

**ONTARIO SOUTH ASSEMBLY
OCTOBER 24 – 26, 2008
FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON TORONTO AIRPORT HOTEL
“BUILDING BRIDGES – ENERGIZING OUR SPIRITUAL QUEST”**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2008

The meeting opened with a Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Jo-Anne, the OSA Executive Chairperson welcomed everyone to the Assembly. Jo-Anne then asked for any first time members to Assembly to please stand. She then introduced the Executive, Advisors, and Co-ordinators. The Assembly Host Committee Chairperson Jacqui K. extended her warm welcome and made some housekeeping announcements along with directions to the various venues within and outside the facility. Jo-Anne thanked the host committee people for such a great job. Jane H., Trillium 2009 Chairperson, was called to the mic and spoke to their theme of “A Journey of Choices”. The memento for Trillium 2009 is a journal and is ready here at Assembly to be purchased in advance if you so wish. Jo-Anne stepped back to the mic and added a couple of changes to the Assembly agenda and made mention of the seating arrangements for the weekend. Announcements were made with regards to Country Store and Silent Auction.

Open Speaker Meeting

“Building Bridges”

Chair: Kristine B.

Speaker: Charelse – TAG Alateen - Barrie

Lesley – Tranquility Group Al-Anon – Barrie

Meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2008

Establishment of Seating Arrangements:

Seating arrangements for the day were established with non-voting members to be seated at the back of the room. Voting members are to be seated with their DRs in their respective rows to the centre or end of row and you may need to share a row. Votes are to be cast by incoming (i.e. new) GRs or DRs who are also a GR. DRs were asked to please ensure only one ONE vote per GROUP.

The meeting opened with the Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer, Traditions, Concepts and Warranties.

Jo-Anne, the OSA Executive Chairperson welcomed everyone to Assembly. Jo-Anne then asked for any first time members to Assembly to please stand. Jo-Anne then asked for the attending Alateens to please stand. Jo-Anne then introduced the Executive and Advisors. Jacqui K. our Host Committee Chair made a couple of housekeeping

announcements and introduced the Host Committee. Jo-Anne added a couple of Assembly housekeeping announcements and announced the four workshops.

ESTABLISH KBDM GUIDELINES:

Knowledge based decision making (KBDM) information was shared. Jo-Anne G. shared on the process and four points of discussion guidelines and the aspect of crafting a motion after discussion takes place. To respect everyone’s right to voice his/her opinion, and to allow for business to flow in a good orderly manner, the Chairperson asked to adopt a two-minute time limit for speaking at the mic for any one subject. It was respectfully asked that all applause be withheld. If a motion does come forth following the discussion, the Executive has offered the Advisors to be available to assist in crafting a motion during the break. Motion forms are to be obtained from OSA Secretary.

VOTING PROCEDURES:

If a motion comes forward, a majority vote (more than 50% of votes cast) is required for passing motions. An amendment motion takes precedence over the main motion and we will vote on the amendment first. The tabling of other motions received is at the discretion of the Chairperson. They will be brought forth if relevant to today’s discussion. If not, then they will go to the Executive and/or to AWSC. When presenting a motion from the floor, it is to be written legibly on a “blue” paper and seconded by another voting member. Only a voting member can make a motion and it needs to be seconded by another voting member. The motion is “tabled” when the Chairperson reads it to the Assembly. The “mover” may speak first and she/he may only speak again once others have had a chance to address the Assembly. Voter eligibility was discussed. Abstentions were clarified. The sit down, stand up process for voting was presented. Vote was called on this process. Motion carried.

Discussion guidelines, Discussion Item & Motion Sheets:

Jo-Anne reviewed the location of forms and the process and flow of information based on these forms and the explanation of the process as follows:

What happens if I submit a Discussion Item? Your Executive at an upcoming meeting reviews the discussion items. (November & February). These items are clarified as needed and either acted upon by the Executive, or brought forward to AWSC for discussion and action. (i.e. either administrative in nature to be decided upon or a substantive issue requiring a motion to come to a future Assembly for further discussion.)

Workshop Sign up Sheets:

Sign up sheets are set up on a table at the bottom of the stairs in the registration area. Two sets of four workshops are to be conducted during the late afternoon and early evening. 1) Group Representative 101, Gay M. Windsor Hall 2) District Representative 101 Nick M. Kingston Room 3) Archives: Keeping the Story Alive Mary Jane McK. Georgian AB and 4) Alateen Sponsors & SAMS, Muskoka Room.

Ask-It-Basket & Volunteers:

Any questions regarding answers from the manual are to be written on the pink paper and submitted to the volunteers for discussion later in the evening. Answers will be given on

Sunday and published in our Open Lines newsletter where space available. Volunteers were called for. Maureen Dist.#28, Carl Dist.#28, Brenda Dist.#2, and Debbie Dist.#16 will be joining our advisor Gail C. and Ann K. past LDC Chairperson.

REVIEW OF ELECTION PROCESS:

- 1) Delegate (2/3 majority required)
- 2) Alternate Delegate (simple majority required)
- 3) Chairperson (simple majority required)
- 4) Treasurer (simple majority required)
- 5) Secretary (simple majority required)

Jo-Anne shared information with regards to eligibility of candidates. Voting will be by closed ballots. Vote was called on this process. Majority yeas, one nay. Motion carried.

Approval of the 2007 Assembly Minutes:

Errors and omissions were asked for. Heather P. Area Secretary spoke to the deletion of names on minutes posted to the website. Amendments were noted regarding district numbers. It was moved "That the minutes of the 2007 OSA Assembly be accepted as amended". Vote was called. All in favour, motion carried.

Note: Amendments for 2007 Assembly minutes were made and have been posted to the Area website.

Delegate's Report – Joan P:

Joan's report is in a separate package handed out at the registration table. This report is to be copied and distributed to Group Representatives, who in turn are to share with the group members. Joan spoke of her gratitude for the love gifts that she took to the World Service Conference in April. Joan then shared her experience at World Service Conference and spoke to the issue of finances, appeals, and bequests. Joan spoke to the item of updates to the Service Manual. Instructions on how to cut and paste updates into the manual can be found under Delegate's Corner on the Ontario South website. The process of anonymity and e-mail etiquette was shared from the service manual. In 2007, it was voted that the Alateen Traditions be adopted and added to the charter. The wording has not yet been approved, therefore will be forwarded to the 2009 Conference. Joan thanked the membership for the honour of allowing her to serve as Area Delegate.

Break 10:00 – 10:25

Jo-Anne reviewed the eligibility of voters of the incoming Group Representative and District Representatives responsibilities.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report – Jean B:

Jean invited the members to please attend this evening's planned entertainment. The skit was imported from Akron Ohio. The treasurer's report is in the package that was handed out at the registration table. Jean first shared on the current budget and how to read the numbers. Review of the numbers and explanations were given.

****Special Note: Please use the donation form when submitting a group donation. The form is also available on the OSA web site. Include group name and number so that funds may be quickly and accurately identified and posted.*

1) Discussion Item: Proposed 2009 Budget

Jean spoke to the 2009 budget. Floor was opened to questions/discussions.

Moved by Sean M. from District #1 and seconded by Anita S. District 11. It is moved "That the proposed budget for 2009 be approved." Vote called, Majority yea, three nays. Motion carried.

FYI: Update on SAM Certification Renewal Process and Area Manual - Joan R

Joan spoke on the re-certification process and Matthew (AAPP) clarified the timing of the process for re-certification. Joan spoke to the Area Policies and Guideline and where and when to pick up the manual updates. Jo-Anne shared on the comments that came forward with regards to identification of SAMs at events via cards. Up to date list would be provided to the committee hosting the event.

Chairperson Jo-Anne reminded the membership that the hospitality suite is not available for lunch or supper due to hotel regulations. Box lunches and hotel meals are available as well as venues outside within walking distance.

Lunch 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Meeting reconvened with Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

ELECTIONS:

- 1) Delegate: Three candidates are Claire D., Kristine B., and Martie B.
Three ballots – Claire D. was declared
- 2) Alt Delegate: Two candidates are Heather P. and Jean McS.
One ballot - Heather P. was declared
- 3) Chairperson: Two candidates are Bob T. and Sue G.
One ballot – Sue G. was declared
- 4) Treasurer: Two candidates are Marianne E. and Phyllis G.
One ballot – Marianne E. was declared
- 5) Secretary: One candidate stood, Jacqui K. was affirmed

Jo-Anne clarified the process of nominating a Regional Trustee for Canada Central. Gail C. is our nominated candidate for this position. Ontario South, Ontario North and Manitoba are the three areas that make up Canada Central.

**REPORTS TAKE PLACE WHILE BALLOT COUNT IS TAKING PLACE
(Reports are in package handed out at registration table)**

Alateen Advisory Committee Chair – Kaitlin T: Unity held Sept.12 with 99 participants with great Al-Anon support. There were amazing topics and sharing.

Veronica: Unity Chair for 2009: advised that the Alateen GRs meeting tonight will have elections taking place. Terry: Unity Co-Chair for 2009: spoke on service work and invited others to join in service.

Trillium 2009 – Jane H: Have sold 500 journals so far and have most of the main speakers booked. Jane asked the membership to go out and spread the word and to bring a friend to Trillium June 19, 2009. The first flyer is out, a copy was put on each person's seat. Trillium will be held at Doubletree International. There are thirty-nine early registrations so far at \$20.00. Early bird cut off is Feb.06 and room rate is \$110.00 for early registration. Please use phone number that is on the flyer when making reservations.

Archives – Mary Jane McK: Shared on how this position fit her personality and what a wonderful experience it has been. The co-operation with AA Archives has been a wonderful experience as well. There are guidelines for oral histories at the back of the room. Spoke about the books that are no longer in print that are the histories of Al-Anon. She brought forth an idea from down East of a memorial book.

Group Records – Darlene K: The report in your package explains the process of group record updating as there will be many with the turnover of new Group Representatives starting January 01, 2009. Please note that the change/registration form can be found online at our Area website.

Literature – Penny F: Looking forward to having the next Assembly in Kingston. Report in package. Literature has changed greatly over the years. The new technology through file exchange from WSO is getting the word out quicker. Conference calls are now part of the position. It was also suggested that if you do not own a computer, that you buddy-up with someone who has one to keep up with current information being sent. Although Open Lines and the Forum will be sent to you free, please encourage your group members to order these for themselves as Open Lines is a handy tool for contacting your Executive and Co-ordinators for any questions you might have. There have been three literature projects where World Service Office has asked members to read a chapter or paragraph from a book of their choosing, list some questions and discuss at your group meeting or workshop and submit your results to them. The number of submissions and results of the projects that were sent to World Service Office from our Area were higher than any other area in the United States and Canada. We can be proud that our Area has been ranked Number 1 twice.

Open Lines – Martie B: Report in package. Group Representatives receive a free copy for the group for members to peruse. After Nov.14th, any sharing to be published in Open Lines needs to be sent to our new Co-ordinator. On the back table there are copies of newsletters from other Areas that are free for the taking.

Public Outreach – Michelle D: Michelle summarized what the districts have been doing in the Area. The detailed report will be printed in Open Lines.

Website – Don C: This has been a tremendous experience and the role that this position works within our non-organized, organization. There is a new page on site for e-mail to transfer information. One of the prime reasons for becoming co-ordinator was to make meeting lists work for updating website. Please send on any item of interest to make the website better, to our next coordinator. Don has made himself available as a service sponsor. This position allows one to work closely with the group records coordinator. There are lots of ideas yet to discuss as to which events could be posted to the site.

Alateen – Kristine B: Referred to page 33 of our service manual.

AAPP – Matthew H: Sang us a song on “I am your AAPP guy I am”. Invited members to put their name forth for this position.

LDC Report – Gail C & Lyn S: Gail introduced the board of the (LDC) Literature Distribution Centre. Gail spoke to the expenses of the exchange rate on the dollar and postage costs. Lyn thanked everyone for their support of the literature centre and her management. Sales have been up since coming back from summer holiday. Closure of the LDC office for the Christmas break will commence Friday Dec.25 to Jan 5th, 2009. Radio CD for new PSA is coming.

Special Note: A recurring request throughout the reports is, when corresponding with the Area Co-ordinators, please supply District, group name and ideally, group numbers.

Meeting closed with the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration and the Serenity Prayer.

WORKSHOPS:

1) Group Representative 101 (Gay M.)

All members were welcomed to the workshop. Information was shared regarding a Group Representative’s duties, length of term, spreading the word including Forum and websites. Use of the manual was reviewed and the issue of a double winner serving at group level versus district level. Length of group business meetings, how often, group conscience and items for agenda were discussed.

2) District Representative 101 (Nick M.)

A copy of the District Representative guidelines (G3) was handed out. Nick shared on his experience of growth during his term as District Representative. Shared on the links of service and if you as a DR cannot find the answer, to contact the Delegate. Also discussed was the use of conference approved literature.

3) Archives: Keeping the Story Alive (Mary Jane McK.)

Mary Jane shared on History: Lois Remembers as well as obtaining group oral histories. Forms and handouts were made available on storing and tools available for preservation and conservation and a hands on demonstration was done. This information will also be made available through Open Lines.

4) *Alateen Sponsors & SAMs (Kristine B.)*
No Report Available.

Dinner 5:15 p.m. to 7:00

WORKSHOPS:

1) *Group Representative 101 (Gay M.)*

All members were welcomed and shared on the gratitude of being an Al-Anon member. Discussion was held on carrying the message, being a trusted servant, term of office and duties. Questions were answered regarding financial support of Group, District, Area and World Service Office.

2) *District Representative 101 (Nick M.)*

Guideline for District Representative was handed out and a definition of a District Representative was shared. The Do's and Don'ts were shared about leadership, facilitating District meetings and using our Traditions and Concepts. Recommended Paths to Recovery as a good resource.

3) *Archives: Keeping the Story Alive (Mary Jane McK.)*

Mary Jane shared on History: Lois Remembers and the history of Al-Anon in Ontario South. Forms and handouts were made available on storing and tools available for preservation and conservation and a hands on demonstration was done. This information will also be made available through Open Lines.

4) *Alateen Sponsors & SAMs (Kristine B.)*

Matthew shared on the Sponsor/SAM registration process and the flow of paperwork by AAPP co-ordinator including Alateen group registration. The issue of disclosure of abuse was discussed. Reporting of such can be done as an individual, not as an Al-Anon member. Kristine handed out paperwork regarding Alateen in Your Heart. Also handed out was the information regarding registration, Advisory committee, guidelines and Area Process.

Evening Entertainment (as organized by Host Committee)

Over the Recovery Rainbow skit.

Evening Meetings:

1) Ask it Basket Committee 2) Alt. Delegate with Coordinators 3) Alateen GRs meeting

SUNDAY OCTOBER 26, 2008

Meeting opened with a Moment of Silence followed by the Serenity Prayer, Traditions, Concepts and Warranties.

Jacqui K. made final Host Committee Announcements. Phyllis spoke to the members with regards to the silent auction and announced the winners. She also thanked all

members for their contributions to the Country Store and the volunteers who were there. The country store will be open and will entertain offers of what is left. What is left will be donated to a charity.

Jo-Anne reminded members that they may make an expression of interest in the coordinators positions to our incoming Delegate Claire, and if so, please do in the next couple of week. Profit thus far from the Country Store is \$4,000.00. Jo-Anne also took a moment to speak to the Area manual and thanked those involved with its production. She thanked those involved in putting the manual together. Reminder for DR's to hand over the Area manual to the new incoming DR and that you have the update from Joan R. An announcement was made regarding the draw for free registration for Trillium and the donated book, *Discovering Choices*, from the Kingston host committee. Jo-Anne then thanked the host committee as well and made a couple of last minute Assembly announcements.

Ask-it-Basket Answers:

Questions and answers to be published in upcoming Open Lines issues as where space available.

Delegate's Update:

Joan shared that her duties as Delegate continue until December 31 and about our links of service. Also shared was the renewal of the Board's vision. With regards to all people affected by alcoholism...please consider putting your name forth to ensure the links of service continue so that Al-Anon will grow. There was a conference call on literature to set a goal and use a diverse set of books in your meetings and share with the newcomers. It will be our 60th anniversary in 2011, so CAL will print a special issue of the history of Al-Anon. Our next Area Assembly will be October 30th to November 1st in Kingston. Joan also shared on the joys of working with the current Executive and gave her best wishes for the incoming Executive. It has been a grand and great experience and an honour to be your Delegate.

Open Mic:

For those who wished, shared with the Assembly.

Meeting adjourned with the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration, Break & Checkout

Open Speaker Meeting

Topic "Energizing Our Spiritual Quest"

Chair: Incoming Chair – Sue G.

Speaker: Incoming Delegate – Claire D.

Speaker meeting closed with the Al-Anon/Alateen Declaration and The Lord's Prayer

THANK YOU for your participation.....