

**Ontario South Assembly**  
**October 24, 25, & 26, 2014**  
Holiday Inn and Suites  
3450 Dufferin St, Toronto, ON

***World Service Conference: Our Spiritual Principles in Action***

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2014 (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 members who were attending Assembly for the first time to stand and also acknowledged Alateens and SAMs 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 2014 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, emergency exits, etc.)

*Workshop DR 101* - 23 members attended.

*Workshop GR101* - 125 members attended.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2014 (morning 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 and SAMs in attendance and those just curious to see how the process works.

The Alateen Traditions, Concepts and Warranties were read.

Introduction of the OSA Executive, Advisors and Coordinators followed.

*The 2014 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. She reminded everyone that there is a list of area restaurants.

Our Chairperson provided information about post-its, the literature sales room and times and times/locations for the Coordinators meeting, Ask It Basket committee and the Alateen GRs meeting.

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

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

A non-voting member volunteered to be the Time Keeper

*Items for Consideration* are topics, which affect members at the Area level requiring a decision beyond group or district autonomy. An Item for Consideration 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 members volunteered to answer the questions.

Six non-voting members volunteered to be ballott distributors.

**Motion 2: Moved and seconded that "the Assembly 2013 Minutes be accepted as presented." Carried.**

*Delegate's Report* – Our 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). She thanked members who sent cards to her at WSC (World Service Conference). Forum subscriptions continue to decline. An Alateen Service e-Manual is now available. The World Service Office spends \$264 to service each Al-Anon Family Group. Fifty-five percent of groups in Ontario South contribute an average of \$122.99 per group. Two mini workshops were presented - "What's a healthy group" and "Spiritual Principles - the foundation of our procedures".

*Treasurer's Report* – Our Treasurer reviewed the 2013 financials and the Oct 20, 2014 financials .

## **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2014 (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 by and seconded that "the election process be accepted." Carried.**

### ***Elections***

Delegate - Eligible voters 210, 2/3 majority - 142 votes

1) **Delegate** elected by 2/3 majority

Eligible voters 210, simple majority 106

2) **Alternate Delegate** *elected by simple majority*

3) **Chairperson** *elected by simple majority*

4) **Treasurer** *elected by simple majority*

5) **Secretary** *elected by simple majority*

### ***REPORTS***

***Open Lines*** - The Coordinator had nothing to add to her written report.

***Group Records*** - The Coordinator asked all DR's to pick up their district list from the table at the back. There are 25 groups with incorrect or no email contacts. No email zone means incorrect mail address.

***Archivist*** - The Coordinator reported that we have an "In Loving Memory Board". If any Al-Anon member has deceased in your district please write their name, group & district on paper for the board. There is a binder started of long time members who were interviewed on their journeys.

***Website*** - The Coordinator has been in the position for 5 1/2 years & will be stepping down. Anyone with an interest in computers and some understanding of "HTML" should consider the service position. Stats for visits to the OSA website were August - 5650 visitors and September- 6690 visitors.

***Literature*** The Coordinator reported that there is a new Al-Anon daily reader in the works. WSO need submissions for this. See the November forum issue for project information on this and writing guidelines. Alateen e-book *Hope for Children of Alcoholics* is available now. *Many Voices One Journey* - French version is now available and a Spanish version will be available in a month or so. Member sharings are needed on "Intimacy & Alcoholic Relationships" and sharings from "Parents and Grandparents of Alcoholics".

**Public Outreach** - The Coordinator cautioned those present not to be afraid of Public Outreach. She has found that in regards to anonymity people she has encountered in the public level have been very respectful of her anonymity.

**Alateen** - The Coordinator reported that an AIS Information Day was held on September 24. She did a presentation on October 7th to the Guelph school board. Hopeful that a new Alateen group will open soon in District 4. Ontario South Advisory Committee will be voting a new Alateen Committee today. District 1 Muskoka Alateens are selling their famous hug scarves as a part of their tireless journey of Alateen Unity. The Alateen Service e-Manual is on Ontario South website. Thank you to Bayview South Al-Anon Group for their donation of \$200 to OSA Alateen Advisory Group.

**Literature Distribution Centre (LDC)** - The Office Manager reported that the short fall in revenue prior to assembly pushes the literature budget into the black. The 12% exchange has not been added onto the cost of the literature sales. Pictures of all CAL has been downloaded on our Ontario South website with descriptive content. The prices are not included on the site due to variations between US and Canada. There is a new tent card "Keep focus on Al-Anon here". There were 45 pre-orders submitted to be picked up at Assembly. This resulted in a savings of \$500 in shipping. LDC Office closure for Christmas will be Dec. 15th to Jan 5th. Thank-you to the tremendous volunteer support today at LDC literature room.

**Forum** - The Coordinator conducted a little exercise to remind the new GRs that GRs are the group's "Forum Coordinators". The Forum does not define the north or south in Ontario, so please let the Coordinator know of any articles from Ontario South members - she keeps a binder for display at Assembly and AWSC

**AAPP** - The Coordinator was not present so another member reported on her behalf. Four new SAMS were registered this week. There are 34 Alateen groups in Ontario South.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Proposed Budget 2015

**Motion 4: Moved and seconded that "we accept the 2015 proposed budget as presented. " Carried.**

2. Area Conference - following are the points raised:

- universities as a venue to reduce costs
- maybe just one day
- could be held once every two years rather than every year
- hold in 3 sectors on rotation (East, West, Central)
- get all the Districts in a sector to put it on together
- change time of year - maybe April/May
- have electronic committee meetings

- the number of committee members could be set with representation from various districts
- co-locate Area convention with Assembly
- co-locate with AA
- we already do ORC
- if the idea is to "marry" an AA convention. the Gratitude Roundup might be very open to the idea. They already do combined AA/Al-Anon meetings throughout the weekend where everybody shares together. They fly in an Al-Anon speaker to close the meeting with among other things. This year, even though they are an AA conference with Al-Anon participation, they had an Al-Anon member Co-Chair
- support is more than saying "it's a good idea"
- bring in technology - simulcast around the Area
- get speakers from here rather than international speakers
- as people register, ask if they will speak (they do that in Scotland and Australia)
- what is the goal/purpose? define that first
- the commitment in Al-Anon is not there
- provide child care
- meetings do not all have to be speaker meetings - creative representations of recovery could also be included
- meetings could be held every hour on the hour while other speaker meetings are being held

submitted by a member ...

I have participated actively in our Area discussions and this theme. We voice a lot of "wants" here in our Assembly and AWSC. My experience did not see a lot of "willingness" on the part of the fellowship or Districts to do what it takes - slightly less than 20% of groups chose to be part of two separate recent reviews.

Could we consider having an allotment of funds to support a day conference supported by multiple districts :

- funds could be made available in our 3 sectors (East, West, Central)
- if no bid comes from a sector the funds could be offered to other sectors
- recent reviews have strongly shown that members are willing to:
  - participate in local functions
  - invest in local functions
  - attend local functions
- the membership has defined local as around 100km

Meeting closed at 5:15PM.

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2014 (evening session)**

3. Area Technology - following are the points raised:

- how much is this going to cost?

- how far in the future are you talking about? more than 2 years
- is his necessary? Yes, seamless, more timely
- tool for communication
- keep it simple for people who are not techie
- what purpose does the OSA website serve? info sharing tool for members and groups, updating information, info for newcomers
- clearly define what services and public outreach that the website have we investigated "open source software" (it's free and can be downloaded from the internet) ?
- are we excluding people who have access to a computer?
- what are the equipment needs?
- liaise with community colleges to use their resources
- webserver - built in-house
- establish a committee - committee can have meetings online without having to travel ("Go Meeting")
- programming, software - can we accept donations and pass within the group/committee
- we could use the over-abundance of the prudent reserve
- we can do fundraisers - country store, by districts
- does WSO have any templates we can get?
- contact website coordinators from other Areas to see what they do
- we need an Administrator to ensure timeliness and monitoring
- maybe we needs several Administrators
- gather names of techies
- do a one-time donation from groups

*Workshop Sponsorship (service)* - 32 members attended.

*Workshop Sponsorship (personal)* - 70 members attended.

Entertainment followed.

### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2014**

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

The Traditions, Concepts and Warranties were read.

*2014 Assembly Host Committee Chairperson* thanked her committee members and everyone for coming.

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

***Delegate's Update*** – Our Delegate clarified dual membership . Contributions/Tradition 7 - 55% of groups in OS contribute to WSO. She presented the most recent PSAs (Public Service Announcements) and answered questions from the floor.

Mini Workshop on Group budgeting - G41

An ***Open Mic*** followed.

The meeting ended at 10:35 AM with the Al-Anon Declaration and the Lord's Prayer.