

ONTARIO SOUTH ASSEMBLY
AWSC – May 30-31, June 1 2014
Durham College
32 Commencement Drive
Oshawa, ON L1G 8G3

Friday, May 30, 2014

Welcome

The OSA Chairperson opened the meeting with a Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Traditions, Concepts and Warranties were read. A warm welcome was given to all and the Executive and Coordinators were introduced.

Housekeeping details were completed - confirmation of meeting rooms, cell phone off or on vibrate, electronic devices for AI-Anon business only, avoid perfumes, Treasurer will accept scanned expense forms originals also to be mailed, LDC pre-orders will be handled by the Area Literature Coordinator, post-it-note messages available for the Chairperson, location of washrooms & elevators.

The acting Secretary completed the roll call.

Coordinators' Reports

Alateen - Gave a Thank You from OSAAC for donations of love & support. Alateens have made thank you cards. HUGS scarves are available and are the fundraiser for this year's Unity. Reminder of Alateen display cards and to display them at your groups. If looking for an Alateen speaker: suggestion to ask an AI-Anon member with past Alateen experience or a SAM. Let local AA groups know where & when Alateen meetings are.

Alateen spoke at Blossom Time-registration was paid. SAM's expenses of \$180.97 were covered by OSAAC. That won't continue so if you ask an Alateen to speak make sure SAM's expenses are covered. Suggestion for "Open Lines" have an Ask it Basket section for SAM's.

Area Alateen Process Person - Recertification process of SAMs in Ontario South complete. 157 certified SAMS-2 more applications pending. Still waiting for some of the Annual updates from Alateen Groups. 35 Registered Alateen Groups.

Archives - Looking at what to do with Long timer questionnaires. Not much in "Loving Memories" binder so they will be added to it.

Forum - Note display board, Writing Guidelines and subscription forms.

Group Records - Ongoing trouble with Group Records and Website coordinators computers. They will be working on that this weekend. Group Records information that our Group Records Coordinator has and what WSO have are correct.

Literature - WSO wants sharings for CAL corner, the new book on intimacy and the pamphlet for parents and grandparents. Each District has a package here to bring to your District. Newest literature on conflict resolution: wallet card, using the tradition cards and "Conflict Resolution talk to each other, Resolving Conflicts in Al-Anon".

Open Lines - nothing further.

Public Outreach - Keeping a low profile. Did an outreach in Barry's Bay.

Website - Visits as of this morning for May 2600. April visits were 5355. Let members know they can visit.

Qs &As

Archives -What constitutes a long timer? Guidelines say 25 yrs. Depending on circumstances could be shorter.

AAPP - Is next year time for a full check? No, always the 2nd year of term which will be 2016. Ontario South Deadline is in March.

Clarify process for volunteer letter for Vulnerable Person Screening. – No longer just a signed letter leaving the name blank to be filled in later. Chairperson now needs full legal name of each applicant and she includes the actual name personally. Member is to contact District Representative and give full legal name; DR will pass on request to Chairperson. Chairperson will complete personalized letter on Ontario South letterhead and mail to DR who in turn gives to member.

The meeting closed at 7:45pm with the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration.

Saturday, May 31, 2014

Welcome

The OSA Chairperson opened the meeting with a Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Traditions, Concepts and Warranties were read. A warm welcome was given to all, those who were attending their first AWSC stood up and then the Executive and Co-ordinators were introduced.

It was determined by the acting Area Secretary, through the morning roll call, that there were 40 members in attendance, 35 eligible voters and that 18 votes would constitute a simple majority. Those unable to attend were Districts 3, 5, 9, 14, 24, 25, 30 & 31.

Motion forms, Items for Consideration and Ask-It-Basket forms were explained.

Four members volunteered for the *Ask-It Basket* Committee.

Approval of voting procedures

Knowledge-Based Decision Making (KBDM) and motion & voting procedures were reviewed. A non-voting member volunteered to be time keeper.

Motion 1: It was moved and seconded that “we accept the voting procedures as laid out”. Motion carried.

Approval of 2013 AWSC Minutes:

There was some discussion of whether the DR’s Boundary discussion that took place in 2013 should be included.

Motion 2: It was moved and seconded that “we approve the 2012 AWSC Minutes as amended”. Motion carried.

(Amendment pg. 4.... “in 2012 (\$1500 in 2011”...)

World Service Conference Report

Our Delegate handed out the full written report of her attendance at the WSC including an additional handout of games. She reviewed her report. Report to be posted on Ontario South Website. Jane expressed her thanks for support & cards. Asked those present to pass on thanks to those who provided our Delegate with feedback on the chosen agenda item discussion items.

Literature Distribution Centre (LDC) Report

-Reminder LDC closed May 16th to June 23rd. Wednesday office hours will revert to 9:00am to 3:00pm.

- Fax line contract ends in June, fax line will be discontinued.

-Has updated history page in Ontario South Manual and it will be included in the Manual.

-New Literature Office Committee (LOC) Charter & By laws have been signed and will be put in Area Manual.

-Please continue to purchase literature from our LDC and not WSO.

-To reduce operating costs manager continues to take time off during slow periods without pay.

Financial Update for 2014

The Treasurer reviewed the Ontario South profit & loss statement for 2013 (with 2012 comparatives) & Ontario South Assembly Balance sheet as of December 31,2013. (These had been sent out previous to this meeting)

There was a discussion by those in attendance of why so much money in the bank and should we look at further investments. Clarified that at this point may not make a substantial difference in interest.

-The Ontario South Assembly Balance Sheet year to date & Profit and Loss Statements were reviewed. (These were provided on arrival to the weekend)

Break at 11:55AM for lunch and fellowship.

The meeting resumed at 1PM with Serenity Prayer.

Clarification of additional attendance. Total number in attendance now 42 members. Those eligible to vote is 37 and therefore 19 votes would constitute a simple majority. Districts not represented were 3, 9, 14, 24, 30&31.

Discussion Items

Item # 1 Proposed 2015 Budget

Motion 3: It was moved and seconded that “the proposed budget for 2015 be forwarded to Assembly 2014 for approval.” Motion carried.

Item # 1 DR’s Item for Discussion Only:

“How is our fellowship being affected by “service fatigue” and members choosing not to be involved? What do we need to ask ourselves?

- Study traditions & concepts at meetings.
- Be mindful of attitude and setting a positive “tone”
- Encourage sponsorship-there is a pamphlet, bring someone with you
- Use resources-should group do inventory-changing format at times-using different CAL including *the Forum*-reminder 7th tradition includes service
- Asking directly for someone to take specific role & then being available to mentor/support-offer being service sponsor-more shadowing in past role to help incoming
- Offer a ride-travel together
- Attitude of that’s where the fun is-guest speakers-something special & informative, food , fellowship becomes more of an event
- Service meeting specifically-point our service includes just attending
- Inventory- public outreach- service panel at a speaker meeting-invite Area Coordinator

- Rotation of service-sometimes we have to leave the position to allow someone else to step in- host assembly to encourage others to serve
- Written description of roles at group level-talking about what would happen if service doesn't happen
- Choosing to view service as a gift
- Service day within AI-Anon-hand out suggested "chores"
- Be mindful we are volunteers-trying not to be critical-encourage especially new members to do it their way
- Promote service- using promotion and attraction-taking service as a way of communication, practical way of using Traditions.

Item # 3 Reducing Open Lines Issues from 4 to 3 times per year

DECISION POINT: Should the number of Open Lines issues be changed?

Discussion occurred by those who were present.

Motion 4: It was moved and seconded that "the Open Lines be reduced from 4 publications a year to 3 publications a year." Motion carried.

Item # 4 DR's Item for Discussion Only

How do Groups & Districts perform group inventories?

- Included groups & districts-Bonus that can see positive aspects of what we do-give food as an enticement-have an agenda-ask it basket-actually done as a group conscious meeting annually
- Sent copies home-compiled results-when identified issues they were brought to meeting & then topic at a regular meeting i.e. "service"
- Helpful to see perspective because sometimes too close
- All done by email – keep it simple- turnaround time short & anonymous – compile-acknowledge positives first- make long term goals and spread them out
- Doing it on line creates a different interest
- Take information home and bring back verbal feedback at a meeting
- Guidelines G-8a G-8b –Asking DR for support as part of their role
- Ask only two questions – What's working well & What needs to be worked on
- District gave inventory to each group and they had 4 months to be worked on –very positive as a district
- Starting a District inventory may give groups the idea to do it too
- What really bugs me about my group & What do I do that more than likely bugs others

Item # 5 Concept One Discussion

Participants were asked to break into groups to discuss the questions listed and then brought back their answers

1. What makes your group the best?

2. What is a healthy group?
3. What are the characteristics of a healthy group?
4. What are the practices that demonstrate the actions of a healthy group?
5. How can the concept of a home group benefit Al-Anon?
6. How can I let it begin with me?

OSSAC Chair Report

- pointed out Alateen meeting tent card
- Alateen attendance at ORC in 2013 was 52 & in 2014 there was 72
- Unity next weekend- please support!-Bring some teens & also attend
- Hugs scarves-so when you wear them you get a big hug from Alateen-money going to Unity
- Reminder to get teens to meetings, starting with one
- If you know of an Alateen who would like to be OSSAC chair encourage them to attend Assembly or contact the OSAAC Chair.

Break for supper at 4:55PM.

The evening session began at 6:30PM with a Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

District Reports

The reports will be posted on the Ontario South Website.

Workshops

1. Open Lines Format
2. Feel the Nudge

The meeting closed at 8:30PM.

Sunday June 1, 2014

Welcome

The OSA Chairperson opened the meeting with a Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Traditions, Concepts and Warranties were read.

District Reports

The reports will be on the Ontario South Website.

AIS Reports

The reports will be on the Ontario South Website.

Delegate's Update

*Referred those present to Guideline G-41 and then started with an activity on how to set a Group Budget.

*Links of Service-reminder not to skip a ``link`` when problem solving-Conflict resolution tools available newest one "Resolving Conflicts Within Al-Anon"

*Meet the Board event 2014 being held in Newfoundland/Labrador in July. Do we want to send a letter of intent for suggestions to be held in Ontario South for 2015? YES –Jane will forward the information she has.

*We have an abundance of Al-Anon literature for our use.

*ODAT daily reader is now available as an audio book.

*2015 AA International Convention- July 2-5. Al-Anon will have talks & workshops July 3 & 4. On line registration starts in September.

*Electronic devices will now be allowed for use at the next WSC

*New PSAs were shown.

Food for thought & ideas to think about ; Would it be useful:

For Ontario South to have a long range plan - Have a virtual LDC – To hold Trillium once a term – Have a budget/finance committee including Ontario South members at large.

Ask-it-Basket Answers

There were five questions. The questions and answers will appear in the next issue of Open Lines.

Open Mic

Opportunity for those present to share.

The meeting closed at 10:35AM with the Serenity Prayer followed by the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration.