

Ontario South Assembly Newsletter

Quick Links for Ontario South

[Group Records Change Form](#)

[Donation Form](#) or **E-transfers** can be sent to osatreasurer3@gmail.com. There is no need for a security question and answer. Please note **your district #, group # and group name in the memo section of the transfer.**

[Form C for SAMS \(AMIAS\)](#)

[Literature Order Forms](#) (Printable and Fillable)

[Area Policy Manual](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

Option: copy and paste the following to your browser:

<https://al-anon.alateen.on.ca/ontario-south-forms/>

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.

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:

Free for personal email subscription.

If you wish to receive a paper copy in the mail, subscription rates for copies mailed in Canada are \$15.00 for 1 year.

Please send a request for NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS / RENEWALS to:

openlinesosa@gmail.com

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Ontario South Website (Al-anon.alateen.on.ca)

Districts in Ontario South

- District 1** – Muskoka (Angus, Barrie, Bracebridge, Huntsville, Innisfil, Midland, Orillia, Parry Sound, Sprucedale, Wasaga Beach)
- District 2** – Georgian Bay (Collingwood, Dundalk, Owen Sound, Lion’s Head, Thornbury)
- District 3** – Bruce County (Hanover, Kincardine, Mount Forest, Port Elgin, Southampton)
- District 4** – Waterloo Region (Cambridge, Elmira, Fergus, Guelph, Kitchener, New Hamburg, Rockwood, Waterloo, Kitchener/Waterloo)
- District 5** – Huron Perth (Clinton, Exeter, Goderich, Listowel, St. Marys, Stratford)
- District 6** – London Region (London, Strathroy)
- District 7** – Sarnia region (Bright’s Grove, Forest, Petrolia, Sarnia)
- District 8** – Windsor, Essex (Amherstburg, Essex, Harrow, Kingsville, LaSalle, Leamington, Windsor)
- District 9** – Chatham region (Chatham, Ridgetown, Wallaceburg, Tilbury)
- District 10** – Elgin region (Ingersoll, Port Stanley, Port Rowan, St. Thomas, Tillsonburg, Woodstock)
- District 11** – Brantford, Caledonia (Brantford, Simcoe)
- District 12** – Niagara region (Dunnville, Niagara Falls, Port Colborne, Ridgeway, Welland)
- District 13** – St. Catharines (Grimsby, St. Catharines)
- District 14** – Hamilton West (Amalgamated with District 15) (Hamilton, Burlington, Stoney Creek, Waterdown)
- District 16** – Mississauga (Mississauga, Oakville, Port Credit)
- District 17** – Peel, Halton (Acton, Bolton, Bramalea, Brampton, Erin, Georgetown, Milton, Woodbridge)
- District 18** – GTA North (Aurora, Beaverton, Bradford, Keswick, King City, Newmarket, Orangeville, Stouffville, Sutton West, Tottenham)
- District 19** – Toronto North (Don Mills, Richmond Hill, Thornhill, Toronto, Willowdale)
- District 20** – Toronto West (Etobicoke, Toronto, Weston)
- District 21** – Toronto Central (Toronto)
- District 22** – Scarborough (Agincourt, Markham, Scarborough, Toronto, Unionville)
- District 23** – Lakeshore (Ajax, Bowmanville, Orono, Oshawa, Pickering, Port Perry, Whitby)
- District 24** – Kawartha (Bancroft, Bobcaygeon, Fenelon Falls, Haliburton, Lindsay, Maynooth, Minden, Oakwood, Omeme)
- District 25** – Quinte (Belleville, Campbellford, Cobourg, Foxboro, Picton, Port Hope, Stirling, Trenton)
- District 26** – St. Lawrence (Brockville, Carleton Place, Gananoque, Kemptonville, Perth, Smiths Falls)
- District 27** – Seaway Valley (Cornwall, Lancaster, Morrisburg, Winchester)
- District 28/29** – Ottawa (Ottawa, Arnprior)
- District 30** – Ottawa Valley (Barry’s Bay, Cobden, Pembroke, Renfrew, St. Joseph, Quebec)
- District 31** – Kingston region (Enterprise, Kingston, Napanee)
- District 32** – Kawartha South (Ennismore, Norwood, Peterborough)

From the Ontario South Delegate

I have written this report in my head a dozen or so times. I have been legitimately sick for about a week. The real reason that I have not put the report to paper is because then it will be real. "It" being my last report as Delegate. The last time I will submit a report to Open Lines. I feel sad and excited at the same time. Sad that this part of my Service Journey is coming to an end and excited about where my Higher Power will lead me next. OK, so here we go...

It has been a year for the World-Wide fellowship of AI-Anon. The APP is testing out Alateen Online Meetings, A new reader "A Little time for Myself" was released and sold out immediately. AI-Anon Members, Alcoholics Anonymous & Guests showed up in record numbers to attend the AI-Anon International Convention. Members came from near and far. Albuquerque, NM welcomed us with open hearts and open arms. The Convention was a success.

Ontario South started preparing for our Annual Fall Assembly. This year we met in Mississauga. Thank you to all of the members who attended. Thanks to the Assembly planning committee. You folks did a great job. Preparation for Assembly begins long before October. There is a lot to do and that takes a village.

I prepared my reports and presented them to the assembly. I am not going to go into details in this report. Instead, I encourage you to reach out to your Group Representative and to your District Representative. Ask them what their takeaways from the weekend were. Perhaps, you could even plan a Service Workshop and invite members to share their experience.

Thank you to our Coordinators for all the work they have done and their ongoing willingness to serve. Thank you to the members who show up week after week. The members that unlock the door, arrange the chairs, put out the CAL. Thanks to all who share their pain and their recovery, their experience and hope.

As we move toward the end of this 3-year term I do want to acknowledge that I am so very grateful for you, the Members of OSA. I have been given many opportunities to share forward the Love, Wisdom, Strength, and Experience that has been shared with me. YOU have gifted me with your Wisdom, Patience, Love & Experience. We have, together, walked through a Global Pandemic and found new ways to have a meeting. This helped solidify for me that AI-Anon is strong & resilient. The Steps, Traditions and Concepts serve us well and will guide us through any situation. Our collective Higher Power leads the way.

Please reach out to your new Executive. Send them your encouragement, your love and your Kindness. Share your ideas and your experience. We all need each other if AI-Anon is to continue to be there...When Anyone, Anywhere reaches out for help...

Gwen D. OSA Delegate Area 86, Panel 61, ontariosouthdelegate@hotmail.com

Love, Laugh, and Grow Together,

Aimer, rire et grandir ensemble, Amar, reir y crecer juntos

From the Ontario South Alternate Delegate/Forum Coordinator

Dear Members,

This is my final Report as Forum Coordinator and Alternate Delegate. Thank you for allowing me to be of service as an Area Officer.

Three suggestions for the Forum:

1. The group in which I was one of the founding members, when we set up the meeting format we included reading the Traditions from the Forum. Our rotation was Step, Tradition, Step, Tradition, and Pamphlet. We would read the Tradition corresponding with the month.
2. Order the Forum for sale at your home group, because not all members live in sobriety, and therefore may not feel comfortable having the Forum delivered to their home.
3. Give a newcomer the Forums that have not been purchased by the group members.

Thank you all who have supported the Forum, either by ordering it and or by submitting an article.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Area Coordinators who have done an amazing job in each of their positions. I have truly been blessed to have served with them.

A little piece of history: Today's Forum began with Lois, drafting our first Newsletter on a yellow pad at the old Clearing House. From: Forward Vol. 1 Forum Favorites 1985.

With much love and gratitude

Signing off.....

Love in service

Kristine B. Alternate Delegate & Forum Coordinator, ontariosouthdelegatealt@hotmail.com

From the Ontario South Area Chairperson

At the beginning of this year, I couldn't believe that my Chair role would be ending. I do believe in rotation of leadership. As the year progressed, I experienced chairing my last Area World Service Committee meeting, my last Assembly, and coming up are the last executive meetings. I am ready to pass on this position to the next member. I am immensely grateful for the experience and all that I have learned. I discovered so much about how our area operates and fits into the links of Al-Anon service and continue to learn more all the time. I am even more grateful for what I have learned about myself and my character defects. How to use the traditions and put principles before personalities. I have dealt with, and continue to deal with, perfectionism, procrastination, asking for help, being the minority voice, and many others. I look forward to continuing to serve the area members in my next service position.

WHAT HAS YOUR CHAIRPERSON BEEN UP TO?

ASSEMBLY 2023, I attended the host committee meetings as the area executive liaison to obtain and provide responses to any questions and assist in any way possible. I chaired the 3-day meeting including voting for the first time.

EMAILS, I respond to member and most executive emails as quickly as possible.

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS, I have prepared the agenda for the upcoming executive meeting. Did you know that well over 40 items are typically discussed?

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION, I receive and track these items and send responses from the executive team to members. If the member agrees, I send the question and response to be published in this newsletter. Any member can send in an item at any time (please see information below).

LITERATURE OFFICE COMMITTEE, I am a member of this committee and participated in two meetings prior to Assembly.

AMIAS LETTERS. When a member requires a letter to reduce the cost of their criminal record check, I issue these letters, from time to time.

VOICE OF THE AREA, this is the Chairperson. I liaised with the area lawyer with respect to revisions of our Alateen safety requirements.

ZOOM, the area zoom account is available to districts and committees who wish to use it for a meeting. I set up meetings from time to time and often assist when the meetings begin.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Our area executive meets in February, July and November every year (plus January during the first year of a term).
- Any member can send an Item for Consideration to any member of the executive team at any time. You can use the form on our area website at <https://al-anon.alateen.on.ca/ontario-south-forms/> or send an email or make a phone call. You will receive a response to your item following the next executive meeting. These items and the executive response appear in our Open Lines newsletter, subject to permission by the member submitting the item.
- Your District Representative has the current contact list for executive and coordinator members, and other District Representatives.
- All members have access to our area policy and guidelines manual on our area website <http://al-anon.alateen.on.ca/area-policy-manual/>.

Gratefully Yours,

Sandy O. Chairperson, Ontario South Assembly chairons86@gmail.com

From the Ontario South Treasurer

I would like to thank the membership for allowing me to serve as your area treasurer for another 3 years.

Donations to the area can be made either by e-transfer or by cheque.

E-transfers can be sent to osatreasurer3@gmail.com. There is no need for a security question and answer. **Please note your district #, group # and group name in the memo section of the transfer.**

Or, if you prefer, make your cheque payable to "Ontario South Assembly" and mail to P.O. Box 1151, Station Main, Guelph, ON N1H 6N3. For proper accounting please use the donation form found in the area manual. Go to al-anon.alateen.on.ca, for members, donations.

[Donations information click here](#)

The budgeted amount suggested from each group for 2024 is \$169.95 (2023 – \$150.62).

Thank you for putting your trust in me.

Janet B Treasurer osatreasurer3@gmail.com

From the Area Advisor, Literature Office Committee Chairperson

I wish to thank the LOC for their dedication to this committee: Delegate, Gwen D., Sandy O. (alternate secretary), Janet B., Treasurer, Coleen W., Literature Coordinator, Diana C. who was the elected DR at the 2021 AWSC and Linda P., Literature Distribution Center (LDC) manager.

We meet by Zoom prior to each AWSC and Assembly, also in between as needed.

The LOC, through discussion and voting, do our best to determine the most reasonable prices for the Conference Approved Literature (CAL) that is sold at the LDC. The cost of postage is also an ongoing discussion.

We determine the most practical dates for closure of the LDC during the summer and winter. These are times when there is the least amount of sales.

Another item we discuss, is the cut-off dates for ordering literature to be brought to AWSC and Assembly to save the groups postage.

FYI Literature mailed to an Electronic Group needs to have a physical address and have a postal code in our Area, Ontario South

Sue Gaskell, Area Advisor, Literature Office Committee Chairperson

From the Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP)

It sure was great to see some of you at Assembly in October.

Should you wish to become an AMIAS (AI-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service) please refer to the applicable section of the AI-Anon Ontario South, Area 86 website. www.al-anon.alateen.on.ca

Briefly, you will obtain a police record check including vulnerable sector screening from your local police station, in person or on-line. You will seal this in an envelope and give it to your District Representative (DR) along with the completed Area Form C (also found on the Area website). Your DR will complete the form and send it to me for processing.

Some cities, towns etc. may reduce or eliminate the processing fee. If this applies to you, you may request a letter from the Area Chair, Sandy O at chairons86@gmail.com. You will need to provide Sandy with your full legal name for the letter.

Your District may reimburse you for any expenses, if not, the Area will. The Area expense form is also found on the Area website.

Feel free to get in touch with me if you have any questions about becoming an AMIAS.

As I rotate out of service as the AAPP, I want to thank everyone who has ever been an AMIAS or SAM. Your support of Alateen has not gone unnoticed. I have learned so much about Alateen during my time as AAPP and am grateful for the opportunity to share our love of Alateen with so many of you.

Sending blessings for the upcoming holiday season,

Jean McS, aapp.ontariosouth@gmail.com

From the Alateen Coordinator

Gmail address on Ont. S. Website: os.alateen.coordinator@gmail.com

Acronyms:

AMIAS – AI-Anon Members Involved in Alateen Service

OSAAC – Ontario South Alateen Advisory Committee

AAC – Area Alateen Coordinator

AAPP – Area Alateen Process Person

Hello Ont. South! Being your Alateen Coordinator has been an honour and a privilege. It has also been a great opportunity to learn more about Alateen, the structure, the safety and behaviour guidelines, and get to know some fellow members, as mentioned in my Assembly report.

Our work on the sections of the Ont. South Area Policy Manual wrapped up early in 2023 and the guidelines sent to the WSO for their approval. They were returned in late August as we had neglected to have them reviewed by local counsel (per point 6. of the Minimum Safety and Behavioral Requirements of the 2003 Alateen Motion from the Board of Trustees). This was then done, and they were sent back to the WSO with the letter from the local counsel. Change in Al-Anon and Alateen is slow, but hopefully our work here is complete, and we wait for next steps, which as of the date of this report, have not been communicated. I know our Advisor has followed up and we've not heard back, perhaps no news is good news? Thank you to all the committee members who worked together over the past 3 years to get this task done.

The district meetings I attended over my term, as an invited guest, were always fruitful meetings (to me anyway) and have highlighted the need to have meetings of all AMIAS's and those members just interested in becoming an AMIAS to share our thoughts and ES&H. Unfortunately, time ran out and I did not get to that project at all. I guess having several other service roles (G.R. and Alt. D.R. & ORC Alateen organizer) was more than one person should really take on! Well, there's no guessing about it, it 100% is! In any case, if any of you reading this report would like to have a zoom meeting to talk about Alateen, your hopes, frustrations, needs, and questions, please feel free to reach out to me at the email above and I will try to make that happen. In some Areas in the U.S. (and perhaps Canada but I don't know about that), there is mandatory requirements to attend training sessions held on zoom as one of the requirements to certify as an AMIAS. I was loathe to introduce more hoops to jump through, but at the same time, it seemed that new AMIAS's had questions that would have been answered in this type of setting. A thought for the incoming coordinator.

I would encourage you to consider this service, it is so very valuable and important. You must be an AMIAS to be the Ontario South Alateen Coordinator and the other requirements can be found in the Ont. South Policy Manual on the website (Ont. S. website that is). I would be happy to answer any questions and the Gmail address will remain in service for the next coordinator, whomever that is.

I'm looking forward to my next service adventure, as the Ontario South Secretary (and also continuing as the District 23 Alt. D.R., but that's not an overly work-heavy job really), so you'll definitely be hearing from me.

Yours in joyful service, signing off,
Carrie Earl
Outgoing Ont. S. Alateen Coordinator

From the Archives Coordinator

Glad to report that our raffle and Forum donations at Assembly netted us \$202.50 which we are passing along to the treasurer.

We have been working hard to organize the storage unit and clear out all duplication and non-historical items. Very soon we will be able to move to a smaller unit at a cost saving of about \$120.00 per month.

There are still boxes to go through and this must be done slowly to make sure nothing important to the history of Ontario South is overlooked.

It has been a pleasure doing this work and I have had a lot of help and direction from long time members of the fellowship.

As the holiday season approaches I wish you all a truly blessed time with your family and friends.

Yours in Service
Valerie P, **Archives Coordinator**

From the Group Records Coordinator

Thank you everyone for the interest you took in my presentation at Assembly.

The notes are on my Coordinator's Corner if you need a refresher.

This job has seen its challenges during my 3-year term but as with every other position I have held, it has taught me a lot.

The new electronic meetings are still being set up for Area 86 and I hope to see it through with the World Service Office. In the meantime, I have flagged all the emails that are asking to be moved to electronic.

The new district has not yet been created as an overlay, so we are still working out the kinks.

I will send out an update as soon I as hear from World Service Office.

Also, thank you one and all for allowing me to be of service. The fellowship and support I receive from you all is a vital part of my being.

Hugs in service

Sharon R, Group Records Coordinator grprec@hotmail.com

From the Open Lines Coordinator

Thank you for placing your trust in me and giving me this opportunity to serve. I am so very excited to share this edition of Open Lines with you! As you read these amazing reports may you be as inspired as I am by the Service being done to carry the message of Hope to those affected by the family disease of Alcoholism.

Open Lines is published three times a year by Ontario South Assembly. This newsletter presents service-related news and information to AI-Anon groups in Ontario South to help keep them informed. Thank you to all of the Executive, Coordinators and DR's who submit to each issue of Open Lines.

The deadline (*mark your calendars*) for submissions to Open Lines each year are:

March 11 (April 1 issue) July 11 (August 1 issue); November 11 (December 1 issue)

As Open Lines Coordinator I attend and contribute to AWSC. Last year was my first opportunity to attend, because of Covid, it was virtual. This May was my first ever face to face Area World Service Committee (AWSC). What an amazing gift to participate in the business of our Area informed by the Spiritual Principles of our Program.

I also had the opportunity to contribute to updating the section of our Ontario South Assembly Policies & Guidelines Manual as it relates to my service position of Open Lines Coordinator [Click here](#)

I invite all members to submit to me your feedback throughout the year. I will try to incorporate your suggestions as much as is practical to do so. You might find that thinking of your feedback in the form of stop/start/continue might help to provide respectful, honest and meaningful communication that will enhance the value of the Newsletter to benefit our Area.

If you do not currently receive your own email copy, please email me at openlinesosa@gmail.com to receive your very own free email subscription. The next issue is April 1, 2024.

Yours in Joyful service,

Loretta V, Open Lines Coordinator openlinesosa@gmail.com

From the Public Outreach Coordinator

This is my last report for Open Lines. What a journey! I learned so much more about Public Outreach from the committee work that you shared in your minutes. I also saw my character defects show up (not good enough etc.), thank goodness for step ten to help keep me in line.

I have been going through the book *Many Voices, One Journey* (B-31) with a sponsee, who does lots of service work. I found it fascinating that Public Outreach work started when the program was very young. In October 1974, the Public Broadcasting Service presented a program about alcoholism and its effects on the family. It's called "Drink, Drank, Drunk", starring Carol Burnett. The World Service Office cooperated with the producers of this program, which carried the AI-Anon message to an estimated 12 million families. If you have *Many Voices, One Journey* you may want to read more about the announcements in magazines and radio, that starts around page 176. I googled "Drink, Drank, Drunk" and found the content is good but these programs were about 30 minutes long. A bit too long for our modern day pace. The new PSA's are much more time appropriate (30 seconds to a minute) and more creative in providing phone and website contact information.

We also know that QR codes are popular as it contains so much information in a limited space.

It was great meeting some of you at Assembly in October.

I look forward to meeting the new Public Outreach Coordinator when the rotation of leadership occurs in early 2024. I will continue to do Public Outreach in my own district and I often close off with this quote from Lois W. one of our co-founders of AI-Anon, as she knew how important Public Outreach was:

"Anybody can start something, but carrying it out is the real challenge. And all the rest of you are doing that job. You're all founders in your own right, carrying the message."

Lois W.; 1891 - 1988

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,

Geraldine R, Public Outreach Coordinator ontariosouthpo@gmail.com

From the Website Coordinator

Asking "What can the website do?"

When I am approached about the website and asked "Is it possible to..." I try to answer by asking "What is the purpose/goal/function of what your group/district/Coordinator/AIS is trying to achieve? Is this something that the Area website is already doing, and if not, is this something that we could be improving on?"

Start with asking the question – the worst thing I can answer back is "No, the website isn't able to do this, let's problem solve together."

**A user interface is like a joke.
If you have to explain it,
it's not that good.**

Some statistics for the last 30 days

Sessions ⓘ 7,491 ↑ 4% vs. Previous 30 Days	Pageviews ⓘ 16,931 ↑ 8% vs. Previous 30 Days	Avg. Session Duration ⓘ 1m 13s ↑ 8% vs. Previous 30 Days	Total Users ⓘ 4,517 ↑ 3% vs. Previous 30 Days
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Sessions – browsing session of a single user on the site

Page views – view of a page on the site

Average session duration – Total amount of time a user spends on the site (in seconds) divided by the total number of sessions

Total users – Number of users who visited the site

Did you know?

Did you know that we have users from countries as far away as Kenya, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland and New Zealand visit our website?

A very warm welcome

I would like to thank everyone for their warm welcome and appreciation as I have transitioned to this role. They have been kept close in moments of celebration (such as uploading my first day solo) and in moments where deep breaths and words with HP were very much needed (and a phone call to GoDaddy). I have already learned so much and can't wait to share more of this with you in my next report.

Yours in service,

Kathleen S., Website Coordinator Ontario South os.website.a86@gmail.com

From the Trillium Chair



Greetings fellow Ontario South Al-Anon members,

My name is Monique R. (District 31) and I am currently in service as your 2024 Trillium Chair.

I am pleased to report this year's committee has been hard at work planning the 2024 Trillium Convention. We currently meet monthly and connect between meetings with other committee members as needed. With a focus on utilizing our Traditions and Concepts, our goal is to bring you an "EPIC" Trillium Convention next year.

One thing we have learned to do in this program is trust our Higher Power and pivot when necessary. This is one of those times! At Assembly last month we were very excited to announce that we have secured Durham College/UOIT again for Trillium next June 18-21. Flyers were printed and bookmarks were handed out.

Now for the pivot...Durham College had a schedule conflict on those dates so the committee took a group conscience and voted to change the date of the conference to: **JUNE 14-16 2024**.

We kindly ask that you spread the word of the new dates in your Districts and Groups.

Date: **June 14-16, 2024**

Location: **Durham College/UOIT Campus (2000, Simcoe St. N., Oshawa)**

Program: **AI-Anon, Alateen, A.A. Speakers and Panels**

Theme: **PUTTING LOVE INTO ACTION**

Please be sure to check the Ontario South Website regularly for Trillium updates. We invite you to save the new date and join us in **"Putting Love Into Action"** as we make new friends and new memories together

Donations:

Some of you have been asking about group donations to Trillium. If your group or district wishes to donate to help cover the cost of our Convention, you can send an eTransfer to: trillium2024treasurer@gmail.com

Please include the word "DONATION" as well as your GROUP NAME and DISTRICT NUMBER in the message box. Direct deposit has been activated, so no security question is required.

Service Opportunities:

We also have a service opportunity on the Committee for a Communications Coordinator.

For more details on what this position entails please feel free to reach out to me.

We are continuing to grow the planning committee! There will be many service opportunities as we get closer to the event. If you are interested in getting involved, please send me an email at osatrillium@gmail.com. If you have a specific area of interest (i.e. greeter, registration, Alateen, bookstore...), let me know and I will direct your expression of interest to the appropriate coordinator.

We are especially looking for an Alateen member to serve on the committee – do you know of anyone who is ready to grow through service? Send me their name or have them contact me.

REGISTRATION:

Registration is NOT yet open; details will follow on our website and in the Spring issue of Open Lines.

As is the custom in AI-Anon, the registration fee will be set in accordance with the overall expenses for the convention. We are also considering a fundraiser initiative to help keep the registration fees affordable.

Your best way to stay up to date is to check the Trillium page on the Ontario South website: <https://al-anon.alateen.on.ca/trillium/>

THANK YOU to Ontario South for your commitment to and continued support of Trillium!!

Honoured to be of service,

Monique R., 2024 Trillium Chair OSATrillium@gmail.com

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

NO.	NAME	ITEM	RESPONSE
1	Wendy C, D17	<p>Ontario South Manual section 2 c #6 @1</p> <p>Qualifications: please reword this to read : In keeping with the principle that Al-Anon/Alateen members who are also members of AA may not serve as GR, also they may not serve as the AIS Chairperson or AIS alternate Chairperson but may be members of the AIS.</p> <p>The wording in the manual is exclusionary and punitive - if you follow that wording into the meetings it would read that AA members may not be members of Al-Anon because they MAY become the GR. Hope this makes sense.</p>	<p>Please see 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual page 86 under <u>Service Participation by Members of Al-Anon Family Groups Who Are Also Members of Alcoholics Anonymous</u></p> <p>Page 87 reads</p> <p>“Tradition Five defines Al-Anon’s single purpose. Tradition Six encourages cooperation with Alcoholics Anonymous, maintaining that Al-Anon is a separate entity that ought never affiliate or create the appearance of affiliation with any outside enterprise. Putting these principles into practice maintains a separation between the service structures of Al-Anon and A.A. This separation helps avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest and safeguards Al-Anon’s singleness of purpose. Accordingly, Al-Anon’s policy is that members who are also members of A.A. do not serve as Group Representative (GR), District Representative (DR), Area Delegate, World Service Conference member, alternate to any of these service positions, or any committee of the World Service Office.</p> <p>Filling service positions is a matter of District and Area autonomy within this policy and the spiritual principles that form its basis.</p> <p>Tradition Four grants autonomy to local service arms, except in matters affecting Al-Anon or A.A. as a whole. Al-Anon members who are also members of A.A. participate fully in all group activities, including group conscience decisions. However, they do not hold Al-Anon service positions that vote in matters affecting another group or Al-Anon on A.A. as a whole.”</p> <p>The Area Policy and Guidelines Manual is being revised to be clearer.</p>
2	Elaine V, D22	<p>Why is a dual member not allowed to serve as a GR? Is there any way this can be allowed? I've been sober for almost 30 years and I am very interested in serving as a GR.</p>	<p>Please see 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual page 86 under <u>Service Participation by Members of Al-Anon Family Groups Who Are Also Members of Alcoholics Anonymous</u></p>

			<p>Page 87 reads Tradition Five defines Al-Anon’s single purpose. Tradition Six encourages cooperation with Alcoholics Anonymous, maintaining that Al-Anon is a separate entity that ought never affiliate or create the appearance of affiliation with any outside enterprise. Putting these principles into practice maintains a separation between the service structures of Al-Anon and A.A. This separation helps avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest and safeguards Al-Anon’s singleness of purpose. Accordingly, Al-Anon’s policy is that members who are also members of A.A. do not serve as Group Representative (GR), District Representative (DR), Area Delegate, World Service Conference member, alternate to any of these service positions, or any committee of the World Service Office.</p> <p>Filling service positions is a matter of District and Area autonomy within this policy and the spiritual principles that form its basis.</p> <p>Tradition Four grants autonomy to local service arms, except in matters affecting Al-Anon or A.A. as a whole. Al-Anon members who are also members of A.A. participate fully in all group activities, including group conscience decisions. However, they do not hold Al-Anon service positions that vote in matters affecting another group or Al-Anon on A.A. as a whole.”</p>
3	Charmaine SC	Regarding Dual members not holding certain positions such a GSR.	<p>Please see 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual page 86 under <u>Service Participation by Members of Al-Anon Family Groups Who Are Also Members of Alcoholics Anonymous</u></p> <p>Page 87 reads Tradition Five defines Al-Anon’s single purpose. Tradition Six encourages cooperation with Alcoholics Anonymous, maintaining that Al-Anon is a separate entity that ought never affiliate or create the appearance of affiliation with any outside enterprise. Putting these principles into practice maintains a separation between the service structures of Al-Anon and A.A. This separation helps avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest and safeguards Al-Anon’s</p>

			<p>singleness of purpose. Accordingly, Al-Anon's policy is that members who are also members of A.A. do not serve as Group Representative (GR), District Representative (DR), Area Delegate, World Service Conference member, alternate to any of these service positions, or any committee of the World Service Office.</p> <p>Filling service positions is a matter of District and Area autonomy within this policy and the spiritual principles that form its basis.</p> <p>Tradition Four grants autonomy to local service arms, except in matters affecting Al-Aanon or A.A. as a whole. Al-Anon members who are also members of A.A. participate fully in all group activities, including group conscience decisions. However, they do not hold Al-Anon service positions that vote in matters affecting another group or Al-Anon on A.A. as a whole."</p>
4	Sue M, D 21	<p>I would like to see the Ontario South Literature Distribution Centre (LDC) become digitized, so that members could order literature from the LDC on-line through a website directly.</p> <p>I have seen a similar system currently being used through the NYC Al-Anon https://www.nycalanon.org/al-anon-shop</p> <p>We would still need a member to fill the on-line orders that are placed through the website.</p> <p>I would suggest that the new Technology position, at the Area level might be involved in helping to make this happen.</p> <p>I think that it is very important to keep our CAL readily available for purchase for any member in Ontario South.</p> <p>Thanks, Sue M</p>	<p>This is a great idea and will be sent to the Literature Office Committee for consideration and discussion. Thank you for the example and information.</p>
5	Diana B, D 16	<p>Could the current motions made at Assembly/AWSC, that aren't presented to the members by the chair, be included in the minutes? Suggestion to either include them under the discussion item or put them in a separate section at the end of the minutes, after the list of motions that were heard. This section could be titled: "Motions made but not presented to the Assembly/AWSC" and the discussion item they pertain to could be included. Minutes should be complete and reflect what occurred at Assembly, so they can be referred to in the future if needed, and in order to be complete, they should include all the motions made. If this is not possible for any reason, could these motions at least be printed in Open Lines, like the Items for Consideration?</p> <p>Thank you for considering this item.</p>	<p>A Thought Force of interested members from across our Area is to be set up. The current Delegate will invite a Thought Force Chairperson to invite the members of a Thought Force.</p> <p>This is to perform a thorough review of our Area's current voting procedures fully. Including the handling of motions and the possibility of adding voting procedures to our manual.</p>

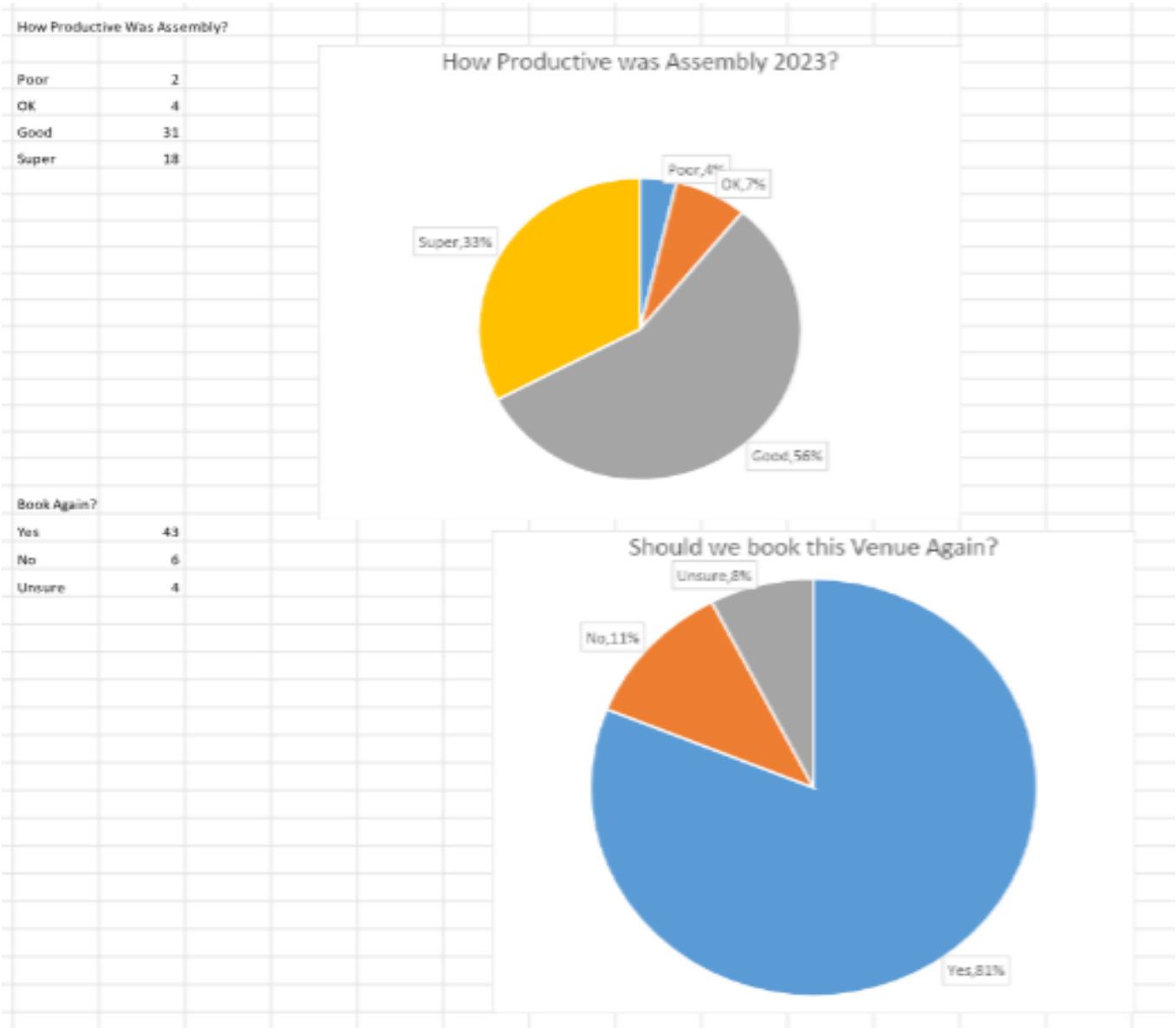
6	Diana B, D 16	<p>I would like to suggest the following discussion item be put on the agenda for the next AWSC, to be forwarded to Assembly for the final decision. The item is that: "A task group be formed, involving members from all the links of service, to review the current process for putting motions forward at Assembly/AWSC, to ensure the voice of the Assembly is heard in decisions made in Ontario South". This topic has come up at the past 3 Assemblies and still isn't close to being resolved. The topic is too big and complex to currently be able to make an informed group decision at Assembly, without a lot more information on what a different process could look like. We need to develop a task group that can review the whole process, including when to put a motion forward, how to effectively use the help of the advisors in crafting motions, should all motions be read and decided whether to discuss them at the time or put on the agenda for next year, can the agenda be changed to allow time for new motions (and other discussions/concerns brought forward)? These are just a few of the factors that need to be considered and reviewed before any informed decisions can be made. Putting a task group together to do this seems like the most reasonable, responsible and time efficient way to fully address this issue. Thank you for taking the time to consider this item.</p>	<p>A Thought Force of interested members from across our Area is to be set up. The current Delegate will invite a Thought Force Chairperson to invite the members of a Thought Force.</p> <p>This is to perform a thorough review of our Area's current voting procedures fully. Including the handling of motions and the possibility of adding voting procedures to our manual.</p>
7	Jennifer T, D14	<p>The Treasurer position has a service volunteer who has put their name forward for a second term. I have looked at the WSO manual and Area manual and other than general guidelines re. rotation of leadership, both manuals are silent on someone standing for a second term. We as a group have full confidence in the service volunteer but would also like to have the principles relating to rotation of leadership. Guidance would be gratefully appreciated. Thank you for your service.</p>	<p>We agree with and practice rotation of leadership in service that allows members to learn and grow. The position of Area Treasurer requires a specific skill set that is not common. This executive position can be difficult to fill. We are pleased that our current Treasurer has offered to assist the Area for a second term. This has occurred previously with this position.</p>
8 (i)	Smeha D, D 20	<p>For the voting procedures for motions, it would be better to have a round table of 10 for each district. So people can discuss with other district ??? members to make a conscious decision.</p>	<p>Group Representatives are to have discussed the Assembly information package with their group members prior to attending Assembly. In this way, they are voting as per the group conscience. Group Reps have an opportunity to meet with other Group Reps at their district meetings. Group Reps sit with their districts to facilitate voting. Round tables would take more room than theatre style seating and would incur additional cost.</p>
8 (ii)	Smeha D, D 20	<p>Zoom cost should be shared between group in the same district at least to reduce the expenses for each group. Each group is having meeting on different time & days so zoom can be shared with few groups to maximize the use of zoom & reduce the expenses for the group.</p>	<p>Please do bring this idea to your next district meeting. Other groups in your district may be interested in doing this. This is an item to be discussed at the district level.</p>
9	Cheryl K, D3	<p>Remove voting when there is a single candidate for executive position at assembly.</p>	<p>It is possible that a single candidate would not have enough Yes votes for them to be</p>

			awarded the service role. The area shows support of the candidate in this way. The spiritual principles in Tradition 2 and Concepts 3, 4 and 5 apply. A member's voice can be heard through their vote.
10	Diana F, D14	Conference style seating with tables that can make movement easier, especially for members who may have mobility concerns. It will also allows for less disruption during discussions and the making of a motion. I understand this may be a momentary concern, however, I feel this would be beneficial for all. Thank you.	Round tables would take more room than theatre style seating and would incur considerable additional cost. Group Representatives sit with their districts to facilitate voting. Seating concerns have been shared with the 2024 Assembly Host Committee Chairperson.
11	David M, D 14	Consider that a thought force be struck to review the current voting procedures to record and present to ????? motions submitted but not heard at Assembly. For example, could an addendum to the Assembly minutes be used to record the motions submitted but not heard.	A Thought Force of interested members from across our Area is to be set up. The current Delegate will invite a Thought Force Chairperson to invite the members of a Thought Force. This is to perform a thorough review of our Area's current voting procedures fully. Including the handling of motions and the possibility of adding voting procedures to our manual.
12	Gail K, D 12	Have a Thought Group formed, with members from all links of service in Ontario South, to review the current voting procedures to ensure that the voice and vote of the Assembly is heard in decisions made in Ontario South and to allow the Assembly (groups) to have more say in planning the agenda for Assembly.	A Thought Force of interested members from across our Area is to be set up. The current Delegate will invite a Thought Force Chairperson to invite the members of a Thought Force. This is to perform a thorough review of our Area's current voting procedures fully. Including the handling of motions and the possibility of adding voting procedures to our manual.
13	Amie C,	For travel to AWSC – 0.50c/km is a lot. Yes, gas is expensive, and wear and tear on vehicles. I feel an amount – 0.30c – 0.35c is quite fair. We do not go to AWSC to make money.	The current mileage amount is still under what the government of Canada uses, currently \$.65, and many employers. This was reviewed in 2022 by the executive team and increased from \$.40 to \$.50. Tradition 7 directs that our fellowship be fully self- supporting. Our members need not be out of pocket for performing service.
14	Judi B, D10	Enclosing in the Assembly package what all our Al-Anon synonyms mean – especially difficult for new members attending Assembly for 1 st time. Thanks.	This is a good idea, thank you. The acronyms are on the area website and in the 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual but it is a good idea to include these in the package and perhaps have them on the screen as well.
15	Debbie D, D16	Suggest we move Assembly to twice a year as a one-day event. If it is felt two days are necessary the second day could be workshop & speakers.	Adding additional Assembly, Area World Service Committee, and executive meetings was discussed considerably by this executive team. The timing of additional meetings, the extra work for executive members, and asking executives to contribute more than the

			<p>five weekends a year that they already donate were some of the negatives. District Representatives and Group Representatives would be asked to donate more weekends as well. There is an additional cost. This executive finally voted not to pursue this at this time.</p>
16	Debbie D, D 16	<p>I would like to receive the Delegate report prior to Assembly. I understand, as has been stated, changes do happen but that will be given and addressed at Assembly.</p>	<p>The Delegate's report is presented at the Area World Service Committee meeting in May and posted on the area website. The District Representatives are asked to share the report with their Group Representatives. It is given at Assembly again and changes are posted as well. Your suggestion has been shared with the Incoming Delegate.</p>
17	Joanne G, D17	<p>Can a member be a GR in a face-to-face group and an electronic group at the same time?</p>	<p>A member may only be Group Representative of one group at time. 2022-2025 AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual page 86 "No member, however, be Group Representative (GR) of more than one group at the same time." An in-person group with an electronic component at the same time, would have the same Group Rep as this is one group.</p>
18	Joan R, D1	<p>Considering the proceedings at Assembly on Oct. 21st, 2023 I would like the Executive to conduct a thorough review of the Assembly package. Much of the information is repetitive each year and I feel could have been sent out with the Registration to allow DR's to review with GR's at the District Meeting preceding the Assembly. This would make the actual Assembly package easier to follow at Assembly. It was evident that members do not feel heard regarding motions and amendments. I have sent a letter to incoming and outgoing executive members as I feel very strongly about health of Ontario South.</p>	<p>The Assembly package is thoroughly reviewed every year. The registration form was sent out prior to the full package as the hotel had an early registration deadline. This allowed time for groups to discuss sending a representative. The Assembly package was sent out as soon as all information was received from committees that were given tight timelines.</p> <p>A Thought Force of interested members from across our Area is to be set up. The current Delegate will invite a Thought Force Chairperson to invite the members of a Thought Force. This is to perform a thorough review of our Area's current voting procedures fully. Including the handling of motions and the possibility of adding voting procedures to our manual.</p>
19	Diana B, D16	<p>"That the Delegate contact WSO to verify if Ontario South members should be receiving the voting package for WSC, prior to the WSC, so that they have a true voice and vote at WSC. If we are supposed to receive this package, that the current process in Ontario South be changed to allow the members to have their voice and vote heard moving forward (like they do for AWSC/Assembly)." Gwen informed the Assembly in</p>	<p>District Representatives are asked to share the Minutes of their meetings with the delegate. In this way, the delegate is aware of all items discussed in many districts on an ongoing basis. The delegate as our trusted servant is tasked with voting on our behalf. Voting is limited to large items that have already normally</p>

		<p>2023 that the reason we do not receive the voting items for WSC is because when she receives the WSC package it is marked 'confidential'. This is very concerning to me because if this is the recommended process, it breaks the links of service and prevent the groups from having a voice and vote at WSC and puts the decision-making authority in the hands of the WSC. This goes against many of the Traditions (1, 2), Concepts (1, 4, 5) and Warranties (2, 3 and 5) of the program, as well as how the links of service are supposed to work (pg. 68 Service Manual) and page 167 of the Service Manual which says that 'The Conference represents the AI-Anon membership but does not rule it'.</p> <p>I have contacted Tracey at WSO and she assures me that although 'some' of the information in the WSC package may be confidential, the voting items are most definitely supposed to be shared with the members prior to WSC, so the true voice and vote of the Area is heard. This isn't happening in Ontario South under the current process. Somewhere over the years something has gone off the rails, perhaps a Delegate at some point in the past took the 'confidential' stamp too literally and then that idea just carried down to the Delegate's over the years. Whatever the reason, I feel it is important that the Area review this process and bring things back in line with the Principles of the program, so the members can have a say/vote in the voting items at WSC. Please understand this is not a criticism of any of the Delegates as our Trusted Servants, I am sure they all did the best job they could to represent Ontario South at WSC but it isn't reasonable to expect them to be able to read the minds of thousands of members in Ontario South, without ever discussing a topic with us. This was clearly demonstrated at Assembly when there were many opinions on the various topics discussed. I realize the Area Executive meeting is being held shortly but I hope this item can still be added to the agenda, and if not, that you forward it to the Delegate so that he/she can look in to it in time to allow Ontario South to discuss and vote on the next WSC voting items. Thank you for considering my item.</p>	<p>been discussed at all levels of service. E.g. electronic groups, new literature. At this time, the World Service Conference draft, not final, package is released at the end of March for the April World Service Conference. Your concern has been shared with the Incoming Delegate.</p>
20	Jane H, D23	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 establish a committee of at-large members to review and revise "The Explanation and Approval of Voting Procedures" (largely unchanged since 2007) 2 undertake an Area Group Inventory 3 undertake an Executive Group Inventory 4 provide GR 101 workshop on Friday night to review protocol of voting procedure 5 provide workshop focusing on the spiritual principles inherent in the Traditions and their application in AI-Anon's business 	<p>1 A Thought Force of interested members from across our Area is to be set up. The current Delegate will invite a Thought Force Chairperson to invite the members of a Thought Force.</p> <p>This is to perform a thorough review of our Area's current voting procedures fully. Including the handling of motions and the possibility of adding voting procedures to our manual.</p>

		<p>2 This has been discussed by the executive team and information obtained from other areas is being provided to the incoming executive.</p> <p>3 We will suggest this to the incoming executive.</p> <p>4 We will suggest this to the incoming executive to be considered for AWSC and Assembly in 2024.</p> <p>5 We will suggest this to the incoming executive to be considered for AWSC and Assembly in 2024.</p>
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District Representative Updates

District 2 (Georgan Bay) Update

After 4 years of lockdowns, masks, isolation and zoom meetings, the Owen Sound Discovery AFG Wednesday night group hosted our first District 2 Al-Anon day since 2019. It was on Saturday, September 23. The theme was "STEP Dancing with Al-Anon". We had over 50 attendees from Al-Anon AA and 1 Alateen join us. Our day consisted of six Al-Anon and six AA speakers, sharing their Experience, Strength, and Hope on a specific Step for 20 minutes. The Al-Anons shared on the odd numbered Steps, and the AAs shared on the even numbers. An Al-Anon member from the Wednesday night group (and planning committee) contributed his service playing a piano, which was greatly appreciated by all. We had a scrumptious, huge, hot, potluck lunch. There were even treats left over for the afternoon break. Our day was filled with love, peace, gratitude, and definitely SERENITY!

There were many new members on the Al-Anon day planning committee for the first time. Everyone pulled together. The Wednesday night Owen Sound group members did an awesome job of hosting and looking after us all. Looking forward to holding a 2024 district Al-Anon day.

There are now 4 groups in our District ... Collingwood Monday night in person; Collingwood mid- day zoom only; Owen Sound Wednesday night – hybrid and Thornberry Wednesday night hybrid. Sadly, 3 groups closed during Covid for various reasons: ill health, moving out of the district and low attendance.

For nearly 3 years during Covid we met on zoom. Thank God for Zoom. It was a huge blessing. We were able to keep in touch/connected in our District. Our District meetings are held on the first Tuesday in January, March, May, September, and November. We are so glad to be meeting in person again. We missed the fellowship and try to meet for our meal before the meeting if possible now.

Three members were recertified as a AMIAS in 2023, but we have no active Alateen groups in our District yet.

The Owen Sound Wednesday night group holds speaker meetings on the last Wednesday of January, March, June, September and November.

My three year term as District Rep will end this December. It has been wonderfully rewarding and humbling to serve our members in this life-saving program. It is giving me a second chance at life. For this I will forever be grateful.

Growing in Service One Day At A Time
Rosemary P, **District 2 Representative**

District 3 (Bruce County) Update

At our recent district meeting all groups reported a slight increase in regular attendance; healthy finances; and most service positions filled. It's a great way to head into 2024.

The District had 4 people attend Ontario South Assembly where we shared, learned and were Re-invigorated for the coming year. Port of Hope will transition to an electronic meeting for the winter immediately following our Gratitude Meeting December 4th. Steve B. assumes the DR service position with the full support of our 5 GR's and approximately 50 members.

In Service
Cheryl K. **District 3 Representative**

District 6 (London) Update

Al-Anon is thriving in the London Region of Ontario South. We currently have 12 active Al-Anon Family Groups that welcome, help and offer comfort to families and friends of alcoholics. There are seven (7) in-person AFGs, four (4) in-person AFGs with an electronic component (hybrid), and one (1) electronic AFG offering weekly meetings.

Open Speaker Meeting

London Region's Open Speaker Meeting AFG on Friday nights moved to an electronic format during the pandemic and remains online as a monthly meeting. This meeting is open to the public and is on Zoom the first Friday of every month at 8 pm. **Zoom ID: 8351 424 7357 Password: 036762**

London Region AI-Anon Day

In 2021, the annual London Region AI-Anon Day moved to an online format, offering five (5) speakers from AI-Anon, Alateen and AA. It was well attended and served to bring a large online group of AI-Anon members together for recovery.

In 2023, the London Region AI-Anon Day was an in-person event with AI-Anon and AA speakers. We had record attendance at this event as AI-Anon members from beyond joined with London members to enjoy connecting with one another and practicing recovery together.

Plans for the Future

We currently have several initiatives underway. Several members are being certified as AI-Anon Members in Alateen Service (AMIAS) to support our local Alateen AFG. HUGS Alateen AFG is temporarily inactive, and we hope to reactivate this important meeting to in-person meetings in early 2024.

Our Future Hope and Gateway AFGs serve the women's and men's sections of Elgin Middlesex Detention Centre (EMDC), which have been closed to our AI-Anon service members since the beginning of the pandemic. Recently, the EMDC has indicated that they will be allowing parts of their population to participate in our AFG meetings in the very near future and we are busy preparing to serve those who have been affected by someone else's drinking.

Also, we plan to offer in-person Open Speaker meetings open to the public, once a month beginning in the New Year.

Finally, we are well under way to filling all executive positions at the district level and are looking forward to continuing to serve AI-Anon and those affected by the family disease of alcoholism who seek our experience, strength and hope.

Website: <https://www.london-on-al-anon.org>

Phone Line: 519-457-9393

In Service

Tannis District 6 Representative

District 20 (Toronto West) Update

I am writing to see if there are any groups within Ontario South that might want to re-start Spring Escape. It is a 3 day AI-Anon weekend held at Mary Mount. I have all the materials and \$1000. (\$500 credit) to get the event going again. For additional information please contact me Kenneth S: Kenneth S: kenni62350@gmail.com

Yours in Service.

Kenneth S. District 20 Representative

District 23 (Lakeshore) Update

Hello from District 23! Lakeshore District 23 has 10 active groups, consisting of 9 AI-Anon Family Groups and one Alateen group. Eight of the AFGs are represented at the District meetings. Over the last several weeks, the District's Alateen group has seen an increase in the number of teens attending.

Just for Today in Port Perry hosted our annual AI-Anon Day on September 30th. It was wonderful day of speakers, workshops, food and fellowship, and of course beautiful fall colours. Other events that occurred in September included YANA AFG's 14th anniversary on 10Sep23, and Let It Begin With Me AFG's 10th anniversary on 21Sep23. Other upcoming events include Peace and Serenity AFG's 4th anniversary on 04Nov23, Tradition AFG's 58th anniversary (!) on 07Nov23, and the AA Fall Roundup with AI-Anon participation on 11Nov23 in Newcastle.

While our District meetings have continued on Zoom post-pandemic, we were excited to have our September District meeting as an in-person event with a potluck dinner. Aside from the fellowship, the highlight of the meeting was the election of our incoming DR (Sandra M.) and our incoming Alt DR (Carrie E.). We returned to Zoom for our October meeting, and we had our final District meeting for 2023 in November in-person with an electronic component (for those unable to attend) to celebrate the milestones of our last 3 years of service. We welcomed several incoming GRs, and yes, there was cake! It was our first experience with a hybrid District meeting, and it worked out very well.

One of the agenda items discussed at our meeting was the Assembly, and the highlights or takeaways. Several of the new GRs expressed both confusion and excitement about learning so much about AI-Anon as a whole, and commented on the impact of hearing the Delegate's message around the equality and unity within our AI-Anon fellowship; the mindset that 'we are them and they are us,' and that members' voices are heard throughout the chain of the links of service.

As I reflect on my own service journey over the last three years, and now leaving the 'comfort zone,' I find myself *Thinking that Just For Today I'm going to Keep An Open Mind and Listen and Learn, One Day At A Time*, because I am never alone and *Together We Can Make It*.

I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to be in service as the District Representative in District 23.

Thank you.

HUGS Hope, Unity, Gratitude, Service
Deborah F, District 23 Representative

District 30 (Upper Ottawa Valley) Update

Greetings from District 30 - Upper Ottawa Valley. District 30 consists of groups in Deep River (formerly Point Alexander), Pembroke, St. Joseph's, Barry's Bay, and Renfrew. This past September our district hosted an AI-Anon Day. It was great to see old friends and new ones! All our groups meet in person.

I attended assembly this past fall and it was great seeing familiar faces. While I am the district rep, I am also the group rep for Renfrew. We will be holding elections at the end of the year to elect our new District Rep.! Exciting times!

Yours in service,
Amie C, District 23 Representative

District 32 (Kawartha South) Update

It's been a 3 year service period like no other. A worldwide killer virus which made virtual electronic meetings the norm in AI-Anon. Ours is a relatively small District where all of our meetings are in Peterborough. When I started my term we had 7 groups, some well attended and some just hanging on. Two of the groups folded with the onset of Covid, one group suspended their meetings, while four groups went virtual, with varying success, after discovering the Zoom app. One particular group, Peace for Parents, thrived on Zoom and, once in-person meetings became possible, it split into two, one Electronic and one in-person.

Our District has now morphed into 6 surviving groups; 3 traditional in-person meetings, 2 hybrid meetings and one solely virtual Zoom meeting. We've lost some members during this period of transition while attracting many newcomers, two of whom are now GR's of their respective groups. We had a very successful AI-Anon day, our first in at least 3 years in 2022, and have another scheduled for early December 2023. These AI-Anon Days have given us the opportunity to meet with many members who, up until then, had never met physically. Our AI-Anon participation in the AA Kawartha Round-up was successful as well.

As far as Public Outreach is concerned, one member was able to make significant inroads with our local police dept. by providing officers with AI-Anon literature to pass on to families struggling with addiction.

I feel very proud of the work our members have done in service to keep AI-Anon thriving in Kawartha South.

Martin H, outgoing District 32 Representative

Literature Distribution Center (LDC) Update

I am sure by now your members that were at Assembly have passed on most of this information but if not, here is a recap. As your literature person in the group rotates in leadership it is so important to let the LDC know. The LDC needs the district number, group name (group number is always a treat to get), the new person's name, full mailing address, phone number and email. Without current information your order could go to the wrong address and may or may not get to you.

If it is returned here then shipping is required again, sometimes twice more, as the LDC gets charged for returns periodically. Shipping is already expensive enough, so let's avoid this.

That same district number should be on all orders because I don't know which Courage to Change group you belong to, especially when you live on a bordering line between districts that may both have a group with the same name. As much as I enjoy guessing games, mysteries and puzzles, I don't have time to be locating multiple groups daily. I appreciate you making sure that little number is on all emails, phone calls and order forms....which are all ways you can place an order.

PLEASE DON'T send any payments without confirming I have stock. WSO is having issues getting some items quickly because of the worldwide paper shortage that the printing companies are dealing with. I will not hold your money for something, I have no idea when it will be in stock.

There is a new Alateen Just for Tonight Bookmark M-82 and it is lovely. Remember Alateen is Al-Anon for younger members. Maybe you'd like to use a piece of their literature for a topic in your group?

Also, a couple of days prior to the Assembly the B-34, A Little Time for Myself daily reader was back in stock at WSO. I have ordered an amount that I believe will clear the orders I have waiting on my desk, plus put some on the shelf, but I cannot confirm that until I see how many they allow me. They will be filled in the order they were requested so if you want some, maybe you should get an order into the queue. Again, don't send money until we know it can be filled. Fingers crossed.

If you wish to connect, I am here Monday-Thursday from 10-1. You can leave a message on the phone or email any time, but this is when I will get back to you.

Winter closure begins Dec 21st at 1pm and the office reopens Jan 8th at 10 am.

Be well. I am so grateful to serve you.

Linda LDC Office Manager o.literature.distribution@gmail.com

[Click here for Upcoming Events!!](#)

Lock 8 Second Anniversary District 12 (Dunnville, Niagara Falls, Port Colborne, Ridgeway, Welland) **December 4 @ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.** Everyone welcome! We will have a speaker for this special occasion followed by a light lunch, coffee, and tea. We are very excited and we hope you will help to share this information as well as come and join us. We would love to meet new people at our meeting.

Saturday Night Open Seasonal Saturday----Pot luck and Speakers; St. Ansgar Lutheran Church; 1498 Avenue Road Toronto; **Saturday, Dec. 9,** dinner at 7:15; meeting begins at 8:15.; SW corner of Avenue Road and Lawrence, parking on S. side of church. We are accessible; if you would like to use the elevator, please send someone inside to get a committee member, and we will make it available to you.

Trenton AFG has their Gratitude meeting on **December 13th** at 8 pm, with snacks and an auction. Everyone is welcome to join us at: Trenton United Church, 85 Dundas Street East, Trenton, Ontario.

Brant Hills AFG

A night of Gratitude

We welcome you to join us!

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

7:30pm – 8:30pm

Fellowship & potluck to follow

Please bring a snack to share for the potluck
(and please bring a beverage for yourself!)

Candles will be provided for the meeting
or you can bring your own (artificial candles only please!)

IN-PERSON

Wellington Square United Church
2121 Caroline Street, Burlington, ON

****Please note:** This is a not-free & 501(c)(3) non-profit facility**

Celebrating Recovery Through the 12 Steps

12 speakers, AA with
Al-Anon and Alateen

Saturday February 3, 2024

REGISTRATION: 8:30AM

PROGRAM HOURS: 9AM - 4PM

UNIFOR BANQUET HALL

23 Regan Rd, Brampton
NE of McLaughlin Rd N
and Bovaird Dr W

- POTLUCK LUNCH
- DOOR PRIZES
- 50/50 DRAW
- BASKET RAFFLE

TICKETS

\$10 each/\$5 for Alateen

Tickets, questions and
7th Tradition, email
crttts17@gmail.com

Tickets & information,
contact Wendy at

416-409-3873

PLEASE BRING A HOT OR COLD
POTLUCK FOOD ITEM



Save the date # 1

Chatham Al-Anon 68th Anniversary

– April 20, 2024

AA & Al-Anon speakers
More details to follow



Save the date #2

Chatham Al-Anon Fall Workshop

– September 21st, 2024

Up to 40 topics to be discussed
More details to follow

FYI



Winter closure dates for your Literature Distribution Center

The office will be closed from
Thursday, December 21 at 1:00 until
Monday, January 8 at 10:00.

