

Hello Utah Area Group Representatives

The Utah Spring Assembly is almost upon us. We are hoping to have a fun, informative, and *sunny* Spring Assembly. I have recently been asked what the GRs will be voting on at Assembly so I thought I'd send out a brief update on the voting.

At the 2022 Fall Election Assembly almost every Area service position was filled, except Area Secretary and Tech Coordinator. Fortunately, there are people who are interested in filling these positions. One member, who has expressed interest in Area Secretary, has been an Area Secretary in another Area. The Utah Area Election Guidelines and Procedures (<https://utah-alanon.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Election-Guidelines.pdf>) states that "all present or past members of the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) are eligible to stand for any area officer position." There has been a question on the meaning of this sentence. There will be a discussion about who can stand, followed by a vote. Please review the Al-Anon Service Manual and the Utah guideline (above). Those who are willing to stand for either position will then be asked to talk about their qualifications. The GRs will then cast ballots.

The Utah Treasurer and Guidelines Coordinator, with assistance from the finance committee, is making updates to the Utah Budget and Reimbursement Guideline (<https://utah-alanon.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Budgetandreimbursementguideline.pdf>) to keep it up to date, especially with the ongoing increase in prices. Please review the current guideline. The finance committee is working towards having a copy of the updated guideline on the website prior to the Assembly. If a fully updated guideline is not available before Assembly, a vote will be taken on whether the Area should reimburse full expenses for travel and hotel (instead of being limited to what the current guideline stipulates) until the updated guideline is complete.

At the 2022 Fall Assembly, Utah GRs voted to accept Electronic Groups into the Utah Area. An Electronic Groups Task Force was created. The task force was asked to prepare procedures to accept Electronic Groups into the Area. There will be time for questions and a discussion. The Utah GRs will be asked to vote on how to proceed – ask the task force to continue its work or have the Area adopt the recommendations of the task force.

At the 2022 Spring Assembly a thought force was formed to review Utah's policy on its participation in Southwest Regional Delegates Meeting (SWRDM). The thought force presented its finding at the 2022 Fall Assembly (<https://utah-alanon.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/SWRDMreport.pdf>). This year SWRDM is taking place in Salt Lake City the weekend before the 2023 Spring Assembly. The thought force will do a brief review of its findings and 3-4 members will briefly talk about their experiences at the 2023 SLC SWRDM. There will be time for questions. The GRs will be asked to vote on how to proceed. The possibilities are: continue with a thought force, form a task force, or table the discussion.

With Gratitude,
Heather Marback
Utah Area Chair
Heather.marback@gmail.com