

# AWSC - Alternate Delegate Report

February 2017

As we begin our last year on Panel 55, I want all of you to know that I am one happy Alternate Delegate. Your participation gets my motor revved up!! Whether it is participating in a breakout group I have led at AWSC, bringing RLGL questions to AWSC, helping me pick out the 3 questions for RLGL, volunteering your District to research a RLGL question for Assembly, getting your new GR's to Assembly for GR Orientation or inviting me to your District to lead you in a Writing Workshop, in my mind, this is how we work out Concept 4, *Participation is the key to harmony*. I can't do what I do as your Alternate Delegate without your participation. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

With that said, don't forget to bring a RLGL question from your District to AWSC! I will be meeting with Theresa from District 12 to pick 3 questions to be presented at Assembly. Please be sure to let everyone in your District know that we will be holding RLGL on Friday night of Assembly, which is different from our usual Sunday morning time, due to the TEAM event schedule.

I'm so excited to have 2 members from District 9 printed in the 2017 January and February issues of *The Forum*, as a result of the Writing Workshop held at Bok Tower last year. However, there are several other articles in *The Forum* that are written by Florida members, but I do not know them or know if they are from North Florida. So, once again I need your HELP!! Please let me know if these members are in your District, so I can include them on the poster board at Assembly.

- Dec 2016 pg 4 – Melvin B
- Dec 2016 pg 19 – Doris B
- Dec 2016 pg 27 – Mary
- Jan 2016 pg 24 – Pam B

[Here is some recent information from WSO that was sent to the Forum Coordinators December 2016:](#)

- **Increase in subscribers:** Ever since the World Service Office stopped sending complimentary copies of *The Forum* to groups, there has been an increase in subscriptions. This has been most notably from groups buying subscriptions. Please remind groups that receiving *The Forum* is a great way to make the magazine visible, and let everyone know of its value for recovery.
- ***The Forum* needs more sharings!** We are very short on sharings about the three Legacies--especially about Steps Five through Twelve, and all Twelve Traditions and Concepts of Service. Also needed are sharings from Canada and from Alateen members.
- **New Department in *The Forum*:** In October, *The Forum* began a yearlong series of articles written by members of the Board of Trustees. They share about the recovery their service provides them, and provide an inside peek at the work the Board does for our fellowship.
- **THE FORUM BOOK (working title):** So far, members have sent in over 270 titles and publication dates of *Forum* articles they consider the best of recent years. Please encourage members to let the WSO know which *Forum* stories they want to see included in this book. And don't forget to send in your own pics too!
- **Instant Step Meetings:** Beginning in January, the "Instant Meeting" feature of *The Forum* will include, in addition to two or three brief sharings on the Step of the month, several thought-provoking questions to get the conversations started.

Just a reminder, if you have new GR's in your District, please make sure they are aware of the difference in *The Forum* and Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism.

[The Forum and Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism: Two very different purposes!](#)

Many of us had to overcome multiple challenges before we were ready to give Al-Anon Family Groups a try. We had to overcome denial that there was a problem with a loved one's drinking. Some of us didn't want to ask for help because it was embarrassing and we didn't want anyone to know what was going on at home. Even if we were aware that Al-Anon existed, perhaps the misconception that it's a religious group kept us away. Still others believed that no one could possibly understand what they were going through.

[Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism](#) is designed to address those challenges. Members write about their own denial, or share how they overcame the fear of reaching out. Most of all, members share hope, understanding, and compassion with the potential newcomer.

In *The Forum*, members share how the Twelve Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of Service have helped them find—and keep recovery! Even the newcomer walking through the door for the first time, someone who has already overcome the challenges of reaching out for help, could benefit from reading the experience, strength, and hope that we share in *The Forum*. They may be confused by our Legacies and even the some of the language we use, but Al-Anon and Alateen members will be there to help. Imagine how daunting it could be for a potential member, someone who may have never even heard of Al-Anon, to read about Concept Three or Tradition Five for example.

**With that in mind, please encourage members and groups in your Area to share *The Forum* with one another and share Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism with their community!**

The Writing Workshop that Pat A, Literature Coordinator and I lead in District 1, Tallahassee was so much fun. Thank you Cindy J for hosting it and putting us up for the weekend!

More Writing Workshops are being planned! Pat and I have plans to be in District 3, Jacksonville on March 11<sup>th</sup> and in District 6 on April 8<sup>th</sup>. I'm sure you will be seeing some flyers on both of these Workshops.

Once again, thank you for your participation...[Participation is the key to harmony](#)

Jill O., Alternate Delegate