

Co-Ordinator's Reports

Alateen

Alateen has been struggling all over Ontario. There are a lot of groups that are struggling to get enough SAMS so that current SAMS don't get burnt out.

There has been a lot of discussion around Alateen and what can be done to increase attendance and keep the Alateens coming back to meetings. If there is something that is working in your group it would be great to pass this info along to other groups. If you have any ideas that you would like to pass on, please email me & I will forward it to the other SAMS.

It would also be great to have an Alateen speaker list. I believe that one of the best ways to increase interest in Alateen is by Alateens sharing their experience, strength & hope at Al-Anon/Alateen events. I have been asked for names of speakers for Al-Anon days but I only have a few names and would love to have more contacts. Please remember that teens are always welcome in Al-Anon especially if there isn't an Alateen meeting in the area.

OSAAC Finances:

The bank balance \$5,046.49. It is a no fee account. (no debits or credits in 2016)

Unity

Please considering hosting Unity 2017. The Alateens would love to have their conference back.

The Forum

The Forum Book (working title)

To help make this new book become a reality, be sure to encourage your group members to share their favorite recent Forum story with the WSO. WSO needs to know the title, month, and year in which it appeared in the magazine. You can e-mail your suggestions to (wso@al-anon.org) or submit your suggestions on-line. Go to the Members' Web site at al-anon.org/members. Click on "Individuals," "Featured Publications," "The Forum," then "THEFORUM BOOK (working title)". Thanks for all your help!

Information and tips for GRs, as your group's Forum Representative

1. Announce at your meeting that The Forum, as a concept, is Conference approved, and encourage members to use it in your meetings.
2. The Forum is the "voice of the fellowship"

3. The Forum contains fresh, contemporary sharings each month.
4. The Forum contains Al-Anon and Alateen meeting topics.
5. The Forum shares World Service Office (WSO) news.
6. You could suggest an occasional writing meeting
7. Consider a group project to provide a gift subscription to The Forum for a newcomer.

If your group is interested in doing a Forum writing workshop, please feel free to contact me for suggestions and/or help. (my information is on the back of Open Lines)

Archives

Ontario South is very fortunate to have wonderful archives. The history of Al-anon is kept alive in our archives. We have old forums, old copies of open lines, group histories, district minutes and other fascinating things.

On the Ontario South website under Coordinators Corner I have posted an Archives page. On this page there is a link to G-30 Al-anon guidelines on what to keep and what to build on. There is also a link to the Group history check list. Group histories are a great asset to archives.

Things to Think about:

1. What sort of things should be submitted to the Ontario South Archives? G30-Area Archives Guidelines (click here) for more information on what to keep and what to build on.
2. How will preserving this help others in Al-anon?
3. What is the historical significance?
4. How valuable is the material, item, or information?
5. Is the information complete?
6. Has my group submitted a group history? Group History Checklist (click here)
7. Are you a long time member? Consider sharing your experience, strength, and hope by submitting your personal story (written or oral) to the Ontario South Archives.

Group Records

What is our Area Number? It is Area 86, and you will find it printed on the Al-Anon & Alateen Registration/Group Records Change Form that can be found on the Ontario South website at www.al-anon.alateen.on.ca.

Why can't I just send you changes without using the Group Records Change Form?

Completing the form ensures your Ontario South Group Records Coordinator will have all the pertinent information to accurately reflect the changes that you intend to have made; especially important is your WSO I.D. Number or your Group I.D. number....that number will guarantee that the information you send to me will be applied to the correct group.

How can I send changes to Ontario South?

To send the Registration/Group Records Change Form electronically, go to the Ontario South website above, click on Meetings List on the right, then click on Al-Anon Registration/Group Records Change Form – complete the form with all the red asterisks, then at the very bottom click Send. OR

Send me a hard copy of the form by Canada Post which can also be found on-line in Section 10 of the Area 86 Policy & Guidelines Manual on the Ontario South website. My address/email can be found on the back of the Open Lines Newsletter. OR

You can scan the hard copy and send it to the Group Records Coordinator email address found on the back of the Open Lines Newsletter as well.

Do you have to send the changes to the World Service Office (WSO)?

NO – The Group Records Coordinator gets the changes FIRST, and then will send all of the changes to WSO after Ontario South Group Records have been changed. If changes go to WSO first, then Ontario South records never will get updated.

How do YOU register a new group?

Complete the Al-Anon Registration/Group Records Change Form fully. In Line 1 of the form you will know your District number and your Area number only. In the “WSO I.D. number”, type in 4 or 5 *****. Once you have sent it to the Group Records Coordinator, the information will be entered in the Ontario South database, and then forwarded on to the WSO.

NOTE: ALL Alateen changes, etc. go to the Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) first, before coming to the Group Records Coordinator. The address/email is found in the Open Lines Newsletter on the back page.

How does a new group get its WSO I.D. number?

Once the WSO receives the registration from the Group Records Coordinator, then that person will forward it on to the new group with a Welcome letter.

WHAT'S NEW IN WSO AREA GROUP RECORDS!

<http://al-anon.info/OnlineGroupRecords>

“Reported not Meeting”?

Due to the increasing number of newcomers and members reporting to the WSO that they went to an Al-Anon meeting and no one was there, a new status has been added to the WSO database: “Reported not Meeting”, so that the WSO does not continue to direct people to groups that are not meeting. The flagged meeting will be temporarily removed from the WSO toll-free information line and the Public Outreach website meeting search results, until the status of the meeting can be verified. The WSO asks your assistance reminding members and groups to:

Add signs inside buildings so the meeting can easily be found.

Leave a note on the door if the group is not meeting on that specific day.

Notify your Group Records Coordinator immediately when the meeting location changes or the group no longer meets.

A group “Reported not Meeting” notification is now available on the WSO Online Group Records website. WSO Group Records staff contact the reported group the same day; the group verifies the status of the meeting, the status of the group is updated. If the group does not respond in 3 days, the WSO Group Records staff sends a notice to the Group Records Coordinator to verify the status of the meeting. In the near future, a request to have us given the ability to flag “Reported not Meeting” will be evaluated.

DRs: Latitude and Longitude fields are on the WSO overview tab of the Group Records website since groups with multiple meetings meet at different times and/or days, but at the same location. Further information about multiple meetings can be found on Pages 37 and 38 of 2014-2017 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, “Al-Anon and Alateen Groups at Work”, Multiple Meetings.

SPECIAL NOTE: The District Representatives have read-only access to the WSO Online Group Records application. They can view their AI-Anon and Alateen group, as well as the AMIAS/SAM records for their district in the WSO database, and run reports on demand. DRs are asked to report any discrepancy between the Area Group Records and WSO records to the Area Group Records Coordinator or Area Alateen Process Person (Alateen), so records can be updated in a timely manner.

Literature

I have coordinator's conference call coming up on October 6th, so I hope to have some news from WSO to share on October 30th.

WSO is still accepting written sharings for a new daily reader, Intimacy in alcoholic relationships, and Parents and Grandparents of young problem drinkers. Your story is essential for the recovery of others and can aid in your own recovery process and is truly anonymous. Thank you for your support and encouragement.

OpenLines -No report

Website

Thank you to everyone who's helped make our website the best it can be over the past year, by doing things like updating your meeting information in Group Records, uploading or e-mailing PDF flyers with your events, and sending me an e-mail when you see something that's not right or not working the way it should on our website.

While over the past 12 months there have been lots of updates to the meeting information, events, and other sections of the site, the past year has generally been uneventful: no malfunctions on the backend updating the site, no sudden crises with our website hosting provider, and no major website outages. I believe this is a case where no news is good news!

You may have heard after AWSC about the most-exciting update on our website, which is to our Literature page. You can now view a catalogue of Conference-Approved Literature (CAL), which includes images of each book along with a written description of each book/pamphlet. Please check it out at al-anon.alateen.on.ca/literature.

Over the next few months I will need your help with a special project, so please keep an eye on your inboxes for an e-mail about that in the days after Assembly.

AAPP-- No report

