is due to an increase in contributions from a bequest, strong literature sales
in the first half of the year, and conservative spending.

**Reflections and Outlook:**On page forty-six (46) in *Many Voices, One Journey* (B-31) there is a notation at the
bottom of the page which states: “Lois was “dreaming big” when she and Anne ordered
1,000 copies of *Purposes and Suggestions for Al-Anon Family Groups.* When I consider
the future, do I think of possibilities or limitations?” The World Service Conference theme
for 2020 is “Dreaming Big with 20|20 Vision” In order for the proposed Strategic Plan
Strategies, like the mobile app, to come to fruition; contributions will need to be strong.
As we approach the year’s end, Staff will continue to closely monitor expenses to ensure
these costs come in as close to budget as possible Professional fees are 75% higher than budget due to costs already incurred earlier in the year. Bank fees are 75% higher than budget due to more members using PayPal to purchase literature with the offset reflected in lower credit card fees.

Policy Committee

These are some of the items being worked on besides many test revisions not mentioned here.

The purpose of the update sent each quarter by the Policy Committee is to report progress
and provide information on the following:
• Topics that are generated by the fellowship and discussed by the Policy Committee
regarding issues or concerns that need clarification or interpretation in light of the
Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Service;
• Progress of work being done by Policy Committee work groups, task, and thought
forces;
• Policy motions to be presented to the World Service Conference (WSC); and
• Policy motions passed by the WSC.

The Alateen Preamble Task Force presented their recommendations for revision. After
discussion and some revisions suggested by Policy Committee members, the material
was approved and will be presented to the 2020 World Service Conference for final
approval.
The Electronic Meeting Work Group, which was moved from the Policy Committee to the
Board of Trustees, finished their Electronic Meetings portion of the “Policy Digest” section
of the *2018-2021 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* version two (2) text review and
provided recommendations. After discussion and minor revisions, the Policy Committee
approved the Policy Digest text. The Electronic Meetings revised text will also be going
to the 2020 WSC for review and approval.
The Local Services Policy Digest Review Task Force presented their latest
recommendations for text revision. The Policy Committee approved, with minor edits, the
Local Services portion of the Policy Digest revised text. This material will be going to the
2020 WSC for discussion and approval as well.

The Thought Force Past A.A. Members Involved in Al-Anon Service presented their
KBDM and recommendations to the Policy Committee. After a lengthy discussion, the
Policy Committee determined that a Task Force was needed to expand the current policy
regarding Al-Anon members who are or have been members of A.A. and who are involved
in Al-Anon service. This new Task Force will be formed and its charge written before the
next Policy Committee meeting in January 2020.

As always, the Policy Committee welcomes all questions and suggestions from any
Al-Anon and Alateen member, meeting, group, or Area regarding issues that might need
further clarification or interpretation in light of our Legacies.

**Conference Leadership Team (CLT) Update**

The purpose and responsibility of the Conference Leadership Team (CLT) is to prepare
a World Service Conference (WSC) agenda that facilitates the active voice and effective
group conscience of our fellowship.

Some of the changes for the 2020 WSC will be in addition to the six – three minute
sharing’s by the Trustees, we are excited to relay that we will also invite a member of the
Executive Committee and the Chairperson of Executive Committee for Real Property
Management (ECRPM) to each respectively relay a 3 minute sharing as well.
We encourage each of you to talk about the 2020 WSC Theme and look for ways to
incorporate it within your Areas.

Dreaming Big with 20|20 Vision
Rêver grand avec une vision 20|20
Soñar en grande con visión 20|20

**All Conference members will visit our World Service Office during the 2020 WSC.** You
will have a tour of the office, visit the Archives, meet Staff, and have time for picture taking.
We look forward to you enjoying this wonderful experience while we welcome you home.

The seven members of the CLT include the two Trustees who serve as Chair and CoChair, the Chair of the Board of Trustees, the Executive Director of the World Service
Office, the Director of Programs, the Events & Special Projects Manager, and the
Associate Director—Conference

**AREA**

Let me welcome our new Area Officers: Delegate, Panel 60, Marcia M.; Alternate Delegate, Pat S.; Area Chair., Elaine M.; Area Treasurer, Jackie B.; and Area Secretary Taffy P. Congratulations to you and welcome to our Area World Service Committee for 2020.

Tonight, we will be introducing our potential Area Coordinators for a vote or vote of confidence for each. AAPP, Archives Coordinator, Al-Anon/AA Events, Group Records, Literature Coordinator, Phone Service Coordinator, and Website Coordinator.

We will also be welcoming the new District Representatives and Alternate District Representatives to their first Area World Service Committee from districts: 4, 5, 6 12 and 13.

Thank you very much to our out-going Coordinators. You have done a fine job over these past three years and it has been an honor to work with you. Thank you to our out-going District Representatives and Alternate District Representatives. Again, it has been a great pleasure working with you over the past three years.

This is an exciting three-year conclusion for me and a little bittersweet because I won’t be as involved with the Area and especially the World Service Conference 2020. Marcia will be a wonderful CT Delegate on Panel 60.

I would like to thank our Al-Anon Chair and Co-Chair for the annual CSCYPAA recently held on November 29 through December 1. The speakers were wonderful and the workshops were great.

**HAPPENINGS**

**CT-AFG Serenity Breakfast, Sunday, January 19, 2020. Bella Vista room, Hawk’s Landing Country Club, 201 Pattonwood Drive, Southington, CT.**

**March 2020 NERD**

**“2020 Vision of Hope”, 43rd CT Al-Anon Convention, March 20-22, 2020, Red Lion Hotel, Cromwell, CT.**

**44th Annual Massachusetts Al-Anon Convention, April 3-5, 2020. Will be held at the Sheraton Framingham Hotel, Framingham, MA.**

**April 26, 2020, Area 11 A.A. Round Up, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Wethersfield Community Center, 30 Greenfield St., Wethersfield, CT 06109. This includes Al-Anon participation.**Love in Service,

Gail L.

Delegate, Panel 57