

**Ontario South Assembly (Area 86)
October 23, 24, 25, 2015
Ramada Hotel and Conference Centre**

805 Brookdale Avenue, Cornwall, ON

Living our Spiritual Principles: Expanding our Vision

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015 (evening session)

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

Chairperson welcomed everyone to this Assembly and asked those 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 Al-Anon Traditions, Concepts and Warranties were read.

2015 Assembly Host Committee Chairperson, extended a warm 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.

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

Assembly 101-Started with a skit , followed by a speaker for 15 minutes on service and recovery. A question and answer period followed .

LOC meeting was held in another room at the hotel.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015 (morning session)

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

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.

The Al -Anon Traditions , Concepts and Warranties were read.

Introduction of the OSA Executive, Advisors and Coordinators followed.

2015 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, literature sales room and times and times/locations for the Ask It Basket committee and the Alateen GRs meeting.

Timer - A member from the floor volunteered to be the timer .

Voting Procedures were explained by reading pages 10 & 11 from the pre-Registration package and **Informed Group Decision Making**.

Motion 1: "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 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. Volunteers to answer the questions were Karen A of District 1, Linda M. of District 28 , Doris G. of District 10 , Jacqueline H. of District 23 .

Motion 2: That "the Assembly 2014 Minutes be accepted as presented." Carried.

Delegate's Report – Our delegate provided those present with a condensed handout sheet of information that is found in the 2015 World Service Conference Summary and gave a PowerPoint presentation which is available on the Ontario South website at www.al-anon.alateen.on.ca. She thanked members who sent cards to her at WSC (World Service Conference). The World Service

Office spends an average cost of \$256.87 to service each Al-Anon Family Group. 61% percent of North American groups contribute an average of \$ 119.01 US.

55.9% percent of groups in Ontario South contribute an average of \$131.50 Cdn .

Treasurer's Report – Our treasurer reviewed the 2014 Financials and the 2015 October YTD Financials.

Timed Discussion- A discussion on the topic of “ A Healthy Al-Anon Group”.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2015 (afternoon session)

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

1. Proposed Budget 2016

Motion 3: That “Ontario South accept the 2016 budget as presented. ” Carried.

Item for Discussion

Topic:

At present-The Trillium charter reads: Trillium will be held during the latter half (3rd or 4th) weekend of June. It will be a three day convention.

A handout was provided to all in attendance giving history on this Item for Discussion

This item was brought to the executive by a member as a very time sensitive matter. After much discussion it was agreed by the executive that due to the time sensitivity, it should be brought to the assembly .

The item was discussed.

Motion 4: That Section 7A - 4 of the Trillium Charter be amended to state “Trillium will be held at a date determined by the Trillium committee.”

Discussion held again at mic for members present to present thoughts and questions.

Motion 5 : The motion be amended to read “that Section 7a-4 of the charter “Trillium will be held at a date determined by the Trillium committee”. It will be a three day convention.
Carried

Motion 6: The amended motion read “ that Section 7a-4 of the charter. “Trillium will be held at a date determined by the Trillium committee”. It will be a three-day convention.
Discussion held again at mic for members present to present thoughts and questions.
Carried

Alateen Everyone knows that Alateen is suffering in attendance. We need a lot more SAMS. Remember the declaration “When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help-let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen When she and another member are the SAMS at an Alateen meeting and no Alateens come out-They have a meeting between two people and keep it positive. Email anytime with questions or invitations to speak.

The Forum –

Our Alaternate Delegate gave a correction from last night’s job description of executive members-It is actually the alternate delegate that takes over for an executive member who is not present-not the chairperson.

If your group is not getting a complimentary issue of The Forum magazine -it means that group records does not have your correct mailing address information. Please see our Alternate Delegate or Group Records Coordinator.

The Forum-Great for meetings or even a meeting in your pocket. Group Representatives- one of your duties is to encourage members to subscribe to or write an article and submit it to the forum.. GRs are encouraged to have their own personal subscription to the Forum as an example to the members in their group.

Make sure your members know the difference between the Forum (for members) and Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism (for community as a public outreach effort)

Archives - -Really enjoyed doing service. Archives came up unexpectedly. It was clearly suggested by his HP. GRs please go back to your groups and try to get more histories-send to archives. The more information the better. Pay it forward theme-is visible in this archives of our area .

Group Records - - Challenged past few months with position. All group changes need to be sent to her on Group Records change form-see the website. Always have Group WSO ID # on all

correspondence to Group Records. Glitch in database that has left her unable to allow her to send information to LDC and District Reps . All DRs please take a package that is here today and make any changes and return to Group Records. 28 groups have become inactive in Ontario South in past 10 months.

Literature .-New guidelines on WSO website for the new daily readers. These will help you to compose your sharing. CAL corner-looking for sharings there.

OpenLines - Questions - Is there anything new you want to see in Open Lines. Are you happy with the present content of Open Lines. Please email ideas to openlinesosa@gmail.com

Subscriptions-\$4.50 yr or \$8.00 for 2 years. Mostly electronic. 60 printed copies are mailed out. The cost of subscriptions does not cover the cost of printing and mailing. When sending the checks make them out to him personally. Cheques made out to Open Lines do not work. 60 plus emails bounced back. ***If all of the GRs want to email him they can confirm that he has their correct email address.***

Website - If anything is incorrect on website meeting information-let website or Group Records Coordinator know. Please update WITH accompanying group records change form. (available on Ontario South website)

Website was down for a couple of weeks.

Literature Distribution Centre (LDC) – There were 56 pre orders of group literature to be delivered to assembly for a total of \$6000.

Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism comes from WSO. A lot of the groups order these through LDC. She gets them in bulk for us.

Operating at a loss last year and this year. Sales have not been great. We had to increase the price this year. Increases have been exponential these past two years due to US exchange rate. Subsequent decision has been made to change the hours of the office. Literature office will reduce hours from Monday to Thursday 9 to 3. No longer open Fridays (of course not open Saturday, Sundays or holidays)

LOC Report (Literature Office Committee) Our area literature office will be closed from December 19th to January 11th. The pre-purchases of literature for groups to have delivered to AWSC in the spring and Assembly in the fall will close two weeks prior to the said events. LOC agreed that the LDC office hours will be reduced to 9 to 3 Monday to Thursday. The office will no longer be open on Fridays.

Public Outreach- Brought new Public Service announcement DVD's and has enough for each District. They are labelled-they are not the quality to take to television stations. They are for public outreach viewings. Read excerpt from page 106 Service manual. "If Al-anon is to exist it must continue to grow...."

Challenge-Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism-Order them. Spread them. GRs and DRs-Send your accomplishments on this to the Public Outreach Coordinator please.

How many people have read it themselves? How many have used as a meeting topic? When professionals ask questions-all of the answers are in the book.

AAPP-Alateen Group Changes to AAPP please. In 2016-The bulk of our SAMS will be due for renewal. Anybody who started in 2015 will be getting a police record check again in 2018. Please take care of this well in advance. AAPP had a personal experience whereas she waited 5 months to get her police record back.

Two out of three years-everyone signs a form to say that nothing has changed.

AAPP will send a list to Area Chairperson who will send it to all of the DRs.- for confirmation of correct full names of all SAMS as it would be on their drivers licences. The Chairperson will return it to AAPP who will send her the paperwork.

She will get everyones legal name and send it to Area Chairperson so that she can prepare these letters.

After that we will stagger it.

If someone wants to be a SAM-1st get a police record check

Next-fill out Ontario South form C. Then with their original police record check-take it to their DR.-in a sealed envelope. The DR will sign the form and they send it to AAPP. Then she sends it to the lawyer-who looks at it and sends it to AAPP. AAPP will send it to WSO and the SAM will be certified and get a number.

Cost reimbursement-submit to district OR Area Treasurer.

Meeting closed at 5:00 PM.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015 (evening session)

There was a delay in starting the evening session due to a number of members returning late from dinner delays.

Timed Discussion-Principles above Personalities

Workshop on Conflict Resolution 76 members attended.

Workshop on Encourage Members to do Service 81 members attended.

Entertainment followed. Those in attendance were able to take part and have a lot of fun.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2015

Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AI -Anon Traditions Concepts and Warranties were read.

2015 Assembly Host Committee Chairperson, thanked 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 provided us with World Service Office Updates & spoke about the optional visit that she took to Stepping Stones after the W.S. Conference.

This was followed by a question and answer session.

There was a Workshop Report back for “Encouraging members to do Service” and ”Conflict Resolution”

Speaker - On a members personal passion for service & how recovery has impacted her life.

What now? What to do with the emotion that you are going home with.

An ***Open Mic*** followed.

The meeting ended at 11:00 AM with the AI-Anon Declaration and the Lord's Prayer.