

Panel 62 Delegate's Report
Submitted to the GA Assembly – Sept. 2023
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Panel 62 Delegate

Greetings, it continues to be an honor to serve as your Panel 62 World Service Conference Delegate (WSC). I have updates to share from WSO and from our Area.

WSO News in Brief:

Service Reminders from the WSC Conference Leadership Team

I received two important reminders re serving in our service structure. One is related to “dual members” i.e., Al-Anon members who are also members of AA and a reminder re Al-Anon members who are “employed” at the WSO or other service arms, e.g., Literature service centers. Below is the full letter from the Conference Leadership Team, followed by a reminder re being “employed” and serving also from the Conference Leadership Team. I’m sharing these messages through the communication links so we all can be reminded and informed. Please reach out to me should you have questions about either of these reminders.

Service Participation by Members of Al-Anon Family Groups Who Are Also Members of Alcoholics Anonymous

Al-Anon Family Groups and Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) share a common spiritual legacy in A.A.'s Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. Before Al-Anon was founded, family groups met with, and beside, A.A. groups. In 1951, various family groups banded together and agreed to organize Al-Anon Family Groups, a program dedicated to helping the friends and families of alcoholics. Over the years, Al-Anon developed its own service structure, based on the model provided by A.A.'s experience and guided by the Twelve Traditions.

Tradition Five defines Al-Anon's single purpose. Tradition Six encourages cooperation with Alcoholics Anonymous, maintaining that Al-Anon is a separate entity that ought never affiliate or create the appearance of affiliation with any outside enterprise. Putting these principles into practice maintains a separation between the service structures of Al-Anon and A.A. This separation helps avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest and safeguards Al-Anon's singleness of purpose. Accordingly, Al-Anon's policy is that members who are also members of A.A. do not serve as Group Representative (GR), District Representative (DR), Area Delegate, World Service Conference member, alternate to any of these service positions, or on any committee of the World Service Office.

Filling service positions is a matter of District and Area autonomy within this policy and the spiritual principles that form its basis. Tradition Four grants autonomy to local service arms, except in matters affecting Al-Anon or A.A. as a whole. Al-Anon members who are also members of A.A. participate fully in all group activities, including group conscience decisions. However, they do not hold Al-Anon service positions that vote in matters affecting another group or Al-Anon or A.A. as a whole.

Participating in Al-Anon service is integral to recovery for every member. Step Twelve, carrying our message to others, is a very important part of Al-Anon service. Members of Al-Anon who are also members of A.A. are often in a position to carry our message to those who are not aware of the benefits of attending Al-Anon Family Groups. Members of Al-Anon who are also members of A.A. may serve Al-Anon in ways that include being an Alateen Group Sponsor (see the "Alateen" Policy) or they may be invited by local/Area service arms, the Board of Trustees, or the World Service Office to participate in projects, in keeping with the spirit of this policy.

This policy on service participation by members of Al-Anon who are also A.A. members, protects Al-Anon's viability as a program dedicated to helping the families and friends of alcoholics. It ensures that Al-Anon's service structure represents the unique perspective of families and friends of alcoholics, recognizing that the alcoholic's perspective is represented in A.A.'s service structure. Members honor this policy out of respect for Al-Anon unity and the group conscience process, in accordance with Tradition One and Tradition Two.

Reference: Page 86 – 87 in the "Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies" section of the 2022 – 2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27) v2

Areas holding elections

We invite all members considering standing for Delegate, or any other volunteer in a policy-making position, to review the Al-Anon Policy, which can be found in the "Digest of Al-Anon and Alateen Policies" section of the *2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27) v2* on page 111. Al-Anon members who work at the World Service Office **or** at an Al-Anon Information Service and/or Literature Distribution Center are not eligible to serve as Delegate.

Al-Anon Members Employed by Al-Anon

Tradition Eight states that "Al-Anon Twelfth Step work should remain forever nonprofessional." Therefore, any Al-Anon member who is gainfully employed in an Al-Anon service capacity does not serve as a volunteer in a policy-making position, such as Group Representative (GR), District Representative (DR), Area Assembly Officer or Coordinator, Delegate, or WSO Trustee.

Other WSO Updates

Global Electronic Area

The Global Electronic Area (GEA) elected a new Panel 62 Delegate who lives in California. Therefore, the GEA is now a part of the US Southwest Region as the Board of Trustees agreed that the GEA will be assigned to the Region in which the Area Delegate lives or to a Region selected from the hat if the Delegate lives outside the WSC Structure.

GA Area News in Brief:

Delegate District Listening Tour Update

Beginning in the Fall, I will begin reaching back out to Districts for a chat for you to share your news, needs and hopes. I hope to reach DR's who I was not able to connect with earlier this year. I look forward to hearing more AWESOME service stories from our Area.

As your "primary communications link between groups and the WSO," (SM, p75) please feel free to reach out should you have questions, need support, or have ideas that you'd like for me to bring to the WSO and/or Conference.

In Grateful Service,

Charlyn (Char) Green Fareed
GA Panel 62 Delegate