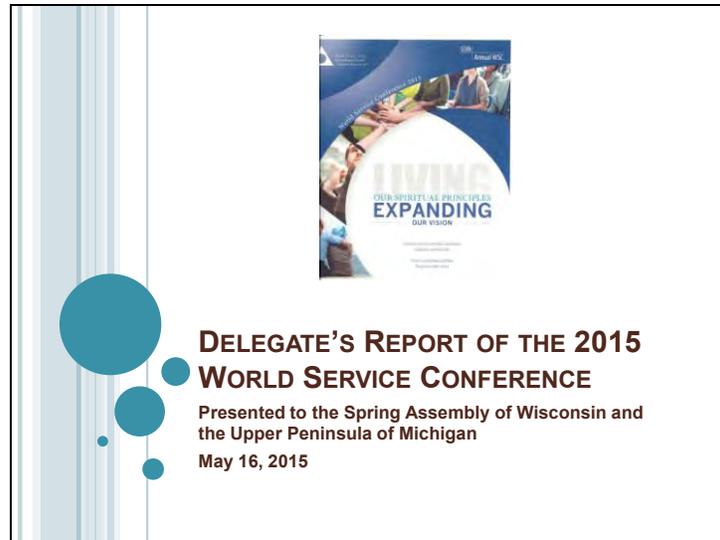


Slide 1



Introduction

The 2015 World Service Conference Theme was Living our Spiritual Principles: Expanding Our Vision.

PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

- Thought Forces
 - Create Strategies to help the Membership welcome New Trends into the Fellowship
 - Create Strategies to show Spiritual Connection of being a Registered Group
 - Create Strategies to show the Importance of Abundance and Spirituality in Money Discussions
- Task Forces
 - Identify, gather and present practices that demonstrate a Healthy, Thriving Group
 - Create Ways to Raise Awareness of the Tools available for Alateen

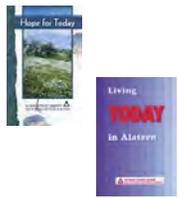


On the day prior to the Conference, the Conference members met with their 2014 assignment to a Task or Thought Force in order to prepare for presentations to the conference. We then went to our 2015 appointed assignments - the Literature Committee for me.

This shows a list of all Thought & Task Forces from the past year.

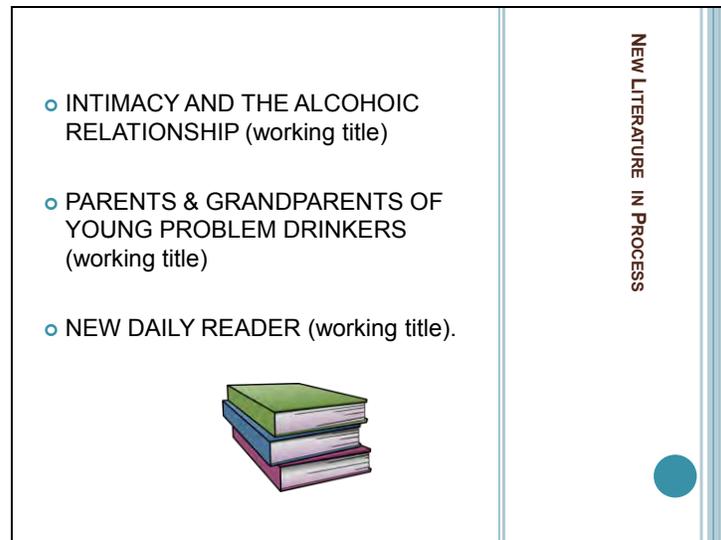
ASSIGNED TO LITERATURE COMMITTEE

- Literature Committee Guideline
- Process for Developing Conference Approved Literature
- Literature Review Process
- Literature Committee Roles
- Revising AI-Anon Literature



In that meeting we reviewed the Literature Committee Guideline, The Process for Developing Conference Approved Literature, the Literature Review Process, the Literature Committee Roles, and the definitions in Revising AI-Anon Literature. Whew! Sounds like a lot, but the meeting went quickly.

Slide 4



- INTIMACY AND THE ALCOHOIC RELATIONSHIP (working title)
- PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS OF YOUNG PROBLEM DRINKERS (working title)
- NEW DAILY READER (working title).

We still need sharings for the new pieces of literature that we are working on:

INTIMACY AND THE ALCOHOIC RELATIONSHIP (working title) and PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS OF YOUNG PROBLEM DRINKERS (working title) and the NEW DAILY READER (working title). At this time, we have received over 1130 sharings for the intimacy piece, about 155 sharings for the parents/grandparents piece and 216 sharings for the reader.

It would be great if some writing workshops could be held in our area for any or all of these publications.

SHARING AREA HIGHLIGHTS

The Legacies make up the circle of love in the Al-Anon Family Groups

- ▲ Recovery through the Steps
- ▲ Unity through the Traditions
- ▲ Service through the Concepts



Can you start contributing closer to **\$3.00** to your group so those 3 Legacies will be around for the newcomer?
"3 for 3"

© 2014 Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc.

Are your AFG contributions keeping up with the times?

	1950	2014
Gallon of Gas	20¢	\$3.59
Tube of Toothpaste	25¢	\$2.59
Soda	25¢ bottle	\$1 to \$2 can
Cup of Coffee	5¢	\$1.35
Loaf of Bread	15¢ to 20¢	\$2 to \$4
Fast Food Burger	15¢	\$1 to \$2
AFG Contribution	\$1	\$1



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Later in the afternoon we held the Sharing Area Highlights for the delegates. This is a Delegate run and Delegate only sharing time about the successes and issues in our areas. I can send a copy to anyone who wishes to read it for new ideas we could use in our area, districts or groups. (I can do this because I compiled it!) The session went very well with lots of good sharing and fun.

I shared about the Table Tent "3 for 3" that was created by our Group Service Action Committee. I had so many requests for this by other delegates that I ended up sending it to all the delegates.

Slide 6



We started by going over the Conference Rules:

- Follow the agenda
- Start and stop on time
- Keep on Topic
- Silence cell phones
- No side talking
- Presumed goodwill
- No applause when someone state an opinion
- If someone says what you were going to say, sit down
- No distractions
- Two minutes at the mic

CONFERENCE GOALS

Delegates' Goals

Personal Goal



- o To Enjoy each and every part of my final conference as delegate and to participate fully.

Delegates' goals

- Bring viewpoint of his/her Area
- Listen and participate in discussions
- Vote on matters affecting Al-Anon
- Return to Area to share a broader perspective of Al-Anon worldwide

THOUGHT FORCE: CREATE STRATEGIES TO SHOW SPIRITUAL CONNECTION OF BEING A REGISTERED GROUP

- Strategy #1 – Create a group outreach tool
- Strategy #2 – Develop a presentation to share with non-registered groups
- Strategy #3 – Offer a workshop or presentation on Unity



This is the Thought Force that I was assigned to at the 2014 WSC and we worked on this throughout the year. We came up with seven strategies that we hope will be adapted in some way:

- Create a group outreach tool which could be a pamphlet, a bookmark, a publication, or a *Forum article that focuses on demonstrating the spiritual connection a registered group has to Al-Anon Legacies.*
- Create a workshop or presentation that demonstrates the spiritual connection of being a registered group.
Emphasize:
That **Unity is enhanced through being part of the group conscience.**
How the spiritual tools of the program help to increase **Participation**
- Offer a workshop or presentation on **Unity. Being connected and joining the Al-Anon fellowship by registering draws a group more closely into the triangle of Al-Anon's three Legacies, enhancing the group's spiritual connection while enabling each group to maintain its own personal flavor.**

Strategy #4 – Propose ways for groups to support one another

Strategy #5 – Modify the *Starting an Al-Anon Group Guideline (G-12)*

Strategy #6 – Introduce spiritual concepts wherever possible in the instructions for completing the GR-1 form

Strategy #7 – Create a skit



- Propose ways for groups to support one another. Show the spiritual connection of being a registered group by demonstrating the principles of **Accountability, Responsibility, and Participation through action.**
- Modify the *Starting an Al-Anon Group Guideline (G-12)* to include either a statement describing spiritual connections of being a registered group or an example showing how being a registered group can be spiritual for all group members.
- Introduce spiritual concepts wherever possible in the instructions for completing the GR-1 form.
- Create a skit (or other such option) comparing a) how an individual's actions such as attending meetings, choosing a Sponsor, and offering to be of service help achieve greater spiritual connection to b) how a group's actions such as forming a group and going from being unregistered to registered help achieve greater spiritual connection.

Meet the Board:

World Service Office Volunteers

- o "Getting to Know the WSO"



I'd like to share with you a little information about the first "Meet the Board" Event which was held in July of 2014.

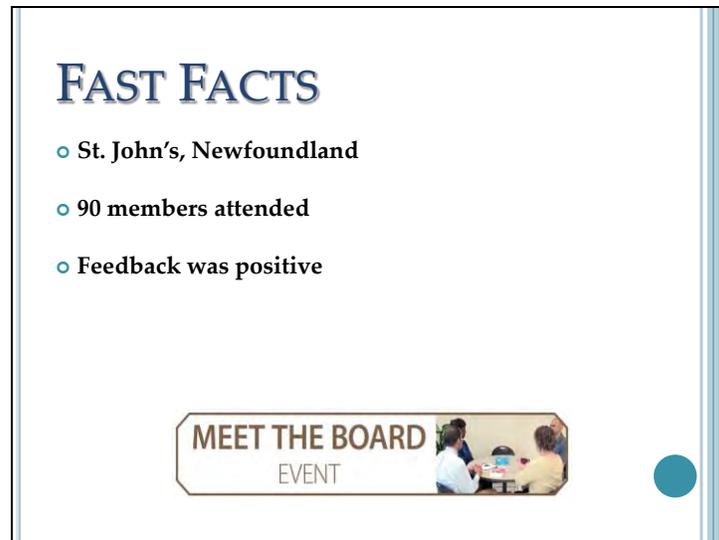
PURPOSE

- To provide an opportunity for Al-Anon members, the Board of Trustees, and Executive Committee members to interact
- To share information about how the World Service Office (WSO) serves the fellowship



The purpose of this event was to take the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee members to a local Area, hold its meeting there, and then on the last day, meet with local members. This event is an opportunity for everyone to interact on a more personal level.

It was also an opportunity to share with members about how the World Service Office serves the fellowship.



FAST FACTS

- St. John's, Newfoundland
- 90 members attended
- Feedback was positive

MEET THE BOARD
EVENT

The graphic features a white background with a blue vertical bar on the right. The title 'FAST FACTS' is in a large, blue, serif font. Below it are three bullet points with blue circular markers. At the bottom, there is a banner with a photograph of three people sitting around a table, and the text 'MEET THE BOARD' in a bold, sans-serif font, with 'EVENT' in a smaller font below it. A solid blue circle is positioned to the right of the banner.

The first Meet the Board event was held in St. John's, Newfoundland, last July (July 19, 2014).

Nineteen Trustees and Three Executive Committee members traveled to Newfoundland.

Feedback received from Area members who attended revealed that...

The average time of membership in Al-Anon was 14 years.

The newest member had 2 months.

The "oldest" member started Al-Anon in St. John's and had 52 years.

The room was filled with enthusiasm and energy; it felt like a family reunion. Feedback sheets indicated the day was a rousing success.



The Day's Agenda

- **Presentations and Personal Talks**
- **Round-table Discussions**
- **Lunchtime**
- **Gallery Walk of WSO Committees**

MEET THE BOARD
EVENT



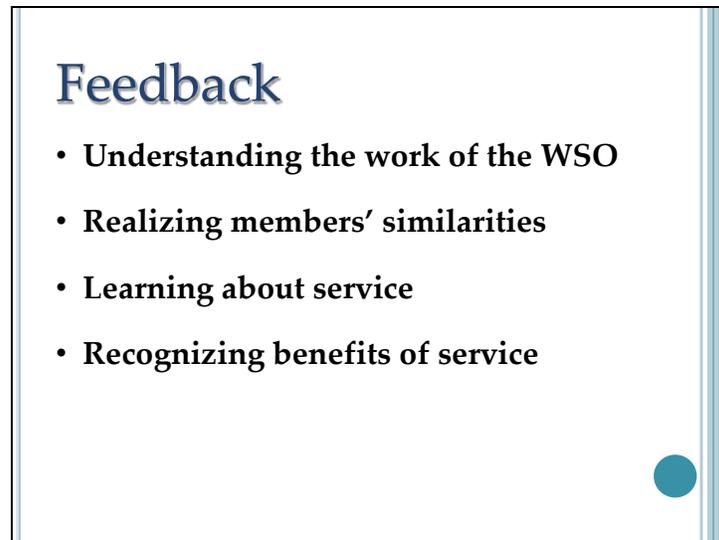
The agenda was planned from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Most attendees pre-registered, but 20 registered on-site.

The program began with a welcome message from the Chair of the Board, followed by three short talks by Trustees. Trustees shared about international visits, TEAM events, and visiting Area Assemblies.

Round-table discussions on public outreach, challenges to the fellowship, and use of technology were held before lunch. Two personal talks by a Trustee and Executive Committee member followed after lunch.

Lunch was an enjoyable time of members mixing and sharing experience, strength and hope.

The Gallery Walk at the end of the day included ten different stations. The purpose was to rotate among tables to learn about the work of the Board of Trustees. Members had time to ask questions.



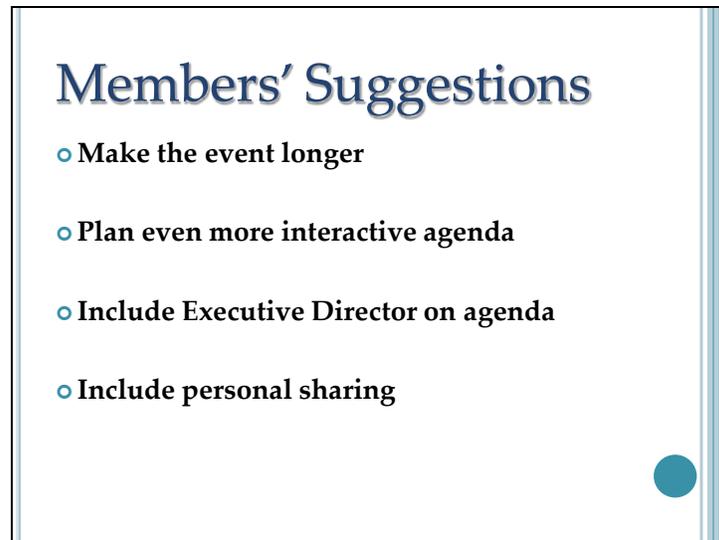
Feedback

- **Understanding the work of the WSO**
- **Realizing members' similarities**
- **Learning about service**
- **Recognizing benefits of service**

One of the questions on the feedback form asked: “What was the most valuable information you gained?” Responses revealed that we achieved our goal of personalizing the WSO.

Members talked about a greater understanding of “what makes the organization tick” and how much more aware they were of all the work involved in world service.

Many acknowledged our common bond, as well as our common concerns throughout the world. It was gratifying to read such comments as “I can see service makes people more confident,” and “I am more aware of what I can do as a member of my group and Area.”



Members' Suggestions

- **Make the event longer**
- **Plan even more interactive agenda**
- **Include Executive Director on agenda**
- **Include personal sharing**

Members also made suggestions:

The overwhelming response was to make the event longer! One member said to make it two days.

Members loved the interaction and wanted more time for breakouts, as well as a time for questions and answers about the work of the Board.

Members enjoyed the personal aspect of the event but wanted even more personal sharing, mixing, and socializing.

*In the future, topics and the program will be adjusted to consider the Area and its members.

2015

- **July 25th**
- **Edmonton, Alberta**
- **Nisku Conference Center**



A photograph showing a city skyline (Edmonton) reflected in a body of water (a river). The sky is blue, and the buildings are silhouetted against it. Below the photo is a small teal circle.

In closing, the event was a wonderful celebration of recovery and outreach. Feedback from the St. John's members was so positive and uplifting. The event truly was Al-Anon in action.

The Area hosting the event this year will be Edmonton, Alberta, with the day scheduled at the Nisku Conference Center.

We then received invitations for the 2016 "Meet the Board" event. Which I have here. I would like to see Area 61 submit a Request.

The 2016 "Meet the Board" event will be held in October, not July.

2016 – Wisconsin??



- The 2016 “Meet the Board” event will be held in October, not July.

I would like to see Area 61 submit a Request.

The 2016 “Meet the Board” event will be held in October, not July.

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

In 1963, the World Service Conference passed this motion:

MOTION: All personal donations and gifts from members of AI-Anon to HQ are to be limited to \$100 per year and all bequests from members of AI-Anon or their immediate families are to be limited to \$100.

VOTE: Carried with 30 for and 17 against



Before I tell you about the decision the 2015 WSC made concerning Memorial Contributions, I would like to give you a little background on this policy.

In 1968, the limit on Memorial Contributions was raised to \$200 and in 1974, it was raised to \$400 from both members and immediate families.

1984 WSC SUMMARY, P. 37

- One workshop confronted this puzzle: “The WSO will accept a one-time contribution from the immediate family in memory of a member. If the family members are not AI-Anon members, is this not an outside contribution?” Six workshop members held that it *would be an outside contribution, four that it would not, and three abstained!*



Because of the consensus of this workshop at the 1984 WSC, the following discussion was held at the July, 1984, Policy Committee Meeting

JULY , 1984 – POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

- DISCUSSION: ...at the WSC the question of accepting contributions from the immediate family was a green light question which was discussed in a workshop. Also there was a letter from a member... who questioned an article in *INSIDE AL-ANON* informing her that an in memoriam gift could be received from the immediate family in memory of a member. She felt that this violated our Seventh Tradition of declining outside contributions. ...the majority in the WSC workshop felt that such a contribution violated Traditions. Also expressed was the thought that the feelings of the family should be honored at their time of grief. After discussion and the knowledge that AA would not accept such a contribution, the committee concurred that accepting such a contribution would violate our Seventh Tradition.

The 1984 Policy Committee felt that accepting Memorial Contributions from non Al-Anon members was against our Traditions, a motion was passed changing the wording to:

- MOTION: To amend the Policy Digest to read as follows: 'The limit on all contributions from individual member of Al-Anon and Alateen to the WSO is \$500 per year.' (Deleting the words—"...and a one-time contribution from the immediate family in memory of a member is \$500.)
- VOTE: carried with 1 abstention



2015 WSC

- o Policy Committee to write text allowing Memorial Contributions from non-members
- o Set a limit on the amount contributed
- o To be no stipulations on funds by contributors



Most of the comments from the Conference Members were in favor of allowing Memorial Contribution from families and friends of deceased Al-Anon members who themselves are not members.

A limit on the amount any one person may give is to be set. This amount will more than likely be a percentage of AFG, Inc. annual budget. That percentage may be one tenth of one percent. That estimate is about \$5,000.00.

The giver of the contribution may not put stipulations on how the money given will be spent. All Memorial Contributions will go into the general fund.

FINANCE PRESENTATION – AREA DREAMS

- To hold an Area event
- To increase participation at Assembly
- To increase the visibility of Al-Anon Family Groups
- To ensure financial support of Al-Anon Family Groups
- To strengthen Alateen groups
- To strengthen Al-Anon Family Groups



Last summer the Chairperson of the Board of the asked in her letter to share the dreams of our Area with the Board of Trustees during the Delegate calls. The responses were compiled and fell into these categories.

We were then asked to throw out more dreams no matter how outrages or out of reach they might be.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Find a way to have newcomers return and stay○ 7th Tradition: increase birthday and group contributions○ Having 4 Al-Anon members for each AA member attending meetings○ All DR positions filled○ More Alateens involved in the Area○ GR for every group○ All service members show enthusiasm for service - follow through and carry forward○ AFG PSA shown during the SUPER BOWL every year○ AFG as well recognized as AA○ Every Area will be visited by WSO staff and WSO volunteers - every year	<p>OUR BIG DREAMS</p> <p>Dream <i>Big!</i></p> 
---	--

This is a partial list of what we came up with.

My favorite is: “Having 4 Al-Anon members for each AA member attending meetings

A really big dream is: “AFG PSA shown during the SUPER BOWL every year.” Can it be attained?
With good planning, anything is possible.

CHOSEN AGENDA ITEM

- Is the current model of Alateen the best model for the future of both Al-Anon and Alateen?
- CAI – The importance of Alateen to our Al-Anon programs.
- CAI – In some Areas, what is stopping our kids from coming to Alateen?



This was the first Chosen Agenda Item we had chance to comment on. The consensus seems to be that even though we feel Alateen is an important part of Al-Anon, that perhaps we are using too many resources when the kids don't appear to want to attend meetings.

COMMENTS

- We need to get younger Al-Anon members before we can get Alateen members
- Need better education as to what Alateen is
- Kids need to make it happen
- No support at home
- Ask kids what they want – On-line meetings; “Chat meetings”
- Look at the needs of the teens
- Are we forcing the kids before they are ready
- AMIAS are doing all the work and not getting enough teens, if any



Here are a few of the comments that were shared at the conference.

**REGIONAL COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES –
NORTH CENTRAL REGION**

- All Delegates in the North Central Region are on the RCT along with three out of region Delegates chosen at random
- The Areas within the Region may submit candidate resumes to the WSO by **August 15, 2015**
- The RCT and the Nominating Committee will score the resumes
- The RCT Chairperson will combine the tally sheets



All Delegates in the North Central Region are on the Regional Committee on Trustees (RCT) along with three out of region Delegates chosen at random. The Chair and Alternate Chair are Delegates from within the Region holding the election.

Areas within the Region submit candidate resumes to the WSO by **August 15, 2015**. The Board of Trustees will retain the option of submitting an incumbent resume for scoring if the incumbent was not submitted by the Area.

The RCT and the Nominating Committee will score the resumes and the RCT Chairperson will combine the tally sheets

RCT PLAN, CONTINUED

- In October will select up to two candidates from the Region.
- The Nominating Committee will forward the names of the candidates to the RCT Chairperson.
- In January, the Board of Trustees will select one of the two candidates as the Regional nominee.
- At the 2016 WSC the Regional Trustees will be presented for approval



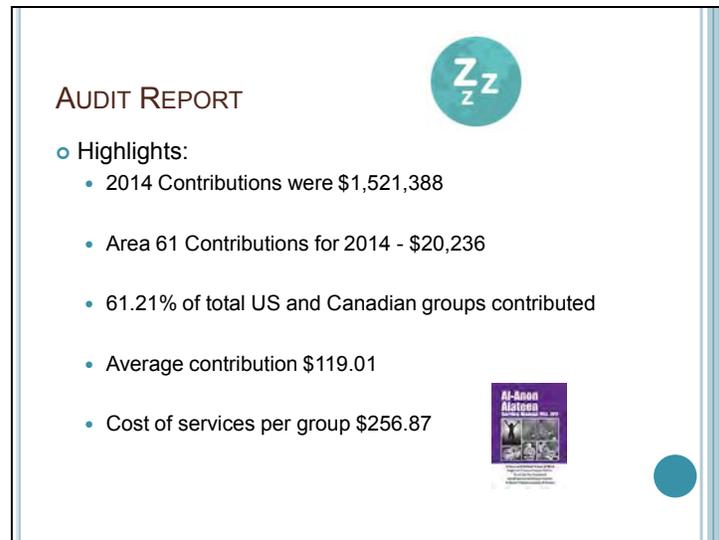
In October, the Nominating Committee with the input from the RCT, will select up to two candidates from the Region.

The Nominating Committee will forward the names of the candidates to the RCT Chairperson. The RCT Chairperson will then send the names of the candidates to the Delegate members of the RCT. Any member of the RCT may file an objection by **December 15th**.

In January, the Board of Trustees will consider the needs of the Board, along with any objections from the RCT, and will select one of the two candidates as the Regional nominee.

The selected nominee will be presented to the World Service Conference for traditional approval.

Regional Trustee nominees will be elected at the Annual Board meeting following Conference.



The slide is titled "AUDIT REPORT" and features a teal circular logo with the letters "ZZ" in the top right corner. Below the title, there is a section labeled "Highlights:" followed by a bulleted list of five items. In the bottom right area of the slide, there is a small thumbnail image of a document titled "Al-Anon Alateen" and a teal circular graphic element.

AUDIT REPORT

ZZ

- Highlights:
 - 2014 Contributions were \$1,521,388
 - Area 61 Contributions for 2014 - \$20,236
 - 61.21% of total US and Canadian groups contributed
 - Average contribution \$119.01
 - Cost of services per group \$256.87

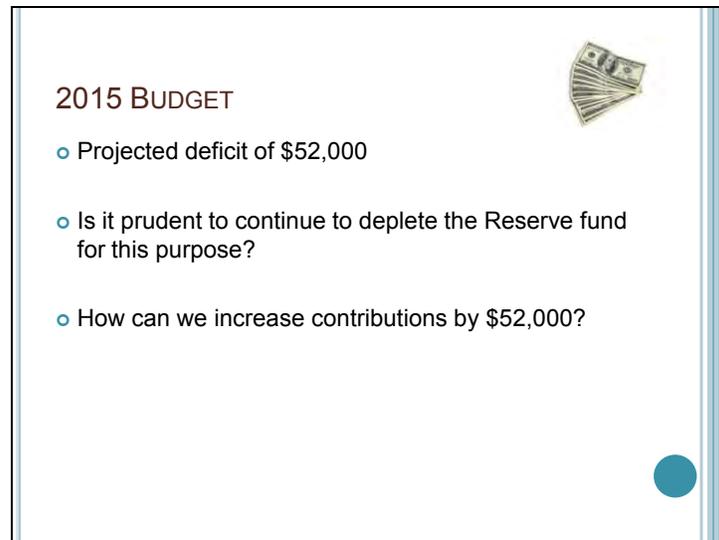
Al-Anon Alateen

2014 Contributions were \$1,521,388 – first time ever they exceeded budgeted amount of \$1,500,000

Area 61 Contributions for 2014 - \$20,236 – Up from \$19, 592 in 2013

61.21% of total US and Canadian groups contributed with an average of \$119.01 per group that contributed.

Cost of services per group \$256.87

A presentation slide titled "2015 BUDGET" with a stack of money icon in the top right corner. The slide contains three bullet points: "Projected deficit of \$52,000", "Is it prudent to continue to deplete the Reserve fund for this purpose?", and "How can we increase contributions by \$52,000?". A blue circle is located in the bottom right corner of the slide frame.

2015 BUDGET

- Projected deficit of \$52,000
- Is it prudent to continue to deplete the Reserve fund for this purpose?
- How can we increase contributions by \$52,000?

The revised 2015 budget was presented to the WSC with a projected \$52,000 deficit.

We were asked: “Do you want to increase projected contributions to cover the projected deficit, increase the amount drawn from the Reserve Fund to cover the projected deficit, or leave the projected deficit of \$52,000?”

Considerations:

- While authorized to transfer up to 4% of the average value of the last three years of the Reserve Fund to the General Fund, is it prudent to deplete the Reserve Fund for this purpose.
- If we do not make a transfer from the reserve fund to cover the projected deficit how will we increase contributions by \$52,000?

THINKING ABUNDANTLY



- If 100% of the groups gave \$119 = \$1,844,024
- If 9,461 groups gave an extra \$5.50 = \$52,035.50
- If 9,461 groups gave \$119 + \$20 = \$1,700,000
- If 9,461 groups gave \$25 more, total contributions would equal \$1,752,000



In 2014, 9,461 out of 15,496 groups, or 61% of the groups contributed an average of \$119 each.

If 100% of the groups contributed at average of \$119, group contributions alone would total \$1,844,024. Added to that would be individual and other service arms contributions.

If each of the 9,461 groups that contributed last year contributed an additional \$5.50, that would cover the \$52,000 projected deficit.

If each of the 9,461 groups that contributed last year contributed an additional \$20, that would bring the total contributions to the budgeted amount of \$1,700,000 if individuals and service arms contributed with they contributed in 2014.

If each of the 9,461 groups that contributed last year contributed an additional \$25, and individuals and service arms contributed what they contributed in 2014, contributions would total \$1,752,000, covering the projected deficit and giving life to our collective abundant thinking in expressing our gratitude for what we have received from AI-Anon

BIG QUESTION

- How do we envision responsible service leadership in Al-Anon, a vision that inspires today's members to be tomorrow's leaders who are motivated by spiritual principles?



Each year, the Board of Trustees poses a “Big Question” to the Conference members. This year’s was:

“How do we envision responsible service leadership in Al-Anon, a vision that inspires today’s members to be tomorrow’s leaders who are motivated by spiritual principles?”

The “Essay on Leadership” in Concept Nine reminds us that leaders must possess that all-important attribute of vision—the ability to anticipate the future.

Concept Nine cautions about distinguishing between wishful fantasy and thoughtful estimate... (*Service Manual*, p. 202).

Perhaps a vision lies somewhere in between the two—between fantasy and estimate.

Spiritual principles are the foundation of Al-Anon and the reason we are in this room today.

SERVICE LEADERSHIP TOPICS

1. Relying on the ideas in Concept Nine, especially the "Essay on Leadership" as a guide, what can Areas do to inspire members to grow and develop as future leaders?
2. What is our vision of a World Service Conference embodying spiritual principles that meets the needs of all Conference members?
3. What skills, talents, and abilities will the World Service Office need of its administrative staff leaders in the future?
4. ***How can service leaders use technology to link members together at all levels of service, strengthening communication and inspiring spiritual connections within the service structure?***
5. What is our vision of an attractive and dynamic Alateen program that would meet the needs of today's young people affected by someone's drinking?
6. How can we as leaders encourage individual Al-Anon members to personally expand public outreach efforts?



We broke into smaller groups and each group was given a question to discuss. Our group had question 4.

“How can service leaders use technology to link members together at all levels of service, strengthening communication and inspiring spiritual connections within the service structure?”

SOME COMMENTS ON #4

- Hold Technology Workshop or Training
- Create a Technology Coordinator for the Area
- Make Delegate's Report available to members
- Use social media to create a private "District Group"
- Create an Area E-Newsletter
- Provide all area officers with a computer or tablet



Here are just some of the ideas our group came up with.

CONCEPTS EIGHT AND ELEVEN

Motion #7 – (94 yes, 1 no, 0 abstentions, 0 void) – CARRIED

To amend the descriptive text on pages 196-198 in the *2014-2017 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, Al-Anon's Twelve Concepts of Service, "Concept Eight"*.

A small blue circle is located in the bottom right corner of the slide frame.

We received copies of the proposed texts for the changes a few weeks before the conference and I emailed these out to all our AWSC members for comments.

At the conference we were able to review all the changes for Concept Eight, but were only able to get through part of Concept Eleven. This will be completed at the 2016 WSC.

As soon as the changes are reviewed by the editors for grammar and punctuation, new pages will be put on the members' website in a format that may be downloaded. Here in the text: *(I did not have this in my report given at the Assembly.)*

Concept Eight

The Board of Trustees delegates full authority for routine management of Al-Anon Headquarters to its executive committees.

The Trustees of the Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters act in two major capacities: *(a)* in matters of policy and finance, they are the principal planners and are responsible for final decisions; *(b)* in routine operation, the Trustees delegate full authority to executive committees charged with the management of Headquarters.

To arrive at the Concept, experience has led us through the following stages of development:

From 1951 to 1954, when Al-Anon's Headquarters was still trying to feel its way, the workers at the then-named Clearing House were advised by a committee of representatives of neighboring Al-Anon groups who met occasionally. After the incorporation of Headquarters late in 1954, its Board of Trustees administered the World Service Office. Seven to eleven in number, the Trustees were meeting monthly and appointed a large committee of

volunteers to advise them. This advisory committee included all the Trustees and convened every three months. Any recommendations or resolutions proposed by the Advisory Committee had to be ratified by the Board of Trustees.

In 1957, the Advisory Committee was further formalized by a Charter and given a new name – the Advisory Board. It was the authorized custodian of overall Al-Anon policy and finance. In the Charter the hope was expressed that a permanent conference of Delegates from the various states and provinces would eventually take the place of the Advisory Board. The day-to-day administration of the office, however, was still in the hands of the Trustees.

After three years' trial, in 1964, the World Service Conference came into being as the permanent guardian of Al-Anon's Traditions and services, replacing the Advisory Board.

By this time, however, the business of Al-Anon's Headquarters had grown so large that it became unwieldy for the Board of Trustees to handle the routine administration of the office. Our Trustees realized they could no longer be concerned, as a body, with the endless details that arose daily, weekly, and monthly in the routine conduct of the World Service Office. They also realized the need to devote themselves to the more serious questions of policy, leadership, finance, group and public relations.

Therefore, the Board decided to assign its administrative function to a more constantly available seven-member Executive Committee, possessing the Board's full legal powers. This Executive Committee is composed of three Al-Anon members, preferably not Trustees, elected by the Board; the Executive Director; and Al-Anon member from the administrative staff of the World Service Office; and the Chairpersons of both the Finance and Policy Committees. The Chairperson of this Executive Committee is elected by the Board of Trustees.

This Committee considers all Project Proposals and Project Approvals from committees and staff that fall within budget and existing policy. If a project exceeds budget, it is directed to the Finance Committee. If it entails a change in policy, it is directed to the Policy Committee.

The Board thus became custodian and guarantor of good management of Al-Anon's World Service Office.

In 1994, the WSC agreed to the purchase of property, on a 15-year trial basis, to house the World Service Office. The motion required that the Board of Trustees establish an executive committee for the management of the real property to ensure that AFG not be diverted from its primary purpose. In 1995, the WSC passed a motion to create the Executive Committee for Real Property Management (ECRPM), also on a 15-year trial. After the completion of the trial periods, the By-laws were amended in 2012, to include the EXRPM as a committee of the Board of Trustees.

The Executive Committee for Real Property Management is composed of three at-Large Al-Anon members who are not trustees, elected by the Board; the Business Manager (Director of Business Services); and the Chairperson of the Finance Committee. The Chairperson of the ECRPM is elected by the Board of Trustees from the three at-Large members. The Executive Director and the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees are not ex-officio members of this Executive Committee and may not attend meetings unless invited to do so.

The Board of Trustees delegates to the Executive Committee for Real Property Management the oversight and the management of real property owned by Al-Anon Family Groups Headquarters, Inc.

It is within the authority of the Board of Trustees to establish other executive committees if deemed necessary.

FORUM EDITORIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Motion #4 (90 yes, 5 no, 0 abstentions, 0 void) – CARRIED

That the 2015 WSC gives conceptual approval to develop a piece of CAL based on member sharings published in past issues of *The Forum*.



The *Forum* Editorial Advisory Committee presented the Conference with a framing for a proposal to develop a piece of CAL based on member sharings published in past issues.

The FEAC also provided us with copies of the Knowledge Based Decision Making (KBDM) questions.

After a short discussion, a consensus was made to asking the FEAC to present this motion. {I asked Ann to read this slide.}

AREA DREAMS – BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Our Dream	Steps to Achieve
Every Group have an abundance of recovery that newcomers would return and remain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Activities<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flyers• Spiritual Principleso Resources<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Money• Memberso Time



In our breakout group, we discussed the dream of our choosing which was that every Al-Anon group have an abundance of recovery that newcomers would return and remain.

To achieve this dream we had to determine what activity or activities we would need to do to achieve this dream such as putting up flyers and all members practicing our Spiritual Principles of the Steps, Traditions and Concepts.

We then had to determine what resources we would need: money to produce flyers and our members who work the program.

How much time would this take? In this case it would be ongoing.

We each received our own “dream” sign which is have here. <Show Sign>

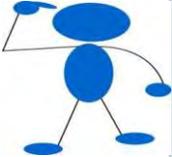
*“With the help of Al-Anon,
my sponsor, and my Higher
Power, change need not be
so scary. If I don’t at least
make an effort, I may never
know how much I can
accomplish.”*

—Hope for Today, p. 278



THOUGHT FORCE: CREATE STRATEGIES TO HELP THE MEMBERSHIP WELCOME NEW PRACTICES INTO THE FELLOWSHIP

1. Create communications/workshops
2. Encourage discussions about change
3. Explore technology as a means of introducing/encouraging change
4. Encourage innovative thinking



The charge for this thought force was to:

Identify the difficulties that keep the membership from considering, and perhaps embracing, new ideas within the fellowship and create strategies that could help the membership welcome new practices into the fellowship that are consistent with our spiritual principles.

They came up with these four strategies: <read from slide>

UNIVERSAL UNDERSTANDING OF RECOVERY

Conference members approved the following description of family recovery to be used in outreach to professionals:

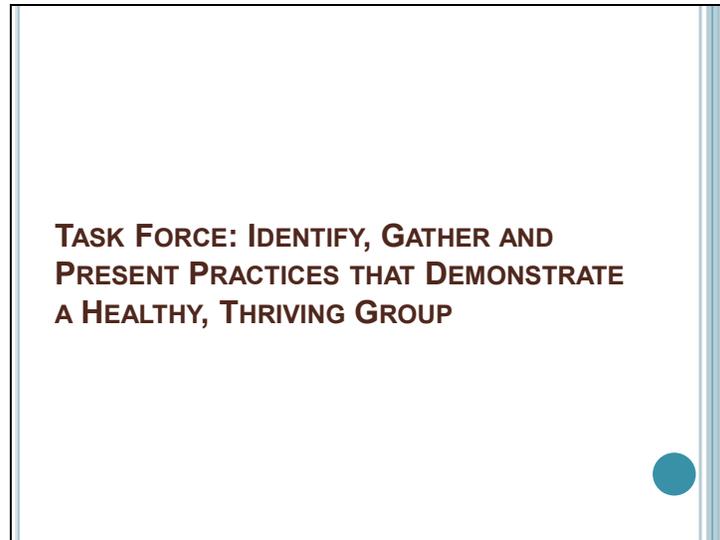
Family recovery is a process of healing and growth for family members affected by someone's drinking. This process helps these individuals make healthier life choices and develop relationships that are more positive and supportive



After five surveys with the membership and two surveys with professionals, the UUR Theme Work Group came up with two final choices that were to be voted on at the 2015 WSC.

The conference passed a motion to accept this description.

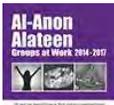
The World Service Office will be coming out with suggestions on how the membership might use this in Public Outreach projects.



Members join local groups, which have a welcoming atmosphere, where the Al-Anon/Alateen program is shared and where members participate in group service. Al-Anon and Alateen members usually consider one group as their “home group.” By regular attendance, friendships are established, and growth is acknowledged. In a home group, members and newcomers find a place where they feel accepted, no matter what. There may be time before the meeting where all members and newcomers are greeted as the room is being set up; refreshments and beverages may be available; and time after the meeting for more conversation and sharing on a one-to-one basis. Tradition Five ensures the group will be safe, friendly, welcoming, and non-judgmental. And always, our Higher Power is present in all meetings.

CHARACTERISTICS OF MEMBERS:

- Show up early and/or stay late.
- Commit to weekly attendance.
- Encourage all members, including newcomers and long-timers, to return.
- Encourage the use of Sponsors.
- Willing to be available to newcomers.
- Avoid outside issues.



The task force came up with these characteristics of members in a thriving group.

MEETING PROTOCOL OR PRACTICES:

- Has a structured weekly group format.
- Remember that “Al-Anon is spoken here” – members of other Twelve Step programs leave those programs at the door.
- Maintain the anonymity of group members at all times.
- Encourage enthusiastically service work
- Has regular business meetings at times chosen by the group.
- Practice Tradition Four - *Participation is the Key to Harmony.*
- Has literature available for a variety of group members.
- Use the wealth of Conference Approved Literature and service materials available.



Here are some of the practices that a thriving group follows.

MEMBER PARTICIPATION



- Share their experience, strength, and hope about recovering from the effects of loving and living with alcoholics.
- Keep their sharings focused on their recovery in the meeting, and may share details with their Sponsors or others on a one-on-one basis.
- Support Alateen members transitioning into AI-Anon groups.
- Listen actively and attentively during member sharings without other distractions.



GROUP PROBLEM-SOLVING

- Use the group conscience process to make group decisions.
- Conduct group inventories at regular intervals.
- Use available Conference Approved Literature, i.e. (K-70)
- Review the “Three Obstacles to Success in Al-Anon.”
- Practice principles above personalities.

The image shows three overlapping booklets or pamphlets. The top one is yellow and titled 'Table of Contents'. The middle one is white with a blue border and titled 'Concise Resolution'. The bottom one is white with a blue border and titled 'Principles'. They are arranged in a slightly overlapping, stacked manner.

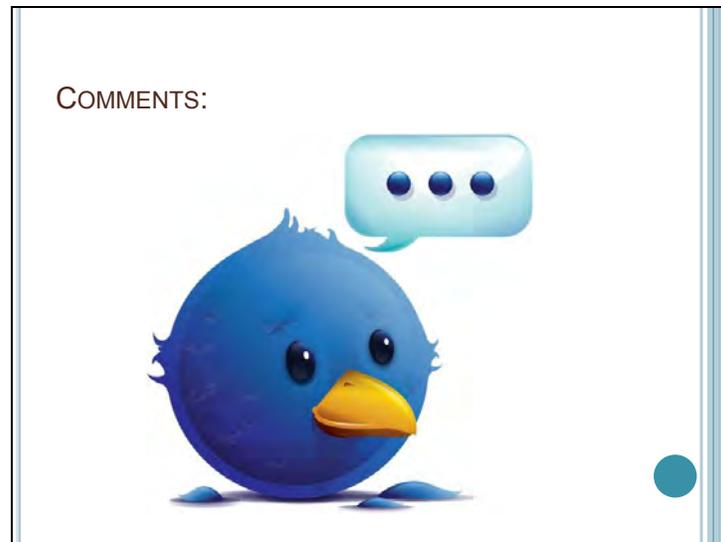
No group can survive if problems are left to fester so the task force also came up with these strategies for Group problem-solving.

CHOSEN AGENDA ITEM

- How can we clarify our primary purpose while welcoming members who need our program who may have a drug addicted friend or family member?
- Is Al-Anon becoming friends and family of addicts? Is the focus more on addiction than alcoholism? Are we diverted from Tradition Three and Tradition Five? How can we support groups and maintain Al-Anon's primary aim? Is the Al-Anon program being diluted?



This is the second Chosen Agenda Item discussed at the conference.



This is the Chosen Agenda Item that we will be discussing after lunch.

After everyone here has an opportunity to share, I will show the comments made at the conference.

Here are the comments from the WSC:

- Meetings need to stay on drinking issues
- Keep out "jargon"
- Membership is self-defined
- Focus on effects of alcoholism
- How would we even know by our sharing in meetings
- We talk AI-Anon in meetings
- Focus on the solution rather than the problem
- May be doing a disservice by thinking AI-Anon has everything for everyone when Nar-Anon or another such meeting is available
- Even the alcoholic/addict can't identify where they belong
- Members should not decide for others whether or not they belong in AI-Anon
- Patience, tolerance, and acceptance
- Dilution comes from lack of boundaries



The Thought Force began with this introduction:

At the 2012 WSC, there was a discussion regarding abundance and it was brought to light that many of us are not comfortable or familiar with thinking about abundance in our lives. Successive Conference themes have focused on the spiritual principles found in our program and our attempts to apply these principles and to grow spiritually. Many financial discussions focus on lack and scarcity rather than abundance. It was hoped that we, as members, could move forward in applying spiritual principles to these financial discussions and to investigate what keeps us from being able to do that; or how to be more consistent in our thinking, and talk about abundance and be able to share that insight.

Our concern was not centered on how to inspire people to give more freely or in larger amounts, but rather to think and talk about financial matters in perhaps a different way, a way that includes these spiritual principles that we hear so much about. Bringing in ideas about gratitude, unity, and abundance may strengthen our connection to our worldwide fellowship and extend to the Twelfth Step work we all find so important.

In this presentation, they discussed the importance of abundance and spirituality in discussions about money, finances, some of the barriers which make those conversations difficult, and some strategies which might help overcome those barriers.

BARRIERS



- Our members may have a lack of understanding about the use of contributions and the cost of WSO services, including the cost of changes to literature.
- Our members may be unaccustomed to discussion regarding spirituality and finances, thus promoting an atmosphere of uncertainty and fear when this topic is introduced for discussion.
- It takes time in Al-Anon recovery to move from a feeling of deprivation and loss to an expression of gratitude and abundance and be able to speak about it.





STRATEGIES

- Acknowledge a spiritual link of abundance to our Higher Power.
- Discuss financial challenges using Al-Anon's spiritual principles and Legacies.
- Lead meetings and convention workshops on gratitude, abundance, and spirituality, and how our thinking has evolved on those topics.
- Create a pamphlet that describes and defines the spiritual principles and relates them to the discussions of financial matters.
- Since repetition is essential in getting the message across, propose re-wording of the *Service Manual* (page 9) regarding *passing the basket*, emphasizing a spiritual link to abundance



Here are just a few of the strategies the Thought Force came up with.

Slide 51



Thanks to all of you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your delegate. It's been a wonderful experience.