



**Tennessee, Area 52  
Area World Service Committee  
August 26-27, 2023**

*Delegate's Report*

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## Upcoming Events

### 2023 Road Trip

The 2023 Road Trip! You and Your Board Connects is California South and will be held on Saturday, October 28. The event will be held in person at the Hilton-Los Angeles Airport; Because of the Al-Anon International Convention, the Board was unable to devote the time to having this Road Trip! as a hybrid event. However, the Board is exploring hosting Road Trip! as a hybrid event in the future.

### TN State AA Convention with Al-Anon Participation

The Tennessee State AA Convention *with Al-Anon Participation* will be held September 29-30, 2023 at the Manchester County Convention Center located at 147 Hospitality Road in Manchester TN. The email is Tnaaconvention2023.com

Our Al-Anon Speakers are Bud S, New Hampshire and Sue P, Virginia (WSO).

### August 2023 Chairman of the Board Letter

The COB Letter was presented by:

- Chairperson, Judy W.
- Finance, Ann Marie Z.
- Policy, Pennie K.
- Conference Leadership Team, Kathy M.

### From the Chairperson of the Board, Judy W.

The purpose of the Chairman of the Board Letter is to give highlights of Board of Trustees Quarterly Meeting.

Your continued contributions and purchases of literature help the World Service Office satisfy so many of the tasks listed on the back of the quarterly appeal letter.

The Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect Work Group has been working on the agenda and revising the interactive workshop. It is being hosted by California South (CA-S) on October 28, 2023. Registration will open in September. Because of the International Convention, the Board is postponing the trial of Road Trip! as a hybrid event.

At the international convention, members purchased 8,015 units of our new daily reader, *A Little Time for Myself—A Collection of Al-Anon Personal Experiences* (B-34). There were 584 copies available in Spanish. They sold out on Thursday.

There were 3,776 in person attendees, 42 Alateen, 293 AA, and 54 guests *plus* 741 virtual attendees. There were issues for the virtual attendees. There will be a means for those registered attendees who could not view the conference to see the conference through the WSO.

The Board of Trustees is now studying "Team Norms". These are a bridge between principles and rules. They continue to study Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) by participating in a 21-day challenge to study themselves and their personal biases.

A motion passed to approve the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) identifying next steps for a project to create an Electronic Alateen Safety & Behavioral Requirement (EASBR) for Areas within the WSC Structure and one for an international EASBR for international structures.

The *Just for Tonight* Alateen Bookmark (M-82) that was given conceptual approval by the 2021 Conference has completed the CAL process and should be available this fall in English, Spanish, and French.

A motion was passed to find a new auditor because the current one continues to raise fees.

### Policy Committee Update

- The Registering Multiple Meetings Thought Force will continue to work hard on their findings and report at a later WSC.
- The Choosing a Group Name Task Force is still in careful discussion. The focus is on groups that may name themselves anything that may appear exclusionary. If our names are too specialized it appears to be promotion rather than attraction.
- The Policy Committee is studying a question that had been presented "Is the gendered language in the Steps and Traditions in alignment with Al-Anon's Legacies?" Many of you have spoken with me concerning the use of gender in our literature, and I have encouraged you to send your ideas to the Policy Committee. They are listening!

### World Service Conference 2024

2024 World Service Conference (WSC) will be held Thursday April 18 through Sunday April 21, 2024, at the Founder's Inn in Virginia Beach.

### World Service Conference Visits to Stepping Stones

The visit to Stepping Stones will no longer be a part of the World Service Conference. This will save money. If any delegates wish to go, they will take care of the arrangements, planning, and payment for the Stepping Stones tour.

The Areas themselves can decide whether to pay for their delegates to have the honor of visiting Stepping Stones.

When asked, the trustees said they do not know if the cost savings will be passed along to the Areas.

## World Service Conference Cost Cutting

The Board of Trustees and the Conference Leadership Team (CLT) are setting the triannual WSC further away from New York. It will be cheaper.

The WSC used to be 5 days but the Board of Trustees and the CLT decided on a three year trial. Shortening it to 4 days saves money. The delegates will vote next year whether to continue to 4 days WSC. None of these delegates will have experienced the 5-day WSC.

The visit to Stepping Stones has been removed from the WSC because it allows more time for business during the reduced time for WSC.

## AFG Inc. Finance Update

Our finance reports show us to be in very good shape. All of our income is above budgeted amounts. Expenses are below budget, and we have a balanced budget!! (The literature sales do not reflect the sales from the AI-Anon International Convention.)

### Year to Date (YTD) March 2023

<b>Revenue</b>	<b>Actual Budget</b>	<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>Total Budget</b>
Literature Sales—net	\$810,425	\$544,857	\$2,768,930
Contributions	\$652,503	\$547,596	\$2,532,900
Other income	\$164,384	\$139,650	\$558,600
Total Revenue	\$1,627,312	\$1,232,103	\$5,860,430
Total Expenses	\$1,425,106	\$1,465,108	\$5,860,430
Net Increase/(Decrease)	\$202,206	(\$233,005)	\$ -0-

### **Expenses**

The largest categories of expenses consist of WSO Staff salaries and benefits, technology support, Conference costs (including interpretation), and postage. We continue to monitor all expenses and reduce them wherever possible.

Anne Marie Z., Incoming Treasurer  
Cindy M., Outgoing Treasurer

## Guest Speaker to the Board of Trustees

A guest speaker presented their Ph.D. dissertation entitled “Does It Work If You Work It? The Therapeutic Elements of AI-Anon Participation.” The data used was from AI-Anon’s 2018 Membership Survey. The speaker focused on what other professionals would need to know about AI-Anon Family Groups. They discussed in their research that longevity in AI-Anon was a key component of better mental health.

The presentation ended with a Model of Effective AI-Anon Participation:

1. Attending Meetings
2. Spiritually Motivated
3. Working with a Sponsor

4. Engaging in Service
5. Serving as a Sponsor

This presentation was well received by the Board, and they hope to see them at the 2028 Al-Anon International Convention with A.A. participation as one of our professional speakers.

Jeri W, Chairperson of the Board Letter

### Serving as Delegate

This is my last AWSC. There have been two in person meetings, the first AWSC and this last one. COVID-19 created all kinds of havoc personally for all of us. For Irene F and I, we had a crash course in Zoom. I struggled to understand the new paradigm for registering groups in light of the Global Electronic Area. Many were frustrated and angry, but we worked through it.

My first WSC was electronic, and it was not easy to follow. We had a mammoth number of motions and most of the delegates were exhausted at the end. I know the Conference Leadership Team was worn out.

The second WSC was in-person, and it was a dramatic difference. I got sick and could not participate the way I wanted to, but it was still inspiring.

The third WSC was so enjoyable and again, a valuable learning experience. I was able to make strong personal connections that will remain.

I still have your cards, gifts, emails, and texts. They have meant so very much to me. I will always be indebted to your kindness, support, and love.

Karla K.  
Your grateful delegate