

Dear Family

I am going to start my report with the 3-minute talk that outgoing Delegates are required to submit in December before the last World Service Conference that they will be attending. All of our talks are in the 2020 World Service Conference Summary (*P-46*), so you can read mine as well as the others there either in your own hard copy version or online at <https://al-anon.org/for-members/world-service-conference-wsc/world-service-conference-summary/>

Updates as of October 14, 2020

2021 WSC Theme

Moving Forward with Unity, Courage, and Perseverance

Avancemos con unidad, valor y perseverancia

Allons de l'avant avec unité, courage et persévérance

Finances

There is still a projected deficit of \$420,000 through the end of December 2020. Please continue with your contributions to WSO if you are able. To give, you may contribute by check to AFG, Inc., 1600 Corporate Parkway Landing, Virginia Beach, VA 23454, or go to the website: al-anon.org and look for the "Contributions" tab. We hope your groups, Districts, and Areas are doing well. Please take care of your own needs first.

Virtual Town Hall Meetings

As you may remember, T.E.A.M. (Together Empowering Al-Anon Members) events were discontinued after last year, and brainstorming has been ongoing for a suitable replacement that lets WSO Staff and Volunteers connect with members.

On October 8 at 2pm the 2020 WSC Delegates had the opportunity submit a request for their Area to host one of four Virtual Town Hall Meetings presented by our Executive Director and the Chairpersons of the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee. The slots were filled immediately before I logged on.

The winners are

- Saturday, November 14th, 2020: Miriam B (IN)
- Saturday, December 12th, 2020: Rosanna H (CA[N])
- Saturday, January 9th, 2021: Cindy J (FL[N])
- Saturday, February 6th, 2021: Susan R (SD)

More information will be coming "soon" from the different events as we learn if the events will be open to members other than those in the selected Area.

Striving to reach everyone who suffers world-wide

- A new Thought Force, National and International Public Outreach Concerning Social Media, was discussed and will be bringing back to the October Policy Committee meeting an interesting and thought-provoking conversation.
- The 2020 IAGSM will be held using AFG Connects only. There will be no web conferencing.
- The Mobile App continues to evolve and undergo improvements including an update to the registration process. WSO asks for your patience and thanks us for suggestions and feedback.

Please continue to send your suggestions and feedback either directly to the Delegate who can send them to afgmobile@al-anon.org

- [Learn more about the mobile app at https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/mobile-app/mobile-app-guide/](https://al-anon.org/for-members/members-resources/mobile-app/mobile-app-guide/)

Open positions at WSO.

The job descriptions and applications can be found at <https://al-anon.org/employment-at-al-anon/>

These positions requires five or more years of membership and service in Al-Anon. To apply, please forward your resume and cover letter to HumanRes@al-anon.org

Group Services Specialist – Members

Group Services is information central for Al-Anon and Alateen members and potential members. Its goal is to ensure that members, potential members, groups, Districts, Areas, Al-Anon Information Services, and members with special needs who contact the WSO are provided with a response in accordance with Al-Anon's principles and policies.

Magazine Editor

The Magazine Editor ensures that Al-Anon magazines have content that supports the strategic goals and spiritual principles of Al-Anon Family Groups. The Editor also implements promotional activities for *The Forum* and *Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism*.

One way that we reach out to members and potential members is by reading, contributing to and using ***The Forum in our meetings***. Though individuals are subscribing, only ~1/4 of our Groups have subscriptions, though some of them purchase multiples for their members. Please consider using this valuable resource for information about our program as well as for meeting topics.

Our New Normal

With the restrictions imposed by the coronavirus pandemic, we have had to make changes in our personal lives as well as in our business lives – whether that business was paid employment or volunteer work. I want to give a shout out to those members who have reached out to those of us who are still affected and to those newly affected by this family disease of alcoholism using the tools of technology and/or finding new venues to safely hold face-to-face meetings.

As much as we want to get back to as much face-to-face interaction in our home groups, workshops, conventions and in AFG of Ohio business meetings, the reality is that phone, social media and the internet will have to be how we continue to connect for probably the next year and possibly even longer.

My hope is that more of us will rise up to the challenge of learning how to support each other and Al-Anon by educating ourselves and others on how to best provide for and support our members using electronic communication.

Thank you for allowing me to grow these past three years in understanding of myself and of service in our program. It has definitely been a “fantastic” growth experience!

Theresa M, Panel 58, Ohio