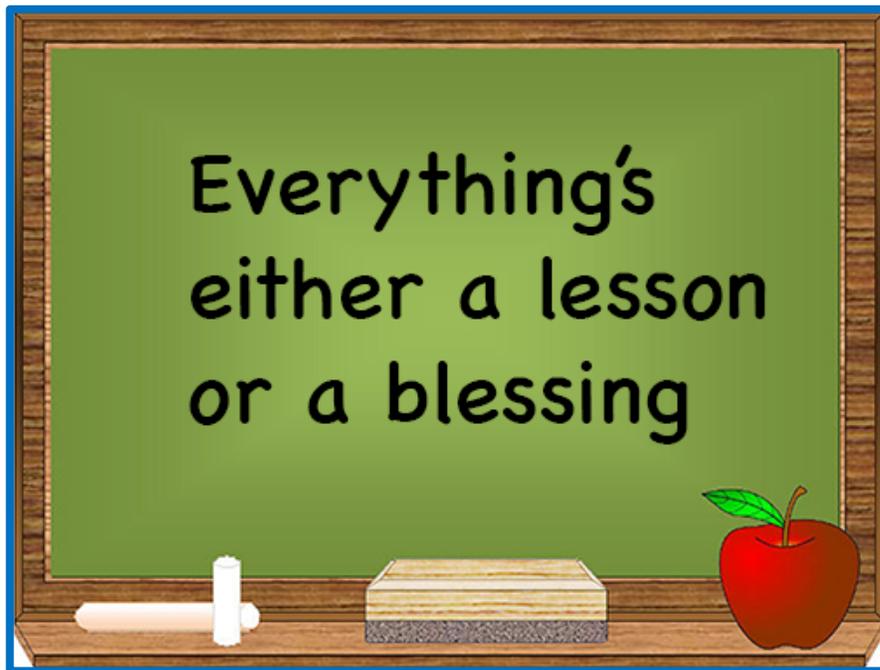


August 15, 2020 Delegate's Report

Joanne P, VT Delegate

That's what I heard at a recent al-anon phone meeting. It's a lesson or a blessing. Reminds me of the Feb 2008 Forum article titled: Discovering the spiritual lesson that pain teaches. I've been fortunate to have experienced a bunch of lessons turned blessings this summer.



Report Highlights

- PSAs on WCAX
- WSO Releases Al-Anon Family Groups App
- Alateens and Virtual Alateen Meetings
- WSC 2020 Summary Available

WCAX Plays Al-Anon PSAs through Jan 2021

Thank you Joan R for the road that led to getting the PSAs (public service announcements) on WCAX. Joan R said she saw an al-anon PSA on wcax with cartoon characters. I didn't think Al-Anon had one like that so I decided to call wcax and find out.

HP led me to the right person. I talked with Meredith of WCAX. She knew about that PSA and told me it was AA's. I asked her Meredith if I could send her information about Al-Anon's PSAs. Before I finished my sentence, she was already on al-anon.org downloading the PSAs and already put them in the wcax circulation.

The two Al-Anon PSAs are in WCAX's rotation through Jan 2021. Look for them especially in the early morning when Joan has spotted them.

Scott of WSO told me that they will have new PSAs in August. He will contact WCAX directly when they are released.

Is your Group Contact Up-to-Date?

Please make sure your group contacts are up-to-date, because someone seeing the PSA may call WSO. WSO may refer the caller to the group's public contact if needed. (See Group Phone Contact for the Public on page 60 in the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual.)

Talk with Albert, our Group Records Coordinator with your group contact questions. Reach him at grouprecords@vermontalateen.org.

Al-Anon Family Groups Mobile App is Live

On 8/13/2020, WSO made the new Al-Anon Family Group Mobile App live. Download it on your mobile device in either the Apple App Store or in the Google Play Store. Search for "Al-Anon Family Groups." Look for Al-Anon triangle logo. Install it. It's free.

The app will host al-anon meetings but not alateen meetings yet. It will eventually host alateen meetings. WSO is diligently working on getting the app ready to register alateen meetings hopefully by the end of the year.

Learn more about the app at <http://al-anon.org/mobileapp>.

WSC 2020 Conference Summary

Download an electronic copy of the World Service Conference (WSC) 2020 Conference Summary. It's available on al-anon.org. Navigate to Members > World Service Conference > WSC Summary.

The conference summary gives you the details I highlighted in my Spring Assembly report. It also includes spiritual speaker talks like Maria's from Mexico on page 57. Mexico has 3361 groups! And a project called The National Project of Healthy Groups.

I was moved when I read the Cindy J's spiritual talk. Cindy is an outgoing delegate from FL North. See page 59.

Alateen Spotlight

Did you know that alateens may only attend meetings - whether face-2-face or online - in their state or area and not in any other, unless the teen is accompanied by an AMIAS from their state or area? I didn't.

I had the opportunity to talk with Sue Perez of WSO and attend the Alateen Conference call on 8/8/2020 with WSO. Sue Perez explained the policy of alateens and virtual meetings. With her permission, I'm sharing what she said, because of its importance.

“Alateen meetings that are temporarily taking place online are connected directly to the Area where the Alateen group is located. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, some Alateen groups are meeting temporarily

online. This temporary Alateen meeting information may or may not be publicly displayed on local websites and/or on al-anon.org based on the decision at each Area and local level. Many links of service list an email contact, like the Alateen Coordinator or other trusted servants that can be contacted directly, to provide Alateen temporary electronic meeting information.

Use of the Alateen name rests with each Area through the Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements (ASBR) that are approved by WSO for compliance to the 2003 Alateen Motion from the Board of Trustees and the current policy for Alateen.

As a result, Alateens can only participate in the temporary online meetings where they are physically located. Teens located in Vermont can only participate in temporary electronic Alateen meetings in Vermont as the temporary meeting is directly connected to the registered Alateen group that meets in Vermont. That Alateen group in Vermont registers in accordance with the Vermont ASBR which takes into account local laws surrounding volunteers who interact with teens and the responsibility that is attached (i.e. mandatory reporting). These laws vary state by state.

Temporary electronic Alateen meetings are not accessible in the same fashion as the Al-Anon meetings. The only online meetings that any Alateen can participate in are the six Alateen Chat meetings that are listed on al-anon.org (<https://al-anon.org/newcomers/teen-corner-alateen/try-an-alateen-chat-meeting/>) They are all consistently attended by Alateens and the platform is supported by the WSO.

When Alateen events are held where Alateen members participate from outside of the host Area, a safety plan is put into place for Alateen participation. Alateen events that are taking place virtually continue to require certified AMIAS to “accompany” them to the event. Those AMIAS need to be verified by the host Area ahead of time in order for the teen to be able to attend.”

Sue Perez, WSO Associate Director Group Services

Questions or interest in being an AMIAS that accompanies a teen to an out-of-state meeting? Please contact Jessanne, our Alateen Coordinator.

I'm on a Conflict Resolution Task

Each year delegates are assigned to a task force or thought force or other working group. (See page 71 in the manual for definitions.) I've been on a conflict resolution task force this year. Our focus is on producing a service tool using the Conflict Resolution Tool Kit..

Participating in this task force is another opportunity for me to work my program. We meet online and work together – like we do at our AWSC meetings. Our TF will present our work at WSC 2021.

A Reflection

As I finish this report, I look up the duties of the World Service Delegate. On page 147 under At the World Service Conference (WSC), the last bullet item moves me especially now.

It says that I learn at the WSCs what our WSO has meant to Al-Anon in the past, now and in the future. And how the WSC – a conference that represents the group conscience of al-anon members from 67 areas – helps guide the WSO to the future welfare of the fellowship.

In 1951 Lois contacted Anne B and asked for her help starting a clearinghouse office. Anne accepted. They invited 40 other women to a lunch to get involved. (See page 36 in Many Voices, One Journey). Now here we are in 2020 continuing their vision with over 24,000 groups worldwide.

The heart of Al-Anon will always be the same as it was when Lois and Anne were gathered with their Al-Anon friends long ago.

Contact me at delegate@vermontanonateen.org anytime. I've been attending district meetings to get to know what's happening. I enjoy that.

You may download this report and my others on our vermontanonateen.org under Service > Delegates Corner.



Thank you Lois and Anne.
Thank you WSO.
Thank you Vermont
Al-Anon Members.