



Moving Forward with
UNITY, COURAGE, and PERSERVERANCE

Allons de l'avant avec
UNITÉ, COURAGE et PERSÉVÉRANCE

Avancemos con
UNIDAD, VALOR y PERSEVERANCIA

wsc
61st Annual
World Service Conference 2021

Welcome to
the 61st Conversation

...since Lois first invited us to gather annually at a

World Service
Conference

2021

Penni Sparks
Hawaii Area Delegate

Panel 61

“The Legacies live on!”



“We do not change Al-Anon’s principles;

Al-Anon’s principles change us.”

– a Delegate at WSC 2021

Preparing for my first WSC World Service Conference

- I met with Past Delegate, Patti. Among her most helpful hints — buy lots of thank-you cards!
- I went to 3 WSC Onboarding Calls, first to learn WEBEX, not Zoom, and second, to meet my fellow Panel 61 members, and third, to learn how to participate, vote, and most importantly, how to take exquisite care of myself during the long hours of the Conference.
- I was introduced to my official, loving Mentor, Mary Jo from Florida, who was so supportive.
- I went to SWRDM (SouthWest Regional Delegates' Meeting) to meet all past & present Delegates & Trustees from our region: Arizona, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Colorado, Texas, California North & South, and Hawaii.
- I went to my first WSC Public Outreach Committee meeting.
- I Zoomed with my Panel 61 Members 3 times, to share concerns, solve common challenges, compare take-away's, and to create our Panel slogan: "Panel 61: The Legacies live on!"



Past Delegate, Kay, pinned me...



... and Past Delegate, Patti, lanyard-ed me.

Highlights of WSC

- We welcomed 12 International Guests
- Our Executive Director, Vali Fayen, delegated her reporting to the WSO staff
- We took a Virtual Tour of Stepping Stones
- We heard several Delegates as inspiring Speakers throughout the Conference
- We watched the new PSAs
- Our own Kay R received a Certificate of Appreciation for her ECRPM Service
- We listened to the Task Force: Using the Concepts in Personal Recovery
- We participated in the Board Chosen Agenda Item — “Diversity Today”
- We discussed this year’s Mega Issue — How to attract members to be Trustees

Firsts

- For the first time since 1954, contributions exceeded literature sales.
- For the first time in 61 years, we have an increase in international participation.
- This was the first Virtual International Trilingual WSC.
- The online store will be trilingual as well.
- ‘Welcome Newcomer’ (eK10) is the first electronic recovery tool and is available now for \$1.40 each.

“This gathering will serve
as an insurance policy
for unity and survival of your society.”

–Bill W at the first World Service Conference in 1961

How are decisions made at Conference?

- Conference Members listen to reports from Delegates on Work Groups, Task Forces, Thought Forces, or Committees directly responsible to those they serve.
- This year, we heard reports from the Electronic Meeting Work Group; the Literature & Policy Committees; and the Board of Trustees.
- Their reports included the full KBDM, history, resources, and reflections, and several brought Motions or actions they recommended we consider on behalf of the groups in our Areas.
- 15 Motions came to the Conference floor for the Delegates to consider, and all 15 were carried.

Two Historic Decisions

Two historic decisions were made at this year's WSC.

1. Recognize permanent electronic meetings as Al-Anon Family Groups.
2. Allow creation of non-geographically based Areas, the first of which will be a Virtual Area for groups that meet on electronic platforms.

These decisions allow groups that meet electronically to elect all the service positions identified in the Service Manual, including a Group Representative (GR). Everything in the Service Manual will apply equally to all groups, whether they meet physically or electronically.

Electronic Meetings Become Groups

&

We Create a Virtual Area

- WSO staff will change the text in the World Service Handbook to incorporate a non-geographically based Area into the World Service Conference Structure.
- The Al-Anon groups that meet electronically could belong to this non-geographic Area.
 1. A group may belong to a geographical area or a Virtual Area, but not both.
 2. To switch Areas, a group is released from the one they're in and then admitted to the other Area. (The process to change an Al-Anon group from one Area into a neighboring Area is already outlined on page 158 of the Handbook, "Miscellaneous: Renaming an Area, Changing a group/District to a new Area." This section was also modified to incorporate the ability for an Al-Anon group that meets electronically to request admission to a geographic Area.
 3. There will be one Virtual Area to start and later there may be more than one.
 4. An Area may DECIDE to accept any registered electronic group into their service structure.
 5. We added 700 new electronic groups to our service structure.
- Hawaii Area will need to create a process to make this a choice for our groups.

Other Decisions made at this year's WSC

- Conceptual approval was given to develop an Alateen "Just for Tonight" bookmark.
- Approval of the revised Alateen Preamble language was presented and will be updated in all Conference Approved Literature (CAL.)
- Conceptual approval was given to add a new introduction to The Dilemma of the Alcoholic Marriage (B-4) placing the book in historical perspective AND to create a booklet of gems from this book.
- Conceptual approval was given to add a new introduction to One Day at a Time in Al-Anon (B-6) placing the book in historical perspective.
- Approval of a Longitudinal Study starting in 2021 which consists of annual surveys of Al-Anon members who wish to participate.
- Interpretation will continue to be part of the WSC, funded through the Full Amount/Equalized Expense paid by each Area for Delegates to attend WSC.

“When service is seen as ‘work’
rather than as ‘recovery,’
burnout occurs.”

–a Delegate at WSC 2021

Finances at a Glance

Revenue

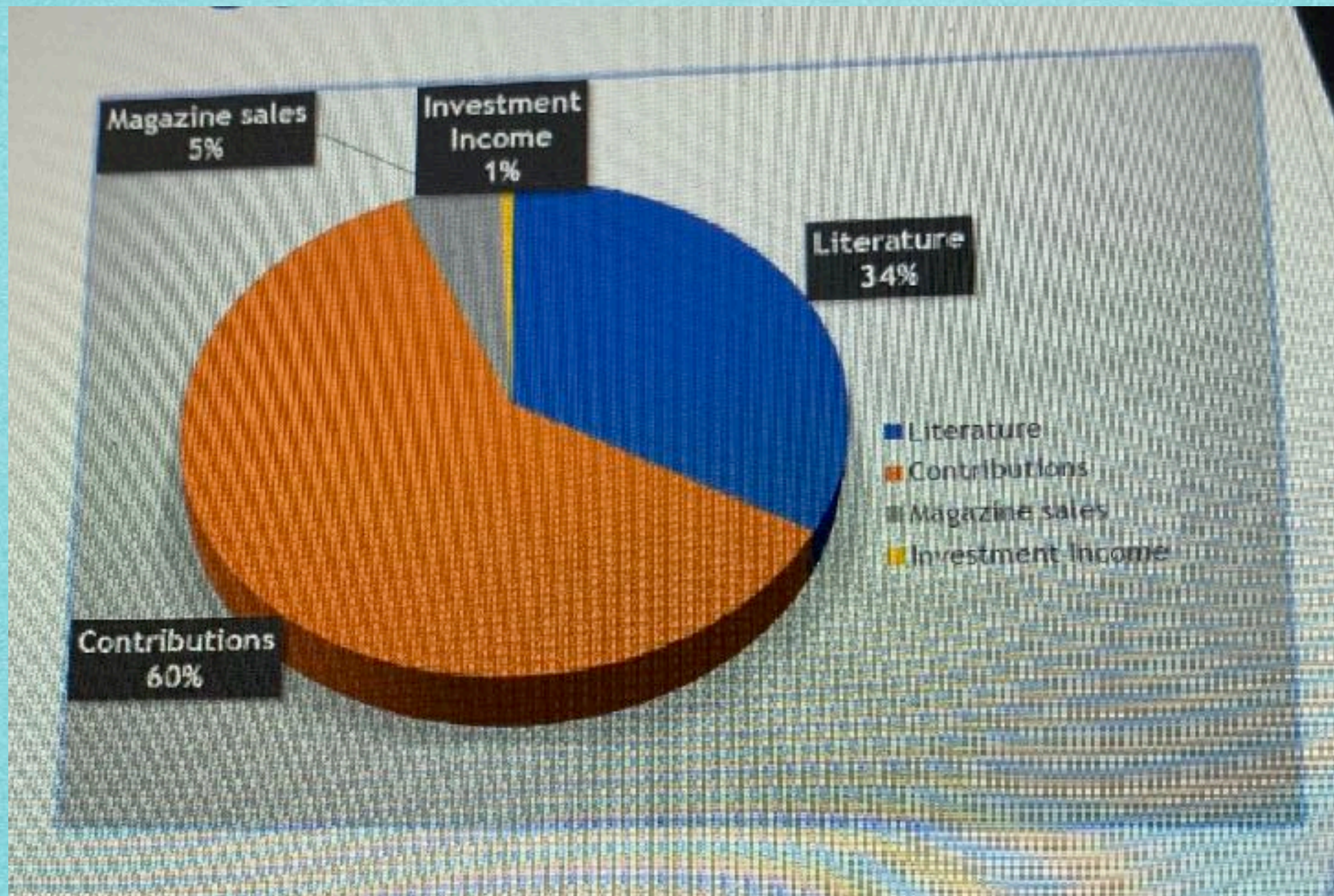
- WSO Revised Budget shows, due to the generosity of groups worldwide, we exceeded \$3,000,000 in contributions, up +51%
- Literature Sales were down -37%
- Magazine Sales were up +6%
- Investment Income was down -70% then rebounded
- Non-cash contributions were up +156%

Expenses

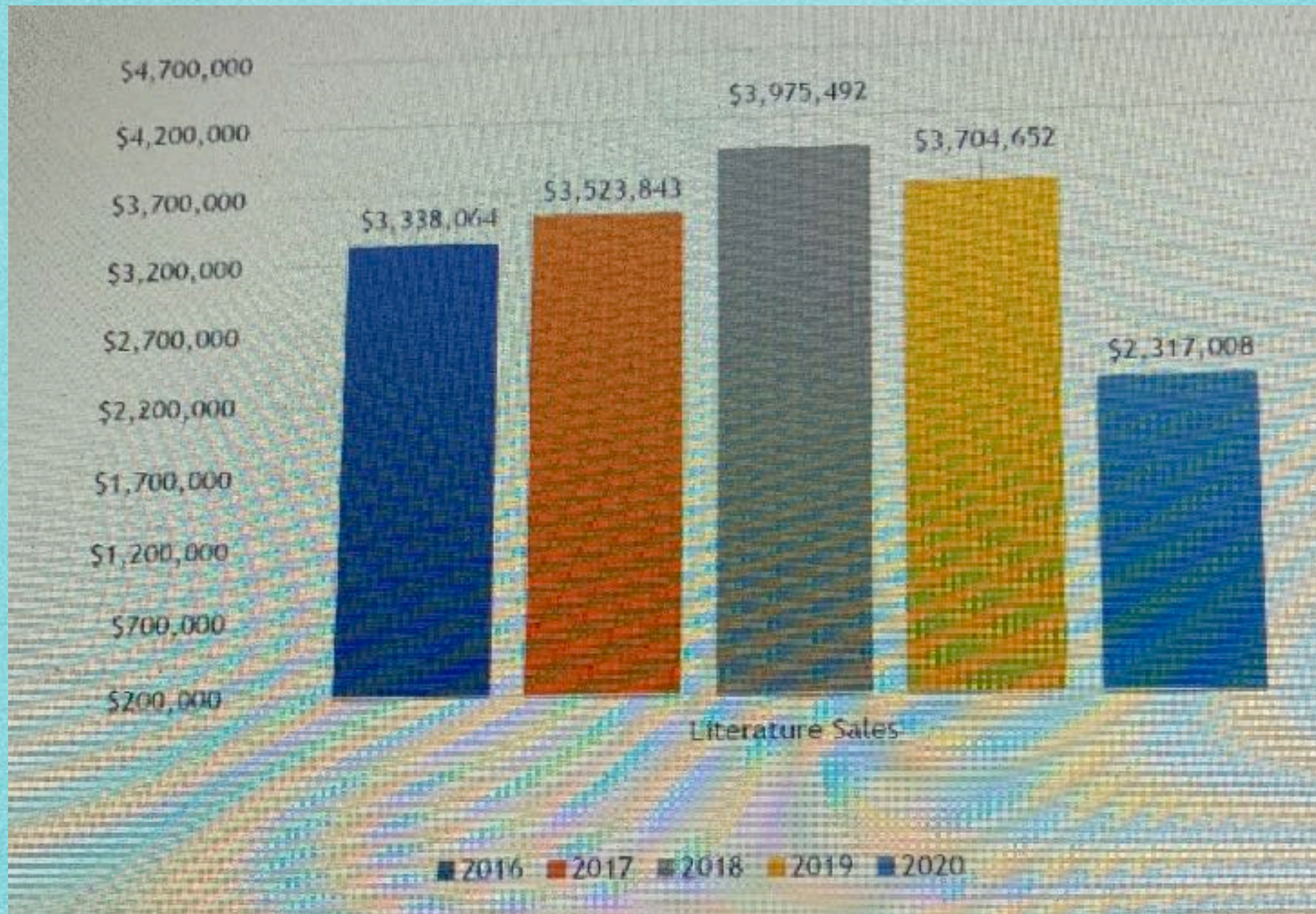
- Administrative Services were lessened -16%
- Program Services were down -12%

Overall Change in net assets were down -10%

Sources of Revenue



Yearly Literature Sales



Contributions at a Glance

	2020	2019
Total USA	\$2,519,820	\$1,744,191
Total Canada	218,074	149,883
Other Countries	28,881	9,998
Electronic Meetings	<u>19,812</u>	<u>3,753</u>
Bequests and Undesignated	<u>509,134</u>	<u>278,820</u>
Grand Total	\$3,295,720	\$2,186,645

	Total Groups	Groups Contributing	% of Groups Contributing	Ave for Groups Contributing
2020 USA/Canada Summary	<u>14,042</u>	8,245	59%	\$ 175
2019 USA/Canada Summary	14,429	9,311	65%	\$ 153

Estimated cost of services provided	\$ <u>3,697,704</u>
Average cost of services per group	\$ <u>263</u>

Hawai'i Contributions to WSO

<u>% of Groups Donating</u>	<u>Average per Group</u>		<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	
79.0%	\$ 200.32	Group	\$ 12,420	\$ 7,386	(up \$5000)
(2nd highest)	(5th highest)	* <u>Other</u>	\$ 7,093	\$ 3,303	(up \$3800)

*Other contributions include from individuals and from AISs (Al-Anon Information Services), LDCs (Literature Distribution Centers), and Area meetings (Days in Al-Anon, Celebrations, Events, Conferences.)



Stepping Stones

www.steppingstones.org

Upcoming Events

70th Anniversary of Al-Anon:

You are invited to Lois' (Virtual) Summer Picnic at Stepping Stones
on Saturday, July 10, 2021 from 2 - 4pm EDT

register @al-anon.org/anniversary

2023 International Convention:

June 29 - July 2 in Albuquerque, NM

Road Trip (Meet the Board)

to Cleveland, OH in September 2021. (Hawaii Area could submit a bid for a Road Trip!)

Mahalo Maui!



The final word:

“Listen Observe Value Encourage”

– a Delegate at WSC 2021

Delegate's Report

A few stories about the

Concepts in

Action

at SWRDM & WSC 2021



Concepts in Action

- At SWRDM: The Chairperson's moment of silence...

Concept 3: The right of decision makes effective leadership possible.

- At WSC: The roles played by WSO staff...

Concept 10: Service responsibilities are clearly defined and double-headed management is avoided.

- At WSC: What happened when some members voted 'No'...

Concept 5: The rights of appeal and petition protect minorities and assure that they be heard.



Thank you for everything, dear friends!

*Next year's Conference will be in
New York City, God willing!*