

DELEGATE REPORT
TO
2018 FALL ASSEMBLY

WISCONSIN & UPMI AL-ANON & ALATEEN

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE (WSC)

The 58th World Service Conference was in West Harrison, New York, April 16-20, 2018. The conference was moved to New York to be close to Stepping Stones. Every three years the entire conference visits the home of our co-founder, Bill and Lois Wilson. Although there was much business to be done during the week, this was a well spent morning. I could not have imagined the emotions I would experience while walking through their home, looking at photos, documents, the typewriter and Al-Anon related items that were all placed by Lois just as she wanted me to see them. Witts-End is a very small cabin built by Bill (in the photo Bill was in a suit and the worker was in coveralls) and set back on the property, away from the home because so many would visit unexpectedly. Witts-End had a bed, a desk and chair, and this is where Bill would do much of his writing. Stepping Stones was my highlight of the convention and I would highly recommend a visit.

In my report to the Spring Assembly I talked a little about how fast things are changing in my three year term (1/1/16-12/31/18). My first year 2016 I arrived at the conference and I was handed a very full three ring binder. My second year, items for discussion started coming to me early January and questions and answers were compiled and sent back to us before conference to be printed or downloaded for conference. There was an App to be downloaded for your phone or tablet with daily agenda and breakout assignments. This year 2018 most of the preliminary work was again sent AFG Connects under the WSC library and a new App. We also received at registration a 41 page spiral notebook with agenda and breakouts. With all this preliminary work done, my hope was the meetings would end early, but no, 8:00 am to 8:30 pm.

With the advancements in technology at WSO, a WSO website that is open to anyone, social media, AFG Connects, and the "In The Loop" newsletter available to all members that sign up, I believe the Delegate position has changed some. The Delegate is still the link, but rather than bring the information to the members, the Delegate needs to help members find information through these electronic formats. In my three years technology is the biggest change that I have seen at WSO, and I'm very excited to see Al-Anon and Alateen moving into the future.

UNITED STATES NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL DELEGATES MEETING (USNCRDM)

I have attended many of these Regional Delegate Meetings (RDM) and they help prepare the new delegates for a productive World Service Conference. This is where Past-Delegates really shine as they typically put the weekend meeting together. Hotel, invites, programming, registration, meal planning, speakers, agenda and all the other details that go with a great meeting. March 16-18, 2018 we gathered in Duluth, Minnesota and the USNCRDM was hosted by Minnesota North Area. They developed a great program and it felt very comfortable.

Wisconsin & UPMI will host the USNCRDM in Madison 3/15-17/2019. I look forward to our Past-Delegates organizing our meeting.

AL-ANON INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION – BALTIMORE

Can you imagine 4044 attendees, 131 workshops, speaker meetings and panel discussions, 500 members in the Language of Love Parade? One of my highlights was the presentation of a framed “Resolution of Gratitude to Alcoholics Anonymous” to the General Manager of A.A., Greg T. and the Chairperson of the A.A. General Service Board Michelle G. There isn’t enough time to tell you about this incredible event, the incredible people, the incredible recovery and health of so many.

This is one of those events where you need to start putting money away ahead of time, so start saving your \$’s and I’ll see you in Albuquerque in 2023.

MIDLAKE & ALATEEN

This is the first year that Midlake has been held in Illinois. I look forward to the rotation and the new model in the future. Please see my Midlake Report.

I do have some concerns about the numbers of Alateens and Al-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS). There seems to be a great need for AMIAS. AMIAS must be Al-Anon members or Al-Anon members also involved in AA. This is a great opportunity to serve our Alateens in our Area. I have been contacted by schools that want an Alateen meeting but we have no AMIAS to be in the meeting. Please consider this worth while service work and contact our AAPP to be certified.

WISCONSIN & UPPER PENINSILA OF MICHIGAN, AREA 61

This being an Election Assembly, this will be my final report as your Delegate. We as an Area have had plenty of challenges these last three years and plenty of success, such as our convention. Now let’s not forget that out of challenges comes growth.

2017 Spring Assembly I was asked to do a workshop on “Dominance” and I used our literature to point out the negative effects of dominance in our area. The workshop was presented to the Group Representatives and a few others that sat in, not the whole assembly. I do believe we teach others how to treat us and I will give an example. Several years ago I thought it was great when a few seasoned Area members would jump in with the answers. I thanked them and told them how much I appreciated their

help. About this same time I had a service sponsor who's favorite answer was "it's in the book" and I didn't understand why I needed to look it up for myself. So, after all these years I now understand why I need to go to the proper source, the Service Manual, Policy Manual, Legacies, or WSO. I can't grow and work my program if someone is doing it for me. Now the people whom I was so grateful to for immediately giving me the answers or immediately volunteering for something, I now call that dominance and not allowing me to grow. Is the blame mine as I was the one teaching them to jump in with the answer, theirs as they had more time in the program than me, or is there no blame as there is a lesson to be learned from all of this. There is no blame but there is a lesson here, each member needs to be allowed to grow in their program. My service sponsor told me to look at the legacies and see what spiritual principles apply, no answers but great guidance. I will do my best to Presume Goodwill.

2018 brought questions about Past-Delegates and longtime members in Officer and Coordinator positions of the AWSC, serving too long. Our Area isn't much different than any other Area as far as Past-Delegates and longtime members. I believe it is typical to work your way up to the next position, challenging yourself with each position. These positions are voted on and anyone who is qualified can stand. The position of Past-Delegate is one that I could see questioning. With the technology changes being made at WSO and the annual changes made at the World Service Conference by the Conference Leadership Team, just how relevant is a Past-Delegate from several panels ago in preparing the new Delegate at the USNCRDM. Although this is where most Past-Delegates are very active and do a great job in preparing the event. In some Area's only their Immediate Past-Delegate has voice and vote at AWSC and Policy meetings, remaining Past-Delegates with voice only. I look forward to being a Past-Delegate, occasionally sharing my Experience Strength and Hope when asked.

There was also an issue of excess funds that was determined to be funds over and above the Reserve Fund. WSO in 1970 established their Reserve Fund with the following purposes: 1. To assure continuation of essential services in the event of substantial decline in income. 2. To cover cost of special projects which could not be financed from normal sources of income. So, under #1 what would it take for Wisconsin & UPMI to continue our essential services if there was little or no income? I believe this has been determined by the Finance Committee and I also believe they are now working on policy for the future. WSO it's a full year, Wisconsin & UPMI it's a full year without the expenses of AWSC and Assemblies. If the full cost of the AWSC and Assemblies were added in, we might be right where we were before, with a full year of operating funds in our Reserve Fund and no excess. Under #2 this year the Public Outreach Committee was asked to find ways to utilize a third of the excess funds, which they did. I look forward to seeing the final report.

The future for Wisconsin & UPMI at their AWSC Meetings and Assemblies looks great. Bringing these challenges into the light and looking them over helps us in our recovery, personal and in service. Maybe the general membership, Group Representatives,

District Representatives and anyone else, can see us for what we are. All of us are members first, attending our home Al-Anon or Alateen meetings, working our program. Delegate sitting next to the Newcomer, equal in what we have to share. None of us are any better or any worse than anyone else, we are all working a program, if we are doing service work or not. My hope for the future of the Area is Group Representatives will be well informed by those who have gone before them, because it is the GR's who have the ultimate authority at the Assemblies. I look forward to Panel 59 Officers and Coordinators, all growing in their new positions in 2019. Very exciting.

WISCONSIN UPMI CONVENTION

Last year was the first Wisconsin & UPMI Convention and what a great event, exceeding expectations. This year, "Unlocking Possibilities, One Day at a Time" will again be held at Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells on October 19-21, 2018. The planning for this convention started immediately after the last one. Meetings, panels, workshops, basket raffle, banquet & entertainment, great speakers, fellowship and much more. A great family recovery weekend and bring your swimming suit. Looking forward to seeing you there.

AA AREA 74 2018 FALL CONFERENCE

The A.A. 2018 Fall Conference is September 14-16, 2018 in Wausau, the weekend before our Fall Assembly. I will attend with some other Al-Anon members and look forward to a great weekend. I will pass on going on the kayak trip. The theme is "WILLING TO GO TO ANY LENGTH".

APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE FOR YOUR SUPPORT

I feel very blessed to have been your Delegate for the last three years. You supported me in all my efforts, sent me places I wouldn't have gone, introduced me to people I now call friends, you challenged me to become a better person, you changed my life forever. You asked me to represent you at the World Service Conference and it has been an honor to serve you. I will forever be grateful for the experience you have given me.

Don Boche

Panel 56

Delegate

Wisconsin & UPMI