

Delegates Report

My name is Claire Duthie and I am your Delegate for Ontario South. I am a grateful member of the Thursday night Southend Discussion Al-Anon Family Group in Niagara Falls, Dist 12.

By the time you read this I will be back from my 3rd and final Conference (for now) as your Delegate. I will have visited Stepping Stones (the home of Lois and Bill W). I will have attended and celebrated Al-Anon's 60th Anniversary in Virginia Beach representing Ontario South and I won't have been alone doing that. I will have along side me Ann K. (Panel 40 OS Delegate), Jane H. OS Group records along with 2 other Whitby Al-Anon members, Barbara M. also – these are some that I know of.

The new Al-Anon history book celebrating our 60th Anniversary is "Many Voices One Journey" and will be available for purchase at the Anniversary itself. I will have with me also our new Public Outreach video. Some of our Ontario South members were part of filming this video. A series of podcasts to help groups and Group Representatives is a new feature on the Al-Anon/Alateen Member's Web site. To access the podcast click on the "For Members & Groups" logo on the home page. GR's from across the U.S. and Canada have shared their experience, strength and hope on topics such as –How the group functions as a community – Structure of the Al-Anon/Alateen fellowship – The need for GRs and the GR duties and How do I become a GR. Members can also share their thoughts on the podcast by selecting the "Comment" feature. Members sharing on these podcasts were selected from responses to the "Unlimited Abundant Resources Skills Inventory" under the "Surveys" tab. If anyone is interested in participating in future WSO projects complete the Skills inventory.

May I suggest for those of you who haven't yet, please read the Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual 2010-2013. It sure helps to understand our program. The Concepts of Service make for good reading and helps put them into practice. For those still concerned about Assembly 2010, the vote on ending the 15 year trial and your concern about the way I may have voted, please read pg 135 at the top, pg 164 of the Charter and Concept 3 pg 177- 180, Concept 4 pg 180/182, Concept 5 p183 at the bottom and the top of page 184.

I am very blessed to be part of such a wonderful fellowship. I thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your Delegate for Ontario South. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. My contact information can be found on the back page of Open Lines. I have added a new email address for Al-Anon purposes.: ontariosouthdelegate@hotmail.com

Much Love & Hugs

Claire Duthie Delegate Ontario South
Panel 49

The theme this year:

"Expanding our community of Hope by embracing:

Yesterday's Foundations

Today's Successes

Tomorrow's Possibilities

Plan to attend the 2013 Al-Anon International Convention in Vancouver, BC, Canada

I Am Responsible Al-Anon Day May 7th, 2011
9am-3:30pm 1st Baptist Church 990 4th Ave E
Owen Sound. Admission Adults \$7 Alateens \$2
There will a blind Auction please bring a wrapped item. Pot Luck Lunch. We are going green so please bring your favourite mug, plate and cut-

Al-Anon Declaration

Let it begin with me

When anyone anywhere reaches out for help,
let the hand of Al-Anon and Alateen always be there
and *let it begin with me.*

Alternate Delegate's Report

My name is Heather Paret and I am your Ontario South Alternate Delegate. I am a grateful member of this world- wide fellowship of Al-Anon/ Alateen Family Groups, and my home group is the Love and Hope Angus AFG in District One. Well, I think spring has sprung. "They say that April showers bring May flowers", but what if the snow is still falling as it is right now as I write this report. This is certainly a good way to remember to accept the things I cannot change! One also knows that spring is in the air when the flyers start arriving for all the functions from group anniversaries to Al-Anon days, AA conferences with Al-Anon/Alateen participation and lets not forget our own Area Conference, Trillium, held in June. But, before we get there, it is time to also deal with the business issues at hand.

As for the Forum, at this time I have no facts or figures to report. If you subscribe to the Forum and are finding that it is still arriving late, I would ask that you keep track of the dates you are receiving your subscription and please advise me via e-mail or snail mail. This way, as your Area Forum Coordinator, I can get the information to WSO so that they are aware of our issues.

The Area Policy and Guideline Manual updates for the first quarter of this year have been sent to the AWSC manual holders and posted to the Area web site. Is there an Alternate DR out there who is willing to review the manual to ensure all the updates are in? Would you think it a good suggestion to perhaps get the Alternates thinking of their next step in their service journey? After all, this is an election year..hint, hint for all of you out there. There will be another Area Manual update coming that will be dealing with the smaller administrative type changes throughout the manual.

The AWSC packages have been sent and there is lots of information being shared in the Districts. This is the links of service in action, where the members get to share their thoughts and ideas with the Group Representatives who then pass them onto the District Representatives for voting or discussion at AWSC. This meeting is being held at the Durham Collage Campus in Oshawa this coming May 27-29th. So my Al-Anon friends, service does matter to me. "You don't get ready to be a trusted servant, you get to be a trusted servant and then the Higher Power gets you ready." (From Joy of Service brochure, S-57)

Thank you all for allowing me to serve as your Alternate Delegate.

Blessings and (Hugs) in Service,
Heather Paret, Alternate Delegate

Chairperson's Report

The Area World service Package (AWSC) has been sent to all District Representatives (DRs) in Area 86. If you have not received your package, please contact the OSA Secretary.

AWSC, which is being held in Durham, May 27, 28, and 29, 2011, is an opportunity for all DRs to bring the thoughts, comments, questions, and concerns from their Group Representatives (GRs) who have in turn shared the information, found in the AWSC package, with their home group.

A reminder that Districts in the eastern section of Ontario have until **May 27, 2011** (AWSC) to send in a bid to host Assembly 2012. Bid forms are to be sent to the Ontario South Assembly Chairperson. This bid form is found in your Ontario South Assembly (OSA) Manual (Section 10: F) and online at al-anon.alateen.on.ca. We would like to announce the 2012 Assembly location at the 2011 Assembly in October. Please consider this service to our Area. (If not you, then who?) Assembly 2011 is October 28, 29, and 30 and will be held at the Best Western Parkway Hotel and Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel in Richmond Hill.

Blessings,
Sue Gaskell
(Ontario South Assembly Chairperson)

"The primary function of the Area World Service Committee is to plan for the general improvement of both the Assembly and the groups. ...with the purpose of informing and unifying the groups in the Area." (*Al-Anon Alateen Service Manual 2010 -2013, page 154*)

The Picton Gratitude Al-Anon Family Group "35th ANNIVERSARY"

When: Tuesday, June 7, 2011

Time: 8 p.m.

Where: St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church
Parish Hall (behind church)
335 Main St. East, Picton
AA and Al-Anon Speakers
Refreshments and Fellowship
Open to family and friends!

Learning to Live celebrates its 29th Anniversary

Thurs., May 19th at 8pm
Wilmar Heights United Church
963(967) Pharmacy Ave.
Scarborough, ON M1R 2G5

Treasurer's Report

Hello All!

Well do you think Spring is here yet? Wow what a long winter it has been and I'm grateful to feel the warmer sunshine that we've been having for the last few days.

As usual the Area Treasurer's position has kept me busy. I'm sitting here thinking... God is great!. He has put some wonderful people into my life and sure shows me how wonder His people really are with all the generous donations given to Ontario South Assembly. We are in good standing so far this year - Thank you to each of you...individuals, groups and districts!

A *special thank you* to the host of our last OSA Assembly - District 4 who has donated \$2,441.86 from their fundraising efforts at Assembly.

Keep spreading the news about our New Address (OSA, P.O.Box 1151, Guelph, ON N1H 6N3). We seem to be making great strides in the numbers who have updated their records and are using the correct address.

Well Happy Spring everyone!
God Bless,
Marianne Embro
OSA Treasurer, Area 86

Area Secretary's Report

Hi Again, One and All:

I'm *still* Jacqui - *still* a long-time member of Al-Anon and my home group is *still* Learning To Live Al-Anon Family Group in Scarborough, Ontario. However, I am *not still* the Area Secretary for Ontario South. Due to some health issues, I couldn't keep up with the responsibilities of the position, and I felt it was necessary to tender my resignation.

My health issues have basically stabilized and I'm currently feeling really well. So, if I were to second-guess myself, I could quite easily let myself wish that I hadn't resigned, but I do know, in my heart, it was the right thing to do, for myself and for the Area; that my Higher Power was telling me to let go and look after my physical self. The position of Area Secretary is a big responsibility and requires lots of attention to detail (the same as all the Area positions) but my love for this amazing program has made it such a joy to belong and to be part of it. As you know, Jean McS has volunteered and been given the position of Interim Area Secretary and I think Jean will do

very well in the position and I hope she experiences all the joy that comes from being of service to the Area.

This is not a goodbye - I will see you later.
Much love, lots of hugs and blessings,
Jacqui Kennedy

Area Alateen Process Person

Hello. I am Nick M, a grateful member of Al-Anon and the Unity Al-Anon Family Group in Welland and I am the Area Alateen Process Person for Area 86, Ontario South.

The annual SAM re-certification process is in full swing with more than 100 SAMs re-certifying to-date. This year the certification requirements have changed to include SAMs obtaining Police Record Checks for caring for Vulnerable Individuals. The growing pains have been onerous but we have now got processes in every District. Interestingly enough Toronto was the most difficult to break through; that being accomplished just within the past few days! Next year re-certification should be much, much easier. For those SAMs who have not sent their re-certification in yet, please hurry. The deadline for submitting the annual list of active SAMs to the World Service Office is quickly approaching. And for those SAMs who do wish to re-certify for 2011, please drop me a line and let me know? My email address appears on the back page of this Open Lines issue.

With the new requirements for Vulnerable Sector checks complete, a proposal is being presented at AWSC in May to move the timeframes for Police Record Checks from annually to every third year. A simple submission of a completed Form C: SAM Screening Application and Certification Form would be the only annual requirement. This move is justified by the knowledge that our SAMs have undergone thorough Police Record Checks triennially, and each Districts' other SAMs' familiarity with their fellow members after an initial year of service.

The time is quickly approaching for the turnover of the executive and coordinators and I ask that members consider getting involved in service at the Area level. It is very rewarding and can extend one's circle of friends beyond their wildest dreams. My recovery bloomed when I became involved in Al-Anon service.

Take care, all. I love you,
Nick Marischuk
Area 86 AAPP

ALATEEN COORDINATOR

The members of the Ontario South Area Alateen Committee (OSAAC) are working to strengthen Alateen leadership, structure and procedures. We have submitted a draft of the proposed OSAAC Charter and your District Representative will be receiving a copy in their AWSC package.

Alateen Focused Workshops

I have been invited to attend a number of events to conduct Alateen workshops. If you are interested in learning more about Alateen service then perhaps you will consider attending one of the following events:

Saturday, April 30, 2011 – District 14/15 Al-Anon Day. Hamilton, ON

Saturday, June 25, 2011 – Trillium Conference. Toronto, ON

Saturday, September 10, 2011 – District 1 Al-Anon Day Hamilton, ON

For more information/details on these and other events please refer to the Upcoming Events on <http://www.al-anon.alateen.on.ca>. Area Coordinators are available to assist you, your group and district. If your district is planning an event consider inviting a coordinator to give a presentation or conduct a workshop.

Alateen in Ontario South

In an effort to spread the word about Alateen and the Alateen Committee, Sarah H. the OSAAC Chair and myself have been holding sessions at a number of events. In order to sustain the OSAAC's efforts and initiatives we require financial support. During our spring planning meeting we will be mapping out a fundraising campaign. If your group or District is inclined to support our efforts we would gratefully accept donations. If you would like more details, my contact information is at the back of Open Lines.

It would be wonderful if each District would consider focusing their efforts and resources on Alateen in 2011. Here are a few suggestions on how we can all support Alateen:

Attend an open Alateen meeting at a conference, such as Trillium.

Be willing to do some public outreach service on behalf of Alateen.

Support OSAAC and its events, such as Unity Conference

Alateen Unity Conference 2011

Presently, we have not received a bid to organize this year's Unity. The deadline is June 26, 2011. During the Assembly the Alateen GRs voted to cancel Unity for 2011 if no bid is submitted. Proposals can be sent to me and I will forward them onto the OSAAC members.

Best wishes

Leslie P.

Ontario South Area Alateen Coordinator
Alateen Rocks!

ARCHIVES COORDINATORS

The focus for Archives this year is **AL-ANON'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY**. As I write this report WSO is hosting Al-Anon's 60th Anniversary event. Our delegate is representing our Area 86 at this celebration. How is your group celebrating?

WSO ARCHIVES PROJECT for Archives Coordinators is to submit the start dates of each group in each district in the Area. If you have not completed your group history please do so and let me know your district number, the name of your group and the start up date. I can only refer to the information in each district binder as well as the meeting lists in the website. This information pertains to all groups in your district whether they are active or closed. If you do not know the start up date, try to ask an old timer or contact me so I can put in a request to WSO. I completed this information several years ago. I want to make sure everything is up to date. Please send the information in Word Document or in the mail. Remember, this does not have to be typed or done on a computer. What matters is that Area 86 information is up to date.

During each day in 2011 each of us has an opportunity to celebrate. Groups are holding meetings and events to recognize this event. **Our goal for Ontario South is to have 2011 celebrations by the end of 2011. Are we there yet?**

I had intended to start a blog to post these celebrations but due to the nature of our server at home I am not able to do this. Instead please keep a record of these and pass them on to your DR to send to me in a word document. I will send these to all DRs via the area secretary so that everyone has an opportunity to witness the spirit of 60 years of Al-Anon in Ontario South—Area 86. I would also ask each DR to bring a copy to AWSC. I will have the binder with a section for each district where these can be displayed.

A refresher for some ways to celebrate

Some ways to celebrate checklist:

- Group History is completed and up to date.
- Create a visual display of your group history.
- Long time member's history—oral or written—is completed.
- In Loving Memory Book: each member writes what he/she remembers to celebrate the member who has died.
- Each group member writes or draws something about his/her experience in Al-Anon. This is put in a binder which will then be put into a large Area 86 binder by districts. Remember **each** entry counts as a celebration.

Cont'd on the following page....

- Read from **Lois Remembers; First Steps ; Lois Story (pamphlet)** Each time you read is a celebration
- Visit a member who cannot get to a meeting; Celebrate the meeting with tea and cookies. Hold a special meeting to talk about the history of Al-Anon in your group; district; area.

I look forward to hearing about all your celebrations. As I read through Lois Remembers and First Steps each time, I am reminded of how Lois and Bill celebrated and took the message of recovery across the country. I read how the early wives groups in our area celebrated their messages of hope with one another.

Mary Jane M. Archives Coordinator

Group Records Report

As you read this, I hope that Spring has reached your back door. My name is Jane Hurley and I am a very grateful member of Al-Anon. My home groups are Whitby Friendly AFG and YANA AFG. The members of these 2 groups continue to aid in my recovery and growth .

I would like simply to remind you to make any changes to your group's composition by completing the group record change form either on-line or by sending it to me by post. I will then make the changes in the WSO's data bank. If you are aware of a new group beginning in your District, please, let them know that their start-up information is to be sent to me first and I will then send it to WSO.

The AWSC is meeting at the end of May. If you have any questions about making changes to your group's information, please, let your DR know and then I will have the opportunity to speak with your DR on that weekend and hopefully clarify your concerns.

Yours, gratefully, in service,
Jane Hurley

Literature Coordinator

No report at this time.

Open Lines New Subscription or Renewals
If the date on your envelope is highlighted it is time to renew!

Please check applicable box

- 1 year 4 Issues \$4.50
- 2 years 8 Issues \$8.00
- Renewal
- New Subscription
- Gift Subscription

Please make cheque payable to Sharon Reeb and send to:
5224 Bridge St.
Niagara Falls, ON

L2E 2T3

Public Outreach Coordinator

Hello all!!! Spring is definitely here in our nations Capital, and I'm loving it!!! My name is Michele and I'm your Public Outreach Coordinator.

As the snow melts and the weather gets warmer I have some questions for you to ponder. A way to think about Public Outreach with perhaps new eyes. A fresh spring perspective. The turning over of a new leaf.....ok you get the picture. I'll stop with the hokey visuals.

What is Public Outreach? What does it mean to you?

How much time do you think it takes to do Public Outreach?

What are some examples of Public Outreach?

What stops me from participating in Public Outreach?

What benefits could I receive from participating in Public Outreach?

How does Step 12 apply to Public Outreach?

What if there was no Public Outreach?

If you check out our 1000 Acts of Public Outreach blog you will see hundreds of simple ideas on how to get Al-Anon out there.

Remember: **When anyone any where reaches out for help, let the hand of Al-Anon always be there.....and let it begin with me.**

<http://1000actsofpublicoutreach.blogspot.com/>

hugs in service
Michele

AUGUST 12-14, 2011

Lakeshore District 23 AA Conference with Al-Anon & Alateen Participation

Al-Anon Theme: 60 Years.....Our Solution

At General Sikorski Polish Veteran's Hall
1551 Stevenson Rd. N. (at Taunton Rd.) in Os-hawa

Contact 905-728-1020

Registration & Banquet \$45, registration only \$20, banquet only \$30, Alateen or dance only \$5

A weekend full of great speakers, fun, and fellowship. All are welcome.

Come help us celebrate 60 years of Al-Anon!

Blossom Time Convention May 6, 7 and 8th
Doubletree Fallsview Resort and Spa by Hilton in Niagara Falls AA, Al-Anon and Alateen
see www.blossomtimeconvention.com for more information

Trillium Convention 2011

June 24-26th

“Celebrating 60 Years
The Spirit of Lois”

As the 60th Birthday celebrations are taking place in Virginia Beach today, April 16th we are only 69 days away from our own celebrations at the 2011 Trillium Convention. Thank you to all the members who have preregistered so far. We have over 180 people preregistered including over 140 who have booked their room. We are looking forward to seeing all of you at Trillium For those who haven't registered you can visit our website www.al-anon.alateen.on.ca and click on Trillium for registration forms and the hotel number to reserve your room. Fill up your car, come spend the weekend surrounded by the joys of fellowship! Don't forget your dancing shoes for our Saturday night

We have completed all three draws for free registrations but we will be making one more draw on May 8th for a free hotel night! Get your registrations in now.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FREE REGISTRATION WINNERS:

The winner at the Assembly draw was Nola M from Keswick Freedom

The winner of the Feb 13 draw was Marnie G from Second Chance AA in Kingston

The winner of the Mar 13 draw was Sharon W from North Bruce Peninsula AFG in Lion's Head

A draw was also held at the Bradford Round Up (tickets sold) and Gerry W from Stepping Stones in Arn-prior won that one.

KEEPING YOU IN THE KNOW.

SAMS please remind your Alateens who are attending Trillium that they need to bring their completed permission and health forms. These can be found on our website mentioned above. As well it would be helpful to ensure that the adults that are bringing the Alateens are aware that SAMS are only responsible for the Alateens during the actual meeting time. They must come and pick up the Alateens at the end of the meeting time.

DONATIONS: Although we did not specifically ask for donations this year we have received some very generous donations from groups and districts. Thank you for remembering Trillium.

FUNDRAISER CALENDAR The calendar sales have been great so far. Just a reminder to all GR's that calendars will be available for pick up at AWSC for your DR's. Let your DR know how many calendars you want and have them place the order before attending AWSC. Cost of the calendar is \$10.00 The calendars are 18 months starting in July 2011 and ending in December 2012. All the pictures have been generously donated by program members.

LAPEL PIN MEMENTO A special memento is being produced to commemorate Al-Anon's 60th Birthday. It is a 3/4" pin with the Trillium flower surrounded by the words: "60 Yrs of AFG Trillium 2011" There are a limited amount of pins to be sold only at Trillium. Cost of the pin is \$5.00.

HOSPITALITY: We appreciate and rely on your food donations such as sandwiches, veggie trays, fruit, and of course sweets of any kind. Since we lack proper kitchen space we ask that your donation be prepared before bringing it to the suite. We will supply coffee and tea. There will seventh tradition box available in the hospitality room for your financial donations..

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS for Greeters, Registration and Hospitality. No experience needed just a willingness to enjoy the benefits of service. There is a checkbox on this year's registration form to tell us if you wish to volunteer and what you wish to volunteer for. It is never too late, look for signs in the registration area as to how you can volunteer once you get here.

This is my last report for Trillium 2011. Hard to believe almost a year has passed since we started. I want to thank the committee for all of their hard work this year and of course for the work that will happen in June. I am thankful for all I have learned in our journey together as well as the opportunity to add more people to my Al-Anon family. I have had a wonderful time and consider it an honour to be of service to Ontario South and the membership as your 2011 chair.

Yours in Service,
Jo-Ann M, 2011 Trillium Chair

Open Lines Coordinator

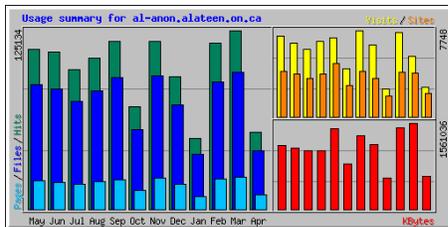
I am Sharon and a grateful member of Southend Discussion AFG in Niagara Falls. Please feel free to join us on Thursday nights for great meetings.

As your Open Lines Coordinator I have been busy putting together the proposal for the electronic version on our wonderful newsletter. I receive calls and notes from group all over our area and they are always gratefully received. The service journey I am on has taught me so much about myself and has aided my recovery so much. Growth happens when I least expect it. Recently our district hosted a Spring Thaw Day. The wisdom from the other members as we discussed our CAL was so far reaching. The number of books purchased that day was truly amazing. As we live and grow together I love this program more and more. I look forward to seeing everyone at AWSC and again at Assembly. If you are considering this service position please do not hesitate to contact me for any information at all.

Hugs in service
Sharon R

Website Coordinator

Hi everyone! My name is Denyse and I am your Website Coordinator. There has been a lot of changes on the website, spring is here or nearly here and all the wonderful anniversaries, Al-Anon Day events are in full force. We would love to celebrate with you so please make sure to send me your event on the event's form and also send me your flyer if you have one.



Above is the chart that I see every time I report to you and thought it might be of interest. It shows you how many visits the website has had and how many files were created or worked on. In March the chart shows that we had 5439 visitors go to our website. That is great keep talking about our website and if you have not looked at it than you are more than welcome, it's a great way to keep in touch with your program.

Hugs in service

Freedom in Fellowship

Aug 12,13,14 @ Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo, ON. There will be an Al-Anon/Alateen program on Sat. Please contact Margaret C 519-765-9361 or email cwocinfo@bmts.com for more information or to register.

Statement of Purpose

Open Lines is published quarterly by Ontario South Assembly. This newsletter presents service related news and information to Al-Anon groups in Ontario South to help keep them informed. Personal sharings of recovery should be sent to the Forum.

Send submissions to: Open Lines Coordinator address found on page 8

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Distribution</u>
Issue 3 July 15, 2011	August 1, 2011
Issue 4 November 15, 2011	December 1, 2011

Late distribution occurs occasionally for unavoidable reasons.

Subscription Rates:
In Canada \$4.50 (1 year) \$8.00 (2 years)

Send NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS to:
Open Lines Coordinator, Address on page 8

All ADDRESS CHANGES please send to Group Records Coordinator address on page 8

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Districts in Ontario South

- District 1.....Muskoka
- District 2.....Georgian Bay
- District 3.....Bruce County
- District 4.....Waterloo Region
- District 5.....Huron Perth
- District 6.....London Region
- District 7.....Sarnia Region
- District 8.....Windsor/Essex
- District 9.....Chatham Region
- District 10.....Elgin Region
- District 11.....Brantford
- District 12.....Niagara Region
- District 13.....St. Catharines
- District 14.....Hamilton West
- District 15.....Hamilton East
- District 16.....Mississauga, Oakville
- District 17.....Upper Peel-Halton
- District 18.....Dufferin, York, Simcoe
- District 19.....Toronto North
- District 20.....Toronto West
- District 21.....Toronto Central
- District 22.....Scarborough
- District 23.....Lakeshore
- District 24.....Kawartha
- District 25.....Quinte
- District 26.....St. Lawrence Region
- District 27.....Seaway Valley
- District 28.....Ottawa
- District 30.....Upper Ottawa Valley
- District 31.....Loyalist
- District 32.....Kawartha South

Loyalist District 31 Al-Anon 60th Anniversary

Celebration Sat. June 11th 1-4pm. Potluck Lunch and Secret Auction Edith Rankin United Church Downstairs.4080 Bath Rd Kingston, ON K7M 4Y7 More info 613-507-5588