

OHIO AREA SPRING ASSEMBLY
MAY 19, 2012

DELEGATE'S REPORT- Rex M. - Panel 52 Ohio

What an honor to serve as your delegate. I would never have thought I would be in this position. I can only hope I make you proud over the next three years. In the beginning, I stood for delegate and lost the election. Things changed for the elected delegate. Being behind almost four months, I had to get busy making travel arrangements for Minneapolis, MN and Stanford, CT. I attended the Regional Delegates meeting in Minneapolis. It was a learning experience for the World Service Conference.

World Service Conference travel began with flying from Akron-Canton to LaGuardia, NY. After getting checked in, I began meeting other members.

Sunday

The conference began on Sunday. We received materials for World Service Conference. The electronic voting system was explained. Four motions were voted on; all passed. Last year there were 22 motions. The motions were: Seating Motion, Approval of Financial Committee Report; Approval of Annual Report, Approval of Audited Financial Report. I was not on a Task/Thought Forces. Later, we had Sharing Area Highlights and dinner. Each delegate wrote about a highlight from their Area and read it to the Conference.

Monday

On Monday, April 16 Al-Anon WSC was 52 years old. We had assigned seating with our Mentor and Trustee. This was so special. I had talked and e-mailed both before the Conference. Seeing them face to face was wonderful. They answered my questions and guided me along the way. Health Survey - Ric B. made amends for the Health Survey complaints. He said the Review of Policy to check those doing the survey was not done, and this would not happen again. Al-Anon has a policy to work with researchers. It is posted on the member's website and titled "Cooperation with Researchers".

E - Literature

Sharings on this indicated that younger members were more in favor than older members. In Ohio there could be an impact on AIS/LDCs if books would no longer be carried. Other issues include copyright issues and income from sales of printed literature support WSO.

Literature

Thoughts were presented about creating a pamphlet on Abuse. Much discussion was held on the subject and it was tabled. There were concerns about distribution/shipping of literature. It seemed to be slow. The problem was in the shipping department and it has been resolved. Al-Anon pamphlets are getting a new look. It will appear one pamphlet at a time and may take several years to complete.

The trial period for the soft cover How Al-Anon Works has been extended for another year. Members are encouraged to share experiences of how using this with newcomers is working by June 15. They will be used in the CAL corner of the forum. More sharings are need for Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships.

Skill building. Shared leadership

Tuesday

Announcements

Restructuring: Restructuring the conference,

Redistricting: Dividing areas in half. Trial period would be 6 or more years. Some areas have already done this. Florida and California just to mention a couple areas. Would this work in Ohio? Information would have to be submitted to WSO.

Wednesday

We boarded five buses and traveled to Stepping Stones in New York. We toured the home and area buildings, had lunch, great cookies, took lots of pictures and returned to the hotel.

A task force did a presentation on Strengthening Communication.

We had a speaker from New Zealand.

Presentation on Northern Europe and Panama.

Thursday

Panel 50 did sharings.

The Thought Force did a presentation on Members involved in service work who are unable to effectively fulfill the responsibilities of the position. This is a good subject. I know when I suggest to someone that they run for or accept a position; I also remind them that if they can't fulfill the obligation they can resign. Suggestions were to identify issues that

may result in members being unable to fulfill the responsibilities of their service positions, and to develop a variety of strategies that will assist the areas in dealing with these in a positive manner.

Public Service Announcements

There is a new PSA titles "Portraits II" in English, Spanish and French. We will now show this.
We had the closing dinner and Paul G. was the speaker.

Friday

Annual Open Board Meeting

The 2013 WSC will be at Virginia Beach.

Conference Closed

2018 bid presentations started. There were 11 presentations. Ohio's was at 2p.m. Selections for site visits were sent out later. They are Denver, Indianapolis and Baltimore.