



Al-Anon Family Groups

Help and hope for families and friends of alcoholics

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April 2023 Chairperson of the Board Letter

Dear Al-Anon and Alateen members:

The purpose of this Chairperson of the Board (COB) letter is to share with you some highlights from our World Service Conference (WSC), along with updates from the Board of Trustees' Quarterly Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Board. You will also find updates from our outgoing and incoming Policy Chairpersons, a Finance Update from our outgoing and incoming Treasurers, and an update from our outgoing and incoming Conference Leadership Team (CLT).

Finance Update:

A big thank you to our members who have made and continue to make contributions to the World Service Office (WSO). As our Seventh Tradition states, we are a self-supporting organization. Our income is composed of contributions from our Al-Anon members and the sales of our Conference Approved Literature (CAL). Please continue to support the WSO abundantly with your contributions and literature sales through the Online Store, from your Literature Distribution Center (LDC), or from your group. (See the Finance Update attached to this letter for more financial information.)

Board Week:

The Strategic Plan updates revolved around the 2023 International Convention (see comments below for more details).

The Board continues to do evaluations on our work after each Board Week and examines the results the following Board meeting. The process was changed to provide each Trustee the survey results shortly after completion to help them be prepared to discuss their feedback at the next meeting. The Board of Trustees continues to work together to achieve our goals.

The Nominating Committee brought forward several recommendations. The Board approved the motions discussed. They included:

- A second one-year trial to obtain Al-Anon and skills-based references for Trustee candidates not currently serving on the Board
- The development of different general interview questions for Trustee candidates currently serving on the Board from those candidates not serving at the present time
- The selection of three alternates to serve on the Nominating Committee to ensure quorum when voting on Board Officer positions

The last activity on the Board's Agenda was held on Sunday morning. It was an open Board Meeting with a generative discussion presented by the Envisioned Future Work Group. All WSC members were invited to observe. The discussion revolved around the word "Abundance". All Trustees were asked to consider in advance how an article on the spheres of abundance could be tied to the Mission and Goal Statements of our Strategic Plan. The spheres included: imagination, faith, relationships, equity, grace, trust, and money. The Board members shared how this discussion and the article opened up their minds to new ideas.

World Service Conference:

This year was special because we returned “home” to Virginia Beach with a WSO Tour, which has not occurred since 2017. The love was everywhere, and the parade of hugs included tears of joy. The theme for the 2023 WSC was “Love, Laugh, and Grow Together,” and it guided us through the presentations, motions, and Conference discussions.

Road Trip! You and Your Board Connect will be held in Los Angeles, California on October 28, 2023. Make plans to be with us! This event gives Al-Anon members an opportunity to interact with the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee. Registration begins in August, and you won’t want to miss this opportunity. If your Area has never hosted a Road Trip! event, you may apply to become our next destination in October 2024. Applications are due by September 22, 2023. Please contact your Area Delegate for all the information on how to apply and what requirements are needed for airports and hotels.

WSC members passed a motion “to give conceptual approval to develop a comprehensive piece on sponsorship and service sponsorship using personal stories from Al-Anon members.”

The Conference gave traditional approval, and during the Annual Meeting, the Board of Trustees, in their legal capacity, elected the following trusted servants:

Regional Trustees:

Cindy M., US Southwest	Second three-year term
Diane B., US South Central	Second three-year term

Trustees at Large:

Jeri W.	Second three-year term
Jayne C.	First three-year term

Board Officers:

Jeri W.	Chairperson of the Board
Lynette K.	Vice Chairperson of the Board
Ann Marie Z.	Treasurer

The Board of Trustees, in its legal capacity, elected the following:

Executive Committee:

David B.	Third one-year term
Carol M.	Second one-year term
Norm W.	First one-year term

Chairperson of the Executive Committee:

David B.	One-year term
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At Large Member of the Executive Committee for Real Property Management:

Richard S.	Three-year term
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Chairperson of the Executive Committee for Real Property Management:

Sandi C.	One-year term
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Some additional highlights from this year’s Conference Agenda were:

- Outgoing Panel 61 Delegate three-minute talks
- Presentation on Concept Six
- Annual Report updates provided by Staff
- Approval of changes to the “Workshops” and “Announcing Events” sections of the “Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies” section of the *2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27) v2*.

(See the CLT and the Policy Updates attached to this letter for more information.)

For a more detailed report of the 2023 World Service Conference, please look for the free online *2023 Conference Summary (P-46)*, which is scheduled for posting in July. A printed version will be made available later in the year.

2023 Al-Anon International Convention:

Al-Anon's Seventh International Convention with A.A. participation (IC2023) will be held June 29—July 2, 2023, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The theme for IC2023 is "New Hopes, New Friends, Renewed Recovery." There are numerous activities to register for, such as the Day of Connecting and the Trailblazers Breakfast on Route 66! What great opportunities to meet new friends and renew your personal recovery! In-person registration numbers prior to WSC were: 3,084 Al-Anon members, 15 Alateen members, and 271 A.A. members. We have 166 Spanish-speaking and four French-speaking in-person attendees. If you haven't taken the time to register, please go to al-anon.org. The fun and the worldwide fellowship will be in Albuquerque.

COB Letter Presentation:

Although we are not doing a COB Letter Presentation for the April 2023 COB Letter, two weeks following the posting of this letter, the Trustees will begin contacting their assigned Delegates. The purpose of this contact will be to offer clarification of any information contained in this letter. Delegates who do not have questions or comments can inform the Trustee when their initial contact is made.

The dates for the two remaining 2023 COB Letter Presentations are August 12 and November 11. All Trustees will be at the presentation. Each presentation will be virtual and will begin at 2:00 pm ET and end at 3:30 pm.

I want to take this time to offer my sincere thanks on behalf of the Board of Trustees, the Executive Committee, and the WSO Staff. Your continued support and dedication to Al-Anon Family Groups allows our program to grow, improve, and maintain our spiritual principles.

In gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeri W.", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeri W.

Chairperson, Board of Trustees

Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters, Inc