

Delegate's Report at Assembly November 5 and 6, 2016

Let's begin this report on a positive note: After all the talk about deficit budgets, below average literature sales, smaller contributions, etc., Jennie M., Treasurer of the Board of Trustees at WSO, shared this message in a recent article on **AFG Connects**:

"We're in the final quarter, with the finish line in sight for this year!"

"You have all done such a great job of spreading the message of hope to families and friends of alcoholics. In addition, you have spread the message about the need for financial support for the services provided to the fellowship by our World Service Office."

"If this response continues, we are poised to meet or exceed our projected contribution budget of \$1,800,000! This is very exciting news and the credit goes to you. Thank you for hearing and passing on the message from the Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee. Thank you for believing in and supporting the Mission and Vision of the Board of Trustees and the work of the World Service Office."

"Stay tuned for the final numbers!! Thank you sincerely for your service and your support. Please pass on our gratitude and this message to members in your Area."

Isn't that wonderful news? You and the members of your groups get all the credit. I'm so proud of Missouri Al-Anon and Alateen members!

Now on to business. Actually I don't have a lot to report. I am still participating in the Task Force on "Spirituality in Group Money Discussions". I, personally, had never really thought about Spirituality in the same sentence as Money Discussions - group or personal - but I've found this to be a fascinating, challenging topic. So far we have an idea for a skit and one for a pamphlet. I hope we will have both available to the fellowship soon after next year's WSC.

I attended the Meet the Board event in Fayetteville, AR two weeks ago with eight other members from Missouri. There were also representatives from Arkansas (of course), Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and even Bermuda! This event has been re-named "Road Trip! You and Your Board" and is a wonderful way to get to know members of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee. I had met most of these folks before at WSC, but hearing them share snippets of their personal stories, which reflected many of the ways I had spoken, acted, and reacted before recovery, helped me realize that they, too, are Al-Anon members just as we are. I also learned more about the various Trustee,

Committee, and Board positions than I had known before; it was a little more in-depth look at how we are served by these dedicated members. I would recommend this event to anyone who has the opportunity to go. What a wonderful weekend it was!

I have also had the privilege of being invited to speak at different functions in Overland, MO, and in Districts 8, 14, and 15. I appreciate the opportunity of sharing my personal E, S, and H, as well as the information I was able to bring back from WSC. My sincere thanks for these wonderful invitations.

I would like to congratulate, in advance, all our new Missouri panel members: Officers, Coordinators, Alternates, District Representatives and Groups Representatives. I hope your service helps you grow in recovery as much as mine has helped me.

I'd like to finish by saying thank you to all Missouri Al-Anon and Alateen members for the love and support they have shared with me during this panel. As I leave this service position at the end of this year and the state of Missouri sometime early next year if all goes well, I will carry all of you in my heart and my prayers as my true, loving, guiding, caring, sharing family.

It has been my honor, my pleasure, and my privilege to serve you, as well as a wonderful personal learning experience for me. No, I didn't agree with everyone and I didn't always get my way, but the lessons I learned, through your vigilance and encouragement, are lessons I will carry with me no matter where I go.

May your Higher Power keep you well and safe in Al-Anon Family Groups and in life in general.

As always, with love in service,

Karen L.

Panel 54 Missouri Delegate