

## Conference Leadership Team (CLT) Update

*Judy K., Outgoing Chairperson*

*Jennie M., Incoming Chairperson*

**April 2018**

**Al-Anon—There is no standing still!**  
**Al-Anon – Il n’y a pas de place pour l’immobilisme!**  
**Al-Anon – ¡No hay razón para detenerse!**

The 2018 World Service Conference (WSC) was held at the Renaissance Westchester Hotel in West Harrison, New York. Our 2018 Conference theme stated above is an excerpt from a statement made by our Cofounder, Lois W., and reflects the fast-paced agenda of the Conference. Registration opened on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> and was followed by Area Highlights, committee meetings and an introductory talk by our Executive Director on Monday. Conference officially opened Monday evening and ended Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, with a closing dinner to acknowledge outgoing Conference members’ service and their dedication to Al-Anon Family Groups.

Conference members came to Al-Anon’s annual business meeting informed and prepared, thanks to the work of our Associate Director—Conference, who posted all documents on AFG Connects. Also, our wonderful World Service Office Digital Strategy Team provided a new and improved Conference app. This helpful organizational tool gave Conference members access to the WSC agenda and hotel information, along with a “social stream” for attendees to connect with each other. The majority of Conference members used the app throughout the week. A similar app will be available for Al-Anon’s International Convention in Baltimore, July 6-8, 2018.

The New Delegate Orientation for Panel 58 focused on Al-Anon’s Twelve Concepts of Service and how they define our world service Structure and members’ participation at the Conference. A Task Force of ten Delegates gave dynamic presentations on Conference Etiquette, Conference Goals, Conference Voting Procedures, and the Conference Theme. WSC members appreciated the increased Delegate participation. The full WSC agenda covered financial information, topics critical to Al-Anon’s future, news of our international outreach, and four chosen agenda items (CAIs), which were voted on by Conference members. The WSO Staff also provided updates about their current work at the WSO.

A highlight of the week was a visit to Stepping Stones, the home of our Cofounder, Lois W. The special event included time to tour the house and grounds. Despite the chilly morning everyone enjoyed learning more about Al-Anon’s past and came away with a better understanding of Lois, a humble visionary, who worked to unify the early Al-Anon groups. The visit was both educational and inspirational.



Planning is already underway for the 2019 World Service Conference. It will be held at the Sheraton Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel, 3501 Atlantic Ave., Virginia Beach, VA 23451. Delegates are scheduled to arrive on Friday, April 12, 2019, and depart on Thursday, April 18, 2019.

The Conference Leadership Team is now reviewing the 2018 Conference evaluations in order to provide a 2019 World Service Conference agenda that continues to facilitate the active voice and effective group conscience of our fellowship. This is our primary purpose. We are not standing still!

Thank you to the Conference members who provided meaningful input for this year's WSC agenda and numerous discussions. The week was characterized by the joy of service and the application of spiritual principles. Also, we extend a special thank you to all Area members, who sent an abundance of cards and love gifts. Your support was amazing and appreciated!

The six members who serve on your Conference Leadership Team include the Associate Director—Conference; the Chair and Co-Chair of Conference, both Trustees; the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees; the WSO Executive Director; and the Director of Programs.

