

11/4/17

Hi Everyone,

I am going to start by giving you a brief update from the October Board of Trustees meeting.

The Board Nominating Committee is asking for your help in finding candidates for a member at Large to serve a one-year appointment on the Executive Committee for Real Property Management (ECRPM). This is the Committee that oversees and manages the real property owned by Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters Inc. (i.e. the property in Virginia Beach including the building that houses WSO). The term for this appointment will begin following the Annual Board Meeting in April 2018. Résumés are due to the WSO by November 30th, 2017. Anyone interested in submitting a resume can talk with me at lunch or email me.

The Board has approved the printing of a 50th Anniversary One Day at a Time in Al-Anon (ODAT) commemorative edition, complete with gold lettering on the cover and gold ribbon book mark. This special edition of the ODAT will be for sale at the 2018 International Convention and for the remainder of 2018 until supplies are gone. A limited number of books will be printed and for a purchase price of \$15 US each.

The Board approved a recommendation from the Finance Committee to discontinue selling the hardcover version of How Al-Anon Works for a three-year trial period, to be reviewed annually, once current supplies are depleted. The decision came following a sharp decline in hardcover sales since the introduction of the softcover version.

The Board approved the staff's proposal for a one-year trial to print The Forum in full color starting in 2018. A key factor in their decision was the potential for continuing to improve readability of The Forum through the use of additional font color combinations.

Based on recommendations from the 2023 International Site Selection Committee, the Board is excited to announce that they have selected Albuquerque, NM as the site for the 2023 Al-Anon International Convention.

The Finance Committee has reported that contributions are currently below projections based on the 2017 budget. What does this mean in numbers? In order to meet our 2017 budget goal of \$2,100,000 in contributions, we will need to receive \$600,000 in contributions during the remaining months of this year. To help us better understand how attainable that number really is., Debbie G., the Chairperson of Board broke it down into smaller numbers. So, if 60% or 9,000 of all our registered groups contributed \$60 and 5,000 members contributed \$15 each and 55 Areas contributed \$500 we would easily meet our budgeted 2017 contributions goal. Please share this information with your groups. The Board and WSO staff thank you for continuing to think abundantly.

Finally, I would like to share with you what being Delegate has done for me. Not only have I had the privilege of representing all of you at the past 3 World Service Conferences, I also had the opportunity and privilege to spend time with and get to know and love Delegates from all over the United States and Canada, Trustees who voluntarily devote enormous amounts of time and energy to the worldwide fellowship of Al-Anon, representatives from Al-Anon around the world, and fantastic staff who work every day to make sure that Al-Anon is always there for all of us and for the newcomer. But even more, I have been give the true gift of growth through service.

Recently, the Board of Trustees was in Aurora Colorado for Road Trip 2017 where they spent a day with over 100 members of Al-Anon from multiple states. In addition to the talks and discussions, throughout the day, members of the Board shared snapshots of their personal stories. Stephanie S., the Delegate from New Mexico, was inspired to share the following quotes on service from the presenters that day and when I read these quotes, I realized that they also were describing my service experience.

"Your presence here shows the spirit that's alive in the fellowship, to learn more and to be a part of."

"What I saw was the dignity and grace of the program, in all of the service I got to do, I learned those things from those that went before me".

"I don't have a spiritual part to my program. My program is spiritual. I don't have a service part of the program. My program is service."

"I was learning how to work with others in a positive way; even when we disagreed about things."

"As I did more service, I learned more and more about me."

Thank you for allowing me to learn and grow so much by serving as your Delegate.

Phyllis H.
Delegate, Panel 55