

Open Lines

Ontario South Assembly Newsletter

<http://al-anon.alateen.on.ca/>

August 2019

Volume 41 Issue 2

Statement of Purpose

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

Subscription Rates:

If you wish to receive a copy in the mail, subscription rates for copies mailed in Canada are \$4.50 (1 year) and \$8.00 (2 years). Please send a request for NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS / RE-NEWALS to: openlinesosa@gmail.com.

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Quick Links for Ontario South

There are some common forms that groups and members are asked to fill out all the time. I have made the following links available for you. To access these forms hold your control key and click on the underlined words. A new window will open and your document will be there. Be sure to click ok to the warning you will get about unsafe documents.

[Group Records Change Form](#)

[Donation form](#) make cheques payable to Ontario South Assembly and send to P.O. box 1151, Guelph, ON, N1H 6N3

[Form C for SAMS](#)

Literature Order Form printable (link available in December issue)

Literature Order Form fillable (link available in December issue)

Al-Anon Declaration

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

Districts in Ontario South

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

[Ontario South Website](#)

Delegate Report for August 2019 Open Lines

World Service Conference Related

- ◇ Attended the 2019 World Service Conference (WSC) in Virginia Beach
- ◇ Participated in Canadian Delegate's Meeting prior to Conference
- ◇ During Conference, I participated in the Conference Committee on Trustees (CCT) and the Regional Committee on Trustees (RCT)
- ◇ Assigned as a mentor to a Delegate from the Atlantic Provinces for the CCT
- ◇ When relevant, relayed information from WSO to AWSC (Area World Service Committee) members
- ◇ Sent report to the Canadian Delegate's Newsletter (Can-Del-Light)
- ◇ Participated in a call from my Trustee, Terri M. regarding the April 2019 Chairperson of the Board Letter
- ◇ Updating AWSC Roster for Ontario South
- ◇ Continued to read My Communities on AFG Connects and responded as necessary

Ontario South Related

- ◇ Read and responded to District Minutes sent to me
- ◇ Passed on any non-Al-Anon member emails requesting information to the Alternate Delegate
- ◇ Attended and gave my WSC report at AWSC
- ◇ Chaired the Literature Office Committee Meeting at AWSC
- ◇ Continue to respond to emails from Al-Anon Members
- ◇ Asked to express greeting and brief report from WSC at London's Al-Anon Day in May
- ◇ Spoke in May, in Ottawa
- ◇ Sent my report to the Open Lines Coordinator

Sue G

August 2019 Forum/Alternate Delegate Report – Open Lines

Hello Ontario South, Area 86 Members,

I hope that everyone is seizing the opportunity to enjoy this beautiful gift of summer.

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meeting held in Oshawa this past May.

Being able to participate with District Representatives, Area Coordinators, AIS and Your Executive as we all come together in an effort to share / exchange information is so rewarding. I enjoy it all. I feel so blessed to be a part of this incredible program and to continually be challenged to learn and to grow spiritually, emotionally and mentally. The best news is that the entire time that we are there we are focused on You the members of Al-Anon Ontario South.

As the Alternate Delegate I chaired a meeting and I gave a presentation "How Ontario South Serves Your Group and You. If you would like more information please talk to your District Rep. I also chaired a meeting with your Area Coordinators. It's a terrific opportunity for us to get together and share our triumphs, our challenges and solutions. By the time this Open Lines is published I will have attended the Area 86 Executive meeting.

As the Forum Coordinator I do my best to share any new information I have with you.

It is important to continue to hold writing workshops and to encourage and perhaps even challenge each other to submit writings to the Forum. Last year we had submission from Ontario South in almost every issue of the Forum. Don't forget that you could also submit a photos as long as they do not reveal faces.

I am grateful to have been invited to a couple of districts to speak or to do a workshop. I am uplifted by your encouragement your love and your kindness. I'm here for you.

I end my report with a familiar request;

When you are out and about please remember to take some Al-Anon literature with you and leave it behind. It could be a meeting list or a Forum or an Al-Anon pamphlet. Remember that this is a beautiful act of service that affects the future of Al-Anon. Let it begin with You - Be the one who shares Hope !

I remain, Yours in Service

Forum Coordinator/Alternate Delegate, OSA

Gwen D, Grateful member of Al-Anon Works AFG, London ON

ONTARIO SOUTH

LITERATURE OFFICE COMMITTEE UPDATE

JULY 2019

- **LDC SUMMER CLOSURE**

The Literature Distribution Centre Office will be closed as of Thursday, July 11th @3:00pm and will reopen Monday August 19th at 8:30 am.

(While the office is closed, orders can be sent but will not be processed until the office reopens.)

- **ASSEMBLY 2019 LITERATURE PRE-ORDER CUT OFF DATE**

Literature can be pre ordered for pick up at our Assembly Meeting to avoid the cost of shipping. Orders including payment must be received by the LDC by September 26th at 3:00pm to take advantage of this opportunity.

- **DISCONTINUED LITERATURE**

Our Literature Office Committee made the decision to honour the recent request from WSO and our LDC will discontinue the sale of the service pamphlet Al Anon Welcomes Gays and Lesbians (S-70) and the piece of Conference Approved Literature (CAL) If Your Parents Drink Too Much (P-22).

They will be removed from the LDC order form. The updated form will posted on the Ontario South Website and in the August 2019 issue of Open Lines.

Debbie P.

Literature Office Committee Chairperson

debbieturnitover@hotmail.com

EVEN AFTER REPEATED ATTEMPTS, I WAS UNABLE TO INCLUDE THE UPDATED ORDER FORMS IN THIS ISSUE OF OPEN LINES. I WILL UPDATE THE ORDER FORMS IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE WITH LINKS TO THE WEBSITE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING. Colleen

Literature Distribution Report August 2019

Hello Ontario South,

Finally summer is here and I personally am hoping it stays for a bit. The office will be starting summer closure Thursday July 11th at 3 and reopening at 8:30 on Monday Aug.19th. Upon reopening I will work to clear up all orders and inquiries as quickly as possible. Feel free to leave a detailed message or an e-mail for me to look into when I re open.

I try monthly to send a CAL blurb out on our literature to give a bit of insight into what the pamphlets contain. This is sent through the area secretary to your DR who in turns sends it to your GR for your group. I have heard from groups that they are enjoying this and some read a bit at each meeting over the month until it is done and some say they have started a folder with them so members can have a little look if they are searching for something particular to their current needs. I include blurbs on Alateen literature because it is not a separate program but in fact a part of ours specific to younger people who prefer to go to them rather than a traditional Al-Anon meeting. Because it is the same program many of their pieces of literature are wonderful for our own recovery. A favourite of many Al-Anon members is the S-6, Daily Checklist of myself.

For groups wishing to order for Assembly pick up you may already know orders must be in and paid for by Sept.26th at 3. If there is no payment by then I am sorry but the order can't come to Assembly. Also please make sure I have full contact information even on these orders. If anything is on backorder at the time the order is placed it will be sent to the person I have on file who may in fact no longer live there, be a part of your group etc. This lack of current information has caused some problems for delivery so please add the info on.

Finally the WSO has discontinued two pieces of CAL, P-22 If your Parent Drinks too Much and S-70 Al-Anon Welcomes Gays and Lesbians. The S-70 will have an updated piece of literature coming in the future but as of now it is not available. The updated order lists have been sent to Open Lines, to the Area Website and will also come to your DRs with the literature blurb for July. Please destroy any dated prior to this to avoid confusion.

In service,
Linda

July 11, 2019

Conference Members,

The 2019 Road Trip! registration is now open.

Visit www.al-anon.org/roadtrip to register online, or download and mail the attached form.

We hope to see you in Seattle 19 October 2019!

Yadi McC

Bilingual Administrative Assistant (Spanish)

WSO

Literature Coordinator Report for Open Lines

Hello Ontario South members. I hope you are enjoying the gifts of lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer. A reminder - that if you would like me to display our literature at your events - let me know. Another reminder - If your district is interested in hosting a writing workshop-let me know. If I am available and it is within a 2 hour driving radius - I will be happy to take part. I was happy to have the opportunity to display our literature at our local AA / Al-Anon Kawartha conference in June. District 17 has invited me to conduct a "Writers Workshop" on September 21st in Brampton. I am looking forward to my involvement with this. Spending time with other Al-Anon members is always a bonus of service. Hope to see a lot of you at Assembly in October.

Mary Ellen B, OS Area Literature Co-Ordinator

Public Outreach Report

Poster Contest. Poster Contest. Poster Contest

Dear Members,

This is a great opportunity for the fellowship, to have members come together to create posters for Public Outreach. They can then be brought to Assembly in October. I am hoping to have a table set up so we can display the posters. I shall have containers and tickets available so members can pick their favourites.

They will then be sent to the World Service Office (W.S.O) WSO will need to review them in order that the Al-Anon\Alateen public outreach message has been preserved, and that there are no copyrights infringements, for example the Al-Anon logo is copyright protected by the WSO.

I spoke with WSO and the member guided me to page 120 and 121 of the Service Manual, for the guidelines for posters. She also suggested not use any images from the internet, even though they may not say so, many of them have copyrights.

Gather members and brainstorm ideas to come up with a poster or posters, in my experience that will get the creative ideas flowing, you don't have to be artistic to come up with ideas. It can be a group project, a District project; however you would like to do it, as we all know there are no rules in Al-Anon, just suggestions.

With it being a public outreach for the Area may I suggest that the contact information be the Area Website along with the WSO 1-800 # and perhaps the WSO website.

Let have lots and lots and more and more posters for our Area to help get the Al-Anon\Alateen message out, so we can help strangers, find friends, who can then become family, AFG.

Trusting in God's plan

Kristine B, PO Coordinator

Supportive Al-Anon Members

(SAMs) Certification

Area 86

- * Complete a [SAM Screening Application and Certification](#) form.
- * You will need a police record check including vulnerable sector screening from your local police station, in person or on-line.

Processing fees:

- Some municipalities may reduce or eliminate the processing fee if a verification letter is provided **at the time of the record check**.
- If this applies to you, you may request a letter from the Area Chair including your full legal name. Requests can be provided to Area Chair, Jason W jasonww@rogers.com.
- Your District or the Area may reimburse you for any expenses.
 - ◇ Complete the [Area expense](#) form
 - ◇ Completed forms can be mailed to the Area Treasurer at:
Ontario South Treasurer
P.O. Box 1151 Guelph, Ontario
N1H 6N3
- * Provide your **police record check** and **completed application** to your District Representative (DR), in a sealed envelope.
- Your DR will complete and submit the form to the Area Alateen Process Person for processing.

Should you require any assistance please contact:

Area Alateen Process Person
aapp.ontariosouth@gmail.com

Sandy O

Open Lines Report August 2019

I discovered at AWSC that I had missed the GRs who wish to receive a paper version of Open Lines. I will be sending out the April 2019 and the August 2019 editions in the mail to these members. If any members do not wish to receive a paper copy or would prefer to receive an electronic copy, please send an email to Open Lines at openlinesosa@gmail.com and, in addition, please send an email to Group Records at grprec@hotmail.com. I apologize for the delay in getting information out to all GRs.

Some GRs do not wish to receive a copy of Open Lines. This will be addressed this issue as well.

Yours in service,
Colleen K

Chairperson Report August 2019

Hello my fellow members,

I hope you are keeping well, and enjoying this summer. Here in Ottawa, it seemed that winter would never leave, but now summer has arrived and then some. I am grateful for friends who have pools and air conditioning.

This year's Area World Service Committee meeting involved lots of good discussions, particularly around the nomination of a candidate for Regional Trustee from our Area. The discussion was a good reminder for me about how I can accept an outcome I may not personally like, when we follow our Al-Anon procedures and stick to principles.

I am happy to say that work is already under way for Assembly 2020, which will be in the central part of our Area. Stay tuned for details.

Your Executive and I are putting the finishing touches on your Group Representatives' packages for Assembly 2019, in Woodstock. Keep an eye out for that information, which will be coming shortly.

If you are a District Representative with potential Supportive Al-Anon Members who need a letter from the Area to obtain their Police Records Check at a volunteer rate, please remember that I need the full legal name of the person applying. The letter I send out must have the member's name printed on it; I cannot send out blank letters.

I look forward to seeing you at Assembly in Woodstock!

Yours in Service,
Jason W,
Ontario South Assembly Chairperson

District 17 Open Lines Report for July 2019

District 17, with ten (10) Al-Anon groups and one Alateen group, offers both daytime and evening meetings. We celebrated four anniversaries in the past few months – Acton AFG 28 years, Milton Hope for Today 13 years, Brampton Serenity 30 years and Brampton Renewed Hope for Tomorrow 21 years.

Our Public Outreach committee is active with our display boards being used at ORC. Alateen packages were mailed to the guidance department of 20 high schools in Brampton. We were invited to the mental health fair of one high school where we brought our display, pamphlets and snacks. Dozens of teens visited the booth as well as people from other booths.

We are having a writing workshop on September 21. The workshop is an opportunity to learn about what the World Service Office (WSO) seeks for publication. Participants will get a chance to try writing a short piece about how Al-Anon/Alateen has made a difference in their lives. Our hope is that some pieces will be sent to WSO for possible inclusion in the Forum, a new daily reader or other conference approved literature (CAL). The workshop runs from 1:00 to 2:30 PM at Augsberg Lutheran Church, 224 Mill St. S. Brampton. The Ontario South literature coordinator is leading the workshop. We hope to see you there.

Writers' Workshop



If you have ever considered writing about your Al-Anon journey, this is your opportunity to work on it in a cooperative group setting!



Augsberg Lutheran Church, 224 Mill Street South, Brampton
Saturday, September 21st, 2019 from 1:00 until 2:30 PM.

There will be a \$5.00 cover charge for the event.

Questions - email joannegdr17@outlook.com



It works if YOU work it!

Early Bird Draw
tickets sold by
July 15th

**COME
CHECKOUT
OUR EXCITING
NEW CONTENT
FOR 2019**

Doors open:
Fri. Aug 9th @ 6 pm
Sat. Aug 10th @ 8:30

Conference w potluck lunch \$20
Banquet \$30
Both \$50

A HIGHER POWER
CONFIDENCE
SUPPORT
LIVING YOUR LIFE
CHOICES
SELF-ESTEEM
COURAGE
HEALTHIER ATTITUDE

The LVIV Hall
38 Lviv Blvd

*Please come out
& bring a
friend!*

2019 Lakeshore Districts
A.A. Conference
with Al-Anon Participation



August 24th at Lost Villages
 16361 Fran Laflamme Dr,
 Long Sault, ON K0C 1P0



2nd Annual Al-Anon Family Fun Day!



Al-Anon, Alateen, with AA participation



Opening Welcome @ 1 pm
 Speakers Throughout the Day
 Potluck at 4:30 BBQ
 7th Tradition



Live Entertainment



* Bring Your Own Chairs*

Contact Linda C for More Info: 613-330-1392



DISTRICT 13 AL-ANON DAY



Reflections AFG
St. Alfred's Church
272 Vine St.
St. Catharines, ON
L2M 4G1

Date: Saturday, September 21, 2019
Time: 10 am to 3 pm

50-50 DRAW

Gift Basket Draw

Theme: Slogans

Al-Anon, Alateen, & AA Speakers: TBA

Bring a dish or/& a friend!

Please join us for fellowship, fun & laughter!

Loyalist District 31
43rd Annual Day of Al-Anon
(with A.A. and Alateen participation)



*Just for
Today*

*Just for
Tonight*



October 5, 2019 from 8:30A.M - 4:00P.M

Crossroads United Church 690 Sir John A MacDonald Blvd Kingston, ON K7M 1A2

Please join us for a wonderful day of Al-Anon Fellowship

(7th Tradition - Lunch & Refreshments Provided)

Go Green - Please bring your own reusable bottle & mug

Greater Toronto Al-Anon/Alateen Information Services

**WE DO IT
ONE DAY AT A TIME!**



The family disease of alcoholism knows no boundaries

Invite a PROFESSIONAL DAY

St. Ansgar's Lutheran Church
1498 Avenue Rd

SATURDAY – OCTOBER 5TH, 2019

* Registration 9:00am ** START: 9:30am

Al-Anon

Alateen

With A.A. Participation

Please RSVP: gtais.professional@gmail.com

