

ONTARIO SOUTH ASSEMBLY
October 18-20, 2024
Four Points by Sheraton, Point Edward

Minutes

Friday, October 18, 7:00 p.m.

Opening, Welcome - Deb F.
 Traditions – Rosemary (D23)
 Concepts – Marjorie (D13)
 Warranties – Donna (D33)
 Introductions of Executive and Coordinators – Deb F.

Host Committee Announcements - Christina L.

- Districts 7 & 9 Al-Anon members were the committee this year, introduced
- 3 more members required to put on skit
- Other announcements about various hotel amenities, rooms etc. given

7:15 – 8:15 Workshop: SERVICE and What's Working - Debbie E.

- Deb opened by sharing some ES&H based upon her experiences of service, expanding upon the quotes in the handout. If we don't suit up and show up and do our best, then Al-Anon might not continue to survive, and I need it to survive. When you get that little nudge to do service, you are urged to do so, that is "Putting love into action".
- People were then invited up to the mic to share their experience of service.
- Kay-lynn (D31) – heard a speaker last night say, you'll always have a job in Al-Anon, the sponsor said, what if I don't? Then find a new sponsor. 30% of the people in Al-Anon do all of the service. That's sad as the gifts of service are immeasurable. There are so many ways we can be of service such as carrying the message like it was carried to us.
- Fran (D4) – was really sick when she came so she has 3 home groups. Started off being tagged along to district meetings from a long timer and then got into being a Alt. GR., a GR into Alateen, sponsoring, starting step studies, chairing meetings, other group officer positions, is now Alt. G.R. again. She has to give back as there were elderly members who kept that meeting open for 30 years before she got there. If we don't keep those rooms open for new people, who is going to be there for us?
- Annie (D28) – when she got here, she was suicidal. For her, Alateen was so important and she's so grateful for the Al-Anons who helped her make the transition. Recently she became an AMIAS and has an Alateen meeting but no teens. Is hoping to drum up business. Has her own teens, who are affected by the disease and also, of course, her. Shared about her home group's contribution to the Al-Anon day organized this year. She wants to tell people that service is not scary. Introducing people to a small piece of a service role is a good way to do it.
- Donna (D33) – Came in a lot of years ago, not very open minded, stubborn, and learned that she needed to work it in order to keep it. Also learned that it was OK to outsource so she got a life coach. Learned that one of her key values was to be of service, she needed to have a strong connection w family and friends and needed adventure in her life. Was attending GTAIS and got the nudge from HP that she could be the chair of this organization and took the leap, and it has been an amazing experience. Then she got sick and there was an Alternate who took care of things while in the hospital. Half of her support was her family and friends and the other half was her Al-Anon friends. She attended meetings online, even from her hospital bed. From this, she decided that she wanted D33 (the electronic area) to succeed, so she stepped up to be the interim D.R. of that district and get it organized. If you're thinking about doing a bit of service work, go for it.
- Di (D16) – when she first came to Al-Anon, she wanted to fit in, and service was a great way to try to fit in and be part of something. It was the first time she felt like she belonged. She started by washing coffee mugs, setting up chairs, then district positions and then area positions. She was always the church mouse at the back of the room and doing service has given her confidence. She has never done a service that she wasn't tapped on the shoulder and asked to do. When you do it and learn the manual, learn about the traditions and concepts and why we have them, you really get the program at a depth that you do not get otherwise. She learned about group conscience decisions through service which helped her with her children and family.
- Linda (D28) – in her professional life, before retirement, she worked in supportive and palliative care and saw people on their deathbed. While in a room one time, she overheard the people mention they were friends of Lois. When she disclosed that she was also a friend of Lois, they asked her to stay, but she couldn't because she had to work. Later that evening she returned to the

room and the lady had died. She had the thought that this person had left this life in a meeting, surrounded by friends, lovely music and she thought if she could have that, how lucky she would be.

- Loretta (Open Lines Coordinator, D26) – her district asked her to represent her group. When she came to Al-Anon she had been attending A.A. for a few years to help her spouse. Comin to Al-Anon, she learned that we had 12 steps, just like them, she stayed and 2 years later went to an Al-Anon meeting, who sounded crazy, but reminded her of herself. She went back the next week and asked her to sponsor her. The person asked her how many meetings she had been to, and she said tons of AA meetings, and the person said we recommend you attend 6 meetings. So, she waited 6 weeks, and then started studying the steps (rather than just reading them which is what she was doing before, thinking she was doing them). When she shared that the sponsor was helping her so much the sponsor told her she was helping her. That's part of service too is to carry the message. Now when she sponsors, she reminds those members that they will be doing this themselves. Now she is highly motivated to serve whenever the opportunity comes up. She wants to! She is not reinventing the wheel, every position she has done has already been done. Except for electronic meetings, which we are now working on. Open lines, this has already been done. She has never been alone in service. She has always been shown a pattern, doesn't have to do it the same way the last person who did it, but we bring ourselves to the role.
- Chris (D25) – when she first came, she did service as she was a people pleaser, as she figured it would make people like her. What she has learned is how much service has helped her recovery. She has lived in 4 different places in a year, and the first thing she did was to go to an Al-Anon meeting. And she wasn't alone. Now she is working on public outreach as she finds it disturbing how many people are in the A.A. rooms and how many less are in the Al-Anon rooms. She has reached out to open A.A. meetings to see if they would have some Al-Anon participation, and they haven't gotten back to her, but she is not giving up. She wouldn't even give up her Wednesday night service commitment for a free Elvis ticket! She feels loved and not judged and it is really working out for her.
- Jennifer (D8) – when she thinks of service she thinks of the word enriching; it has enriched her life. At the beginning, she did it to fit it. She cried a lot at the beginning. At this time, their group is only 8 members, but it's still the loving group it has always been. She feels indebted as she could not repay the gifts she has been given. It has made such a difference in how she feels about herself. Service has done more for her than it has done for anyone else. It's the small things that have made a difference, service can be small. You are never alone; everyone is so helpful. That's indicative of the spirit that is Al-Anon. The circle of love spreads.
- Sharon (Interim Alt. Delegate) – I'm a service junkie. Her service journey started with her sponsor asking hey, what are you doing Sunday? That led her into being Blossom Time secretary, group treasurer, G.R., etc. One of the first lessons she was taught was that we can't keep it unless we are willing to share it or give it away. Some of us need to be encouraged at first.
- Austin (D20) – Would come to meetings and didn't want to do anything but his sponsor said you had to set the chairs. Then the chairing responsibility was alphabetical, so it came to him. He was voluntold and nominated, and he thinks that's not a bad thing. He is here because he volunteered to be Alt. G.R. and suddenly he was G.R. And then he was nominated to be D.R. and is just learning what this is now. He definitely found that being encouraged was a good thing for him.

Announcements: GTAIS selling slogan cards as a fundraiser for the PriMed conference.

Anyone interested in being on the committee for this conference there is a sign-up sheet at the back. It is in May 2025.

Reminders of meetings following these.

Reminder of 2023 Assembly minutes, 10 printed copies at the front of the room.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 with the Al-Anon Declaration and the Serenity Prayer.

Saturday, October 19, 8:30 a.m.

Opening, Welcome - Deb F.- with a moment of silence, followed by the serenity prayer.

Traditions – Amanda (D23)

Concepts – McKayla (D2)

Warranties – Paul (D26)

Introductions of Executive and Coordinators – Deb F.

Host Committee Announcements - Christina L.

- Host committee members were introduced.
- Other announcements about various hotel amenities, rooms for meetings, Literature room hours, given

Housekeeping & Other Announcements - Deb F.

Vote to Establish Procedures - Deb F. - (included in package) was read out, questions were invited.

- Tina (D11) – Q. when there is a motion on the floor and somebody is trying to write up another one, is there a rule about whether we end that discussion and vote? Or do we wait, if there is somebody already trying to find a motion. A – Deb - that will be explained when we go over the voting process, this is specifically just for voting, but to answer the question, as motions come up, yes, she would deal with that motion. Whether we wait or not depends, we will see how the flow of business goes.

• XX (DX) motioned (verbal) to accept the voting procedures as explained, seconded by XX (DX) – Passed.

Principles of Making an Informed Group Decision (included in package) was read, questions as read were invited. None.

Timekeeper – volunteer called for – Diana (D14) will be our timekeeper.

Ask-It-Basket and Items for Consideration Forms were explained. A link to the Item for Consideration form was included in the Assembly package, it can be completed online at any time.

What happens if I submit an Item for Consideration form? The discussion items are reviewed by the executive at an upcoming executive meeting. The executive meetings are in February, July and November. So, for example, if anyone submitted an Item for Consideration in August, unless it is urgent and time sensitive, it won't be reviewed until November, so please be aware of that. These Items are clarified as needed and either acted upon by the executive or brought forward to the AWSC for discussion and action.

The other form is the Ask-It-Basket form. Questions for which you were unable to find answers in the AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual or the Ontario South Policies and Guidelines Manual can be submitted using the Ask-It-Basket form. Questions can also be sent at any time to the Ontario South executive by email.

The other form is the evaluation form – more about that nearer the end of the weekend.

Ask-It-Basket process explained, and 4 volunteers called for, are: Karen F. (D4), Andrea (D10), Amanda (D23), Sue (D10)

Fran (D4), Linda (D26), Jaunita (D14), Judy (D10), Susan (D9) volunteered to distribute and collect ballot forms.

Approval of 2023 Assembly Minutes

- Amendments: pg. 4, Amendment Motion: Moved by Bonnie L, District 9, **seconded by ...**
- Pg. 4 – Name should be Louise, District 2: ...
- Pg. 5 – Wendy – District 16 ... there are s/b **125** voting members ... (as noted on pg. 3 in Roll Call)
- Pg. 8 – correct name spelling to Cory, District 31
- Pg. 11 – 3rd bullet point from bottom – Sue G. **replied ...**
- Pg. 15 – Election of the Chairperson should include: **Result of the Vote:** Deb F. is the Chairperson.
- Pg. 16 – add in bold: **Discussion Item #3 – 2028 International AI-Anon Convention – Gwen**

Motion to accept – XX (DXX), seconded by XX (DXX) to accept minutes as amended. Passed

Delegate's Report on World Service Conference (WSC) Jason W.

- Please share this information with your groups (he will take questions at the end, thanks). Quote from Many Voices, One Journey p30, was part of Lois's welcome to the 1980 WSC "AI-Anon is a program of love and love is the primary motive in all our activities". This has recently spoken to him, and he is working on that and finds it a good reminder in his service journey.
- Page 75 of the WSO service manual describes the role of the World Service Delegate – this was read out.
- World Service Conference was April 18 – 21, 2024 at Virginia Beach at the Founders Inn & Spa.
- Meetings from 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Assigned seating, sit beside your mentor. His mentor is Lalit J. from Nebraska.
- 2/3 Delegates, 1/3 staff are what make up the conference.
- Audit and budget reports discussed, all numbers are U.S. \$. – 2023 Annual Audit report – an audit is an annual report. The auditor's opinion was clean (meaning everybody did their jobs correctly). Audit process was highlighted.
- Revenue – a few sources at WSO – Literature sales #1, Contributions and investment income #2, Magazine sales (Forum) and subscription income (AI-Anon App) #3, (the App is free but you can choose to subscribe).
- Literature sales – 2023 saw an all-time record since AI-Anon began in 1951 – the reason, our new daily reader, A Little Time For Myself – A Collection of AI-Anon Personal Experiences.

- 69,000 sold in year 1. \$4.4M in sales in 2023. Strong sales in 1st year of a literature piece is typical. Without this, there would have been no surplus, but \$940K additional sales.
- Steady contributions throughout the year are key to WSO's financial health.
- Sources of contributions: #1 was groups, \$1.2M, special appeal and individual came in 2 & 3rd place.
- Investment income – favorable market conditions caused a gain \$1.1M approx. These are part of the reserve fund. A bit of detail on what those investments are, conservative mature, investments, i.e., blue chip. No investments related to alcohol. Merrill Lynch and Davenport are the two companies that manage our investments. Investments are important to maintain the value of our reserve fund.
- Budget for 2024. 61% of groups contributed in 2023. The services provided were outlined. \$1 in 1951 was worth \$1. Today, that same dollar is worth \$11.58.
- Total cost/group \$440.85 CAD. Pie chart of how the costs are made up.
- Revenues forecast to increase by 8%. 91% is funded through contributions and literature sales. In 2024 a balance transfer is required to balance the budget, this is part of the reason for a reserve fund.
- 2024 Projects underway – next generation AFG records, more details later. International convention 2028. Location tbd.
- Expenses of 2024 budgeted at just over \$6M. 5% increase from 2023. Most are consistent.
- PSA – the system in Canada is different from the U.S., here airtime is provided for free and is in ratio to the number of commercials about alcohol. PSAs could include ones from A.A., MADD or Al-Anon.
- \$443.95 CDN / cost of services per group. If your group can give more than that, it would be great as it evens out for groups that cannot contribute that much. This slide will be on the Ont. S. website after Assembly.
- We have a new piece of literature and Jason got to play a part in it. He got to vote on whether to give conceptual approval to a new piece of literature discussing financing in recovery. He is lucky enough to have a sponsor who is very open about money. He senses that this is the goal of this new piece. We don't have a piece of literature that discussed this only. It likely won't be available for a couple of years. There might be a call for sharings, if so, that would be the time to send them. The form of the piece, i.e., pamphlet, booklet or book, depends on how many sharings are received.
- Next Gen AFG Records – does not support multiple languages. This is a trilingual fellowship, French, English and Spanish. There is a need for a new system to support “ “ . Was discussed at WSO, off the shelf solutions exist, timeline, no less than 2 years. AIS services, you will be hearing from the WSO about this.
- Al-Anon has 40 general service offices, this was explained.
- Zonal meetings – groups of countries – Europe, South America/Spanish speaking, Central America. They share the exact same concerns that we do. Some issues of in some of the countries, price and obtaining literature, challenges, border crossings, were discussed. How lucky are we? We do not have these issues of high literature expense, danger, border crossings, etc.
- Area challenges – questions of How do we attract members to service? and why aren't we attracting more members? were brought up there and also came up last evening with the sense that people really want to discuss this. We will take about 10 minutes at this time to discuss with the members around us and reconvene.
- Volunteers shared a few points that were learned: Barb (D28) 30% of the people do most of the service, it is not all on the 70% who are not doing any – how many hats are the 30% wearing? In order to take a DR position, she had to let go of the other position. She started announcing and someone arrived and took it on. This new role is having her learn so much. Dual members cannot vote, but they can do other service positions, and sometimes they need to be informed of this.
- John (D9) – people have complained about they step forward and try something and the workload is way more than expected. Treat it like an internship, see someone with potential who has shown an interest and bring them along, once they are a G.R. have them hang out with the DR, etc. so they are making an informed decision. Service increases our family.
- Di (D16) – why are we not attracting more members to do service? Fear of what they are taking on, they won't be able to, it takes time away from their families. How do we attract more members to service? Some groups in her district are shortening the term of positions, so maybe 3 months for roles such as greeters, hospitality, set-up, so the newer members can still contribute to service without feeling overwhelmed by it. Their group announces at every meeting what positions are rotating and everyone in that service position speaks to it so when it comes time to rotate, what is involved is clear. Those previous role holders could become the service sponsors to the new member holding it. Also have allowed members to double up in the position so there is a back-up for any absences and the new member can learn at a slower pace.
- Kathleen (website coordinator & D26) – her district has focused on grass roots service. Sending newcomers to the GR or DR, who reaches out to them and gets them meeting info. They are connected to Ottawa A.I.S. They had a P.O. coordinator who kept P.O. flyers in their car at all times, would stop at corner stores, hotels, convenience stores, and ask if they could put one up in the store. Also, AFAs and old Forums put in little libraries or dropping off at Dr. offices, etc.
- Jason shared a few things he heard at WSO; one member shared that we aren't always kind to one another in service. One area sends We Miss You packages and cards to members who don't show up to Area Business Meetings. One area decided to hold their assembly in a dark district, one which doesn't have a D.R., which might encourage members to get involved. Another idea, we need to share the joy of service. Joyful may not be your default setting but it can be found in service, this is Jason's

experience, and he wants to share it. He was approached by a member who suggested he think about running for delegate which he thought “no way”, and he has found that being approached and invited etc.

10:05 - 10:35 Break

10:35 Reconvened with Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer – Deb. F.

Delegate’s Report on WSC (cont’d)

Jason W.

- Stepping Stones visit by delegates beyond 2025 – this was a question by the members in Ont. S., for discussion at WSC. A good reminder for Jason is that a vote is not a group conscience, a vote is part of it, and then you get to the group conscience through discussion acquired via feedback. No decision has been made by the WSC/WSO. The board of trustees met in July and decided that the visits will continue triennially – to start a 6-year trial beginning after 2025.
- Chosen agenda items – this is how delegates can have input into the agenda at WSO. He received 3; delegates can submit up to 2. One was more of a question (he is gathering info on that from the WSO), the other two were submitted and are: the effects of the use of electronic platforms on building cohesiveness in Area / District business meetings, and consideration of dual members serving beyond the group level to improve fairness and equality. Neither were chosen (delegates get to vote on which ones to discuss), but one of them was in the top five. They discussed the top two.
- CAI #1: Membership and unity of purpose, when is something diverting us from our primary spiritual aim? It was lumped in with retaining groups in areas and Is Al-Anon able to fulfill its primary purpose going forward.
- CAI #2: Concept ten, Service responsibility is balanced by carefully defined service authority and Concept nine, what spiritual principles help define good personal leadership?
- Sponsorship task force – the doers from the thought force, who are the thinkers, and comer-uppers with the tasks. Result is a workshop that comes in 3 different formats, Day long, half day, 30-minute (for AWSCs and Assemblies). You may obtain it from your delegate.
- Electronic Alateen validation and implementation. What is it? Development of procedures and requirements for Areas to host their own permanent online Alateen meetings. Why can’t we just do it on our own? The Board of Trustees is responsible for safeguarding the Alateen name (Concept 9). The law requires us to comply with the most stringent requirements. Requirements in different states are not the same. Conversation about whether the information presented was clear. What is next? Implementation. Ont. S. needs to decide whether they want to opt in and if so, we need to develop a process for AMIASs for electronic meetings. More information to come.
- Confidential items at WSC – a bit of perspective on why this is and what it means. Examples of items confidential prior to 2024 WSC: Proposed amendments to the Service Manual, Audit report, Literature recommendation, preliminary budget report. The purpose of marking it confidential is to try to eliminate confusion. Imagine the confusion that could be caused by delegates having the incorrect version of the amendment (there were 4 versions before it was voted on at WSC). Clear is kind. Unclear is Unkind. Discussion item: is the gendered language in the Steps and Traditions in alignment with Al-Anon’s Legacies? Part of the justification is to eliminate gossip about items prior to the discussion at the WSC. Therefore, it can be a principled discussion based on spiritual principles. No decisions made on this item. To sum up, the delegate shares as much as they can but there are certain items that cannot be shared, and this is why.
- Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) – how did we get here that we do not have one? The former AAPP has stepped up to fill the role of the Alt. Delegate who had to step down. She has been serving in both roles since. AAPP role was described, section 2B of the Area Guidelines and Policies manual will give you more information or chat with the current Alt. Delegate. Jason is asking for help from the members gathered today to think about it and approach and ask people who you feel could be good in this role. Punctuality and reliability are needed skills.
- Al-Anon International 2028 update – Ont. S. submitted a bid and so did 13 other Areas. Committee has received three recommended cities to visit. Board of Trustees will meet next week and will decide which city to choose. The host city will then be announced at the discretion of the Board. Stay tuned.
- Temporary electronic meetings – meetings that were in person prior to the pandemic but went online during. Some have decided since that they would like to stay electronic. Make sure your records are up to date and if you haven’t made a decision about what you’d like to do, start having those conversations. WSO gave us a grace period of 6-12 months to make a decision; we are at that point. No action is being taken by the WSO at this time, however, we do need to get our house in order. If you have made a decision and updated the records, you are good. This is for meetings that are still TEMPORARILY online and would like to remain a part of Ontario South OR join the Global Electronic Area, that is a choice that can be made. If you would still like to be part of Ont. South, then you get to decide which District. In Ont. South, electronic meetings can join the overlay district (D33), or if a geographic district will welcome them they can join the geographical district that they were part of before (districts 1-32). If this is not clear, please reach out to him or someone else at the end of this meeting and we will get it sorted out.
- To update your group record: go to al-anon.alateen.on.ca / For members / Ontario South Forms / Ontario South Online Group Records Registration / Change Form. Whether your group has decided to stay electronic or go back to in person, this is the same starting point for both. If you are changing the records for an ELECTRONIC meeting, you will see the red text and a hyperlink to

take you to the page to register or change the info. for an electronic meeting, is about in the middle of that red text. If you are changing the info for an IN-PERSON meeting, the button is down at the bottom. Again, if not clear, check with myself, the website coordinator or groups records coordinator, all of whom can help with this.

- Questions:
 - Linda (D28) – one of our members was recently commenting on an Al-Anon PSA asking whether they were actors or real Al-Anon members? She didn't know and cannot find out. Should it say anywhere on the PSA that it is an actor and no information should be shared that is confidential. Jason doesn't know, will find out.
 - Nicky (D10) – Is it possible to upload the service workshop materials to the website so we don't have to ask him for them.
 - Di B (D16) – in 2024 the WSO will have to do a transfer from reserve to balance the budget but also there will be a surplus – so why do they have to do a transfer? Because the amount is higher than the surplus? Jason will try to find an answer by Sunday.
 - Anthony (D28) – re PSAs who contacts radio stations and tv stations to get them on there? Broadcasters in Canada are all owned by 3 companies, all located in Toronto. But there are staff at the WSO who are communicating with the broadcasters, and they do the contacting. He doesn't believe that we expect the local AISs to do this work. He has heard that if have seen one to let the WSO know that and that we have appreciated it. Could we find out more information from the Canadian Al-Anon office? No, because that is a virtual office, not a physical office with people in it.
 - Karen (D4) – every delegate has an opportunity to bring 2 CAIs forward. What happens with the ones not chosen? Jason had a discussion w another delegate, who he learned have gone fully electronic for their meetings, but that delegate, at that point, did not have a full slate of coordinators, so good info to get. No, it was not on the agenda a WSC but helped him to know what some of the top concerns are in that area, so this could be discussed w other delegates during breaks and mealtimes, along with other items, not necessarily on the agenda. That is how he used that information but it didn't go on the agenda. In a couple of months, he will be asked again for items for 2025. F/U ? – one of the items was about dual members being able to do service beyond the groups. A – it is beyond the area level – there is an explanation in our service manual about this, he doesn't recall discussing with other delegates this point. We are not the first people to think about it. There seems to be a significant appetite to discuss.
 - George (D12) – WSO costs/group \$443.95 – is that for the 100% of groups that benefit from Al-Anon or is it for the 60%? It is the total costs/total number of groups. Q. 2 – mentioned trouble getting literature into other countries. The Daily Telegraph used to transmit electronically so that it could be transmitted into other countries without having to cross borders. Is it being considered? A – that's an interesting idea and he can ask. They will chat further.
 - Jeanette (D8) – meetings that went temporarily electronic – a few groups went inactive and wish to remain that way, 2 years later. She has communicated, as DR about what they want to do and they wish to remain status quo. What to do? A. Nothing.
 - Leslie (D1) – electronic meetings and the differences between districts – where can she find information about this to help inform their decisions. A – pointed out the member from D33 – Donna, who stood up, you could speak to her. Also, this electronic district is still very new and the service manual is catching up.
 - Darlene (D25) – does WSO include the electronic meetings in the cost/group amount? Jason thinks yes but will confirm.
 - Sue (D16) – clarify about the Stepping Stones decision – means that the next 2 delegates will get to visit. Explained a bit more about why after 2025. A six-year trial, when we go to NY once every 3 years, means that the next 2 delegates will get to visit once in each of their 3-year terms. Then a decision will be made on how to proceed.
 - Kay-Lynne (D31) – clarify where their group should send WSO contributions, to US or CDN office? The benefit of sending to the CDN office is individual members contributions, get a tax receipt.
 - To contact the delegate email is the preferred method: OntariouSouthDelegate@hotmail.com and also his address and tel. provided. Thank you for allowing me to be your delegate – it is teaching him lots!

Treasurer's Report Janet B.

- Prior to giving the report Janet asked GRs to ask their treasurers to remember to add their group information when sending donations. If no email or group # provided, those contributions are considered personal donations. Last week for instance she got a donation from a New Hope group; there are 8 or 9 New Hope groups so she has no idea which group it is from. Use the memo box and give as much information that is OK. Not enough is not OK. About the Ottawa address, there is a new address. This information went out, but it seems it isn't getting through as twice this week she got emails about contributions being returned. 222 Queen St. Ste. 1000, Ottawa, K1P 5E9 is the new address. The P.O. box address in Guelph is the same and does not change, even with the treasurer position change. You can send your donations to the CDN office with CDN stamps if you don't have US stamps. Use Al-Anon office HQ.
- Income Statement (refer to Assembly Package Pages #1, 2, 3 4) went through. Equalized travel explained briefly. We are not receiving donations from each group currently, seems to be a trend. Hoping GRs can take this back to their groups as information.
- Balance sheet as of Dec 31/23 (Package page #5)

- Reserve Fund Dec 31/23 – (Package page #6)
- YTD 09/30/2024 – sent via email on Oct. 16
- Balance Sheet as of September 30/24 – sent via email on Oct. 16
- Questions:
 - Andrea (D10) – when DRs get the groups records are the inactive groups also in the pool to calculate the equalized travel cost for AWSC? A: No. Q2 - can you explain the difference btw the reserve fund and the equity we have? A – it’s just a word – it’s just part of our operating funds. We don’t really have a reserve right now, it’s all in operating funds. Q – 2:50 another question I didn’t get – A – we want to have enough to cover a year’s expenses so we should have enough in that fund to cover the budget in case no donations arrive. Equity is on that sheet and is part of it.
 - Dierdre (D4) – 2023 bank charges were \$222 which seems high given the digital. A – we get charged for e-transfers, they aren’t free. We get more e-Transfers so that’s why it’s a higher amount.
 - Michelle (D21) – is there a \$ amount required for groups to donate to meet our budget? A – yes, it’s part of the budget and will be given at that time. \$169.95 for 2024. \$174.57 for 2025.
 - Loretta (D26) – one of her group’s concerns was the significant deficit and it seemed like it has turned around but there seem to be a large chunk of expenses that haven’t been accounted for yet. A – it’s hard to say as groups send their donations whenever, some quarterly, some at end of year, some nothing, so it’s hard to predict. F/U Q – groups contributions are a significant part of what will even it out. How can we encourage groups to contribute? A – we either reduce our expenses or increase our revenue. We do the best we can with expenses.
 - Colleen (D23) – the cost of archives storage is high – could we use the cloud? A – the archives are actual physical records, when the archives report is given, we will hear about digitizing it but we still need to keep hard copies. The project to reduce those is an on-going process.
 - Gail (D12) – is there a percentage of groups that contribute? A - 36%. F/U – that leaves 64% that don’t. Is there anything that can be done? To contribute nothing seems to send a message that they don’t want to belong. No answer.
 - Sue (D16) – wondering are we open to hear suggestions about dealing with the deficit situation now, or later? A - If it pertains to the discussion then yes, but perhaps add as Item for Consideration and we can discuss at Executive meeting. One suggestion was to make AWSC online just for one year and save those expenses. Just one suggestion. A – this has been discussed, and a lot of us feel that there are a lot of benefits to face to face. F/U agreed, face to face is better but we seem to be in a desperate situation which may call for an extraordinary measure.
 - Donna P (D33) – is glad to hear that stat that 30% of our groups contribute, data is great to have and may add in a specific appeal to groups.
 - Kathleen (website coordinator) – pointed out a recent savings from GoDaddy for the website (details included in her report).
- Announcements pre-lunch – GTAIS selling slogan cards at that table to finance the Pri-Med conference. Also, there is a sign-up sheet for volunteers to man that conference.
- Patty (D4) – all queer folk can gather at the comfy chairs in the lobby.
- If possible, please silence side conversations and whispers when people talking at the mic, it makes it difficult for people with hearing difficulties.
- Positions available re GTAIS.
- Donna (D33) – D33 is now an option for electronic groups to align with, Donna has volunteered to get us organized. Next meeting Oct. 28 7:00 p.m. on zoom. For more info. Speak to Donna P.

12:10 - 1:30 Lunch Break

1:30 – Reconvened with Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer – Deb. F.

Roll Call - Carrie E. – there are 107 voting members at Assembly this afternoon.

DISCUSSION TOPICS & BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Discussion Topic #1 – Budget 2025, (in Feb. /24, amended July /24, incl’d w package, page #7) went through: Janet B.

- Point of information – to break even estimation of each group donation needs to be \$174.57 / group / year
- Questions, discussion on the floor regarding the decision point:
 - Don (D25) – comment - the AMIAS police checks, if a letter is issued to the potential AMIAS, the check could be free so could the DR be issued a cover letter from OSA that would then make it free. Deb, Chair, responded that the letter is available when requested. The Area policy manual also states that the Area can cover the expense.

- Tina (D5) – wants to thank Janet for all the hard work to create a budget. Every organization she is involved with is struggling right now and we can ask for donations, but she is not sure it's out there. Feels we need to reduce expenses. Having Assembly online would not only reduce expenses, but it would also increase participation. There were only 2 of 8 groups in her district that could afford to come to Assembly. It doesn't have to be a permanent solution, but her group doesn't want her to vote in another deficit budget.
- Annie (D28) – WSO puts out a quarterly appeal letter, could Ont. S. do that? She didn't know about this until she read the statement. The alert given this morning by the treasurer about providing the information is great and needs to be widely known. She has gone through the budget information with her group who were quite shocked to learn about the deficit.
- Cindy (D4) – expense for archives storage is \$2k ... vs. last year it was \$3k etc. won't that put us at a deficit? Budgeted based on smaller (cheaper) storage unit.
- Joanne (D17) – would like to suggest we hold voting on the budget until we vote on item #3 and the LDC report as they are holding a \$30k reserve, so the LDC is making quite a revenue stream, and that needs to be discussed in combination with the budget. A – Item 3 is based on a capital expense and the budget is based on operating expenses, so it is not part of the budget. The only thing missing from the budget would be the depreciation on that asset, which when the budget was prepared, was information that we had, as of now, we have not approved the computer purchase, but still it's a capital expense, not an operating expense.
- Lesley (D1) – what about the \$10k to Trillium, did it get paid back? A – Yes. They also made a contribution. We will be giving this seed money again and it is not part of the operating cost. The \$10k was paid back and the balance went to Ont. South. There is some revenue just rec'd which will show in the Oct. statement.
- Sue (D25) – she sees the appeal letters, everyone is aware of the financial situation and the word gets spread of how much is required, therefore she feels that we are the best appeal letter to go back to groups.
- Paul (D26) – do we know what the comparison of last year's donations to this year's? A – in the statement.
- Andrea (D10) – Concept 9 – good personal leadership at all service levels is a necessity. How many groups have their own budget? If you break down the Area amount needed per meeting for the year, you might find that it is relatively low. Let's take this message back to our groups. Is there anything that could be done to raise the funds within our groups to cover this as there do not seem to be any expenses in this budget that are absurd or out of line.
- Jenny (D28) – wondering if the number of groups that the suggested number is based, against only 36% donating, has anyone tried to ascertain why, are they inactive?
- Janet pointed out that there are 107 voting members out of 259 groups. If you are not getting the information, you won't be contributing. The links of service are missing.
- Fran (D4) – they have a dollar and scents (info. sheet) – every year they change the value of what needs to be donated per groups. So groups that are larger donate more than the smaller groups, which cannot give as much. That is something that their district has done for some time. They also did an appeal to the members in their hybrid meetings because they were having problems with those members not being able or not knowing how to donate, so they would get them to send cheques or e-transfer to their group treasurers so it could be part of their district contributions.
- Janet agrees that we have to depend on the larger, maybe healthier groups to give more.
- Sandy (D5) – we are focusing a lot on increasing the revenue but that is just part and we need to look at decreasing the expenses as the other part. Heard this a.m. about a thought force and also the idea of doing an action for a trial period. Two of these large expenses are AWSC and Assembly. We should look at doing those electronically. Also, the future of Al-Anon is going to depend on embracing technology. When we look at younger members, it is not just that they aren't willing to invest the \$, they are not willing to invest the time that they could have done online.
- Elgin (D2) – wants to acknowledge how much cutting of expenses folks have already done, archives has cut, would also like to applaud the work that has been done already. We are grateful for what has been done already.

Discussion Topic #1
Proposed 2025 Budget
Presenter: Janet B.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

For information on the 2025 Budget, please refer to the budget which was included in the Assembly package:

- Proposed Budget 2025 – amended July 2024

MOTION AWSC 2024: 'That the budget as presented be forwarded to Assembly 2024.' Carried.

DECISION POINT:

Should the proposed budget for 2025 be adopted by Ontario South Assembly 2024?

Motion on the floor – moved by XX (DX) 2nd by XX (D not provided) – that we accept the 2025 budget as proposed with the understanding that the AWSC is a virtual meeting is an online for 2025.

Discussion to the motion: mover to speak first

- XX (DX) – after some discussion with fellow members they feel that this solves the issue of balancing the budget as it addresses the growing deficit. If we decline it now, the executive's hands are tied in terms of spending any money. AWSC is approx. \$8k, if done online we will save that money. It also shows that part of our concepts of service is to be fully self-supporting, by continuing as we are, we can expect the deficit to continue to grow every year.
- Di (D16) – we have to pay a deposit for AWSC each year – if we reworded the motion to ask for a thought force be formed to look at ways to decrease the budget for next year – this would give time for us to deal with this effectively and would not interfere with any deposits already made. *Janet confirmed no deposits have been made.*
- Marjorie (D13) – having attended AWSC she cannot imagine that changing that one thing to online is going to have an effect on our budget.
- Sandy (D5) – in addition to balancing the budget, it would give us time as a group to organize a thought force to look at the budget, from both cutting expenses and increasing revenue. They would appreciate the opportunity to be involved in that.
- Loretta (D26) – this seems to be conflating two discussion points – the budget and the idea of having a virtual AWSC. They are two distinct things. She would like to vote on one thing.
- Liz (D10) – is a newbie – has been GR, asked questions in Jan. about what is expected of a GR, has been getting information from the DR but when she got the assembly package and saw the information, her group had no comments as the long timers just told her to relax. Her idea is that you pay your bills first. She agrees with the budget but also thinks that we need to inform the newbies as she is horrified of the amount of stuff she didn't know.
- Jason (Delegate) – speaking as a member – gave a bit of background info. Last term was an advisor and one of the projects was to research other venues to potentially hold AWSC. Found that the current venue is by far the best deal. 2020 and 2021 were both online. Info on that – going to zoom is not always free, sometimes there are costs for additional capacity. The comment has been that it would increase participation – what we have found was that these 2 years were some of the lowest attendance numbers. He has found as the Area Chairperson – the larger the group, the more challenging it is to manage the meeting. It may work for AWSC, but not necessarily for Assembly.
- Kathleen (website coordinator) speaking as a member (D26) – provides a caution about cutting too deeply, there comes a point when it is hard to come back from. Institutional memory becomes really important, as 3 years from now, we are going to be wondering why we did this.
- Angela (D28) – the real concern is passing a budget 2 years in a row that is \$10k below what we can pay. It is not realistic. The group that wrote the motion were not hoping to do it forever, just for one year. It would be good if every GR could go back to their groups and report that this is what we can afford, for this year.
- Sue (D6) – asked the question of the treasurer, what happens if we don't pass the budget? A – Janet is not sure. She guesses we would have to change the budget. But life, and Al-Anon goes on, and that money has to be spent, whether we have a budget or not. S – so if we don't have a budget, we don't have the right to spend the money? J – yes, it would put the brakes on what we do. She will change the budget, is just a trusted servant and does what she is directed to do.
- Denise (D4) – can she put a new motion, or do we have to vote on this one first? Deb - No, we have to vote on this one first. Denise then called the question. All in favour of ending this discussion. All who wish to continue on discussing this motion, please stand. Too close to call, we had to number off. In favour of continuing the discussion – 34. Those who wish to end the discussion and move to a vote stand and numbered off - 63

Motion on the floor – moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (D not provided) – that we accept the 2025 budget as proposed with the understanding that the AWSC is a virtual meeting is an online for 2025. – DEFEATED

Motion on the floor – moved by XX (DX) 2nd by XX (DX) that we approve the proposed 2025 budget as prepared and a task force be created to review the education of the 7th Tradition in Area 86.

Discussion to the motion: mover to speak first

- XX (DX) – although it feels hard to accept a budget which leaves us in a deficit, she feels we need to move forward in hopes that we can review how to cut back. Being online is personally challenging for her with an alcoholic at home.
- Heather (D25) – understands that the motion is to accept the budget and also talk about a thought process to see where we can cut in the budget – are we adding money to create a task force to talk about where we can cut the budget?
- Kathleen (D28) – in speaking w Gwen about this motion, we wanted to add a review of the budget and the only way to increase revenue is by adding group donations, that is the only way to solve this group crisis. Reminder, there are over 100

GRs missing in this room today. The best way to do this is through education. Re Heather's questions, typically thought and task forces meet online which is minimal cost.

- Diana (D14) – is there a budget committee or is it prepared all on the treasurer's own? J – prepares it on her own but the Executive reviews it as the meeting in Feb. before it goes to AWSC. Diana shared that in her work life there is a committee.
- Paul (D26) – reminded of when he came to Al-Anon and made decisions based on fear they were not good decisions. He reminds us that our decisions are grounded in spiritual principles. His sense is if the information gets to the groups, the shortfall will be handled.
- Beth (D6) – is a new GR and is learning information that she did not have before and would not have learned if not in person.
- Cathy (D18) – how many years have we been paying \$50 registration for Assembly? Maybe that is no longer realistic. Sharon remembers that it was \$45 pre-pandemic.
- Lee (D4) – has been a GR for 2 years and the first time her group has been able to afford to send her here. The problem she is having is lack of information. She is learning way more just sitting here listening than she did in any of the books.
- Linda (D26) – an observation, not a judgement, yes, there are groups that are small and struggle. One of the things she hears almost daily as LDC manager, is “I didn't know that”, “what's Assembly?”. The links of service are being broken; the ball is being dropped somewhere along the line. She walked through the door wanting to end her life. She is not rich, but she donates what she can and discusses with her groups what they can give to their service arms as without their service arms, we cannot continue in our fellowship. If your group is doing well, give a little more to help the groups that cannot.
- Denise (D4) – is in favour of both issues but having them voted on separately. It dilutes our purpose of what we are doing here right now.
- Andrea (D10) – education in the 7th tradition. If the DRs are doing their job, they are communicating to their GRs. Maybe there is somebody at the Executive level who can reach out to create dialogue about this. If she got a phone call, it would help. Maybe some accountability is required so that the information is passed along.
- Dave (D13) – how about increasing the suggested contribution. It might help balance things out.

Motion on the floor – moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (DX) that we approve the proposed 2025 budget as prepared and a task force be created to review the education of the 7th Tradition in Area 86. – in favour 51, opposed 55. DEFEATED.

Motion on the floor – moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (DX) that we approve the 2025 budget.

Discussion to the motion: mover to speak first

- XX (DX) – really appreciates all the discussion and thinks it has added to her education and growth. We are voting on the budget and she wants to keep it simple.
- John (D9) – came to Al-Anon in 2009 – met a lady and wanted to get to know her better and she was a member. She was lucky, his father was an Alcoholic. For those who are discouraged about this discussion, imagine having it with an alcoholic. The fact that we can discuss is and still like each other. Budget consider of numbers, pulled out of the air sometimes. The work is strong, there are valid reasons.
- Di (D16) – agrees. If we can approve the budget, for those that are concerned and want to look at ways to save money, add it as an Item for Consideration and the Executive will review it.
- Angela (D28) – feels like it is an argument with the alcoholic. We don't have the money, and we are going to spend it anyway. Puts us in a position that is not responsible. We can't approve of what we don't have.
- Karen (D4) – the contentious issue is a deficit, that the money coming in this year is not enough for this year. But we have a reserve which is to carry us through. In her own life, she has a reserve. It's not that we don't have it, we have it in reserve.
- Janet commented that the budget is not in a deficit, the budget is break-even. The deficit is a loss from last year, which is already out of our operating fund. To create a budget with a deficit would be projecting a loss. We are not doing that; we are *projecting* a break-even. It is up to the groups to come up with the amount we have quoted per group/year.
- Gwen (D6) – background information, when the DRs met at AWSC in the spring, we approved this budget for the GRs to review and vote on. That is what we have done. It is the budget we are discussing; all the other stuff can be an aside. If you are taking this back to your groups, they should know about this, as we haven't presented anything new. Although it is not set in stone, the budget is created by our Area Treasurer, but it also comes to the Executive table multiple times before it is presented. If you are going to vote yes on the budget, it means you are going to support it.
- Chrissy (D16) – How much is in the reserve fund? Janet answered we don't have \$ in a “reserve fund”, we have \$ in the bank account as operating expenses. WSO recommends we have enough to cover operating expenses. This is considered a prudent reserve. We are short of that. It says we shouldn't have more than we need. We have less than what is needed. The recommendation is for between 6 – 12 months of expenses. The budget is a 12-month period.

Motion on the floor – moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (DX) that we approve the 2025 budget. MOTION CARRIED.

Reports: Coordinators and Others (*reports may occur during other sessions/times*)

- Technology Coordinator - Anthony S. – (D28) which is in Ottawa. The IT coordinator position was created to help split the load btw what the website coordinator tended to get called on in the past. He has been working to help update the Area Policy manual, using scripts to convert the word documents to pdfs, which makes it easier, provides to the website coordinator who then does the upload. Also provides AV support at AWSC and Assembly. It's still a good idea to have someone on the Assembly committee for AV who will liaise with the AV company. He can then advise them on what is required. He has been helping with IT issues using Team viewer so he can help people with their computer issues in service. Has been coming to Al-Anon for 25+ years, his first Assembly experience was 24 years ago and thought he would never be one of the people at the front of the room, because this is his least favorite thing to do. A few Al-Anon friends and him got together on Skype during the pandemic and it came to them that the need doesn't go away. We have to be there for the newcomer.
- Alateen Coordinator - Judith W. – 4 members came into Al-Anon through Alateen. The reason she took on the role of Alateen coordinator is because her kids were raised in Alateen. They are now grown woman and are Al-Anon members and their family cannot be more grateful. We are struggling right now with 12 groups in 30 districts. She has been asking herself how does this work? We've done a few public outreach things in the past few years but there is nowhere else for Alateens to go. Her goal is to have all Districts register members as AMIASSs, who are prepared to say there are no teens this year and still show up. Once we have the infrastructure in place, there will be places for the teens to go. We have the opportunity to have an Alateen meeting but there are no Alateens here at Assembly. Therefore, she would like to invite any Al-Anon members to come and experience what an Alateen meeting is like, so they aren't afraid to send their kids. In Ont. S. we have 80 AMIASSs and 12 groups.
- Archives Coordinator - Valerie P. – has a cold so is not accepting hugs which is making her sad. For those who haven't done this you might think that anyone who gets up on the stage has grown a lot. 2 years ago, when she came up to do her report, she printed it and found she had left her glasses in her purse. Afterward, she discovered that they were on the chain around her neck. Last year, she brought them and didn't use them – it was blurry. This year, glasses here, and on! Archives took the summer off for some R&R, they did put out a survey. If you haven't done it, they would still like to have it, she has copies at Assembly. It would be helpful for them to know what we feel is Ont. S. history. Last year's raffle gave them \$255.05. They were able to move to a smaller facility. Her crew includes Joan R., Janice W., and Nora P., all from D1, all long-time knowledgeable members of Al-Anon. If you need to know your group's starting date, it's possible that information is in the archives. You can ask. There is a banner at the back that they don't know about, please check it and let them know. If nobody knows about it, it doesn't belong in archives. She has some memorabilia from Stepping Stones that she brought to AWSC and people seemed to enjoy it. Please peruse. They have reduced the number of boxes from the 60's to the 40's. Once everything is sorted there needs to be discussions on how to digitize so that members can access it who are trying to do research. She can't thank her friends and committee members enough. She loves the history of Al-Anon in Ontario South and wants it to be available to everyone. And of course, cutting costs is also a goal. Your survey results will be helpful, as soon as they have the results, they will make it available.

3:25 – 3:45 Break

3:45 – Reconvened with Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer – Deb. F.

Discussion Topic #2 – OSAAC Funds Sue G.

Discussion Topic #2

Ontario South Alateen Advisory Committee (OSAAC) Finances

OSA Policies and Guidelines Manual, Section 11H, page 1 of 3, Managing OSAAC Funds

Presenter: Sue G.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Alateen members in Ontario South have been active for many years. A committee called the Alateen Unity Committee has existed since 1968 and over time developed a Charter and guidelines for the Unity Conference.

The Alateen Unity Committee became the Ontario South Alateen Advisory Committee (OSAAC) in 2011.

At the 2011 Assembly the following motions were passed:

“the OSAAC Charter be adopted by Ontario South Assembly 2011.” Carried.

“we accept the OSAAC Finances document as originally written and given to us for review for this conference.” Carried.

The OSAAC Charter is Section 11G and the OSAAC Finances is Section 11H in the OSA (Ontario South Assembly) Area Manual.

At present, Section 11 H, page 1 of 3, #3 Managing OSAAC Funds states:

“3. Managing OSAAC Funds:

OSAAC members will decide who will be responsible for managing OSAAC funds and a bank account. Those eligible will be: Area Alateen Coordinator; OSAAC Advisor, or an Alateen OSAAC member. The member will be appointed and assume the responsibilities of OSAAC Treasurer.”

As of 2020, OSAAC in Ontario temporarily ceased to function due to lack of Alateens.

There was \$5,046.49 in the OSAAC bank account.

As there were no current OSAAC or members, there was no OSAAC or members to be held responsible for the OSAAC funds.

There were two Al-Anon members (one was the Alateen Coordinator at the time) who still had their name on the account.

The Executive discussed how to deal with the OSAAC funds, and it was decided to ask these two members to transfer the funds to OSA Treasurer to be held in trust. This was done. The \$5,046.49 are shown on the balance sheet as a liability.

To protect OSAAC funds in the future, if there is no OSAAC, the Executive in discussion with the Alateen Coordinator, suggested the following statement to be added to Section 11H, page 1 of 3, #3 Managing OSAAC Funds:

“In the event the OSAAC ceases to function, either temporarily or permanently, all OSAAC funds will be transferred to the OSA Treasurer to be held in trust.”

MOTION AWSC 2024: ‘That Discussion Item #2 Re: OSAAC funds, be forwarded to Assembly 2024 for discussion.’

DECISION POINT:

Moving forward, in the event OSAAC ceases to function, either temporarily or permanently, how shall Ontario South Assembly proceed with the management of the OSAAC funds?

- Questions, discussion on the floor to answer the decision point:
 - Di (D16) – if the funds are kept with the Ont. S. treasurer, it can be accessed. Her group felt it should be held the same way as for Trillium.
 - Donna (D2) – who is, and how are we going to determine what temporarily means? Sue – doesn’t know, but would suggest that if OSAAC is disbanded, that would be permanently. We had this happen at one time. Other than that, if there are still teens out there, it would be considered temporary.
 - Loretta (D26) – just finished a term as treasurer of Trillium. This is very different in that it is considered a one-time event. The \$10k on the balance sheet is considered seed money and is returned. After each Trillium, the bank account is closed out. Each Trillium is considered a one-time event. OSAAC is on-going
 - Judith (Alateen Coordinator) – haven’t had an OSAAC committee for some time now, and just voted in the committee this past June. These are teens who have not shadowed and are just finding their footing. To give the money back to them now would be premature.
 - Sue (D6) – hears the word autonomy – feels like these teens needs that autonomy. They have a committee, and they should have the responsibility of the finances.
 - Nicki (D8) – could you clarify what the composition of OSAAC is – who is on it, etc.? Judith explained that OSAAC is similar to the Executive except for Alateen.
 - Linda (D26) – years ago, before it became OSAAC, she was the chair of that committee, when it was called Unity, and it’s basically this (Executive at the front of the room), except for Alateen.
 - Jason (Delegate) – speaking as a member and the Alateen Unity Committee Chairperson from 2004 – the reason we are having this conversation today as that only the Assembly can amend the OSAAC charter. The thinking behind this is to safeguard the money should the OSAAC committee go dormant and the remaining Al-Anon members on the committee leave Al-Anon or something happens to them, the funds don’t disappear. Some of that money dates back decades and includes donations from Al-Anon and Alateen members, and proceeds from the Alateen Unity conference, which went back to what is now OSAAC. As an executive member he felt that the money should not remain in a bank account which is dormant and potentially disappear. Although he agrees with the autonomy comment, we are talking about a safeguarding issue.

- McKayla (D2) – first year as DR so is a bit confused –she assumes Alateen has their own 7th Tradition, so if an Alateen group is going to be supportive, would they not need OSAAC kind of like we need OSA? So, is Alateen a part of the 259 groups? Sharon responded No.
- Nancy (D14) – what does in trust mean? Her group discussion revealed that some teens who come don't want to come to a face-to-face meeting, they are into the online presence. Could the money be used to support an online presence?
- Sue – believes that the word in trust means that if Alateen ceased to function, or even temporarily, the money would go to OSA. If the signing officers of the OSAAC bank account disappear, how would we get the \$ back?
- Deb (D6) – the Alateen meetings are supposed to give a 7th, we're just grateful that they're there. Their Alateen meeting occurs in the building with an Al-Anon and AA meeting. They don't expect them to give their own money.
- Judith responded to the online meeting question – WSO does have some online meetings and in Ont. S. we continue to have one online meeting until further notice, if you want information please contact her.
- Diana (Public Outreach coordinator) – as a member – the term in trust technically means that someone holds onto the money, keeps it safe and helps it grow. Probably the best place for that money is in the Ont. S. bank account.
- Elgin (D2) – committee made up of teens, is there an adult who helps facilitate? As a teen might not even be allowed to have a bank account. The answer is yes, the Alateen Coordinator is the liaison between the OSAAC and the Executive and is usually the elected Treasurer. Area Policy and Guidelines Manual, Section 11G is the charter and describes the members.
- Tina (D11) – to clarify, the question isn't whether we are going to keep or manage their money, but what we do if OSAAC ceases to function permanently?
- Sue asked the treasurer if there was a bank account for OSAAC and it ceased to function, would we have access to it? Janet answered that no, we would not. Right now, the money is in our bank account, being held in trust. It is not shown on the reserve fund sheet which is at the end of 2023 as we didn't get it until 2024. It is not our money. So, Sue clarified that if the signing officers of the OSAAC bank account disappeared, we couldn't then access that money. That is why we want to add this revision to the Ont. South Manual.
- Karen (D4) – seems to her like if they decided to cease to function it would be like closing the doors to the building, and part of that would be to transfer the funds.
- Tina (D5) – The \$5k sitting in the Ont. S. bank is money that was given to operate this group and now that the group is back together, so why are we still talking about it? It would seem like the action would be for Ont. South to give the money back and it is their work to be done around changing the policy.
- Jason reiterated that the conversation is not about the money, it is about the line “In the event the OSAAC ceases to function, either temporarily or permanently, all OSAAC funds will be transferred to the OSA Treasurer to be held in trust.” The question is to add this line to the Ont. S. Policy Manual in section 11H.
- Chris (D25) – is a retired banker and confirmed that this is the proper thing to do as if something happened to the people who held the bank account, it would be very onerous to undo.
- Kathleen (website coordinator) – sounds like there is a lot of fear around giving the teens the money, but she feels like it is the proper thing to do. Jason's comment about safeguarding is very valid.
- Angel (D4) – safeguarding the money is important, giving it them is also important to help them learn. Having our treasurer as a signing authority allows us the opportunity to safeguard it, in trust, should it cease to exist, we would be able to pull it back, with our signing authority.

While we waited for a motion from the floor, we took more coordinator reports.

Reports: Coordinators and Others (*reports may occur during other sessions/times*)

- Group Records Coordinator - Christina L. – it has been an honour and a privilege to be the group records coordinator for Ont. S., she is still confused. A few reminders, when updating your group records, you need your group ID, meeting place and postal code. All changes need to be made online. There have been some DRs who have stepped down, she has contacted them, but their names have not been removed from the district as DR. It is not her job to make these changes. D20 please pick up your information.
- Forum Coordinator - Sharon R. – as interim Alt. Delegate, she had to look after ensuring that groups were aware of the Forum. Asked for a show of hands of people whose groups have subscriptions. And people who have personal subscriptions. WSO does not distinguish between Ont. S. and Ont. N. Currently there are only 328 subscriptions for all of Ont. There are only 77 groups in all of Ontario subscribed. 251 are personal subscriptions. She feels it is the best \$23 / year she spends. She buys subscriptions for her sponsees. They make great door prizes for events.
- Literature Coordinator - Sue M. – has the privilege of being your literature coordinator. Welcome back and to everyone new. She invites us to check out her display which has samples of all the books and literature available. Also put up two displays of materials available for P.O. We are a trilingual fellowship, and we have pamphlets available in 3 languages. Also shown is that we have digital products, we could be doing P.O. digitally and it's all available for us. Finally, she would really like our input, she put up notes on the board beside her table and really appreciates the responses which she read. Members suggested

One Day at a Time and had members sign on their Al-Anon birthday and on that day, they pray for them. Also, a Merry Go Round Named Denial.

Motion from the floor (1) – moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (DX) that we accept that adding “in the event the OSAAC ceases to function, temporarily or permanently, all OSAAC funds will be transferred to the OSA Treasurer to be held in trust.” To section 11H, page 1 of 3, #3 Managing OSAAC Funds.

Discussion to the motion: mover to speak first

- XX (DX) – brought this to her group and although she thinks she misunderstood the question, 5:34 – thinks it is important that it is in the guide as a means to safeguard the money for future.

Motion from the floor (1) – moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (DX) that we accept that adding “in the event the OSAAC ceases to function, temporarily or permanently, all OSAAC funds will be transferred to the OSA Treasurer to be held in trust.” To section 11H, page 1 of 3, #3 Managing OSAAC Funds. CARRIED

Motion from the floor (2) – moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (DX) OSAAC funds will be transferred to OSA Treasurer to be held in trust for OSAAC and be disbursed when requested by the OSAAC committee.

Discussion to the motion: mover to speak first

- XX (DX) – the timeline as to whether or not OSAAC is existing or not, the time period was irrelevant, that no matter when, how long it lasted or didn’t last, that the money would be kept safe at Ont. S. treasurer and be disbursed as needed.
- Barb (D4) – does this mean that every time that OSAAC needed the money they would have to get permission from Ont. S. to spend it?
- Judith (Alateen coordinator) was called on to answer the question – her understanding is that as it stands now, the OSAAC committee just needs to request the money and Ont. S. has no say, providing the OSAAC committee has enough member/signatories.
- Jason (Delegate) – speaking as a member and past Alateen Unity Chair – curious how the OSAAC members or Alateen group reps would feel about this. We don’t have any of those at this assembly, but we do have a functioning OSAAC. We talked earlier about autonomy, and he wonders how this respects the autonomy of OSAAC. He is a little uncomfortable and feels maybe this is stepping outside of the scope of the Assembly. OSAAC didn’t just appear out of the blue, it has its roots in the Unity Committee. He would like to hear from Alateen group reps and OSAAC before making this change. He acknowledges that this is an emotional topic as it is his roots.
- Judith clarified that they are in the midst of establishing their first OSAAC meeting, this topic will be raised there.
- Donna (D33) – was there a previous motion? Why do we need this motion?
- Jason – was on the executive when this decision was made and there was no guidance at that time, but he is aware that when bank accounts are dormant for a period of 10 years, the money goes to the Bank of Canada. Donna’s question was whether there was any documentation as in a motion. The answer is that the Al-Anon members who were the signatories on the OSAAC bank account wanted to be rid of the money as they were no longer in those roles so that was the decision made at the time due to the concern.

Motion from the floor (2) – moved by XX (DX), seconded by X (DX) OSAAC funds will be transferred to OSA Treasurer to be held in trust for OSAAC and be disbursed when requested by the OSAAC committee. DEFEATED.

Discussion Topic #3 – Website Coordinator Computer Gwen D.

Discussion Topic #3

Computer for Website Coordinator

Presenter - Gwen

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: (provided in Assembly package, pgs. 14-16)

DECISION POINT:

Moving forward, how does Ontario South want to move forward with the request to purchase a laptop for the Website Coordinator?

- Questions, discussion on the floor to answer the decision point:

- Kathleen (website coordinator) – the group records coordinator was provided a laptop computer, printer and software to fulfill their responsibilities to secure and safeguard personal data, mainly in regards to a Microsoft access database that has not existed for several years. That database does not exist and hasn't for some time. However, the website coordinator is expected to use their own personal device to secure and safeguard the same data, and more. While there are safeguards in place, we also recently learned this is not a perfect system. We spent 2 months w GoDaddy trying to get 2Factor authentication reinstalled. With the help of our previous website coordinator, the executive, we had to reach out to the WSO for help. We almost lost the website. Not having a device provided by Ont. S. is creating a barrier to the service for this position which is not equitable. She feels she is privileged to own a laptop, which if it broke, could be replaced by her and she could get the website up and running again. She took the initiative and trialed not having GR and DR information in the database but this is tricky and not foolproof. She has determined after trialing this for a few months, that GR information would need to be put back into FileMaker. You sending group records change form; I don't know if you're the GR any more. She can confirm DRs but can't confirm GRs so she has to assume you are the GR who is making these changes. She wanted to address several of the member's proposed solutions: Apple windows, new or used don't care, any device would work well, both the previous website coordinator and I used apple computers and this is why it was priced out in the Item for Consideration. Time ran out at this point.
- Liz (D10) – one of the main arguments is a breach of anonymity. A creative solution would be to create a second account on the website coordinator's computer. An apple computer is a premium device and there are other computers that are compatible with FileMaker and Clarisse, that are less expensive; she has one. It was mentioned that there was a current windows laptop for the group records coordinator, she wonders whether this could be reserviced for this purpose.
- Kathleen (website coordinator) answered the question about having a separate account. Sure, but it wouldn't work. Often, she does the website work while multitasking. If she has to log out of everything she is doing to go into a separate account to do the Al-Anon work, it is not very efficient for her. It is a labour of love to serve in this role, but it is also a labour of time. If she has to add a separate account in her own machine the work will be done much slower.
- Diana (Public Outreach coordinator) (D22) a member with a laptop, as a coordinator, the work that she performs on her personal laptop is one of business, emails, google searches, searching meetings, zoom calls, etc. That all works. She would not use that computer to try to do the work of the website coordinator or the group records coordinator, it is just not powerful enough. The quote for the Mac in the discussion point is not a super high quote for a Mac.
- Anthony (Tech. coordinator, D28) – this is a difficult topic. A side of the confidential information that ends up on the website coordinator's laptop, he has different reasons for wanting a separate laptop. A computer w 16 gigs of RAM, a terabyte of hard drive space, a certain number of processor cords, is what is needed so that the investment lasts more than a few years – the software added to computers tends to go obsolete, i.e., windows 10 is going officially obsolete in 2025 and the software needs more and more capability. When you install software on a machine, you also have to download other bits, i.e., plug-ins, eg., Microsoft their dot.net framework, libraries, and so on, to make it work. It would be efficient to move that computer from one website coordinator to the next and not have to reinstall all of the software and licensing. It's not as straightforward. Of all the coordinator positions, this one is the one who could use a computer supported by the area, provided that there are the funds.
- Di (D16) – thinks that it doesn't have to be an apple computer, but the amount of data that the website coordinator has to put on their computer, like the group records, is a lot more than for the other positions in the area and we are not being fully self-supporting if we are relying on one person's personal computer to run our website. It also makes rotation of leadership very difficult because who is going to want to put all that data on their computer. Cost is the big thing – their group's suggestion was to do an special appeal specifically for the computer. If every group donated just \$12 there would be \$3k.
- Cindy (D4) – shouldn't be reliant on just one person and their own personal computer. It should be on its own separate entity with its own computer. The price perhaps could be negotiated, but the need is definitely there.
- Kathleen clarified that the website is backed up on the Cloud so it would continue to exist even if she died. However, there are other things on her computer from the website and there would be an issue getting that as we wouldn't get the computer.
- Deb (D6) – she sees everybody on personal laptops in the room. Her group does not agree with this point. We vote in the various positions, and we know what the requirements are when we take it on. She doesn't feel at this time it is feasible based on our deficit. She isn't sure how much personal stuff is on that computer as she doesn't know what all is entailed in the website coordinator positions. As for the anonymity issue, it is the fault of the person.
- Sharon (D12) – speaks as the previous group records coordinator who has lots of experience. The access database no longer exists. It is all accessible online. No records are stored on the group records coordinator's computer. Could we take that computer and give it to the website coordinator for that use.
- Sue (D16) – information – purchased a refurbished apple computer for about \$500.
- Anthony (Tech coordinator) – spoke to that – he wouldn't recommend buying refurbished, esp. mobile devices as they tend to get a lot of banging around. The lifespan of technology is finite, that's why there is a depreciation line in the budget. We are not discussing a one-time purchase.
- Nicky (D10) – previous website coordinator from 2019-2024 confirms that she totally trusts the skills of the current coordinator, it is not about that. In her opinion, creating a second account is the budget friendly answer. You can toggle between programs within seconds. The larger discussion about the area providing computers for various coordinator roles may be a useful discussion but for another day. Creating a second account would be worth giving a try. For more information, ask Nicky.

- Jeanette (D8) – question – Kathleen mentioned that she could work with an HP laptop, she did a bit of quick calculating, it works out to .20/week/group to spend this money.
- Yanina (D20) – the price of the FileMaker software was listed \$792 with an asterisk that Kathleen was going to investigate a better price, and she just spoke to Kathleen who confirmed she had found something costing approx. \$400 which would be a saving of approx. \$400 so that's another point. Her group also agreed with the idea of an appeal.
- Dave (D14) – technology coordinator mentioned that computers have a service life and we are considering moving the group records coordinator's computer. Has leasing ever been considered? None of the executive could confirm that that had been considered in recent years.

While we waited for a motion from the floor, we took more coordinator reports.

Reports: Coordinators and Others (*reports may occur during other sessions/times*)

- AAPP (Area Alateen Process Person) – position is not filled currently
- Open Lines Coordinator - Loretta V. – has the privilege of taking the cushiest of roles. She is in awe of what the executive and coordinators do. She cuts and pastes. All of the information comes from us. She is hearing that we are not getting information. Open Lines comes out in April, August and December. Through the links of service, the executive, the coordinators and the DRs send the information to Loretta, and she puts it in the Open Lines. She sends it back to the same people and through the links of service, the DRs send it to the GRs and then you get it. If you aren't, it's because it is not coming back from those links. My responsibility as a member, is to read the information! She showed her board, saying this is the level of creativity you need to have to do this. Think about it, it will come up in another couple of years. She is able to tell us that these guys do a lot of work. She has worked with 2 executives as she took on the position last term as the Open Lines coordinator had to step down to take on another role. We have over 300 subscriptions to the electronic version. Openlinesosa@gmail.com
- Public Outreach Coordinator - Diana C. – there was no written report included in your package, so she is giving it verbally. What is going on at WSO re P.O.? WSO is divesting themselves of being the movers of P.O. and it is being moved to the Area Level. Contact her if you need information. If you are in Ont. South and you go on the WSO website and download one of the P.O. materials from the WSO website, you can do that and add your own Area information on it. As long as you are not adding information that is not from a different fellowship, you may use these tools. You can add materials to a clear sealed bag and put it in your doctor's office, anywhere that will take them, or on the bus. Public Outreach doesn't have to be big, flowery and complicated. It doesn't have to be a huge initiative. If you reach one person, that is a big enough goal for anybody in this fellowship.

5:30 – 7:00 Dinner break

7:00 – Reconvened with Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer – Deb. F.

Motion from the floor – moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (DX), the OS Executive do a special appeal to the groups in Ontario South to raise the necessary funds to purchase a designated computer for the use of the OS Website Coordinator.

Discussion to the motion: mover to speaks first

- XX (DX) – believes it is important that the website have its own computer, in keeping with Tradition 7. Obviously, there is a problem with funding it, with the current area funds, and so an appeal to the groups to raise the funds necessary can achieve this. She wanted to have the discussion.
- Donna (D33) – are there any other motions at this time on this item? No.
- Tina (D11) – this was also the response from their group was can't we all contribute to a computer?
- Louise (D22) – we only have one motion, but is it not should we *get* a computer for the website coordinator before we vote on *how* we are doing it?
- Deb (Chair) – we have a motion on the floor, and so we have to vote on it and if it is an inappropriate motion, then hopefully, we'll get a better motion but thank you for bringing it to my attention because I'm tired.
- Kathleen (website coordinator) pointed out that some of the voting members in her district had not returned from dinner break.
- Deb (Chair) – we're doing votes cast and the roll call was going to be done before the election for the Alternate Delegate and to respect everyone's time, everyone was told that 7:00 was the starting time of the session. So again, we will move forward with the motion vote.

Motion from the floor – moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (DX), the OS Executive do a special appeal to the groups in Ontario South to raise the necessary funds to purchase a designated computer for the use of the OS Website Coordinator. Opposed – 36, In favour – 43 – MOTION CARRIED.

Election of Alternate Delegate

Deb F.

- Sharon spoke to the membership about taking on the role – she has been around for a few 24 hours and fulfilled many of the service roles within her group and the Area. A long time ago her sponsor told her she wouldn't be able to keep what she had unless she shared. She feels called to this role and that she will be able to share what she has learned in this role.

Election of the Alternate Delegate results: Sharon elected as our Alternate Delegate by an overwhelming majority.

Reports: Coordinators and Others (*reports may occur during other sessions/times*)

- Trillium Chairperson Report - Shannon K. – shared first a few things about service as she has been hearing a lot about it all day. She started her service journey early as her home group was very active in service. When she arrived, she didn't think she was capable of doing anything. It only took one person to tell her she would be good at it. That was quite a few years ago now and apparently it is still happening as she would not be in this position without her service sponsor. She has already learned so much and it has only just begun. She feels it will be a year of growth between her and her HP. They've just had their second monthly meeting. Trillium will be in June sometime, exact date tbc. Theme: AI-Anon in Action. There are still a couple of committee positions to be filled so please speak to her about that. Shadow Chair for 2025, and actual chair for 2026 is Don, who is here this weekend. He is also building his shadow committee so talk to him if you're thinking about it.
- Website Coordinator - Kathleen S. – she sent out a report with information on what she's been working on and with whom. The biggest thing she's working on is service Sundays, which will be an open meeting every Sunday for 2 hours, if you're interested in learning about or giving service to the website. She has been working with Sharon (previous AAPP) on an online AMIAS certification form. This was described. The police checks are now mostly done online, so it can be sent online. The website survey garnered over 100 responses, results are available and will be sent out through the area secretary. Over 80% thought the website was a valuable resource. Please send group records changes via the form. If you send them via email to her or meeting feedback forms, you will get the group records change form in response. She has been connecting with a lot of districts and if she hasn't with yours, she's coming for you, so be on the lookout for that.

Questions for the coordinator reports:

- None.

Announcements:

- Winner of the silent auction: Judy B., please see Valerie or Deb. Valerie expanded on what the auction was. It was memorabilia from the 1990 International convention, w slogans and pictures. This item is not needed in the archives, so it was auctioned off as a fundraiser.

7:27 – 8:18 Timed Discussion: In-person Assembly with an Electronic Component Deb F.

PURPOSE:

- A set amount of time to discuss a particular topic
- Allows for open communication between membership and leadership, we learn from each other
- Participants become part of the process and many voices are heard
- Concept 4 in action: Participation is the key to harmony
- Discussion without a specific outcome or action

BACKGROUND

- We have experience with virtual-only Assemblies during pandemic shutdowns in 2020 and 2021
- Since, several Items for Consideration related to this topic have been submitted to the Executive
- Greater access to and experience with a multitude of electronic platforms
- Workshop at AWSC 2023: The Future of Electronic Business Meetings (pros and cons were discussed for each of in-person, electronic, and 'hybrid' meetings)
- Ontario South now has a Technology Coordinator

Knowledge based decision making questions were reviewed prior to the discussion. Members were welcomed to the mic for 2 minutes each.

- Kathleen (website coordinator) – speaking on behalf of Carolyn S., D26 as she could not be here in person – due to dwindling attendance at in person assemblies, she feels other options need to be explored. Convening a thought force would allow for this, using KBDM. A few reasons to consider holding a hybrid assembly: 1) pg. 1 of the OSA assembly package states the OSA meeting is an important one, we need and value your participation; 2) assembly is a business meeting, the more

members who attend, the more reflect the group conscience; 3) flexibility and inclusiveness – hybrid would allow anyone to participate, health issues, finances, time and travel would not be issues (as they are this assembly for several members in D26); 4) decisions should not be based on fear of the unknown – there are many factors, pros and cons to be considered, there are many areas that have been holding hybrid Assemblies very successfully for over two years and are more than willing to share their experience; 5) our legacies seem to point us in this direction and particularly Tradition 1, Concepts 4 & 5, Warranties 3 & 5. Therefore, we respectfully request that a thought force be convened to examine the implementation of an In-person Assembly with an Electronic Component.

- Debbie (D31) is not against it in person but is just worried as she knows that hotels will give you cheaper room rates based on the number of hotel rooms booked. If we have an electronic element, it will be more convenient but may be more expensive for the in-person element.
- Tina (D7) – 2 of the 4 groups in their district could not afford to send their GRs to assembly so it would be helpful to them.
- Patty (D4) – is not against it in principle, but the actual experience of hybrid meetings has been so unsatisfactory. The technological challenge would need to be bridged.
- Kathy (D21) – we have a couple of hybrid meetings in our district and certainly there is no way you can replace the in-person component of a meeting. Service is so important, and you cannot replace the in-person element. On the other hand, electronic attendance is better than not going at all. There were a couple of groups in her district that couldn't attend, and it would be good to have their voices. It might be a good idea to try it.
- Barb (D28) – her home group is hybrid – there have been bumps along the way and they have found it very important to have the electronic element as it makes it available. They have gone through some learning and it isn't just about the technology element. Some of the online people come to in person as well. It really takes a work in progress to make sure the ones online are hearing, the ones in person to make sure they speak up. It can be very us and them. She supports the thought force.
- Michelle (D21) – was going to echo some of those thoughts about process and rigor, also hybrid is probably the hardest of the three. They each work well but trying to combine is difficult. Intentionality is required. A thought force may work this stuff out. Perhaps an alternating plan could be considered rather than hybrid.
- Linda (D26) – if a thought force is had then they are the idea makers, then there is a task force, which are the doers. So, 2025 Assembly will likely not be affected. Deb responded that the bid for Kingston has been submitted, it is under review and will be discussed at the next executive meeting which is in November. So she would think that it will not impact 2025 Assembly but she looked to other executive members to confirm and we did.
- Marjorie (D13) – they do have a hybrid meeting, and she finds there are challenges on both sides as their district meeting is online and at that meeting, people who would rather be in person must be encouraged to show up for the online. The hybrid has been challenging as there weren't the required skills. A member reached out to other members to help but it does cost as there are microphones required, the room needs to be set up properly so the people in the room can see the online people. There seems to be a feeling that we have a whole group of people from out of the province whom we would not have met if not for the online meeting.
- Angel (D4) – in other volunteer work she does, they always were in person, during the pandemic they went online, when it ended, they went back to in person but there was an appetite to go online. There are challenges for hearing impaired members. After the meeting, fellowship is mostly none vs. in person when you are reminded by seeing the person you had the thought about and can go talk to them. It is very hard to make that component work, esp. in a large room.
- Di (D9) – have struggled with the number of people after CoVid and have noticed a reduction in donations. When you're online, how do you do your 7th Tradition? People weren't donating much as they don't know how to e-transfer.
- Gwen (D6, Advisor) – to speak to the donation issue, in their group, which was online during the pandemic, they encouraged their members to do e-transfers, and they had a tutorial to show members how. There were months when they actually had more 7th. Wanted a show of hands of people who have been in an online meeting with this many people? Quite a few. With increased numbers, come increased distractions. There are assemblies in the U.S. who are doing it, some are successful, some are not. There is work to be done to see what works and what doesn't, and it cannot be done quickly.
- George (D12) – in 2019 if somebody said to you that the only way you are going to communicate with your grandson is on your tablet you would have thought them mad. If someone said to you today that you could never again facetime your grandson, you would feel like you were missing out. Hybrid has negatives on both sides but none are insurmountable. What is the least bad option for everyone? The slogan is easy does it, not what is the easiest option here.
- Sue (D25) – is not interested in having her image projected so online, can turn it off. If she is in person, in a hybrid meeting, she doesn't want her image broadcast online. When we come here, it is our choice whether to have our anonymity broken or not. There is less choice with this option.
- Sharon (Alt. Delegate) – she was the secretary during those online assemblies and AWSC meetings and found taking the minutes a challenge. A lot of meetings are still in online communities with limited internet. It becomes an issue.
- Loretta (D26) – thinks we've heard a lot of amazing input and supports the thought force where we could thoughtfully compile these thoughts. AI-Anon decisions don't get made fast. The thought force would also survey people who are not here today and bring all the thoughts back in a cohesive, comprehensive way.
- Nicky (D10) – how different your perspective is when on one side of the wall or the other. She moved to the London area a few years ago and really appreciated the online meetings. When she went to the Area, she was part of the physical meeting

and saw the other side and issues she hasn't thought of, such as internet issues, people not being attentive to muting themselves, etc. Her main interest for a thought force would be to explore the practical way to solve the hearing issues, either from bad internet connection or microphone issues.

- Fran (D4) – Assemblies in our WSO can we get any input from those Areas if we do a thought force? Is this going to deteriorate our service roles being filled as it is so well done in person, not so much in electronic.
- Jason shared some insight he gained at WSC – there are some areas doing hybrid, some going electronic 100%, some doing in person only. The electronic one did not have a full slate of coordinators 6 months into their term. He would be happy to reach out to these folks if we decide to do a thought force.
- Annie (D28) – wondering if there is a possibility of a service position of a hybrid coordinator to be in charge of the people online, such as coordinate the communication, such as doing a transcript for example. What technology do we have to overcome that?
- Donna (D33) – one of things that she has been impressed with about this area is that we take our time to make decisions. We did this when discussing electronic meetings, it took time, and we came to a good decision. She would therefore support a thought force.
- Diana (D13) – has found that the level of engagement varies significantly during all online or hybrid. In person, being able to see, hear people, see facial expressions and body language, the level of engagement is much more present than if we didn't have that.
- Anthony (D28) – lots of good information that he normally wouldn't have gotten. 1 – he remembers the enormity of effort in training GRs when we did Assembly and AWSC only. Because there is a steady turnover of GRs there will be an ongoing aspect. 2 – there will be an expense as there would have to be an audio system to tie into the electronic system. We would likely have to have an additional screen to be able to see more people online. The anonymity aspects of people who don't want to be seen is another. For him, rewinding time, when he walked into his first Assembly, it made a huge impression as he realized in a big way he was no longer alone.
- Diana (D22, P.O.) – is getting older and they had a brief discussion at dinner about hearing. She can barely hear people at the mic, she has a really loud voice normally, when she comes to the mic, she has to tone that down. When she goes to a zoom meeting, she can hear perfectly, as she has a headset on. People learn how to speak and share, they don't talk over each other, they sprinkle little hearts when they're happy. A thought force would be good.
- John (D9) – the demand to do events online is going to be extremely increased for business, etc., and the technology is going to improve along with it. The change from 2020 to now is huge, more than 4 years typical development. Zoom and Microsoft are going to have to do things to keep up. If we are willing to do things to take the steps to join in and make use of those improvements, the experience will be better. He attends a meeting with 2 people who basically cannot hear but they can get the meeting because they can read the script that is running. We will get there and meet the needs of AI-Anon and our groups.
- Barb (D4) – with these online meetings, how diligent are people being about getting to the meeting for the entire meeting to hear the discussion and make the choices.
- Deb (chair) reiterated that Jason has referred to stats that we had. Jason (delegate) – doesn't have the stats with him, does know that 2021 was not the lowest ever attended, as he mistakenly said and was corrected. Every 3 years there is an election (of the Executive) and we meet centrally so that it is the least inconvenient for the greatest number of people and to increase participation. So those are usually our highest attended years for Assembly. In 2020, an election year, the attendance numbers were comparable to an East or West year. We noticed that not everyone stayed the entire time. Fatigue caused an afternoon drop-off.
- Fran (D4) – when she came into AI-Anon she was in isolation due to health problems, and then Co-Vid hit and we were all in isolation, when it ended, she went to public health and spoke to them about mental health due to this isolation and talked about people who needed the support of the in person meeting.
- Janet (Treasurer) – reminded us that a lot of us are talking about a meeting, an hour, we are talking about Assembly or AWSC, 12 hours. It's very tiring.

Workshop: CONCEPTS AI-Anon's Best Kept Secret - Jane H.

The workshop leader made the decision to cancel the workshop due to the schedule running late, out of respect of member's time.

Announcements:

- there was to be an Alateen service meeting, an OSAAC meeting, this is cancelled. Judith is hosting an Alateen meeting at 9:00 in the Canatara room on the second floor and all are invited.
- Literature will be available until 10:00 tonight.
- Ask it basket will meet in the Centennial room
- Coordinators will meet in the Campaign room.
- Opportunity for an AI-Anon meeting in the West Hall (this room).

8:00 – 8:35 ENTERTAINMENT (organized by Host Committee)

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 with the Al-Anon Declaration and the Serenity Prayer.

Sunday, October 20, 8:30 a.m.

Opening, Welcome - Deb F.

Traditions – Judy (D4)

Concepts – Steve (D3)

Warranties – Elgin (D2)

Host Committee Announcements & Others Christina L.

- Please return name tag holders with string tucked in. Safe travels home and thanks for being here.

Additional Announcements:

- Evaluation forms at the back, please complete. We do welcome suggestions.
- Items for consideration forms at the back.
- Volunteer for timekeeping for reports – Diana (D)

Ask it Basket: Answers

Committee Volunteers

- Karen (D4) – Is there any literature in Braille? A – books and magazines in recorded form or in braille are delivered to eligible readers by postage free mail. You can go to the WSO app under members w special needs.
- What is the process to recommend a topic for an Al-Anon pamphlet? We have a member who is an incest survivor in an alcoholic home and is having trouble finding literature on this topic in Al-Anon. A – You can make the request to WSO, and you can find more information about that on pg. 112 of the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual.
- How to encourage members to chair meetings? A - Groups at Work, a small booklet publication, P24, has the meeting outline in it. Cost is \$1.75. If every member had one, it would equip them to chair. As they get used to using it during meetings, chairing would become less intimidating. You can invite them to chair, you can sit with them to help them if needed, you can draw up a calendar to sign up for chairing or you can rotate through your members alphabetically.
- Is there any guidance in our literature for addressing pronouns to be respectful and acknowledge our LGBTQ members? A - When following the principle of anonymity, pg. 102 of the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, there is no action required here. It reads, in part, “In Al-Anon/Alateen we share as equals, regardless of social, educational, or financial position.”
- Amanda (D23) – there is a group in my district that meets in a room in a church that has been informed that the church’s insurance company requires the Al-Anon to provide proof of insurance to continue meeting there. How does one apply for insurance and not break anonymity? Could insurance be purchased by the district to keep costs down? A – Q #1, Personal anonymity occurs at the level of press, radio, films & TV, as stated in Tradition 11. This does not pertain to the group’s service requirements such as contracts or accounts. The 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual has a large section regarding the elements of anonymity beginning on Pg. 98. Q #2, The 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual refers to insurance at the group level on Pg. 56, stating a district can be contacted regarding coverage, however it has found to be in the past for policy’s variables to be too wide for a feasible blanket policy to meet each group requirements.
- Why can’t the DR stand as proxy vote for groups that are unable to attend assembly? A – they are able to, as stated in the Area Policy & Guidelines Manual, section 5A, item 15, “A DR/Coordinator/Executive may only vote if they are also a GR or designated by a group to represent them.”
- Are birthday meetings a good idea in Al-Anon? A – it would be group autonomy, whether your group would like to celebrate anniversaries or birthdays within the group or not.
- Andrea (D10) – why is the second phrase of the serenity prayer not recited? A – the three obstacles to success which states no particular form of religion. The first part (of the prayer) just references to God, which is kind of universal and we don’t go into the second part of it. Suggested meeting readings, Tradition 2, every group is autonomous to decide how they want to do that and Steps 2 & 3, God is universal, especially as we understood him, needs to be taken into consideration.
- Our service manual does not give enough importance to a home group. There seem to be more home groups in our district than members to go to. Therefore, some people end up doing service for other groups – double headed management. A – Multiple Group Membership and Office-Holding, pg. 86 in the 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, states “Al-Anon members who attend several groups *regularly* and *participate fully* in all of them may consider themselves members of all

those groups. Most members, however, consider one group their home group.” It was pointed out that no member may be group representative of more than one group at the same time and you can only vote at the area level for one group so you don’t vote for 2 groups. So that is the important thing but feel free to serve in as many groups as you like.

- As a new GR, I was not aware of the set donations to OSA and WSO – where is the information of what every group’s duties and responsibilities are? Our group needs more explicit instructions. A - It falls into the links of service, just being here (at assembly) is so important because we get those pieces that we maybe don’t get in just attending our group meetings and so you can see how from the WSO to the Delegate, to the Executive, to the DRs to the GRs to the group, the information should trickle down and then the group member’s needs should trickle up in that same way of communication. All the information is there but sometimes it’s just awareness and being exposed to it and that is your links of service.
- Karen (D4) – Part 2 of her questions was: what is Al-Anon doing to support transgender members? A - Pg. 33 of the 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual says that we are allowed to have a meeting with a specific focus, such as adult children of alcoholics, but the understanding is that the meeting is open to everyone.
- Sue (D10) – how does literature get to be “conference approved literature”? Such as the movie “When Love is not Enough”. Could this material be used in an Al-Anon meeting? Or the Recovery Show Podcast? A – No. If they are not conference approved, we are not supposed to be using them in a meeting. Pg. 114 of the 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual – Use of Material at Al-Anon Meetings was read in part. Also reference a pamphlet that states only Al-Anon spoken here. What does that mean? It means, if it is not conference approved, it should not be discussed in the meeting, but can be discussed in fellowship. 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual pg. 112 – How Material Receives Conference Approval, to pg. 118, talks about the process.
- P.O. - first part of the tradition states “our Public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion” but public outreach IS promotion. Then it goes on the talk about personal anonymity. So, does anyone get confused about public outreach going against Al-Anon’s or our personal anonymity? A – referring to Tradition 11, the 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, pg. 119 – 128 covers public outreach in depth – part of it was read – “We will fulfill this primary purpose ...” followed by the definitions of these sometimes controversial terms. Pg. 124, Outreach is Based on Attraction, Rather than Promotion. Regarding the part about personal anonymity, pg. 125, Anonymity at Local Events for Individuals and Service Arms was read in part. Pg. 44 Public Outreach in the Community, Step Twelve, reads, in part, “We always protect our members’ anonymity, but the Al-Anon/Alateen *program* is not anonymous.”
- Gwen (D6 – Advisor) – wanted to thank the folks who participated, if you’ve never done an Ask-it-Basket you can’t understand why it was so funny. It was a very late night. The answers go into the minutes, (not Open Lines). Perhaps you would like to go back to your own groups and create your own Ask-It-Baskets there. It’s a great learning experience.

Delegate’s Update

Jason W.

- Panel 64. Jason, as Delegate, is a member of Panel 64. What does that mean? This is the 64th World Service Conference (WSC). A picture of the members of his panel, which included some Canadian members. Ontario is actually split into 3 Areas, Ontario South, Ontario North, Ontario Northwest.
- All panels come up with a slogan. Panel 62 has a tagline “Panel 62, It started with a Shoe” – theirs ended up being “Panel 64: In Service We Soar!” When you go up to the mic, you say your name, your Area, your Panel number and tagline.
- The World Service Conference Summary, available at al-anon.org for free to be printed, gives you details on the conference and what happened in those 4 days as it is not possible to give this in a couple of hours at Assembly (and AWSC).
- Served on a Thought Force related to archives. This work will result in a presentation at WSC 2025.
- Regional Trustee – Central Canada – Debbie P. has been elected for a second three-year term. The process of how this happens was explained briefly.
- Jason also serves on a Regional Committee on Trustees as well. They were to review resumes over the summer, but none came in.
- Four-day conference trial – a 3-year trial. The intention was to increase accessibility for younger members, i.e., not retired, work full time, so they need to take fewer days off. (Used to do a 5-day conference.) Despite the intention to increase accessibility in theory, in practice you need to take off the same amount of time. So, beginning in 2026, the conference will go back to a 5-day conference after the 3-year trial period.
- What your Delegate has been up to:
- Spoke at Ontario Regional Conference (ORC) on a panel about how can Al-Anon Support Alateen.
- Spoke at Peterborough Al-Anon Day.
- Prepared for and attended WSC.
- Concept study with his service sponsor and another member.
- Step study with a group outside of Ottawa.

- Spoke at a couple of AFG Anniversaries. Guest at Kingsville AA Roundup. Spoke at Oakville Friday a.m. anniversary.
- Appointed the Interim Alternate Delegate.
- Began search for the Area Alateen Process Person. Coordinators are invited by the Delegate.
- Please invite me places* - district meetings, roundups/Al-Anon Days, service workshops. *I recently started a new job and have less vacation time 😊
- Please send me your district meetings, it helps me stay in touch with your groups and keep informed about what's going on. Show of hands of how many are connected on AFG Connects – not many. Coordinators, most of the executive, & DRs, have access to AFG Connects, which is an online message board, on which you can post and interact with other members in the same service roles all over the world service conference structure, Canada, the U.S. and Bermuda. It can be a very valuable tool for sharing information about and learning about what's going in other areas and perhaps helping other members. Regarding the district minutes, that helps Jason stay informed so that he may be able to offer what is working (or ask questions about issues) to other members.
- The hat! Pic of Debbie P. (Regional Trustee – Central Canada), and Jason wearing a hat. The story is ... way back when, Ontario used to be all one area. Ontario elected our first delegate in 1961, her name was Edith D. A decision was made at that assembly to purchase Edith a new hat to go to New York (which is where the WSC was held), as a token of gratitude for going. It was the 1960's, a very different time. Jason found this bit of history in our Area Guidelines and Policies Manual and shared it at an executive meeting. Then, one of the members of the executive, emailed everyone of the other members except Jason, saying she was out shopping and found this hat, here's a photo, what do you say I get Debbie P., our Regional Trustee, to present Jason with it at conference. This is the photo after receiving the hat. To be clear, the area did not pay for the hat! The sequel is, he walked into the executive meeting in July on Saturday morning and every other member is wearing an identical hat!
- One of his hopes is to share the joy of service, if this was just business all the time, it would be a lot harder to get members to join us in this journey and to get them to stick around. Showed the photo of the pen, with the slogans on it, and shared one of the quotes shared by the Executive Director of the WSO, which resonated with him was, "That's why we're all here, because we're not all here!"
- Shared two funny stories - I risked my life for Waffle House!, trying to get across a highway like street with a broken walk signal. And "Pffft! There's no mermaids!" at the Norfolk airport. (You'll have to ask Jason for these stories if you weren't there.)
- If you have been feeling alone this weekend, and haven't made a connection yet, "this is your place and these are your people".

Reports Continued

- Literature Office Committee Report - Gwen D. – met briefly last Sunday and again on Friday night. As a committee they take care of the business of the LDC. Share where the office is going, how it is doing financially, etc. Holiday closures, Dec. 19 – 1:00 p.m. reopens Jan. 13 – 10:00 a.m. Prior to that a closure on Nov. 7 1:00 p.m. reopen Nov. 19 – 10:00 a.m. Please note that order forms can still be sent at this time.
- Literature Distribution Centre Report - Linda P. – a few things, clarification on JotForm. Orders can be submitted that way. Please still don't send payment until she confirms there is the stock. The JotForm is not connected to the inventory system. Linda doesn't want the money until she knows the item is in stock – she will let you know and then you can pay. Every time the literature person in your group changes, please provide their contact information to Linda. This has nothing to do with group records changes. It is not the CMA (Current Mailing Address). She needs to know to whom the package is to be mailed and who to contact if there is a problem. If an item is returned to LDC because it went to the wrong person, you will be charged for postage twice. The current service manual has had a few changes. This address will get you to the place to find the updates. The comic book for Alateen and the pamphlet "Al-Anon is for Gays and Lesbians" were asked to be taken off the shelves and shredded a few years ago.

Manual updates are available to print and staple into your 2022-2025 books. Go to:
al-anon.org / Member Resources / manual and guidelines. Scroll down to "V3 replacement & V4 replacement" and print.

Questions & Answers on any of the coordinator reports:

- Joanne (D17) - was shocked when she read the financial statements for LDC. Now there is a reserve of \$30k, (vs. \$15k a few years ago). We pay the American price for literature coming from the WSO as it is being sold in American \$, so that is not a factor, but the literature comes to LDC and then we have costs associated with that, outlined on the expense sheet, so that has to be added to the price of the book. So, we are actually paying more for the book because we have an LDC than if we bought it from the WSO. If we have made \$30k and she knows we need a prudent reserve for costs, it seems that either the prices are too high or it is a revenue stream, so recognize it as a revenue stream in Ontario S. and transfer maybe half, or 2/3rds of that revenue into the OSA. Why do we have a \$30k reserve and what are the plans for it?

Linda – (LDC manager) – A little background, the LDC transferred from the previous location a few years ago she had reported at the 2016 assembly that there was probably enough funds in the account left to be able to run the office for 1 year. When the money came to Linda, when she opened the current LDC, it was shy of \$15k. They had to figure out how to make the prices right. At that point there was one Alateen book that was being sold for .10 above U.S. \$ so it was definitely not being paid for properly. We asked the membership to please be conscientious and understand that it was going to take a little while to figure out how to bring the prices in line. When you figure out apples to oranges now there is very little price difference. Remember that when the literature comes to the LDC, there also needs to be a bit of a buffer for the LDC's operating costs. Linda doesn't know where this member was the amount of \$15 reserve, because for the first few years there was no reserve in the balance sheet at all. It was just the money that we kept in the account. The LOC (Literature Office Committee) made a decision a few years ago to have a reserve of \$30k. It was the first time a reserve showed on the budget, and a budget is provided every year. The prudent reserve is supposed to be 6 months to a year of operating costs. That \$30k would probably run the office for 6 months, if there were no revenue stream. Expenses have gone up and the cost of the books went up a couple of years ago too, and some of the pamphlets. If the LOC or the OSA decides that we need to transfer money from that reserve, we could, but that would mean the LDC wouldn't have a prudent reserve. An example, when the new daily reader came out last year, of course, there were printing delays. So, she had on her desk, 3 orders from your groups for what amounted to approx. 500 books. When they were available again and those cases of books were ordered, there was not enough in the operating budget to pay for them. She would have had to go into the reserve. But because she knew that they were on the way, she started calling all the people who had pre-ordered them and asking if they could get her the money as soon as they arrived she would ship them. So, the payments from the groups allowed the books to be paid for, without going into the reserve. She does not determine what happens with the money between the LOC and the OSA. If you look at how much it has cost to buy the literature. It is almost \$65k in literature, this doesn't include costs for phone, etc. She does the work, the LOC makes the decisions.

- Colleen (D6) – asked Linda to reiterate the information required when there is a change to the literature person at a group?
- A – every time a new person in a group takes over the role of literature person, she needs their full name, a full mailing address, their preferred email and a phone number. You don't have to use the JotForm, you can email, you can call on the phone. However, if you don't use the JotForm, you need to provide the district number, group name, and a group number is helpful, especially when there are more groups in that district with the same group name. If it is paid for by e-transfer she needs a password. They do not do direct deposit. This helps alleviate any confusion between orders being paid for this way.

Open Mic

- Deb (chair) – prior to this part, this would be the time where she would read and have recorded in the minutes any motions that may have been received, that did not pertain to any of the discussion topics, and she did not receive any. So we will proceed with the Open Mic portion of the meeting. Sharings are limited to 2 minutes.
- Di (D16) – after last year's assembly, a thought force was formed to review the voting and motion procedures in Ont. S. Earlier this year the executive sent out a newsletter which informed the membership that the executive had accepted all the recommendations of the thought force. In order to implement the recommendations in a timely fashion, the executive acted as the task force. In the past few years at Assembly, one of the major concerns expressed by the membership was the fact that not all motions made and seconded were being placed before the assembly for consideration as the chair alone made the decision of which motions were presented. I was very grateful to have the opportunity to be part of the thought force that reviewed the motion process, and it was my recollection that to deal with this concern that the thought force made recommendations to change the motion process. One of the recommendations was that all motions presented on a discussion item would be shared with the assembly, and if multiple motions were presented, the assembly would decide which motion to hear first. This ensured that all members' voices were being heard. With this in mind, I have 2 questions for the executive; 1) why on page 11 of the motion process included with the assembly package, did the executive not take the thought force's recommendations and left in the line that said "the fact that a motion has been made and seconded does not place it before the assembly for consideration as the chair alone can do that", and 2) members in her district have asked when the recommendations of the thought force on the voting and motion procedures would be shared with the members at large. Previously, thought force recommendations, such as the one for electronic meetings in Ont. S., were all shared with the members.
- Donna (D33, Chair GTAIS) – GTAIS covers D16 - 23, 100 groups in the greater Toronto area. They coordinate Public Outreach. This is done with an answering service, they do the TTC campaign, the Pri-Med conference, also have a hospitality suite and a literature table at the ORC. All of this takes money, and they rely on their 100 groups whom they serve. This does not mean that there are 100 members in attendance at each monthly meeting (first Tuesday night) but there are only about 15. The manual suggests that the Alt. GR be the group's AIS rep. She is encouraging us to take this message back to our groups and also if our groups could contribute to any of the costs mentioned, that would be great. Secondly, their rotation of leadership happens in January, they are trying to get back aligned with assembly and GR turnover of leadership.

GTAIS chair, Alt. chair, treasurer and secretary will all be turning over. If you want to get involved, you can go onto the GTAIS website or reach out to Donna.

- Deb (chair) addressed the question about the motion process and review committee or thought force that was formed. She also wanted to acknowledge that the item for consideration that Di submitted with some of the same questions has been received and is on the agenda for the Nov. executive meeting to review, address and provide a response to you, and will also be published in Open Lines because you gave permission for that. With respect to the motion process and page 11 that was included in the information package, I didn't read the document word for word, and I did expand on the fact that a motion has been made and seconded does not place it before the assembly for consideration as the chair alone can do that, because if, for example, it is a new motion not related to the discussion topics here at assembly, it will be read, recorded in the minutes, and reviewed at the next executive meeting and moved forward to AWSC. So, I did address that concern with my explanation of the process, so while the words might not have been in this document, this document is an information sheet, it is not a procedure per se, and we're always encouraged to rely on our Area Policy Manual, specifically for guidelines and policies. Section 5A under Assembly and AWSC where motions are a factor are under review, so we're always looking at ways to improve the area policy manual, so I just wanted to let everyone know that we are working on it. The second question about recommendations from the review committee and whether they are made known to the members, she is not sure, and we can take that back to the executive. This was the first time she sat on such a committee and learned a lot but did want to reiterate that the recommendations were accepted by the executive committee and her understanding of a thought force is that they don't make decisions and don't provide directives but rather make suggestions and those suggestions were all presented by the chairperson of the review committee at an executive meeting and they were accepted, so we are in process reviewing the Area Policy Manual. If anyone continues to have concerns, please feel free to email any of us at any time.
- Sue (D6) – was at her family Thanksgiving past weekend and remembers thinking she had nothing to add as their conversations were nothing she could relate to. It made her feel stupid, a childhood feeling. She comes here, and she gets to be Sue, she gets to make mistakes, she gets to feel bad about herself, feel loved, feel safe. This is the feeling she takes away every assembly and meeting. If you feel this way too, you are in the right place, like the sign said, “this is your place and these are your people”.
- Deb (D6) – question on computer money – where do we send it, so it doesn't get mixed in with other contributions? Deb, Chair – great question, it needs to be figured out. We will discuss at the executive meeting. Deb (D6) wanted to comment that these people at assembly are our family, she is so grateful for this program and feels indebted to it. Thanks to everyone on the executive and everybody who does the group work and get your teens into Alateen!
- Kay-Lynne (D31) – I'm the black sheep of my family and when I came to Al-Anon I found the rest of my flock. Two years ago, she was fighting coming to Assembly and it was God who put her into this GR position and also God who helped her start the Saturday women's meeting. She lost a lot in becoming a GR but what she gained is so much more. Wanted to thank all of us on the executive because she can tell we gave our hearts to the job, and also all of the members in attendance.
- Shannon (D6) – if anyone has any questions about Trillium the email is osatrillium@gmail.com and she still has some free pens to give away there.
- Deb (chair) – answered the question about where we will get all the information that we have been filled with at this meeting. In your package, pg. 5, you will find the information on what is next.

Closing

Deb F. – closed with the Al-Anon Declaration and the Serenity Prayer.

2024 Assembly Highlights

Motions passed:

- Moved by XX (DX) (verbal), seconded by XX (DX), to accept the voting procedures as explained.
- Moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (DX) to accept minutes as amended.
- Moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (DX) that we approve the 2025 budget.
- Moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (DX) that we accept that adding “in the event the OSAAC ceases to function, temporarily or permanently, all OSAAC funds will be transferred to the OSA Treasurer to be held in trust.” To section 11H, page 1 of 3, #3 Managing OSAAC Funds.
- Moved by XX (DX), seconded by XX (DX), the OS Executive do a special appeal to the groups in Ontario South to raise the necessary funds to purchase a designated computer for the use of the OS Website Coordinator.

Financial information for your Group:

- The 2024 Budget for Ontario South relies on an estimation of donations of \$174.57 / group / year.
- The 2024 Budget for the WSO relies on an estimation of donations of \$440.85 CAD / group / year.

Sharon R. elected as Alternate Delegate

Request from Jason W, Delegate

- Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) remains open. Please consider this important service opportunity.

Job description can be found in the Ontario South Policies & Guidelines Manual:

<https://al-anon.alateen.on.ca/area-policy-manual/>

Other Resources:

- Delegate’s Report will be posted here <https://al-anon.alateen.on.ca/delegates-corner/>
- Groups can purchase the summary of the 2024 WSC from the Literature Distribution Centre