

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 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/>

AI-Anon Declaration

Let it begin with me

When anyone anywhere reaches out for help, let the hand of AI-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 AI-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

© Ontario South Assembly, 2015 Printed in Canada

[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, Penetanguishene)
- 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, Omemee)
- 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 (Kingston, Napanee)
- District 32** – Kawartha South (Ennismore, Norwood, Peterborough)
- District 33** – Overlay

From the Ontario South Delegate

Greetings, fellow Ontario South members!

Thank you to everyone who made the time to join my recent Let's Talk sessions on Zoom. Your comments and feedback have helped inform my participation in the conversation about group names at the next World Service Conference.

As we close out the second year of this service term, I am filled with gratitude. The past year has really allowed me to experience so many of the ways in which Ontario South is such a strong, healthy and enthusiastic Area. I feel so fortunate that I get to be your Delegate! I've thoroughly enjoyed getting to visit with many of you this year at your AI-Anon Days, workshops and conferences. I truly appreciate each of you who step up for service to our fellowship, whether that's standing for election to a position or helping on a committee within your group or District.

If your group or District has an event you'd like to request I attend in 2026, please reach out! My e-mail address is OntarioSouthDelegate@hotmail.com.

Thank you for everything you do for AI-Anon/Alateen, and all the best in the new year!

Yours in Service,
Jason W. Delegate, Ontario South

From the Ontario South Alternate Delegate/Forum Coordinator

It has indeed been a busy couple of months.
I have been busy with AI-Anon days and my duties as Alternate Delegate.

Please feel free to invite me to host a Forum Writing Workshop. I have tweaked my power point and feel ready to go (although truly I am never ready until HP is invited in).

Forum subscriptions have remained steady and as Canada Post works their way through the backlog your subscription edition will come!! I just received my October issue that I was eagerly awaiting, Loretta V has an amazing article on Service in there. I am always pleased to Ontario writings.

I wish each and every one on you a peaceful and serene holiday however you celebrate.

In Service
Sharon R., Interim Alternate Delegate & Forum Coordinator

From the Ontario South Area Chairperson

Hello Members of Ontario South!

As Area Chairperson, and member of the Executive Committee, I am privileged to serve Ontario South and participate in the following activities:

Executive Meetings: The Executive Committee had the opportunity to meet in person on November 7th and 8th. Items for Consideration forms and Assembly 2025 Evaluation Forms were reviewed for feedback and topic suggestions for planning future AWSC and Assembly meetings. Also, be on the lookout for the *News From Your Executive* flyer, November edition, for Area highlights and updates.

Assembly 2026: The Chairperson serves as the liaison to the Executive for the Assembly Host Committee. Assembly is booked for **November 6-8, 2026** in Burlington (Central). Thank you to District 14 and DR, Diana S., for their efforts in researching the facility and putting in the bid to host in 2026.

Assembly 2027: Part of the mandate of the current service term is to secure a location and venue for the incoming 2027 Executive, elected at Assembly 2026. Districts in the **West part** of our Area (Districts 1 – 13) will be requested to provide bids to host Assembly 2027 and to form the Host Committee. It's never too early to start the conversation! **Bids are requested by 01May2026.**

AWSC 2026: AWSC is booked for May 29-31, 2026, at Durham College in Oshawa.

Trillium Shadow Chair 2026 and Chair 2027: Collaborating with the current Chairperson for Trillium 2026, Don V., letters of invitation were sent out for the role of Shadow Chair 2026 and Chairperson for 2027. Cheryl T. has graciously accepted the invitation to act as Shadow Chair 2026, and Chairperson for Trillium 2027.

Items for Consideration: Members can submit a suggestion to the Executive using the online Item for Consideration form found on the Area website. Members will receive a response following the Executive meeting at which the Item was discussed. Should the Item require action other than administrative, the Item may become a Discussion Topic at a future AWSC or Assembly. Refer to Section 4 or Section 5A of the Ontario South Assembly (OSA) Policies and Guidelines Manual (Area Manual) for reference.

AMIAS Letters: As Chairperson, I can issue the Area letter for those members seeking a Vulnerable Sector Check as part of the AMIAS certification process. Please email me your request including your full legal name.

News From Your Executive: This news blast follows each Executive meeting to communicate some of what the Executive has been discussing or planning. Please look for these flyers from your links of service, and share and discuss the information amongst your group members!

It's hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the second year of the current service term and we need to start thinking about rotation of leadership and elections in 2026! For those interested in learning more about the Area Chairperson role, please reference the OSA Area Manual at [Ontario South Al-Anon – Help and hope for families and friends of alcoholics](#) and using the *For Members* drop-down menu, select *Ontario South Assembly Resources* – or give me a call.

Best wishes for the holiday season, and peace and serenity in 2026!

HopeUnityGratitudeService

Deborah F., Chairperson, Ontario South Assembly, Chairons86@gmail.com

From the Ontario South Treasurer

Hello Ontario South.

It was nice to connect with the members of Ontario South at Assembly in Kingston a couple of weeks ago. In case you missed it, I presented a workshop on Finances in Al-Anon. Check it out. It is posted on Ontario South's website. If your group would like a copy of the sample group financial statement in excel format to use as a template, I would be happy to share it with you. Just send me an email.

Next year will be my last year as your treasurer. If you like numbers as much as I do, please think about putting your name forward for Area Treasurer. It has been a pleasure to serve you.

As of the end of October, OSA has received \$30,505 in contributions from groups, 67% of the total amount budgeted. 130 groups out of 272 (48%) have contributed something so far this year. Thank you to all the groups who support our area. To be fully self-supporting, we need more groups contributing.

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 www.al-anon.alateen.on.ca, for members, donations.

The budgeted amount suggested from each group for 2026 is \$196 (2025 – \$175).

Thank you for putting your trust in me. Enjoy the upcoming holidays!

Thank you for putting your trust in me.

Janet B Treasurer osatreasurer3@gmail.com

From the Ontario South Secretary

Hello Ontario South

This is my second report in service as the Ontario South secretary, as I have not submitted one since the first in July 2024. As at that time, we have been hard at work in Ontario South. This role continues to be a joy and a challenge.

The challenge is continuing to keep up with the steady stream of duties the role entails, while fitting it into a busy life. Sometimes I keep up, sometimes I fall behind. Can you relate?

We have three regularly scheduled executive meetings, one in Feb, which is electronic due to weather, two in person, July and November, which just occurred the weekend of Nov 7-9. Having that right on the heels of Assembly was a challenge for me! I haven't finished these minutes yet because I prioritized completing the Assembly minutes first. Although I prefer mornings, I take care of evening work responsibilities when necessary. I am balancing feeling compelled to perform quickly with "taking it easy". That is a joy in the learning available to me in the process and a challenge when I feel the compulsion. This is the joy of service!

I continue to respond to emails, forwarding information as requested. Since I'm usually at my computer on weekdays, I can do it quickly during lunch or after work.

I maintain the contact list and send it out regularly, but no longer monthly. There are always changes as soon as I send one out, and I do not want to flood people's in-boxes.

I have now attended 2 AWSC meetings and 2 Assembly, in my role as secretary and am more comfortable and confident for sure, but still sometimes confused! The difference is that now I know it LOL!

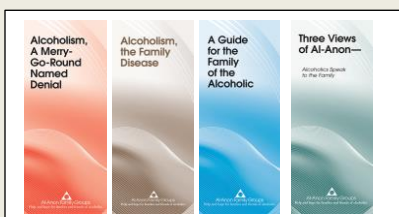
This role continues to be a steady stream of duties that must be fit into my full-time work schedule, but I still love it! I'm so enjoying the bonds that the executive has built, we laugh in our meetings and meals together, I love the contact with members all over our Area and the opportunity to be of service.

Love in service,

Carrie E Secretary area86secretary@gmail.com

From the Area Literature Coordinator

Our wonderful **Conference Approved Literature (CAL)** supports all of those affected by the family disease of alcoholism. Alcoholism is a family disease, and everyone in the family is affected by this disease in their own way. One of the gifts of this service position, is a chance to get back into the amazing CAL that we have readily available to us! Here are a few pamphlets that I am re-discovering, all of which can easily be purchased through our amazing [Literature Distribution Centre](#), using this simple [digital order form](#).



In "[Alcoholism, the Family Disease](#)" (P-4), I can find "A Checklist for Maturity" (Pg. 19); "Questions Often Asked" (pg. 13); as well as "The Slogans of Al-Anon" (pg. 16). A very useful tool for anyone affected by this family disease.

In [Three Views of Al-Anon - Alcoholics Speak to the Family](#) (P-15), I can read about Bill W., Cofounder of AA, as he speaks to Al-Anon (pg. 2), and "An Open Letter from an alcoholic" (pg. 2-3); as well as "A recovering alcoholic recommends Al-Anon for the family" (pg. 3). Insightful and thoughtful sharings for me to ponder.

In "[A Guide for the Family of the Alcoholic](#)" (P-7), I am reminded of "The Alcoholic's Weapons" (pg. 4 – 5), and that "Alcohol is an Anesthetic" (pg. 6); in addition to being reminded to "Begin With Self" (pg. 9). Wise words!

I learn so much each time I re-read "[Alcoholism, A Merry-Go-Round Named Denial](#)" (P-3) on my own, or with my group, or with a sponsee. This 3-Act play is one that I relate to every time, in different ways.

All of these pamphlets help me to better understand this family disease that affects me, and would be extremely helpful to both newcomers and professionals alike. We have so much wisdom in our Conference Approved Literature that we can easily share with others, when asked!

As always, I would love to support your group or district by visiting to talk about our amazing Conference Approved Literature, and/or to help facilitate a writing workshop or an Al-Anon book study. All you have to do is reach out and ask me 😊

Yours in service,

Sue M. Literature Coordinator Ontario South osalitcoord86@gmail.com

From the Alateen Coordinator

It was nice to see everybody at Assembly. Many showed interest in Alateen and I was able to answer questions. An Alateen workshop was held on Saturday evening. We had 6 Al-Anon members attend but there was lots of emotions flying in that room. Thank you to all who attended.

Our AMIAS numbers are down; last year at this time we had 83 AMIAS and today we have 75. We have 28 districts with 75 AMIAS across Ontario South. We need a minimum of 2 AMIAS to sponsor each group. Ideally, we need 8 AMIAS per group to minimize the burn out AMIAS experience from attending Alateen very often especially if there are no teens in that group. We are still working on finding more AMIASs throughout Ontario South. Some AMIAS have decided not to re-register and we have had some new members register. Unfortunately, not near enough AMIAS to have Alateen accessible throughout Ontario South. We continue to announce the need for AMIAS to grow Alateen across Ontario South. I have had several people approach me with interest and am working on getting them to submit their AMIAS application.

This Summer has been busy with several events requesting Alateen Speakers: Woodstock Conference, Catfish Creek Campout, ODAAT Campout, District 7's Anniversary, and Up'n At'em's 5th Anniversary and the Bellwoods Roundup. We now have enough seasoned Alateens to have been able to have speakers at all these events. It's exciting to be invited to these events, but it is more exciting to be able to send Alateen members to speak, providing exposure to Alateen amongst both Al-Anon and AA.

We have teens attending Al-Anon in Arnprior, Markham and Chatham because there are no Alateen groups available to them. If you are in these districts and interested in helping facilitate an Alateen meeting, please reach out to me.

We are still working diligently to open new groups in Owen Sound, Guelph, Toronto East, Trenton, St. Mary's, Parry Sound, Windsor and Keswick. I have introduced a new service position: Alateen Group Organiser. This position is for people who are interested in heading up a new Alateen Group. See information below.

The monthly AMIAS meeting was paused for the months of July and August and resumed in September. We are having discussions to support one another with any struggles our groups are experiencing and the best method to provide public outreach for Alateen.

AMIAS training sessions to review the modules provided by WSO and open discussions were held for three (3) weeks for 2-hour intervals each Saturday from October 4, 2025 at 10 am. A new session is being offered Friday November 14, 21 and 28 from 7:30pm to 9:30pm.

Yours in Service

Judith W., Alateen Coordinator os.alateen.coordinator@gmail.com

Service Opportunity:

Alateen Group Organiser

Looking for Al-Anon Members who are interested in opening an Alateen Group in your district.

Job Description Below:

- Encourage Al-Anon members to become Certified AMIAS (Al-Anon Member in Alateen Service)
 - Guide those interested through the certification process
 - Keep a list of certified AMIAS in the district and their contact information. This list is only to be shared with DR's for events with instructions to shred when the event is over
- Work with the Area Alateen Co-ordinator to open one or more groups in the district
 - once there are more than two certified AMIAS, look for a space to host the Alateen meeting
 - Register the Alateen group with WSO
 - Find insurance if required
 - Ask groups in the district to support the Alateen meeting by bringing new members and providing donations until the group is self supporting
 - Work with the AMIASs to perform Public Outreach to let people know there is an Alateen meeting (groups in the district, schools, hospitals etc.)
- Prepare and distribute a monthly schedule to the Active AMIAS for the new group
- Attend monthly Area AMIAS meetings (1st Sunday of every month at 10am)
- Reach out to the Area Alateen Co-ordinator for guidance and to discuss any concerns or challenges

Those interested in the position, please contact the Ontario South Alateen Co-ordinator to discuss:

From the Group Records Coordinator

Hello fellow Al-Anon members of Ontario South. Since my last report I have attended a workshop through WSO on October 11, 2025. The main focus for this workshop was the procedure for groups reporting not meeting.

I also attended Assembly in October in Kingston, Ontario. I printed and brought all the group detail reports and they were all picked up by districts.

As a reminder WSO will be mailing the Annual Update Forms for all Canadian groups in January and please take a few minutes to confirm a change or not. It is vital and important that newcomers find a meeting. If your group is both in person and online you need to fill in the form as an In-Person meeting, and Electronic meetings need to fill in the Electronic portion of

the form. Another reminder is to fill out the Group Records Change form if there are any changes for your group, such as CMA, GR or change in time or address. Here is the link to make any changes for your group:

Here is the link to JotForm: [Change form click here](https://form.jotform.com/OntarioSouth/grchangeform) <https://form.jotform.com/OntarioSouth/grchangeform>

Hugs in service

Christina L, 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 Al-Anon groups in Ontario South to help keep them informed. Thank you to all of the Executive, Coordinators and District Representatives 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)

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. Our member subscription is now up to 350!! That is in addition to every District Rep, Coordinator and Executive who receive their copy. Please spread the word that every member can receive their very own copy free to their own email! The next issue is April 1, 2026.

Yours in Joyful service,

Loretta V, Open Lines Coordinator openlinesosa@gmail.com

From the Technology Coordinator

Hello members of Ontario South Al-Anon,

Since my last update in August 2025, I participated in the Assembly Committee meetings, which was another positive service experience for me. I enjoyed working with other members committed to service, discussing solutions to issues in an open and collaborative way, and wanting to put on a great Assembly in Kingston; which was well organized and the karaoke entertainment Saturday was amazing.... so many members in Al-Anon with great singing voices. We might have to have our own Al-Anon's Got Talent show :)

For both past Assemblies, Sarnia 2024 and Kingston 2025, as part of the rental of the main conference hall, Ontario South also purchased the hotel's Audio/Video (A/V) rental package, which included the rental of the: Overhead Projectors, Projector Screens, and if available, in-room ceiling speakers and microphones. For the Assembly in Sarnia, Ontario South rented audio speakers.

For the Kingston Assembly, Ontario South rented: two wired podium microphones, two podium microphone stands, two floor microphone stands, a Soundcraft EMP8 audio mixer, and a few XLR P3 cables from Baldwin Audio/Video. On the weekend of the Assembly, Baldwin's technician brought the equipment we rented, and everything was setup within an hour. The hotel's A/V package included two wireless microphones. As with prior AWSC and the Sarnia Assembly, the wireless microphones consume battery power quickly. Fortunately, I was prepared this time and had plenty of AA batteries for the wireless microphones. There were some audio issues on Friday night, due to the audio being connected to another room. This will be something to verify (sound check) at the next Assembly.

At the Kingston Assembly, there was a good discussion about "In-Person Assemblies with an Electronic Component" and I heard a few concerns that I hadn't considered. One major one, was video, audio, and chat data being used by Zoom for training Artificial Intelligence (AI) or Zoom just collecting that information. The Area may need to consider a conferencing platform which provides a legal notice that they do not collect any data and especially do not share any data with third party companies. Another issue is anonymity of members; some members may not want their image being broadcast on any video conferencing platform. This I think can be addressed by only having the webcam pointed at the main podium.

Thank-you for the opportunity to serve as your Technology Coordinator.

Anthony S., Technology Coordinator os.tc.a86@gmail.com

From the Trillium Chair

Greeting Ontario South AI-Anon/Alateen:

Hello all in Area 86, my name is Don V and I am proud to be the Trillium Chair for 2026. I look forward to putting together an amazing event with the help of the wonderful committee that I have the privilege of taking this wonderful journey with me. I am honored to be asked and when I was approached in May of 2024, I must say I was a little surprised, but was more than happy to take on this Service position because I knew in AI-Anon we are never alone and I wanted the opportunity to give back just a little of what I have received from the amazing program.

During the summer months I was busy having Zoom meetings with several of the committee members and helping them to prepare for our opening meeting. I have also had the opportunity to work very closely with the Shadow Chair Cheryl T. and give her as much information on her position as I could. We have had a number of meetings going over the Committee Positions, Gmail documents, position expectations and that sort of thing. Cheryl is in the beginning stages of putting together her Shadow Committee and things are starting to take shape for her. Please help support Cheryl in her role as Shadow Chair for 2026 and Trillium Chair for 2027. If you are interested in sitting on next years committee, please email osatrillium@gmail.com and we will get back to you ASAP.

We have been hard at work getting things rolling, starting with visiting Venues that can offer a facility that will support Trillium 2026. The Venue Coordinator has narrowed our search down to two facilities and we expect to make a call during our November meeting which will be held on November 17th.

We are hoping to have a **Save the Date** flyer out either by the end of November or early December. Once we have things confirmed for our Venue and a Date for the event, a Flyer will be sent out so you can put it in your calendar.

Registration is working with the Ontario South Website Coordinator and the Treasurer to start the set up with Registration. This process takes time but we are hopeful that things will be ready to go early in the New Year and we can start the process of Registering members for the event.

During our November 17th meeting a Venue and date were decided on! **Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario** is the Venue chosen and the date of the event will be **June 26th, 27th and 28th**. We are looking forward to getting the save the date flyer out, which our Graphics Coordinator is working on at this time

So, things are shaping up! The committee, including myself, are very excited and are aiming to put together an event that will match all the past events as each and everyone of them have offered something very special to the participants. I am super excited to see the end result and, as always, I encourage the entire committee to have fun with this wonderful and exciting service opportunity they have embarked on.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the continued support.

In Loving Service
Don V, Chairperson, Trillium Convention 2026

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
1	25Oct25	Susan H – D31	That Ontario South pays any costs required for Assembly. Currently, the District Host of Assembly pays for any insurance required by the venue and sound system requirements. The insurance is in Ontario South's name. The Host then needs to fill out a form to be reimbursed for the costs. Some Districts may not have the funds to cover these costs upfront. I believe this needs to be addressed by the Executives.

RESPONSE

Thank you for your suggestion. The Host Committee Chairperson negotiates the event insurance and audio-visual equipment needs with the various vendors. While Ontario South Assembly is named as the holder of the insurance policy, the Host Committee Chairperson is the primary contact for those 3rd parties. Once invoices are received from the vendors, they can be submitted immediately to the Area Treasurer using the Expense Claim Form, and an eTransfer reimbursement to the District can occur within a matter of days allowing the District to pay the invoice without being out of pocket. Alternatively, the Area Treasurer could pay the invoice directly. This process has worked well in the past. If future Districts have a concern with this process, perhaps a conversation with the Area Treasurer can occur ahead of time to arrange a satisfactory payment process.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
2	25Oct25	Eileen L – D28	Can a group inventory be done for the whole of the region, specifically to find out about attendance at Assembly and reasons why groups are unable to give to District etc.

RESPONSE

Thank you for your suggestion. An Area inventory was done this year with results presented and discussed at AWSC 2025 with the District Representatives (DRs). The inventory included a question each on ways to increase participation at AWSC/Assembly and the importance of financial contributions. Groups and Districts are encouraged to conduct their own inventories. Guidelines for a Group Inventory are available on the WSO website at www.al-anon.org. Reasons why groups are unable to give to District could be a Discussion Topic at a District meeting. The *2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*, pages 52-55, section Group Finances/Budget may provide additional background information for you. Page 106 of the Service Manual discusses Fundraisers as a means of raising funds as part of our responsibility to be self-supporting.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
3	25Oct25	Nikolai D – D21	Holding a shorter business meeting at a conference such as Trillium even if it means the day before or after, rather than a full weekend for OSA. Even if this is deemed undesirable, it may be worth considering a workshop at Trillium to give GRs exposure to OSA.

RESPONSE

Thank you for your suggestion. The Ontario South Assembly (OSA) Al-Anon/Alateen Trillium Convention (Trillium) operates as a separate entity while maintaining a close liaison with the OSA through its Executive, the AWSC and the Assembly. Trillium is planned by a new Committee each year, and is traditionally held in June, while Assembly is held in October.

Because of the size of our Area, we hold one in-person Assembly each year. Rotating Assembly locations from West/East/Central allows the best opportunity for the most members to attend in person. Trillium is a convention open to all members of the fellowship and other guests, not specific to GRs, such that a Workshop for GRs may be better suited at a business meeting, at a District meeting, or perhaps as an Area-level initiative, maybe online. Would you be interested in coordinating such a Workshop?

Because Trillium functions autonomously, the convention committee is free to plan a unique program apart from Assembly concerns. Please feel free to reach out to Don V., the Trillium Chairperson, and Sue G., the AI-Anon Program Coordinator for Trillium 2026, to share your ideas.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
4	25Oct25	McKayla S – D2	QR code for voting members when using hybrid Assembly or AWSC. Each member logs into the meeting with their name and email which would keep anonymity and confidentiality during any votes. Automatic confirmation of votes would make better time management. Helpful for Districts who may meet together locally instead of at home themselves. Willing to give further information and ability to be on the Task Force to help with this change for hybrid Assemblies.

RESPONSE

Thank you for your ideas, and for your willingness to participate on a Task Force that will be established as a result of the motion carried at Assembly in October.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
5	25Oct25	Joyce McF – D?	Would it be possible for Ontario South to send a questionnaire to all groups in Ontario South to ask that if they had a hybrid Assembly would it make a difference as to whether they would attend. I know a number of groups that would not. Before Ontario South does anything regarding this, could they send this out to expand their knowledge (KBDM).

RESPONSE

Thank you for your question. The Thought Force report included in the Assembly 2025 Information Package included several questions on what is known and what remains unknown regarding the topic of holding a hybrid Assembly. It remains unknown what the impact on attendance would be. Polling the GRs of groups today will have no impact on whether or not future GRs will attend because of the principle of rotation of leadership and the next term (2027-2029) will have new GRs and DRs. This may be of interest to a future Task Force that will be established as a result of the motion carried at Assembly in October.

A review of the number of registered voters at Ontario South Assemblies from 2017 through to 2024 showed no significant change in attendance during the years of 2020 and 2021 when our Assemblies were virtual due to the pandemic. In fact, 2021 had one of the lowest attendance numbers in this period of time. As was discussed by the Thought Force Chairperson, this endeavour is about inclusivity rather than participation. However, one would hope that improved accessibility through electronic means may lead to increased participation.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
6	25Oct25	Tina K – D11	Since we have approximately 60% of our area GRs not participating/voting on the budget and a large percentage of AWSC/Assembly time and cost spent on the budget, might we consider addressing the budget in another way that still includes those groups.

			As DR, I have taken what I learn at both meetings back to my district and groups for discussion, input and correction of practice. Sixty percent of Ontario South groups are missing out and not contributing. Maybe we need to explore a new way of communicating the budget and voting on it.
--	--	--	---

RESPONSE

Thank you for sharing your thoughts. The *2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual*, page 63, discusses the structure of the fellowship – the Links of Service. Page 68 informs us that groups elect a GR to connect to Al-Anon worldwide and that DRs and GRs are expected to attend meetings of the Assembly whenever its Chairperson calls them. The succession of elected links gives each Al-Anon and Alateen group a voice. The same links provide a continuous chain of communication for the flow of information between the groups, Districts, Assemblies, World Service Conference and World Service Office. A group that fails to have a Group Representative denies its members a voice and causes a break in the link of communication. Groups have the autonomy to appoint another member to attend Assembly and vote on their behalf.

Page 49 of the Service Manual, under Group Conscience, informs us that a group conscience evolves when we take the time necessary to hear from those members who *want* to participate. Are the groups you’re referring to missing out, or choosing not to participate?

To provide ample time for sharing and discussion through the Links of Service, the Assembly Information Package and the AWSC Information Package, including the budget information, are distributed two months ahead of the meeting. The DRs are requested to share and discuss the information with their GRs, who are then requested to share and discuss the information with their group members. This is in keeping with the structure of the entire fellowship.

Page 163 of the Service Manual, section Finances, guides us that the anticipated expenses of the Area will be shared by each group and District as they each recognize their individual and collective responsibility.

The Area’s Open Lines Coordinator publishes the Area newsletter three times a year; the Executive publishes a news flyer after each of our Executive meetings, often with a finance update. We rely on the Links of Service to share and discuss the relevant information.

If you have a specific suggestion on how better to communicate, please let us know. Thank you for your active participation in your District and at the Area business meetings.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
7	25Oct25	Jennifer T – D14	I am hopeful that Area 86 would encourage our Executive and membership to reference “contributions” rather than “donations.” Contribution is an Al-Anon term versus donation which is not. Tradition One, Tradition Seven, and Concept 4 encourage us to participate in supporting Al-Anon’s unity by contributing in gratitude for what we receive. Using Al-Anon terminology encourages members to contribute because they are a “part of” a fellowship as is our responsibility, versus donating out of charity.

RESPONSE

Thank you for pointing out this subtle difference! It prompted a search of the definition of each word.

Donation: Refers to quantifiable gifts, such as money, given to a charity or cause.

Contribution: Can refer to a broader range of support, including time, talents, or resources and may not always be quantifiable.

A search of the *2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual* does, however, confirm the use of the word donation.

Page 103: “Within our practice of anonymity we are reminded that our personal donations are made without

recognition or public acknowledgement.” Page 104: “Our contributions express our individual abundance so no one donation, regardless of amount, is more important than another.” Page 105: “As an expression of gratitude, groups may make donations to the WSO on a regular basis without limit after meeting the group’s expenses and contributions to local and Area service entities.”

Page 128 of the Service Manual indicates that Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters (Canada) Inc. is a registered charity and contributions may qualify as a charitable deduction.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
8	25Oct25	Joan R – D1	In the report from the Thought Force on hybrid Assembly, the suggestion was made to add 2 Coordinator positions. My concern is for AWSC and voting, that Coordinators, who are accepted and/or appointed, may outnumber DRs who were elected and represent the members of the groups in their District. I hope you get the point.

RESPONSE

As per the OSA Policies and Guidelines Manual, Section 2A describes the eligibility and election for executive positions; Section 2B, Eligibility Criteria, states that Coordinators are selected by the Delegate from the applicants who have submitted letters of interest in the position; Section 2C, item 4, describes that DRs are elected.

In our Area, the voting members at AWSC include: 6 Executive (elected), 9 Coordinators (appointed - the Forum Coordinator is the Alternate Delegate), 31 DRs (elected); 4 Chairs including Trillium (appointed), OSAAC, and AIS (elected).

The Executive Committee understands your point and will keep this in mind as we move through the process. Thank you for sharing your perspective.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
9	26Oct25	Cindy P – D?	Enforce the speaking time for everyone. Some members don’t respect it.

RESPONSE

For discussion at Assembly, members are requested to line up at the microphone, and limit their comments to two minutes which may include up to three questions. It is also asked that members consider whether their comment has already been said so as not to repeat information or opinion. A timer is used with an audible alarm, currently the volunteer member’s cell phone. Adherence to this discussion etiquette is an opportunity to demonstrate respect, equality, humility, courtesy and personal leadership. We can all do better, the Chairperson included. The Chairperson manages the flow of business to the best of their ability.

The Executive has discussed and agreed to purchase a loud handheld bell for ringing at future meetings. Upon hearing the bell, speakers are requested to finish their sentence and relinquish the microphone. Thank you for bringing your concern forward.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
10	26Oct25	John R – D9	Thought Force to research ways to encourage and reach out to the younger adults and families.

RESPONSE

Thank you for your suggestion. At present, the Area Public Outreach (PO) Coordinator position is vacant. However, many Districts have their own Public Outreach Committees. The Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) in Ottawa and the AIS in Greater Toronto all have public outreach projects ongoing. AWSC and Assembly meetings include space to hold joint AIS/PO meetings to share information and ideas on attracting newcomers. Members are welcome to share their ideas or get involved with either of the AIS or PO committees. The September edition of the Forum magazine invited members to check out the *Al-Anon/Alateen Public Outreach Service Guideline (G-10)* at [Guidelines - Al-Anon Family Groups](#) to find out more. Additionally, there is currently a World Service Office (WSO) ad campaign to target younger members and reach out to professionals who are in contact with younger potential newcomers. This was a discussion topic at World Service Conference (WSC) in 2025.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
11	27Oct25	Barb B – D28	<p>Please consider reviewing the Area's process for maintaining and updating Alateen group records. Our Alateen group moved location and day in June 2025. Despite multiple submissions of group record change forms and emails to the website coordinator, our group's information on the OS website meeting list remained incorrect until I sat beside the website coordinator at Assembly.</p> <p>I believe the actual record is still mostly incorrect.</p> <p>The group record copy I received from the OS AAPP was almost completely incorrect.</p> <p>The information on the WSO website list is incorrect.</p> <p>Just today, I submitted a change form through the WSO site with a form that does not seem to accommodate Alateen, but apparently will be sent to the Area.</p> <p>This is a preventable barrier to letting teens know where they can find a meeting.</p> <p>Happy to help. Thanks</p>

RESPONSE

Thank you for sharing your experience. The Group Records Change Form is online at the area website, linked here [Al-Anon/Alateen Group Registration / Group Records Change Form](#)

Fortunately, process improvements are always happening due to the ongoing efforts of the Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP), who receives the Group Records Change Form for Alateen groups to update WSO, and the Website Coordinator, who uses the WSO data to update the OSA website. If deficiencies in the process are identified by the Coordinators, they are able to bring them forward to the Executive via the Alternate Delegate at which time discussion at an Executive meeting would occur.

Thank you for your enthusiasm and willingness to help. Next year is an election year and new Coordinators will be appointed by the incoming Delegate for the service term 2027-2029.

NO	DATE	NAME	ITEM
12	01Nov25	Deb B – GTAIS	<p>The GTAIS would like to offer these three possible options for making the Travel Equalization payments for AIS groups more equitable:</p> <p>a) Give the AISs the choice to pay their own travel costs.</p> <p>b) Group contributions from the 272 groups could be equalized to \$15 (an increase of \$2 per group) and that would cover the travel costs for the DRs and AIS Chairs (\$3,988) to attend AWSC.</p> <p>c) Give the Ottawa AIS the opportunity, if they wish, to be treated as a District. Group costs would rise to \$14.00 per group. GTAIS covers their own travel costs.</p> <p>Thank you very much for taking this item into consideration.</p>
RESPONSE			
Thank you for providing possible solutions which may guide future discussions. This topic will be added to the agenda for AWSC 2026.			

District Representative Updates



District 5 (Huron/Perth) Update

Hard to believe we're nearly at the end of Year 2, hopefully feeling "capable." I'm led to believe feeling "confident" is just around the corner in Year 3!

What's going on in District 5 as we continue the theme "Investing In Each Other?" We've welcomed a brand new Stratford Al Anon Group - *Path to Peace AFG*. The WSO registration process was speedy and efficient. Members from other Groups have attended and helped with initial literature supplies. Unfortunately, one of our G.R.'s stepped down recently, however, another Member stepped in as "interim"

G.R. In October our Exeter Group (both fellowships) celebrated their 50th Anniversary. Speakers (AI Anon and AA.) were from the District, and one of the founding AI Anon members, well in her 90's, was there to help them celebrate.

We're using outreach to foster unity and develop relationships; Public Outreach Committee members are visiting Groups and sharing what P.O does and how they can support the individual Group activities. I'm part way through Group visits to check-in and chat about service as part of the 7th Tradition; sharing with Groups our potential 2026 AI Anon Day plans, which will feature Alateen. This is an opportunity to get involved, as we are pro-actively seeking an individual from each Group to join the planning committee. Our Committee Chair then follows up to see who will participate. Our longer term goal is to eventually have enough AMIAS's to develop Alateen in District 5.

This year's Assembly was one of the best I've attended; positive meetings, especially around "decision points", useful information to relate back through the links of service and a financial/budgeting workshop. The reward though, for me, was getting to know the three G.R's who attended. We had fun, worked hard, shared opinions and watched the Blue Jays!. In closing, I'm going to take this forum to express my thanks to each of them for their service.

Susan B. District 5 Representative

District 25 (Quinte) Update

- 1) District 25 has 9 active groups and covers the area from Port Hope East to Deseronto and from Campbellford South to Picton. We are at this time operating 2 groups without Group Representatives, I have been working with the groups in hopes of helping them fill the positions. I continue to visits groups and provide information I received during a workshop presented by Deb E from District 31 at last year's Assembly in Sarnia. It has been well received from the groups I have met with.
- 2) Our Quinte Detention meetings are going very well. We continue to meet once a week on Friday evenings and are able to do two meetings during that time, one in the Male section of the facility and one in the female section of the facility. We are allowed up to 6 inmates at a time and usually have full groups. This is a very rewarding part of my Service work as we get to meet with, and talk to, many individuals from across Ontario and supply them with information on meetings in their home towns. At this time we have 3 Members doing Service work at Quinte West with one more who is going through the process of getting her Vulnerable Sectors Check. We are hoping she will be ready to go within the next month.
- 3) Our website has been active for a little over a year and it is generating a lot of interest. To date we have had approx. 1500 Visitors and 5121 pages viewed. We are very happy with the outcome and recognize the potential for public outreach as a result of the Website. I personally have answered a number of emails from viewers requesting information on: meetings in our area, types of meetings, provided age limits, if pets are allowed, and if babies are allowed; and we can give direct and immediate answers to the questions as they come in.
- 4) We are continuing to work on getting AMIAS's in our District and I have had a few members approach me on the process. I have passed Judith's information on to a number of members who are showing interest in becoming an AMIAS and at this time we have 1 certified and 1 that has submitted an application. We also have a member from the Picton area that is considering becoming an AMIAS and is looking at starting an Alateen meeting in the Picton area.
- 5) Public outreach continues to be busy, setting up literature and information tables at Round-ups, working on our poster campaign, and working in the community to promote and make people aware of the benefits of AI-Anon. Chris W and Don V attended an Over 50, Older Adult Information Fair in Belleville Ontario. This event was held on September 10th and ran for 4 hrs from 10:30am until 2:30pm. The event drew over 650 people and many of the attendees stopped at the AI-Anon information table, asking questions, picking up literature in the form of pamphlets and lingered to talk with Chris and myself. We were very impressed on how the event was managed and were thrilled with the number of people that stopped by the AI-Anon table. We are already invited back for next year's event, which we are looking forward to and preparing for already.

- 6) The Trenton Hope and Serenity AFG held its 9TH Annual Anniversary meeting on September 12th at the Ebenezer Church on Fourth Ave. in Trenton. There 29 guests in attendance and 2 amazing speakers. Chique A. from the Trenton Hope and Serenity Group was our Al-Anon speaker and shared her experience, strength and hope. She gave a tremendous account of life before and after Al-Anon and the benefits and hope she has received from the program. She offered her story with some humor as well as the serious side of the events. This was Chique's first time speaking and she did an amazing job. The speaker from AA was Katrina R from the Trenton Group in Trenton, Ontario had a very candid message of her experience, strength and hope and offered a very powerful message on the effects of alcohol on her and her loved ones. She also gave a tremendous message that was very heartfelt on her recovery since coming into the rooms of AA. Both speakers were well received by the attendees at the Anniversary Meeting. Afterward there were light snacks and time for fellowship.

- 7) The New Beginnings Group from Cobourg celebrated their 38 year Anniversary Meeting on October 30th at 9:30am at the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church at 200 King street in Cobourg. There was a great turnout for the event with 21 in members in attendance. The guest speaker for the event was Laura M from the Hope and Serenity AFG group in Trenton Ontario. Laura did an amazing job at sharing her experience, strength and hope and spoke extensively on her recovery in Al-Anon, touching on her many service roles over the years that she has been a member. Her share was very powerful and the guests in attendance were very receptive to her story. Afterward there were light snacks, coffee and fellowship. It was a wonderful day of sharing and visiting by the members in attendance.

In Service

Don V, District 25 Representative

District 26 (St. Lawrence) Update

Hello again Ontario South!

We have been attempting to reach out to professionals with business cards and prescription pads for our public outreach efforts. It would be wonderful to hear from other Districts what they are doing to encourage member participation in public outreach.

Our in-reach efforts have exceeded our wildest expectations! I am referring to Karaoke night at Assembly. We hoped that 50 members might stay to sing along with us – when I turned around and saw the room full, I was overwhelmed with joy and gratitude! It was the best time and left me feeling so connected to each of you. Panic set in when the sound system glitched at the start, but you all jumped in to sing silly songs with us while Kathleen and Anthony worked it out. And then we sang (and danced)!! My wish is that each of you felt the love and joy in service that I experienced that wonderful evening. A sincere thank you to each and everyone of you, whether you were at the mic or singing along in your seat! (We have some amazing vocalists in Ontario South!!) A special thank you to the GRs and members from District 26, who were so supportive and worked hard to pull this off. And another thanks to everyone who stopped by to blow up balloons and tie ribbons – so helpful (and fun)! Participation was indeed the key to harmony.

Assembly 2025 was an amazing weekend all around. The Assembly Committee, led by Deb E. from Kingston District 31, did a fantastic job! Their hard work and planning led to a successful Assembly. The dedication and hard work of the Executive all year contributed to an informed membership. Linda and the LDC "crew" served us diligently. Our Technical Coordinator (aka The Amazing Anthony) kept us connected. There are so many to note, and I am sorry if anyone deserving is not mentioned. To all who attended and contributed by being there to represent their groups to keep Ontario South a healthy Area, to all of you, please accept a heartfelt thank you. Again, participation is the key to harmony.

Finally, it was motioned at Assembly to convene a Task Force re: Hybrid Assemblies. **This will require volunteers.** I would encourage each of you to participate where you are able. I know we have techies out there!

In gratitude for our program, the members and for being able to participate in service,

Carolyn S., District 26 Representative

District 28 (Ottawa) Update

Hello from District 28. Our District covers the greater Ottawa region from Orleans in the east right out to Arnprior in the west, downtown and south to Nepean. We have 13 active groups, two of which are solely online (who have chosen to stay connected to our District 😊) and two that are hybrid. We have an Alateen group working to attract teens and a twice-a-month open speaker meeting organized by our Al-Anon Information Service where our groups take turns chairing and providing a speaker from their group.

This is my first submission as DR and I am in my third year. Maybe I am comfortable enough now? I could just never find the time. What finally gave me the final nudge was listening to Loretta share at Assembly while she was giving her coordinator's report. She expressed a wish to have more District submissions, especially seeing all the activities going on in all our Districts – wanting to hear how they all went. It occurred to me that we often have reports submitted for our activities and I could use them to help me craft a submission. Here is a little news from our District's participation in the 71st Annual Eastern Ontario AA Fall Conference.

The Conference was the weekend before our Assembly. Al-Anon had a quieter room this year where we were not competing with the AA main room speakers. We did not feel isolated because we were close to the event's hospitality room. The room was nicely set-up for about 40 people and our speakers were recorded. Several of our groups organized a speaker panel session, ensuring that we had good participation from our District members at the Conference.

Attendees at most sessions numbered between 15 and 20, but we packed the room (40+) for two of our sessions – Friday workshop and Saturday main Al-Anon speaker. The Friday workshop was entitled "Dual Members - Why do AA members also attend Al-Anon?" The workshop started with a panel of dual members sharing what Al-Anon does for them and then discussion/sharing circles were formed supported with some relevant CAL (Conference Approved Al-Anon Literature). The main Al-Anon speaker was from out-of-town, our current Delegate.

Even better attended was our Family Panel – AA, Al-Anon and Alateen from same family, which happened in the main conference room attended by both AA and Al-Anon. They had quite an impact.

Having an out-of-town main speaker did increase the costs for the District's participation in the Conference, but it did seem to bring in more attendees to hear an Al-Anon message. I have heard from a few of our groups that they had several newcomers attending their meetings after the Conference.

The following weekend was Assembly and it was a very positive experience for our District. We had 9 out of 13 active groups represented and several groups were able to send a second member. We were 16 in all. Since our District meetings are on Zoom, having us all there in-person really brought us closer together. We have a District dinner together on the Saturday night – the loud din of conversations during the dinner was heart-warming.

Next, our District is getting organized to participate in AA Holiday events. Our groups chair meetings and participate in food and fellowship during Ottawa's AA Alkathon that runs Christmas Eve and New Years Eve, as well as during AA's Eastathon that runs Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

My favourite part of being a DR has been visiting the groups and I feel privileged to have so many groups close enough to visit regularly. I even have groups I can visit from my own home. I am getting my snow tires on soon and am looking forward to spending some of my cold winter nights and days in the warmth of Al-Anon rooms.

Take Care,

Barb B., District 28 Representative

District 32 (Kawartha South) Update

Since my last report, we have been working on a few things. Over the summer months I was involved with the committee that hosted the "Share the Joy" event that was held in September. It was a learning opportunity for me to be involved with other Al-Anon members.

The 2025 Ontario South Assembly has wrapped up for another year. Budget passed and the discussion regarding holding a hybrid Assembly in the future was quite interesting. The group I belong to "Courage to Change AFG" has just completed a group inventory. Over the next couple of weeks, the completed forms will be reviewed and documented with a report given to the group. The District will be starting a book study with thanks to Sue M, Literature Coordinator, in assisting us to get this started. There are at least nine members who will be taking part and the book we will be utilizing is "Opening our Hearts Transforming our Losses"

The groups in the District are also in the process of scheduling their group Christmas/Gratitude meeting in December.

This year has gone by very quickly and soon it will be time to make considerations for a change in the group and District officers.

Here's wishing everyone a safe and peaceful holiday season.

In Service

Marie A., District 32 Representative

Literature Distribution Center (LDC) Update

Hello Ontario South. It was so nice seeing many of you at the Assembly in October. There are a few things to share with you.

First off, Holiday Bundles will not be available from the LDCs anymore. WSO is going to do them all directly this year and probably in all years going forward. In the Holiday bundle this year they are offering B-31 Many Voices, One Journey, B-5 The Al-Anon Family Groups Classic Edition and P-4 Alcoholism the Family Disease. It will be \$25 US. Sorry for the confusion. The LDCs were not privy to this decision until after we announced the bundle. The updated price list will be available on November 10th in both print version from the office, and on the JotForm found on the Ontario South Al-Anon website.

Sales are down this year, but we hope that this changes and you as individuals, as groups and districts choose to update and stock your CAL supplies. I will let you know that some districts or groups opt to order for their groups at the same time and share the shipping to reduce costs. It is a great way to save, and I am happy to calculate that all out for you. At this present moment there are no delays in Ontario with shipping and typically once the orders are paid they arrive in 2 Canada Post business days. Also, some groups are opting to begin book studies or are including a week of CAL as their topics. This allow members to see what is out there and for us to see how each of us interprets and uses the literature as individuals. Remember I have a literature blurb document for the books and the pamphlets (not the bundles) which gives a brief view of all the literature and what it contains. Some groups have made a binder up that is left on the literature table so people can look up what items may help them. They either order them as individuals, or they ask they be ordered with the group's order. There are many hidden gems we have that we aren't aware of because we get in a groove with what we already are familiar with.

The office goes into winter closure this year beginning at 1 pm on Dec 18th and reopens at 10 am on Jan 12th. You may still submit orders via email or JotForm, or by phone but they will not be attended and responded to until the office reopens. Also please note they will be handled in the order they arrived so it could be a day or two upon reopening before you get a response depending on the volume of inquiries that come in. The office will also be closed the week of Dec 1st-4th to use remaining holiday time (closure time and holiday time are not the same) but that hasn't been determined yet. There will be an email coping to your DRs through the links of service to update that info once it is confirmed.

As always, I feel blessed to serve Ontario South. Thank you for allowing me to grow with you.

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

Click here for Upcoming Events!!

NEWS FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE 11/2025

TREASURER'S CORNER

As of October, and with two months left in 2025, group contributors were at 87% of budget: YTD Actual \$30,506 vs. 2025 Budget \$45,213. Thank you to the 130 groups (out of 272) who have contributed in 2025 and have consistently maintained or increased their regular contributions to Ontario South!

The proposed 2026 budget was accepted by substantial unanimity at October's Assembly. The Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual guides us that "the anticipated expenses will be shared by each group and District in the Area as they each recognize their individual and collective responsibility" (p. 163).

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Check out the December edition of Open Lines, the Area's newsletter, for responses to the Items for Consideration that were submitted to the Executive Committee at Assembly.

ASSEMBLY 2025 MOTION: TASK FORCE

A Task Force of invited members will be formed with a goal to implement a hybrid AWSC in 2027 with intention to offer a hybrid Assembly that same year.

AL-ANON/ALATEEN TRILLIUM CONVENTION

Thank you to Cheryl T. for accepting the invitation to serve Ontario South as the Trillium Shadow Chair in 2026, and as the Chairperson in 2027!

ONTARIO SOUTH ASSEMBLY (OSA) POLICIES & GUIDELINES MANUAL

The Area Manual can be found on the Area website at <https://al-anon.alateen.on.ca/member-resources/>

Also find Area Forms and other member resources and links on this page.

OSA Website: <https://al-anon.alateen.on.ca>

AWSC 2026

May 29-31, 2026
Durham College, Oshawa

ASSEMBLY 2026

District 14 will form the Assembly Host Committee!
November 6-8, 2026
Burlington, ON

ASSEMBLY 2026 ELECTIONS!!

Incoming GRs in 2026 will elect the next Executive Committee to serve 2027-2029. Refer to Section 2A of the Area Manual for roles and responsibilities.

ASSEMBLY 2027

Will be held in the West. Districts 1-13 are requested to submit a Bid Form by **31 May 2026** to chairs@al-anon.on.ca

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS IN 2026

Feb 20/21 (on Zoom),
Jul 10/11, and Nov 20/21.

The Handover Meeting for the incoming Executive is planned for Jan 15/16, 2027.

Looking for Volunteers to Help Grow Alateen in Ontario South (Area 86)

Has Alanon helped you? Then why wouldn't you want to give that *gift* to your child (or to other children)?

We currently have **13** Alateen Groups
Across **30** Districts in Ontario South.

Looking for Volunteers to help!

Our goal is to have one Alateen meeting in each district: We need Al-Anon members to volunteer and register as AMIASS (Al-Anon Members In Alateen Service)

Training will be available
Alateen needs the support
Of Al-Anon to grow
Alateen

For more information, please contact:

Judith W
os.alateen.coordinator@gmail.com
647-215-3048

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

We are excited to invite you to join

Hope and Healing AFG

for our 3rd Anniversary

Dec 4th at 7 PM



Speakers

Food and Fellowship to follow

Smiths Falls Seventh Day Adventist Church

333 County Rd 29

Smiths Falls

Also feel free to join us on Dec 18th at our candlelight gratitude meeting. Bring your own unscented, dripless candle.

GET INVOLVED!

Are you Looking for Opportunities for Personal Development & Growth?

The Al-anon Service Manual recommends that the Alternate Group Representative be a part of GTAIS which meets on the first Tuesday of each month.

GTAIS offers a variety of services to Al-Anon Members and the community.

Attend a GTAIS Meeting!

[Click here to learn more about GTAIS](#)



Zoom ID
830 0917 8410
Passcode
303729

If you would like more information about GTAIS meetings please email:

gtais.chair@gmail.com

Greater Toronto Al-Anon Information Services (GTAIS)

Ottawa Al-Anon Family Groups Sunday Open Speaker In-Person Meeting

Every second and fourth Sunday Morning of each month
10:00 to 11:00, followed by half hour of fellowship

Everyone Welcome: Al-Anon/Alateen members, prospective members, general public, professionals, and media
Please join us!!

"the only requirement for Al-Anon membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism in a relative or friend"

Overbrook Community Centre
33 Quill Street Ottawa, Ontario K1K4E7
(additional parking at rear of building and on street)

Al-Anon Sunday Open Speaker Meetings 2025

January 12	July 13
January 26	July 27
February 9	August 10
February 23	August 24
March 9	September 14
March 23	September 28
April 13	October 12
April 27	October 26
May 11	November 9
May 25	November 23
June 8	December 14
June 22	Community Center closed until 2026

*** There is a concurrent Open AA meeting (Hand in Hand) held at the same time at Overbrook Community Centre.

YOU'RE INVITED: AL-ANON'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

APRIL 25, 2026