

On occasion, the Al-Anon or AA Assembly will hold a speaker meeting on Saturday night. Casual clothes are appropriate for this event, too (Unless you're lucky enough to be the speaker!). There are never any scheduled activities on Friday evening, so if you arrive early you can wear whatever you want!

Non-clothing items that you will want to bring with you are your

* **Service Manual**

* **Agenda**

* **Minutes from the last Assembly, and your**

* **Area Guidelines**

If you do not have some of these items, you should talk to your District Representative or the person who was GR at your group before you. There are usually extra copies of these things at Assembly, though, and a Service Manual can be purchased from the Literature Coordinator sometime during the weekend.

Other items you may want to bring along include cards, games or crafts to do in the evenings. You can also bring along your own pop and snacks.

Well, all this should help you get on the road. Then what?

DRIVING

Check around with people in your District to find a group with whom you can carpool. Try to find someone who has made the trip before, and find out how long it took, and if there are any interesting sights along the way or particularly good rest stops.

AT THE HOTEL

Checking In and Checking Out

- * When making a reservation, BE SURE to tell the hotel that you are with the Al-Anon conference in order to get the discounted rate. (You may sleep up to 4 people in a room for the same rate).
- * Make room reservations with a credit card if possible. That way you don't have to worry about checking in before 6:00 pm.
- * Keep track of any confirmation number you are given when making a reservation.
- * If you do not arrive at the hotel until Saturday, be prepared to wait until early to mid-afternoon to check in.
- * Since check-out time at most facilities is 11:00 a.m., you should pay for your room when you check in, if you can. This will save time on Sunday morning.

Dining In and Dining Out

- * No meals are provided by the Area
- * You are not obligated to eat any meals at the facility, but it may be the most convenient thing to do for breakfast and/or lunch. A lot of hotels have a breakfast, which can save you money.
- * Feel free to bring your own breakfast and/or lunch food in order to save money.
- * Don't be afraid to explore the town in search of a good evening meal. Just take your map with you, so you can find your way back to the hotel.
- * If you know someone who is here alone, ask them to join your group. No one likes to eat alone, and people are often shy about inviting themselves along.

AT THE SHARING MEETING. Anyone can attend the Sharing Meeting. A District volunteers in advance to choose a format and chair the meeting.. It is not a business meeting, and it is a very good place to start to get to know people.

AT THE AWSC. AWSC stands for Area World Service Committee, and this meeting is attended only by the Area Officers, Area Coordinators, DR's * and past Delegates. This is a business meeting where issues are discussed prior to the Assembly meeting with the goal of forming a suitable recommendation to make to the Assembly. (*An alternate DR is the only person who can attend the AWSC in place of a DR).

AT THE GR MEETING. Anyone can attend the GR Meeting. A District volunteers in advance to choose a format and chair this meeting. Usually the topic has something to do with learning about service or how to perform service work, and you should plan on bringing your Service Manual with you.

AT THE WORKSHOP. Anyone can attend the Workshop and usually everyone does. Sometimes, however, the AWSC meeting continues after lunch, and these members cannot attend the Workshop. The Workshop is hosted by a District that has volunteered in advance to chair it and choose a format for the topic. It is an excellent place to meet people, and you will almost certainly learn a lot!

AT THE ASSEMBLY SATURDAY

The Saturday afternoon Assembly meeting is attended by all members, and it consists of various reports from Area Officers, Coordinators, and DR's. This is also where the AWSC recommendations are submitted to the Assembly. **NO VOTING TAKES PLACE ON RECOMMENDATIONS AT THIS TIME.**