

DELEGATE'S REPORT  
Florida South - Panel 52  
Spring Assembly - June 1-3, 2012

---

Our Spiritual Journey - we get as we give

Greetings Florida South and Welcome Panel 52!!! How exciting to be attending the first Assembly of our panel! As you may know, I attended the 52nd World Service Conference in April. Al-Anon's largest group conscience meeting!! The Conference this year was held at the Stamford Marriott Hotel & Spa in Stamford, Connecticut. I received so many love gifts and cards - thank you, thank you!!!

Registration began on Saturday, April 14th, where I received my Conference notebook, badge and met my Conference Mentor - Bette R., the Delegate from Oregon. Bette was a big help to me throughout the Conference and was able to answer a lot of my questions - of which I had many.

On Sunday, Orientation was held for all of the Delegates. We learned about Conference Procedures, as well as the roles of the various members of the Conference and the purpose of the Selected Committees, Task Forces and Thought Forces. I have been assigned to the Public Outreach Committee for the next three years. As a member of that Committee, I will have an opportunity to be a part of the direction Al-Anon takes in our Public Outreach. I viewed the new PSAs and we collaborated on ideas for 2013. I was also given a part in the skit that the committee was to present later in the week to launch the new Best of Public Outreach tool located on the members website!! The committee will be meeting every three months via e-mail and conference call to continue its work.

Sharing Area Highlights - was held on Sunday afternoon. Each of the 67 Delegates had 1 minute at the microphone to share an Area highlight/concern. I was able to share about the Florida South Area instituting Standing Committees at our AWSC meetings as the highlight, and how best to support the AMIAS in their role as an Alateen Sponsor as a concern.

Later that evening, we attended a banquet where all of the new delegates received their conference pin. Liz W.S., an outgoing member at large on the Executive Committee, shared about her memories of the last 9 conferences that she had participated in. It was an emotional first day.

The conference officially opened on Monday. Breakfast and panel pictures took place at 7:00 a.m., and the Opening Message was at 8:00 a.m. The Conference voted to seat with voice, but no vote - David Zach, Director of Business Services (non-AI-Anon member), and two international representatives (Maria G., Mexico and Peter A., New Zealand).

Each day during the Conference, outgoing Delegates from Panel 50 would give their "Share Ourselves" which incorporated the Conference theme. It was wonderful to hear about their spiritual journey in AI-Anon. They all expressed how much more they had received from AI-Anon than they could have ever dreamed possible - or ever give back.

I was assigned to two leadership workshops.

- Communication: How to Engage Audiences Using Multiple Strategies and Techniques; and
- Communication: How to Overcome Fear and Build Self-Confidence Empowering Oneself to Be a Success as a Leader/Trusted Servant.

Stepping Stones - since this Conference was held in Stamford, we had the opportunity to visit the home of Bill and Lois W. in Katonah, New York. It was amazing to be able to sit at their kitchen table and to see how they lived and where it all started.

On Thursday, the last day of the Conference, we had a closing banquet. Mary G., a Trustee at Large on the Executive Committee, and the Delegate from New Jersey shared their story. In addition, Panel 50 put on a going away skit which involved a lot of silliness and good humor. They sang So Long, Farewell from the Sound of Music but with AI-Anon lyrics. I could feel how sad they were that their time had come to an end.

Open Board of Trustee Meeting - on Friday, Alena V. (Dist. 200) and I were able to observe the annual meeting of the Board. They meet directly after the Conference to give legal approval to any Conference actions, such as the approval of the 8 Trustees that were voted on by the Conference - 4 Trustees at Large and 4 Regional Trustees - as well as approval of the financials and any motions.

2018 AI-Anon International Convention - also on Friday, the Convention Selection Committee heard presentations from the 12 Areas interested in hosting the 2018 International Convention. Miami was among those chosen to present!! Sonia Fong, the representative from the Miami Convention Bureau, Alena V. and myself gave the presentation. We felt we did a bang up job and thought for sure that Miami would make the short list. Unfortunately, we found out several days later that Miami was not among the three cities to be visited by the Site Selection Committee. The cities that have been chosen are: Denver, CO, Indianapolis, IN, and Baltimore, MD. Although this is very disappointing, I'm sure you will join me in wishing them good luck!!

### The Journey Continues....We Get as We Give

Regional Trustees - There is a new process and a new application for a Regional Trustee. We would need to vote on any candidates at this Assembly so that I can submit the names by the August 15, 2012 deadline. The candidates will be scored by the Delegates in the SE Region. After being tallied, the top two names will be sent to the Board. The SE Regional Delegates elected the Tennessee Delegate to collect and tally the results for our Region.

Auditor's Report - A new independent auditing firm has been hired to review the books. As of December 31, 2011, our WSO had total assets among three funds (General Fund, Reserve Fund, and Building Fund) of \$9,452,664, liabilities of \$1,411,290, leaving \$8,041,374 in net assets.

2012 Budget - The Budget shows that expenses are expected to be \$216,000 more than revenue for the year. Expenses are projected to be \$5,273,000 and revenues to be \$5,057,000. There were two adjustments from the preliminary budget - a Human Resources Consultant is being used instead of replacing the vacant Personnel/Training Manager position, and the membership survey costs were omitted.

A gross profit of \$3,354,087 was realized on literature sales. Contributions were \$1,296,073. Forum subscription income totaled \$273,653. The WSO would like to rely less on literature sales, and more on contributions.

In 2011 there were 15,689 registered groups in the US and Canada, of which

58.81% of the groups contributed to the WSO office. 6,600 registered groups do not contribute to the WSO - does yours?

	<u>Groups</u>	<u>Av. Amt</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Florida N	67.7%	110.16	30,515	32,657
Florida S	70.5%	102.70	22,799	19,583
-other			24,280	10,503

If each group contributed \$13.00 more, then we would meet our budgeted amount. If each group contributed \$26.00 more, then our revenue would equal our expenses.

Annual Report - Ric B., Executive Director, presented his 2011 Annual Report. The report contained a synopsis of all of the actions that had taken place since the WS Conference in 2011. For example, the Board:

- ▶ approved the new tagline for the Forum - Sharing Recovery, Unity and Service
- ▶ approved the creation of podcasts on sponsorship
- ▶ approved extending the printing of the softcover How AI-Anon Works for an additional year
- ▶ approved mailing a complementary copy (E/S/F) of AI-Anon/Alateen Groups at Work 2010-2013 (P-24) to all individual subscribers of the Forum
- ▶ approved to fund a hard copy mailing of AI-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2012 to all groups in the US & Canada
- ▶ to give the WSO permission to publish electronically The Forum and Having Had a Spiritual Awakening (B-25)

CMA Newsletter - WSO needs a name for the newsletter that is being e-mailed to the Current Mailing Address recipient on the Group Registration Form. In July, 2011, WSO sent out 6,558 newsletters, and 1,083 were returned with incorrect e-mails. In March, 2012, they sent out 6,583, and only 32 were returned!! Purpose is to support the groups. Goal is to send every 30 days.

Do Not Refer Policy - First step is for the Areas to develop their own policies and criteria on when a group should not be given out as a referral to newcomers. Once the Areas have done that, they need to submit the process to the WSO. The WSO will then be able to determine what role it should play in supporting the

Areas in this respect. World Service would never D-List a group, they would always engage and serve the groups and provide literature to them.

Concepts Podcasts - Because it was so difficult to find volunteers to tape the Traditions podcasts (especially in French & Spanish), it was decided not to continue the podcasts for the Twelve Concepts of Service. All of the comments and postings will be available on the members website until the end of 2012. They will then be used in the creation of the new Legacies Workbook (which will be available in E/S/F at the 2013 International).

2013 International Convention in Vancouver, BC - July 5-7, 2013 in Vancouver, BC. A pre-convention "Day of Connecting" service event will take place with a separate registration fee on Thursday, July 4th. The registration form will be available on the members website later this summer and will be mailed to the groups in the Fall. If you register by December 31, 2012, then the registration cost will be \$115.00. It then goes up to \$140.00 for registrations from January to May 31, 2013. After that date and at the door, registration will be \$165.00. There will be a \$25.00 fee for lost badges or refunds. You must have a passport - book, not just card - to enter Canada and return to the US.

Electronic Literature and Area Structures - these topics are contained in attachments to my report.

In closing, I want to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to serve as the Florida South Delegate. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you might have - I am available to you. Also, I look forward to being invited to your Districts and events and will try to attend as many as possible. This is an exciting time in AI-Anon and I am so very grateful to be a part of the conversation!

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer D.

Florida South Delegate - Panel 52

[Delegatefls52@aol.com](mailto:Delegatefls52@aol.com)