



# WSO UPDATE

PLEASE COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO GROUP MEMBERS

OCTOBER 2016

## WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT THE SPECIAL APPEAL?

If you've been attending S-Anon for more than a few months, you may have heard someone in your meeting mention the Special Appeal. This article explains the basics of the Special Appeal process.

### What is the Special Appeal?

The Special Appeal is a letter to groups requesting that they make additional financial contributions to the WSO. The Appeal letter is part of a larger package that includes the *WSO Update*, information about upcoming International Conventions, and other items.

### How often is the Special Appeal package sent to groups?

Special Appeal packages are sent three times each year, in February, June and October.

### How is the Special Appeal package sent?

Most groups receive the Special Appeal package via emails sent to the group's WSO contact. A small number of groups opt to

receive the package via U.S. mail. (To check or change your preferences, contact the WSO.)

### What should group contacts do with the Special Appeal package when they receive it?

Here are a few suggestions:

1. Read the appeal letter at three consecutive meetings. After reading the letter, pass the basket to take donations for the WSO. After the third meeting, send the money collected to the WSO.
2. Distribute the entire Special Appeal package to members of your group. If your group contact receives the Appeal package via email, he or she should forward it to members of your group in the way group members prefer to receive it. Some group contacts forward the Appeal package to group members via email. Others print out hard copies of the information and
3. Print out copies of WSO Update and International Convention information. Place those copies in a visible place during each meeting and refer to them during the announcements so members know they're available.
4. Encourage members to subscribe to WSO Update. Members can sign up to receive future issues by calling the WSO at (800) 210-8141 or emailing [sanon@sanon.org](mailto:sanon@sanon.org), or by using the link in the online store at [www.sanon.org](http://www.sanon.org).

Questions about the Special Appeal? Contact the WSO at (800) 210-8141 or [sanon@sanon.org](mailto:sanon@sanon.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- *January 9 - 11, 2017*  
*S-Anon International Convention*  
*Jerusalem, Israel*
- *July 14, 2017*  
*S-Anon World Service Conference*  
*Newark, New Jersey*
- *July 14 - 16, 2017*  
*S-Anon International Convention*  
*Newark, New Jersey*

S-Anon and S-Ateen members can register for upcoming International Conventions at [sanon.org/meetings/events.html](http://sanon.org/meetings/events.html).

## WSO BY THE NUMBERS



As of September 5...

- 333 Registered Face-to-Face (F2F) Meetings
- 7 Phone Meetings, 8 Skype Meetings, 1 Zoom Meeting, 1 Online Progress Meeting, and 2 S-Ateen Online Meetings

## WHAT'S NEW IN S-ATEEN?

### S-Ateen Online Community

S-Ateen members welcome and encourage newcomers to join weekly online voice meetings and access the recovery material available on this interactive site. It features S-Ateen readings, a daily devotional, weekly topic, calendar of events, and the opportunity to connect with other S-Ateens 24/7. Contact the WSO for details.

### New Literature

*S-Ateen: What It's Like To Be Me* describes the benefits of the S-Ateen program with "before" and "after" recovery shares from S-Ateen members. Look

for is new pamphlet this fall in the online store at [www.sanon.org](http://www.sanon.org).

### New Meeting

A new local S-Ateen face-to-face meeting recently started in San Diego, CA.

### Speaker Recording Available

A recording of an S-Ateen speaker from the July 2016 International Convention is available. It's another excellent tool for S-Anons to share the benefits of recovery with their children and extend an invitation to join the S-Ateen fellowship. Contact the WSO for information on obtaining a

copy of the recording.

### Current S-Ateen Information

We're in the process of updating the S-Ateen information found on the S-Anon website. To become an S-Ateen Group Sponsor, start a new group, or join the S-Ateen fellowship, contact the WSO at (800) 210-8141 or [sanon@sanon.org](mailto:sanon@sanon.org).



### Link Your Local S-Anon Website to [sanon.org](http://sanon.org)

Make it easier for newcomers to find your website and to connect with local meetings and resources by posting links to your site on the "Meeting Locations" pages of S-Anon's website. Contact the WSO at [sanon@sanon.org](mailto:sanon@sanon.org) or (800) 210-8141 to request a website link request form.



## FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK

### Literature sales are down and we need your help.

Revenue generated by the sale of S-Anon literature is nearly \$6,000 lower compared to last year. This is a big concern because the sale of literature helps to supplement the group and individual Seventh Tradition donations that support the WSO.

Here are a few things you can do to help reverse this troubling trend.

1. Talk it up. Promote literature at your meetings
2. Host local marathons. Local and regional events are excellent literature sale venues.
3. Reach out to Spanish speakers. A growing

number of titles are available in Spanish. Let Latino communities in your area know about literature. Call the WSO for guidance and resources.

4. Use literature in outreach activities. Put the Blue Book in your local library. Send literature to local therapists.
5. Buy and promote the e-book versions, too. You can then be assured you have literature with you when traveling out of town or even attending meetings without having to grab the daily reader



off your nightstand while running out the door!"

These ideas are just the tip of the iceberg. There is much you can do. For more ideas or for help implementing your ideas, contact the WSO.

*Katherine C., Treasurer*

## MOTIONS DEBATED AT S-ANON'S WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

The 2016 World Service Conference (WSC) was held on Friday, July 8 before the S-Anon International Convention in Denver, CO.

After reports from the officers and from each Board committee, a motion from the floor to confirm the proposed slates of BOT members kicked off the new business portion of the WSC. The following motions were debated. To pass, motions required "yes" votes from 2/3 of the voting members (23 votes); a simple majority is not enough to achieve passage of a motion.

**Motion 1:** Move that a fellowship-wide group conscience (FWGC) be conducted only at the direction of 3/4 of the members of the annual World Service Conference (WSC), and only in order to consider changing the language of any of the S-Anon Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, or Twelve Concepts of Service. All other issues will be debated and decided by the WSC.

The motion failed with 20 in favor, 13 opposed and 2 abstaining.

**Motion 2:** Move that the S-Anon Board of Trustees con-

duct a fellowship-wide group conscience (FWGC) to determine whether couples' meetings should continue as a part of the S-Anon Fellowship.

The motion failed with 3 in favor, 31 opposed and 1 abstaining.

**Motion 3:** Move that a section be added to the WSC Charter, Section XI. Conference Procedure, that would read as follows: "In any vote taken by the WSC, the number of voting members will always be composed of at least 2/3 Delegates and no more than 1/3 other Conference members." If Motion a. passes, further move that the S-Anon BOT review, revise, if necessary, and approve a process for choosing "other Conference members" to abstain each time the question is called if "other Conference members" consist of more than 1/3 of WSC members present when the question is called.

The motion failed with 10 in favor, 25 opposed and 0 abstaining.

**Motion 4:** Instruct the BOT Executive Committee to delete the line in the S-Anon/S-Ateen Service Manual under

"Special Meetings" that currently reads: "An S-Anon Couples Meeting is one example of a special meeting, at which attendance is limited to "Couples Only." Add the following statement to the S-Anon/S-Ateen Service Manual under the section titled Closed Meetings: "S-Anon Couples in Recovery meetings are considered closed meetings. These groups, when registered, have all the rights of any other closed meeting. All the attendees are members of S-Anon. Most of the people who go to these meetings are couples in a committed relationship. Sometimes people attend without their partner. Sometimes single people attend the meetings. Each group is autonomous."

The motion failed with 3 in favor, 32 opposed and 0 abstaining.

**Motion 5:** Move that the following changes be made to the WSC Charter:

1. Add the following to the end of the Introduction paragraph: "Certain countries of the world, for language or geographic considerations,

have established or may desire to establish their own General Service Office and national conference. This WSC is now the senior conference."

2. Remove item 2.b. (Composition), which states "Representatives from other countries, when these countries as well as the Conference may be ready for their participation;"
3. Replace item 2.b. (Composition) with the following statement: "Representatives from other countries may attend the Conference with a voice, but not a vote."

Motion passed with 33 in favor, 0 opposed and 2 abstaining.

**Motion from the Floor:** A motion from the floor to reclassify *Recovering Together* as service literature was presented. The WSC voted to table the motion until the 2017 WSC.

Minutes of the 2016 WSC will be available soon.

## SERVICE LITERATURE OFFERS VALUABLE GUIDANCE

S-Anon's library of service literature is growing. Thinking about launching a website for your group or intergroup? *Creating a Local S-Anon Website* and *How to Select a Web Hosting*

*Company* can help. Dealing with group issues? *S-Anon Business Meetings and the Group Conscience Process* offers guidance. Curious about service beyond the group level? *Serving as an Area Delegate* and

*Serving as a Regional Trustee* explain the roles.

These service literature titles (and many more) are available for free download in the online store at

[www.sanon.org](http://www.sanon.org). More service literature titles are in the works. If you want to be involved in the creation of service literature, contact the WSO at (800) 210-8141 or [sanon@sanon.org](mailto:sanon@sanon.org).

S-ANON

International



Family Groups

P.O. Box 17294  
Nashville, TN 37217  
Toll-Free: (800) 210-8141  
Local: (615) 833-3152  
Fax: (615) 833-8454  
[sanon@sanon.org](mailto:sanon@sanon.org)

WSO Update is a publication of S-Anon International Family Groups, Inc. designed to build awareness about the activities of the S-Anon World Service Office, Board of Trustees and Board Committees. Send comments and questions to [sanon@sanon.org](mailto:sanon@sanon.org).

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BUY LITERATURE OR MAKE  
A DONATION ONLINE AT  
[WWW.SANON.ORG](http://WWW.SANON.ORG)

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## Never be without S-Anon CAL!

A variety of S-Anon Conference Approved Literature is available in ebook format. Buy ebooks online at [www.sanon.org/Store/books/ebooks.html](http://www.sanon.org/Store/books/ebooks.html) and download them to your iPad, Nook, Kindle, phone, or other digital device.

## BRIEFS

### Consider Service above the Group Level

A number of service opportunities are currently available, including Northeast and Southeast Regional Trustees, Archives Committee Chair, and Public Information & Outreach Committee Chair. To learn more, visit [www.sanon.org/groups](http://www.sanon.org/groups) and click on Service Opportunities—or just contact the WSO at [sanon@sanon.org](mailto:sanon@sanon.org).

### Attention Event Planners!

Don't forget the WSO when you're distributing flyers about your events. Please include [sanon@sanon.org](mailto:sanon@sanon.org) on your email distribution lists so we can include your event on the calendar at

[www.sanon.org](http://www.sanon.org). And if you are looking for speakers for your event, call the WSO to request a list of members willing to share their stories.

### Join the Speakers' Pool

The WSO is always looking for new members to add to the Speakers' Pool, the corps of members willing to share their experience, strength and hope at marathons, retreats and conventions. To learn more about the requirements or to register, visit the Downloadable Forms section of the Group Resources/Materials page at [www.sanon.org](http://www.sanon.org).

### Convention Recordings Available on CD

Listening to recordings of meetings and speakers at In-

ternational Conventions is an excellent way to supplement your recovery. To learn how to access these recordings, contact the WSO.

### Does Your Group Need Help?

The S-Anon/S-Ateen Service Manual and the Twelve Traditions are invaluable tools designed to help groups answer a wide variety of common questions. Download the S-Anon/S-Ateen Service Manual in the Service Literature section of the online store at [www.sanon.org/Store/left/service-literature.html](http://www.sanon.org/Store/left/service-literature.html). And, if you still have questions, contact your Delegate, Regional Trustee or the WSO.



The best way to keep the gifts S-Anon has given us is to pass them on through our words and actions. Please consider serving as a long-distance sponsor or phone support person. Sign-up forms are available at [www.sanon.org](http://www.sanon.org) or by contacting the WSO at (800) 210-8141 or [sanon@sanon.org](mailto:sanon@sanon.org).