

**Ontario South Assembly  
October 26, 27, & 28, 2012**

Travelodge Hotel and Conference Centre  
1376 Carling Ave. Ottawa, ON

*Our Spiritual Journey - we get as we give*

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2012 (evening session)**

The *meeting opened* with a Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

*The Chairperson welcomed everyone* to this Assembly and asked those voting members who were attending Assembly for the first time to stand and also acknowledged Alateens in attendance and those just curious to see how the process works. Introduction of the OSA Executive, Advisors and Coordinators followed.

*The 2012 Assembly Host Committee Chairperson* extended a welcome to this Assembly and made some housekeeping announcements relating to the location of the Literature room and Hospitality Suite and gave the hours of operation.

The Chairperson then dealt with housekeeping items (use of post-it notes, water stations, etc.)

The Traditions, Concepts and Warranties were read.

*Open Speaker Meeting* followed.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2012 (morning session)**

*The Chairperson welcomed everyone* to this Assembly and asked those voting members who were attending Assembly for the first time to stand. She also acknowledged Alateens in attendance and those just curious to see how the process works.

The Traditions, Concepts and Warranties were read. Introduction of the OSA Executive, Advisors and Coordinators followed.

*The 2012 Assembly Host Committee Chairperson* extended a welcome to this Assembly and made some housekeeping announcements relating to the Literature room and Hospitality Suite and gave the hours of operation. There is a Message Board located at the registration table for those wishing to leave messages. She reminded everyone that there is a list of area restaurants and that the hotel was providing a buffet at lunch and supper.

The Chairperson provided information about post-its, washrooms etc. and times/locations for the Ask It Basket committee and the Alateen GRs meeting.

*The Chairperson explained KBDM (Knowledge Based Decision Making) and the Voting Procedures* by reading pages 9 and 12-13 from the pre-Registration package.

**Motion 1: Moved and seconded that “the voting procedures as explained be accepted.” Carried.**

*Items for Consideration* are topics which affect members at the Area level requiring a decision beyond group or district autonomy. An Item for Consideration which has been submitted will be taken up by the Executive at an upcoming meeting (November). These items are clarified as needed, that is, if it is deemed to be administrative in nature, the Executive will deal with it, and if it is a substantive issue requiring a motion to come to a future Assembly, it would be brought forward at AWSC (*see Concept 3, pages 177-180 of the Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual*).

*Ask It Basket questions* are questions where the answers have not been found in the *Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* or Ontario South Policy and Guidelines Manual. Four volunteers to answer the questions came forward.

Six Ballot Distribution Volunteers came forward.

**Motion 2: Moved and seconded that “the Assembly 2011 Minutes be accepted as amended.” Carried. (not "preformed" but "performed" at the bottom of page 6).**

*Delegate’s Report* – The Delegate gave a PowerPoint presentation which is available on the Ontario South website at [www.al-anon.alateen.on.ca](http://www.al-anon.alateen.on.ca). The World Service Office spends \$248.07 to service each Al-Anon Family Group.

*Treasurer’s Report* – The Interim Treasurer reviewed the 2011 financials and the Sept 30, 2012 financials .

Questions:

Q: Why doesn't Trillium appear on the Profit and Loss Statement? A: Trillium has not had a loss since 2006 and so it does not appear as a line item. Perhaps it should.

Q: Is it possible for Trillium to add an line item on the Profit and Loss statement? A:Trillium has its own Charter and reports their profit and loss separately.

Q: Do we have a system in place if there is a major loss with Trillium so we don't wait until after it happens? A: The Trillium Committee have a budget. They are trusted servants and we trust that they will not put Ontario South in a bad financial situation. The Executive will be discussing it further. The prudent reserve is there to cover any potential loss.

Q: Is the Prudent Reserve of \$26,940.57 in an account that is earning interest? A: No.

Q: Is the Prudent Reserve in a bank or under someone's mattress? A: In the bank.

Q: Group donations have not been where we needed them over the last few years. How do we impress upon the membership to increase their 7th contribution? A: It's up to the Group autonomy - discuss at your meeting.

Q: Is there a pattern to group contributions in terms of which quarter the money comes in? A: Usually in the first quarter.

Q: We are close to what we need when we get to our prudent reserve. What do we do with the excess? A: The Guideline on Prudent Reserve suggests 6 to 12 months of operating costs.

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2012 (afternoon session)**

Reconvened at 1:30 with a Moment of Silence and the Serenity Prayer.

The Chairperson confirmed the seating arrangements and reviewed the election process.

**Motion 3: Moved and seconded that “the election process be accepted.” Carried.**

#### ***Elections***

Eligible voters 168, simple majority 85

**Treasurer** (*simple majority required*) - two members came forward and one of them was elected as Treasurer.

#### ***REPORTS GIVEN DURING VOTE COUNTING:***

***Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP)*** - report given on Sunday morning.

***Alateen*** - The Alateen Coordinator thanked the SAMs and reported that there are 32 Alateen groups and 142 SAMs in Ontario South. There is currently a Thought Force in place to examine the Alateen Charter. The Alateen Coordinator is looking for ideas on how to identify SAMs at conferences and Assembly too. Please get in touch with her with your ideas. She suggested that Alateen newcomer packages be available at regular Al-Anon meetings - we need to carry the Alateen message on behalf of Alateens.

***Archives*** - The Archives Coordinator reported that cataloging of the Archives has begun. She is looking for an Alateen volunteer to help with archiving Alateen stuff. We have Polish literature in the Archives - if anyone can use it please get in touch with her.

***Group Records*** - The Group Records Coordinator reminded GRs that when there is a change in their group information, they need to complete a Group Records change form and send it to her. There are currently 403 AFGs (Al-Anon Family Groups) in Ontario South - of these, 61 are not active. There are 32 registered Alateen groups. This gives us a total of 374 active registered groups in Ontario South.

***Literature*** - The Literature Coordinator reported that the World Service Office is looking for member sharings on *Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships*. They have 575, but need 1200 before

they can put a book together. *Many Voices, One Journey*, the newest Al-Anon book, is much more than a history book. The Literature Coordinator encouraged members to get a copy of the book. Marianne reminded members that "Miracles come in cans!" The Al-Anon cans are: "I Can detach; I Can trust God; I can make changes to make my life better." She asked members to send her examples of "cans" from our Conference Approved Literature - provide the source, the page number and the written paragraph.

***OpenLines*** – The OpenLines Coordinator reminded everyone that OpenLines issues are available on-line (except the last page with the contact information). The December issue will be going out electronically (an email with OpenLines attached) to GRs.

***Public Outreach*** – The Public Outreach Coordinator reminded everyone that she can be a resource if they have institutions in their Districts . The Public Outreach Coordinator is going to be meeting with the Director of Correction Facilities in Ontario. She is working on getting Al-Anon meeting lists in institutions. The World Service Office is having a contest and asking members to create Public Outreach posters.

***Website*** – The Website Coordinator asked GRs to remind their members about the Ontario South website and all the great stuff on it. She is in the information gathering stage regarding QR (Quick Response) codes. She reminded members that when they are submitting a flyer to go on the website, they should be aware of members' anonymity - don't use last names in the flyers.

***Trillium Report*** – The Trillium 2013 Chairperson asked GRs to take registration forms back to their groups. She explained that to keep the cost of meeting rooms down, we need to have members stay overnight at the hotel. She suggested various ways that groups could support Trillium - fund raisers where hotel room nights can be won, offering registrations for members to attend Trillium, etc.

***Ontario South Alateen Advisory Committee (OSAAC)*** - The OSAAC Chairperson reported that Alateen groups are struggling. Members are being asked to complete a survey on Alateen. There was no Unity Conference in 2012 but she thanked those who worked so hard to try to get it off the ground. She introduced the next OSAAC Chair.

***Forum*** – The *Forum* Coordinator explained what's typically in an issue of *The Forum*. *The Forum* is always looking for sharings and for members to subscribe to *The Forum*.

***Literature Distribution Centre (LDC)*** –The Chair of the LDC Board reported that as a result of the second survey the hours of the LDC have been extended to 30 hours a week with one evening a week. The LDC Office Manager thanked the Host Committee volunteers - 1/4 of the inventory from the office came to Assembly. She brought pre-orders of over \$3000 which saved over \$230 in postage. The LDC office will close December 24th and reopen on January 7, 2013. Shipping and gas prices continue to go up, so there will be a price increase of 10 percent for all literature, effective January 1, 2013.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Proposed Budget 2013

**Motion 4: Moved and seconded that “the proposed budget for 2013 be accepted as presented.” Carried.**

**Update on Trillium Thought Force** - The Chair of the Thought Force outlined what the Thought Force is doing. (His written report was included with the package of reports that was picked up at the Registration Desk.)

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2012 (evening session)**

**Workshop on KBDM (Knowledge Based Decision Making)** - Participants were split into five groups and each group was asked to answer one of the following questions using KBDM:

1. Your group wants to change how they do announcements.
2. Your group wants to consider having a separate Newcomers meeting as part of their meeting.
3. A member would like to have different Al-Anon books discussed as a monthly topic.
4. The group business meeting members are discussing for what purpose group funds can be used.
5. The group would like to explore the idea of a group email list.

### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2011**

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

**The 2011 Assembly Host Committee Chairperson** thanked and named members of the Host Committee.

**Ask-It-Basket:** Answers were provided to the questions and will appear in the December issue of *OpenLines*.

**Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP)** – The AAPP Coordinator reported that all AAPP Coordinators now have "read only" access to the WSO's records on SAMs and Alateen meetings.

**Delegate's Update** – The Delegate presented a travel log of Stepping Stones and the most recent PSAs (Public Service Announcements).

An **Open Mic** followed.

The meeting ended at 10AM with the Al-Anon Declaration.