

**Area Alateen Report to Assembly**  
October 26-28 2012, Ottawa Ontario

First item on my list is to THANK all those Al-Anon Members who took the time to register as a SAM (Supportive Al-Anon Member)/Sponsor. Alateen cannot happen without your support. I would also like to thank our Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) for keeping me connected to you. She works so hard to keep the mounds of paperwork organized and up to date. I am grateful for her dedication to Alateen and our newfound friendship.

I wish to welcome, 2 new Alateen Groups to Ontario South, in Wiarton "Teens for Alateen" and in London "Teens who make a difference Alateen". We are excited to meet you soon.

I will address the Alateen Unity Conference issue. There was no Unity again this year. We did have a bid from, Judith W, Wendy L. The location was a public campground, with our own private area. The cost to rent tents and chairs for outside meetings is expensive; we were not clear how many Alateen would need accommodations and supplies to camp, so we would have to depend on Al-Anon and AA members to help a lot. We would need to buy, refrigerate and cook all the food outside, a huge task!!?? As we know, AA and Al-Anon answer the call for assistance for Alateen. Some of the SAMs who responded to my request for a group conscience in this matter either couldn't commit to the Unity personally (didn't have camp experience or didn't like the idea of camping) but also felt being that close to the public made it more difficult to keep the conference as safe as we would like. We did look into a scout camp which had 2 large cabins, sleeping up to 65?? They had indoor plumbing; big kitchens and one had a large room holding 100 people. (For daytime attendees as well). I put in a request for these 2 buildings (which were available) via the website, the response was to come in about 2 weeks. We decided to send a flyer with all the details so that Ontario South Alateen could mark the date and make arrangements for travel. It took a couple of days of hard work to get all this together and the flyer was sent to the Area secretary to be emailed out to the Area. The VERY next day I had a conversation with Scouts Canada and they were unable to rent to Alateen. I was asked to produce an Al-Anon/Alateen not for profit registered tax certificate. Being that I could not produce one in the time frame necessary to hold the cabins for that date, I was forced to withdraw the reservation request. Al-Anon/Alateen has no nonprofit designation to my knowledge. That is when I also had to tell Wendy and Judith and OSAAC, Ontario South Alateen that we wouldn't be having Unity at the Scout camp this year. Although Alateen really want a Unity Conference and really want it to include a dance, we need Area Al-Anon to support this venture. I estimate there to be about 80 Alateens attending meetings in our Area. Please I encourage a couple of Districts or Groups to come together with Alateen in your hearts and support a Unity Conference in your District. Unity has been held in early to mid September. The planning could start here at Assembly for a Big announce at AWSC in May. There is great SAM support and funds to get Unity started. The Alateens usually plan the program etc. at Trillium in June of each year (that's when they are together again!!)

The Alateen Charter passed last year at Assembly needs some adjustment. Now that we have had a year to work with the charter in certain situations, we can see where the wording is not quite the intent. I have planned to work with other Al-Anon members to review this charter and submit a few minor changes (one word in some cases) to the Area Executive for consideration at the next AWSC. (2013)

Public Outreach for Alateen: I receive requests for Alateen outreach from the WSO. The professional leaves their contact info on the WSO website, and then it is forwarded to me. The following cities have had professionals inquire about Alateen. Cornwall, Bellville, Guelph, Ottawa/Hull, Mississauga, Orillia.

It can be difficult to explain to the professional there are NO Alateen meetings where they are located.

Please make Alateen literature available on your literature table, so that your Al-Anon group can carry the Alateen message. We never know when an Al-Anon member/newcomer arrives at our meeting with teens somewhere in their lives who could use some hope and friendship. Perhaps enclose a few Alateen pamphlets in your newcomer packages. Alateen is a PART of Al-Anon, please don't let anyone suggest they are separate or an outside issue. Unfortunately, I have heard these comments this year from within our fellowship.

OSAAC provided 70.00 worth of literature for the Youthcan Conference Aug 14 2012 at Seneca College Finch Ave. Toronto. There were 320 youth in attendance, along with 44 representatives from different youth services agencies.

OSAAC received 3 very generous donations since AWSC. Donations were from District 26, The North Toronto Group, and an individual member from Brantford. OSAAC had hoped to have their handmade donation thank you cards ready at Unity. No Unity, no cards (yet)...they'll be on their way.

Attached to this report is the Ontario South speaker signup sheet. These are easily photo copied and are to be made available for members of your group. Please pass these sheets along to Alateen and their sponsors. It is our hope those members and FAMILIES interested in speaking at certain events will put their names forward. The Literature Distribution Centre keeps this information on file for the Area. This is not a new practice but one that has been around for many years.

Just a reminder, Supportive Al-Anon Members (SAM) will be submitting their new or recertifying paperwork this year. (Includes a police check). Please encourage your group members to consider Alateen service work as a wonderful way to give back to this program. SAMs are needed to support Alateen in our Area not just at a meeting but at many different conferences /events.

I want to share with you that although Alateen may seem small in numbers compared to previous years; Alateen is strong and has a willing spirit. Please keep Alateen in your hearts.

### **OSAAC Chair Report to Ontario South Assembly 2012**

With summer vacation and all, Ontario South Alateen Advisory Committee (OSAAC) has not done a lot since AWSC 2012. We do have a financial update for OSA below this report.

We launched an ongoing online survey to gather data on what makes Alateen meetings difficult to access or attend, to see what we could do to improve membership. If teens have not already done so, it can be found at <<http://www.surveymonkey.com/S/NVKKLPV>>. [We're just putting the finishing touches on further surveys for Supportive Al-Anon Members \(SAMs\) and other Al-Anon members.](#)

We held a service meeting at the Trillium Conference where we mostly discussed the changes to potential Unity Conferences and what the Alateens' preferences were. A summary of the decisions made can be found in OSAAC Chair section the coordinator's corner of the area website.

Many SAM's and Alateens, to whom we are very appreciative, helped submit and decide on suggestions for a site for the Unity Conference, but we were unfortunately unable to secure the desired site for this fall.

Recently, an announcement flyer was sent out to Alateen groups them in which month would it be preferable to hold Unity 2013. Once a decision of timing is made, planning for Unity 2013 can continue in earnest. We desperately need to hold the Unity Conference in 2013 so it doesn't continue to fizzle out.

Also mentioned in the flyer was that new service positions in OSAAC are looking to be filled, notably that of the Co-Chair 2013 to be voted on here at Assembly and a Treasurer, to be appointed.

Finally, a reminder that all Alateens are welcome to join OSAAC as members at large, that your suggestions, questions, comments and concerns are always welcome either to me in person, or at [osaac@hotmail.ca](mailto:osaac@hotmail.ca). All adults can contact [ontariosouthalateens@hotmail.ca](mailto:ontariosouthalateens@hotmail.ca).

It has been wonderful serving you this year, and I look forward for myself and Alateen to continue growing in recovery.

### **OSAAC Financial Report for Assembly October 2012**

|   |               |                |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| Opening Bank Balance<br>(From AWSC May 2012 )   |               | <b>3041.74</b> |
| Donations   | <b>271.88</b> |                |
| District 26 \$200.00  |               |                |
| North Toronto Group 46.88   |               |                |
| Al-Anon Member 25.00  |               |                |
| Check to LDC<br>(assisted in the purchase of handouts<br>for Youthcan Conference) August 2012 | <b>-70.00</b> |                |
| Monthly bank charges (1.95 x5)  | <b>-9.75</b>  |                |
| Balance as of Sept 30 2012  |               | <b>3233.87</b> |

### **AREA ALATEEN PROCESS PERSON O. S. ASSEMBLY 2012 REPORT**

Hello everyone, I have learned so much during my first year as AAPP, Area 86. It has been a challenging experience and I look forward to the remaining two years.

At September 24, 2012, Ontario South has 150 Certified SAMs and 34 Registered Alateen groups. Year two of the AAPP term (2013) is the "busy year", as all SAMs must obtain a Police Record Check (now every three years) as part of the annual Re-certification process. The only exceptions to this guideline are those who registered as a SAM after June 30, 2012. In order to meet the March 1, 2013 Ontario South deadline, we will begin this process in November.

The Certification and Re-certification processes are clearly outlined on the Ontario South Al-Anon Alateen website [al-anon.alateen.on.ca](http://al-anon.alateen.on.ca) Click on "Al-Anon Member" / "Area Policy Manual" / Section 11B / "SAM Area Certification Process". The required forms can be found in Section 10. Please use the current forms and fill out all areas.

At Assembly I will have a list of Certified SAMs for each District. I would request that the DRs please obtain their list from me at the Assembly. An email will be sent out to the DRs and SAMs during the first week of November in order to get the Re-certification process started.

We met the Re-certification deadline in 2012. I know we can do it again in 2012 - working together - "one form at a time".

#### Assembly 2012 Archivist Report

History, I love it!....And my hope is that you will embrace our history as well. As I spend time preparing to meet for our annual Assembly this year, I am not sure what I would like to bring for show and tell. I do know I will be bringing the District binders for which I invite you to peruse and see what date your group's history was last updated. I am asking for you, the Group Representatives, to please make note of the last update and perhaps take this information back to your groups and ask if a member would volunteer to update your group's information. All I ask is that you Do Not remove any of the original information for your group, as this is a crucial part of your history and the members who wrote it. Whether your group is new or old, and no history is available, please consider going to the Area website and download the Group History Checklist and ask group members to assist in providing this valuable information for all members to share.

My Challenge is out there Ontario South.....I am looking for long time member interviews and have a spread sheet set up on the Area website under Co-ordinators Corner. Click on Archives and have a peek. The forms can be down loaded from our Area website.

What is in the Area Archives you may be asking? Well, so am I. That is why a committee of volunteers has been asked to help out. We are in the beginning stages of cataloging and the first sort is almost complete. Due to the diligent efforts of my first volunteer, the Open Lines is sorted, filed and complete. We have one copy of each publication from the inception of our Area newsletter, up to December 31, 2011. This includes the original cut and paste (or scotched taped) Open Lines that were photo copied before distribution. It is very fascinating some of the items we have come across already.

I look forward to hearing from you at Assembly and please bring any questions you may have regarding Archives. You may also contact me via e-mail or leave a message on my phone and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

### Group Records Coordinator Report

I can't believe we are in October already. Where has the time gone? I am busy trying to keep up to all the changes I am being sent. Just in the last few days I have had 20 more changes come in.

When completing the change form please try to remember that YOU know where you are and in what district but I don't and therefore I try and send you an email asking you where you are. Sometimes these emails do not get answered and so if the change you have requested does not show up on the Ontario South list. If you do not see your changes made send me another change form with the full information.

I still have groups listed in the NO MAIL ZONE from the World Service Office (WSO). Try to remember if your group is in the no mail zone you will not receive the free copy of the Forum or any other correspondence from WSO. Keep your group information up to date. At least get someone to have the Current Mailing Address for the group this is very important.

I have a 2012 Ontario South Map and have the boundaries marked out and I will have the number of groups in each district marked on it, please stop by and have a look at it during assembly. We have 387 groups listed in Ontario South. Some of our districts have up to 30 groups and some as few as 3. It may or may not show the town your group is in.

### Literature Coordinator Report

**Need a meeting Topic Fast? Check out these points of reference to fast and easy meeting topics!**

**CAL Sample Chapter:** Each quarter WSO post a Sample Chapter of Conference Approved Literature on both the Public Outreach site, [www.al-anon.org](http://www.al-anon.org) and the Members site, [www.al-anon.org/members](http://www.al-anon.org/members) . Through September, the chapter is from *From Survival to Recovery* (B-21). The Sample Chapter for the last quarter of 2012 will be from *Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses* (B-29).

**CAL Corner:** Each month the CAL Corner feature in *The Forum* includes members sharing on how a particular piece of literature has enhanced their recovery. September's article celebrates the 50th anniversary of the pamphlet *A Guide for the Family of an Alcoholic* (P-7). The October article will be on *How Al-Anon Works* (B-22, B-32).

From October through December 2012, the Sample Chapter page of the Members Web site, [www.al-anon.org/members](http://www.al-anon.org/members), includes meeting topics and discussion questions on a variety of topics using *Opening Our Hearts, Transforming Our Losses* (B-29). It's an easy way to start a meeting discussion.

### Open Lines

Wow! A full year has passed since we have voted for electronic version of Open Lines.

There have been a few glitches along the way but wow what cost savings for Ontario South. There is no delay in sending to the groups and the group record keeper is quite happy about not having to track down returned Open Lines.

For information purposes please note the information below:

While mailing traditionally to the groups varied it was also due to content. At certain times of the year Open Lines has more pages and therefore was costing much more to produce and mail. I have included costs for the last calendar year and the executive has the costing for the previous years.

December of 2011 the cost of production before any electronic version was 1,183.28.

February 2012 cost was 858.03.

May 2012 was 966.70. (All executives and DR's received electronic versions, mailing was to GR's and personal subscriptions) (Open Lines was 11 pages so the postage was significantly higher as well as copying)

For August the cost of Open Lines was 238.34. (10 pages) (Mailing was to personal subscriptions without email addresses and requested GR's only)

There is still one issue to work through and that is emails to the individual groups. I made a trip to the group record keeper's home and we worked through getting me all the email addresses so that I can then get Open Lines to each individual group. We are aware that there are groups with no email addresses. If you would like to speak with me I will have the list at assembly and will be willing to work with you to get this fixed.

December 2012 will be sent electronically to all the group reps, district reps, coordinators and executive. Hopefully this is the final hurdle and we can then just update lists as needed. It is really neat to push the send button and watch all those emails go and know that the information is moving forward in a timely and cost effective way.

One suggestion is that there be a group/district email address with one member assigned to check it. (Service!) That way when the GR/DR changes the email remains the same. Think about this at your group/district level.

Thank you for allowing me to serve the groups as your Open Lines Coordinator and I hope everyone enjoys Assembly.

### **Public outreach report**

#### **Ontario South Assembly 2012**

It has been a rush of confusion starting this position, setting up the e-mail as I want it. Getting on e-communities, trying to figure out which communities belong in which District. Getting in touch with our AA counterparts to try and set up meetings to allow us to ride on their coattails to get into more institutions and use some of their finds and methods of public outreach.

It has been brought to my attention that several districts have 211, 411 or blue pages ads that need to be updated, please take care to check on any ads that you have placed and update them as needed.

Just a reminder in your subject line for reports please put what district it is from. This will help me to put the contact together with the district in my e-mail files and my hard copy files.

I still have not been able to get a copy of the present public outreach psa's but am working on making sure that we all have a copy. Al-anon Faces Alcoholism is out for purchase and distribution. Please help spread the word and get your copies as soon as possible for distribution.

I will be changing the blog site of 1000 acts of public outreach to your suggestions for public outreach in the near future!

If you do not have public outreach in your district please come and see me about how to set up a public outreach program in your district. Please remember that every alcoholic affects between 7 – 10 people directly, so we as a fellowship should be about 7 – 10 times larger than AA. We just have to find those people who are still suffering by spreading the word!

## ONTARIO SOUTH ASSEMBLY 2012

### FORUM COORDINATOR REPORT

*The Forum*, the monthly magazine of Al-Anon Family Groups.

There are currently no new stats from ecommunities that I can share with you regarding *The Forum*. Hopefully by the actual Assembly I will have an update from WSO to provide you. But in the meantime here are some thoughts.....

- WSO sends a complimentary copy of *The Forum* each month to each registered Al-Anon group. A good way to check if WSO has current (CMA) information on your group is if your group is actually receiving your complimentary copy.
- As written in the Al-Anon guidelines G-11, one of the duties of being a Group Representative is **.....Encourages members to subscribe to and submit articles for *The Forum*....**
- Often the best way to encourage is to live by example.  
How are you using *The Forum*?
- Having it out on the table at your meeting and reading from it to stimulate discussion on a step or tradition during your meeting is a great way to utilize it!
- Have blank order forms readily available for your group members (there's one on the back cover of each edition)
- There are lots of places you can check with on how to do that including direct links on *The Forum* Coordinators Corner on our Ontario South Website.
- For the next edition of our Areas Newsletter OPEN LINES I would love to include some experiences from you on how you or your group has used *The Forum*. Please feel free to stop me at the Assembly or email me. *The Forum* is one of the many Al-Anon recovery tools we have at disposal. Like any tool though its value increases with use. Please let me know if there is any way I can be of assistance and encouragement to use:

***The Forum* It's like a meeting in your pocket**

## Ontario South Assembly Website Coordinator Report

What an amazing year this has been. First of all I would like to say thank you to all the members for giving me suggestions and feedback on how to make the website work for you. Again I welcome any more feedback if there is anything else you would like to see and do with the website and I will do my best to help you.

There has been a lot of activity in the website. In August we have had 7273 visitors, there has been more events, new coordinators pages, additional information from WSO, extra information from the Delegate... The one thing that we have been working to maybe implementing for the website has been the use of QR codes (Quick Response codes). Several Districts are already using it and I am in the middle of doing some research about how we could implement it with Ontario South.

It was also brought to my attention from another member, the use of full names when submitting an event flyer. When your group is celebrating an anniversary and you submit a flyer to me please make sure that ; if you don't want your full name known on the internet, to use only first names. Once the information is submitted on the website it is known worldwide . We were able to erase the name of this member from google, but again please be mindful when using your full name or someone else's.

Lastly, have a great Assembly!!! Looking forward to seeing you all again.

## T-OGETHER

Dear Fellow Members,

What is Trillium to you?

## R-ECOVERY

Trillium is a great opportunity for all of us in Ontario South to meet and share our experience strength and hope and listen to others do the same. I am always amazed when we do the chronological countdown at the longevity of the members and I am very excited for the new comer who is experiencing not only Trillium but also Al-Anon for the first time. I remember never wanting my first Trillium to end. The unconditional love and fellowship in the meeting rooms was and continues to be very comforting and welcoming for me.

## I-NTIMACY

## L-ORD

We have a committed group of volunteers working to bring you the best conference we can. The speakers have been asked, the hotel venue has been booked, fundraisers are being sought, hotel rooms are ready for booking, registrations can be made and we are on the Ontario South Website.

## L-OVE

## I-SOLATION

With your support Trillium 2013 will be our 21<sup>st</sup> conference. Glad you asked, "How you can support Trillium?"

## U-NITY

## M-EMORIES

- You could rent a hotel room for the weekend. (Remember the code A13-Trillium)
- Invite your friend, sponsee, sponsor or a new comer.
- Buy a registration for your friend, sponsee, sponsor or a new comer.
- Pre pay your registration and take advantage of the early registration rate.
- Bring a car full of members with you to the conference.
- Volunteer to help.
- Be there.
- Buy a bunch of fundraisers.
- Suggest your group purchase 2 or more registrations to be raffled off.
- Suggest your District purchase 2 or more hotel nights to be raffled off.

If you have any questions I have an email dedicated to Trillium please contact me at: [2013trilliumchair@gmail.com](mailto:2013trilliumchair@gmail.com) I can direct your questions to the appropriate committee member.

Trillium is your conference and with your support it will continue to be the most attended conference in Southern Ontario.  
See you there.

#### AREA THOUGHT FORCE

#### IS THERE A WILLINGNESS AND/OR NEED TO ENHANCE ELEMENTS OF THE TRILLIUM CHARTER

#### OVERALL PLAN

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| August/<br>September  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formulate committee structure. Provide members with KBDM information seeking model. Provide concrete examples of responses to the provided questions.</li> <li>• Assign each member one section of the Charter and randomly assign various Districts to each.</li> </ul>                       |
| October               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committee members provided with relevant background info on the Trillium Conference records available in the Area</li> <li>• OSA workshops will provide members with information and background on KBDM process</li> <li>• Brief update to be provided to all Districts at Assembly</li> </ul> |
| November/<br>December | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committee members to contact their Districts and seek feedback on the elements of the Charter</li> </ul>   |
| January               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committee members summarize the information provided to them</li> </ul>  |
| February              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The summaries are sent to the Committee Chair with a Suggested Next Step. The Chair puts these together as one report.</li> </ul>  |
| March                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The full committee reviews and provides input on this report hopefully with consensus</li> </ul>   |
| April                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This report is sent to our Trillium Thought Force Liaison on Executive for follow up</li> </ul>  |

ONTARIO SOUTH ASSEMBLY  
OCTOBER 26-28, 2012

#### ONTARIO SOUTH LDC REPORT

Financial: The income statement and balance sheet to August 31, 2012, with comparisons to year end of 2011, are available from your Group Representative or District Representative. Sales have decreased by 3% compared to the same period last year.

The average U.S. exchange rate has averaged at 1.0022%. The rate has fluctuated between .9857 and 1.0329.

Office staff and volunteers: At this time we have 1 volunteer who comes one day a week and 1 full-time employee.

Literature: will be available for sale on Friday evening until 7:30, from 7:30 – 8:15 on Saturday morning and also at lunch and dinner on Saturday. Pre-paid orders are at the literature table also. Please visit the tables and discover new items.

**Please remember:** when you receive a notice regarding a new item from World Service Office, the price is listed in U.S. dollars and the item is already at the LDC. Please contact the LDC by phone, email, or fax for the Canadian price.

The latest Literature order form is dated 05-28-2012. This is available on the Ontario South website. Click on Literature, and scroll down to the desired format, either PDF or Excel.

We try to process and ship the orders as soon as we receive the payment for them. If items are out of stock, we will ship the items we do have and backorder the out of stock items. The backordered items are shipped as soon as we receive them. Thank you for your patience and understanding when an order is delayed.

If there is a difference in the payment and the cost of the order, we will adjust the order to reflect the amount received. This simplifies the bookkeeping process. To assist us in completing your order please enter your group ID and district number on the order, this goes a long way to help the procedures to run smoothly.

Normally it takes 1-3 days for an order to be delivered from the office. If you have not received your order within 2 weeks of sending your order, please contact us.

To speed the processing system many groups are paying for their orders with email bank transfers. This is a simple process available to all that have online banking. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Consignment Orders: These are available for special events such as Al-Anon Days, Round-up, and Conferences. We need at least 6 weeks notice prior to the event to process the orders. Contact us for the details.

Speaker List: We try to maintain a list of members who have expressed a willingness to speak. Currently we are updating the information about the speakers as often people move, phone numbers change etc. If you have gifted persons in your group willing to speak, please complete the questionnaire and send it to me. The questionnaire C-6 is sent with orders. Families are always needed.

Flyers and Registrations: If you have flyer for Conventions or Al-Anon days, we will gladly include them in the outgoing shipments for you.

If there is a way we can further benefit the group, please let us know. We will discuss whether or not it is feasible for the office to carry out your request.

In closing I would like to thank the Board of Directors for their trust and patience with me, and also my gratitude to each of you for allowing me to be the LDC Manager.