Agenda

- Electronic Literature Update

- Alateen Task Force Update

- Conference Structure Thought Force Update

- WSO Survey

- Motion

- Do Not Refer

- Conference Approved Literature (CAL)

ELECTRONIC LITERATURE

- 2012 World Service Conference devoted three sessions to discussing various aspects of electronic literature
- Following Tradition Seven, Al-Anon is self supporting. Financial support comes from member contributions and sale of Conference Approved Literature.
- Electronic literature could make Al-Anon literature more widely available around the world.
- WSO moving forward with Pilot Program to sell *The Forum* in electronic formats and *Having Had A Spiritual Awakening* (B-25) which is out of print. This is a trial basis.
- Pilot program will have no financial impact on AISs, LDCs and GSOs.

Background. In my Delegate's report in May I discussed the impact of electronic literature on the Intergroups (AISs), LDCs in Southern California. They all receive 50% of their revenue from the sale of literature.

66% of AA income comes from contributions

65% of Al-Anon income comes from literature sales!

ALATEEN TASK FORCE

- Articles of Incorporation sent to State of California. Form 1023 has been filed with the IRS for 501(3)C as non-profit.

- Alateens meeting later today to become educated and informed regarding revised SCAC By Laws.

- By Laws revised by SCAC Committee

- By Laws contain all that is necessary to be in compliance with Area's Safety and Behavioral Requirements

- Revised SCAC By Laws now reflect needs of Corporation

- SCAC By Laws must be voted on and accepted at SCAC 2013 in order for SCAC to be in compliance and continue to use the Alateen name and continue to fund raise in the Area

CONFERENCE STRUCTURE

- 1964 California split

- WSO Meeting Directory listed 69 meetings in Northern California and 149 meetings in Southern California

- Presently, Northern California has 800 meetings (does not include Alateen meetings. Southern California has 1,200 meetings (includes approximately 100 Alateen meetings)

- No structure change is off limits provided it does not affect Policy (pages 75 – 121 of the 2010-2013 Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual or our Legacies.

- Requests need to be addressed to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees & turned in by December 15 in order to be heard at the following January Board of Trustees meeting.

- Area pays all additional costs

CONFERENCE STRUCTURE

- Address problems of:
  - Representation
  - Communication
  - Participation
- SCWS Conference Structure Thought Force Underway
- Charge: Is the current World Service Conference model providing the spiritual bridge we need to expand into the future in order to meet the needs of the Area?
- Will develop survey to distribute to members
- Will form Task Force to create questions for members

WSO SURVEY

- WSO contacted in early September by researcher from Rutgers University who sought participation from adult children of alcoholics

- Survey designed to assess communication behaviors in families of alcoholics

- Al-Anon Cooperation with Researchers Policy on Members' Website

- WSO Executive Director, Director of Communications & Marketing Information Analyst met to evaluate appropriateness of request.

- October Policy Committee appointed to evaluate whether cooperation in project would benefit Al-Anon. Work Group determined cooperation in the project would be beneficial.

- Message sent to all members in Group-e-News. Provided information about voluntary and anonymous survey and invited participation

WSO SURVEY

- Survey available on Members' Web site. Incentive was offered by researcher to first 200 people who participate as individuals not as Al-Anon members.

- Al-Anon not offering incentive. Incentive offered in last survey. Researchers do it to get more participation.

- Can choose to receive incentive or not. All 200 slots for incentive are used.

- Al-Anon gets referrals from professionals. Studies are hard data to support professionals to recommend individuals to Al-Anon

- Survey ends November 30, 2012

MOTION TO INCREASE DELEGATE'S OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES

- Purpose to establish general policy to remove cap of monetary limit in order to cover Delegate's actual Conference related expenses. Monetary limit is now $350 ~ $500.

- Basic WS Conference expenses are covered by Equalized Expense Fund to which all Areas contribute a share equally. There are extra expenses that are out of pocket for Delegates.

- Past 7 years Delegates have had to pay each year out of their own pocket. Service should not be a financial hardship for anyone.

- WS Conference pays expenses from Saturday to Thursday. Distance requires Delegate to travel day ahead and stay one night extra.

- Requesting reasonable and customary expenses like any other travel expense for Delegate. Officers and Treasurer have ability to question what is reasonable and customary.

- Burden of postage, books, notebooks, love gifts, etc. Weight limit by airlines which adds to cost of need to mail flat rate boxes ahead and after.

DO NOT REFER

- Policy Committee brought "do not refer" to Conference floor for general discussion by all Conference members

- Policy Committee asked Conference to identify Al-Anon principles that Areas could use in dealing with groups that the Areas believe violate Al-Anon's Traditions

- Groups that do not use Conference Approved Literature and High Pressure Sponsorship Groups

- Areas to develop their own principle based policies. Then better prepared to offer suggestions to WSO on ways WSO can support the Area's decisions about such groups.

- WSO continues to register these groups. SCWS continues to register these groups.

- Goal is to bring these groups into compliance so they can again be listed at Area level.

Background. At the 2011 WS Conference Delegates shared their Areas' experiences with and concerns about groups that the Areas believe are operating outside of the Legacies. Groups that do not use CAL, high pressure groups, groups with only dual members, etc. Some Areas have addressed by delisting them from Area, AIS, or district meeting schedules. As a result of the delisting some Areas have requested that WSO support their decision by applying a code so that callers to the toll free meeting line would not be referred to these groups. This topic is designated as "Do Not Refer".

It is important that Area policies concerning these groups are based on the Al-Anon principles, the Twelve Steps, Traditions and Concepts of Service. This is best accomplished through a group conscience with the input of the groups, districts and Assemblies. Through this dialogue we allow a Higher Power into our deliberations by listening to everyone's viewpoints. We are all important voices when it comes to participating in the decision making process.

The World Service Policy Committee will continue to discuss this issue and may see further input.

SCWS presently has a thought force on how SCWS can support districts and intergroups in dealing with Groups whose activities do not consider Al-Anon as a whole.

CONFERENCE APPROVED LITERATURE

- 1961 Al-Anon's first World Service Conference. Motion unanimously carried for idea of creating Al-Anon Conference Approved Literature (CAL)

- Prior to 1961 Groups using whatever they considered helpful.

- Conference Approval is process for development of recovery literature. All CAL identified with Conference Approval seal. Grows out of need. New material brought to WSC for recommendation and approval.

- Preserves Al-Anon message and principles worldwide. Maintains unity. Written by and for Al-Anon members. All CAL is copyrighted.

- Fourth Tradition says each group should be autonomous! Autonomy granted by Fourth Tradition is limited to what is good for the fellowship as a whole.

- 2010 WSC unanimously approved new wording to clarify Al-Anon's position on use of Al-Anon materials in meeting. Word suggested was removed from Service Manual.

- 2011 WSC Task Force formed to create workshop based on why groups need to use CAL only.

Background. Writing their own literature, varied widely, religious in tone, or one person's opinion of how to fix the alcoholic. Used any publication they thought to be helpful. Groups published their own materials. Did not reflect Al-Anon philosophy. Great disparity existed from meeting to meeting and parts of the country. They used the Bible. The Big Book. Norman Vincent Peale. Emmet Fox The Sermon on the Mount.

Lois described why we needed a process for Conference approval. It would take us into the future. It was a matter of unity to have CAL. Different parts of the country would not get a particular slant and go off on its own while another goes another way. The motion unanimously carried to have CAL. Consistently will reflect Al-Anon's principles.

Service Manual states: A.A. literature is not used at Al-Anon meetings because it is written for and from the viewpoint of alcoholics and is not Al-Anon/Alateen Conference Approved Literature. Reliance on opinions expressed by A.A. can distort the Al-Anon approach.

Al-Anon meetings are 60 minutes of consistent, reliable, trustworthy Al-Anon recovery. In these minutes we make a commitment to focus on Conference Approved Literature.

October 31, One Day At A Time states: "If a group departs from the ideas and procedures that make for the greatest good for the greatest number of Al-Anon members, it takes on its shoulders the responsibility for damaging the fellowship to which all of us look for help."