

Ontario South Assembly Newsletter

[Ontario South Website](#)

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/>

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, Burk's Falls, Huntsville, Midland, Orillia, Parry Sound, Penetanguishene, 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, Omemee)

District 25 – Quinte (Belleville, Campbellford, Cobourg, Foxboro, Picton, Port Hope, Stirling, Trenton)

District 26 – St. Lawrence (Brockville, Carleton Place, Gananoque, Kemptville, 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

Hello fellow Ontario South members!

The flood of information and documents has begun as I prepare for this year's World Service Conference! I want to thank everyone again for helping me prepare by participating in our conversations at Assembly, during last fall's virtual town hall meetings and throughout the year. I also want to say thank you to the Districts who copy me on your District minutes; it helps me to know what the concerns are in Ontario South. Reading about your successes can also help groups and Districts in other Areas when I connect with groups of other Delegates throughout the year to share our Experience, Strength and Hope.

It's hard to believe this will be my last World Service Conference as your Delegate. I suspect I may have some big feelings that week. That helps me feel a little less awkward about inviting your groups and Districts to send me cards of support when I'm at Conference. Please plan to have your cards arrive **after April 17** at this address:

Jason White (Hold for WSC 4/20-4/24, 2026)
Newport News Marriott at City Center
740 Town Center Dr.
Newport News, VA 23606

Please remember to include my home address as the return address, in case your mail is delayed.

Ontario South is still without a Public Outreach Co-ordinator. I have been approaching members but have not yet been able to find our next co-ordinator. Please look within your Al-Anon circles and encourage your past District Representatives, long-time members or sponsors to consider this service opportunity.

Thank you for everything you do for Al-Anon/Alateen in Ontario South!

Yours in Service,
Jason W. Delegate, Ontario South

From the Ontario South Alternate Delegate/Forum Coordinator

Hello to all my fellow Al-Anon and Alateen members.

Hard to believe that this is the final year of this term. Lots of thinking to do!

Where to next?

What is my heart leading me to do?

What have I learned? This I would love to take a moment and let you know just how much I have learned.

-Conferences and assemblies take a LOT of planning and have so much attention paid to even the tiniest details. How many tables and chairs does it take for an assembly? AWSC how many break out rooms do we need? All these minute decisions are made in these meetings along with many others. We take the time at all the executive meetings to look at the questions you have forwarded. We look at the feedback forms for ideas and guidance to set up workshops and assist to make decisions about what we really need to take a deep dive into.

- The Area Policies and Guidelines Manual is very intense. It takes a lot of time and patience to make updates in order to keep it current with the smallest of changes to things that happen. In this job I am very familiar with this piece of literature and am finding it so helpful in teaching me the ins and outs of the Services that AI-Anon provides to our membership.

-Time. All our service positions take time, and I have learned how to take care of me and still participate fully in this amazing program. Juggling meetings, life and my paying job. Setting boundaries has really helped me to figure all this out.

Ok now to the meat and potatoes of this report.

I have been busy with the executive meeting in February and attending the Trillium planning committee meetings.

I answer calls and emails from folks looking for help and support to find meetings and just have questions. (this is probably my favourite part of this position).

I love attending events, when possible, with my life schedule. Currently booked in April is District 12's Spring Round Up. This is an AA event (District 13 for AA) held in Fort Erie, and they gratefully welcome an AI-Anon panel. Of course, it helps that the bake table we provide (this is an amazing fundraiser for our district) lets them purchase homemade goodies! I am always checking for events being held close to my home base as a lot of times travel is not possible when you only have Saturday, Sunday and evenings available to attend.

There are quite a few changes to the Area Policies and Guidelines Manual coming up. I am hoping to get these completed by the end of my term.

As Forum Coordinator:

I am going to spend a moment talking about the Forum which is part of the umbrella that is the Alternate Delegate's portfolio. The number of subscriptions remains virtually unchanged. Does your group have a subscription? Although this is technically not CAL it is approved for use in our meetings. The amount of

information and recovery in this small book is amazing. The legacies section has helped me to understand the concepts of service (my personal focus for the last little bit) and how they can relate to our groups and personal lives. Gift subscriptions are available and are not expensive. Think about who you could 'pass it on to' in your life.

I think that is enough for now.

Love and hugs in service

Sharon R., Interim Alternate Delegate & Forum Coordinator

From the Ontario South Area Chairperson

Hello Members of Ontario South!

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

Executive Meetings: We had our first meeting of the year, virtually, in February. Be on the lookout for the News From Your Executive flyer, February edition, for new information and Area highlights.

AWSC 2026: AWSC is happening May 29-31 at Durham College in Oshawa. Past AWSC Evaluation Forms and members' suggestions have been reviewed for Discussion Topics and Workshop ideas. The AWSC Information Package will be emailed to the AWSC members by the end of March – nearly two months ahead of the AWSC meeting, allowing lots of time for information sharing and discussion through the links of service. Year 2026 is an election year, so let's start thinking about rotation of leadership, tips for a smooth transition, and what service role we might be willing to step into next. The Agenda will include a workshop to discuss these ideas, and a Q&A session with the Executive Committee.

Items for Consideration: Members can send an Item for Consideration at any time to the Executive using the online form found on the Area website. Members will receive a response following the Executive meeting at which the Item was discussed. Refer to Section 4 or Section 5A of the OSA Policies and Guidelines Manual (Area Manual) for reference. The Executive next meets in July.

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 this year. 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 the information amongst your group members!

Assembly 2026 – an Election year: The Chairperson serves as the Executive liaison to the Assembly Host Committee. Soon enough, meetings will commence for planning the Assembly, being held in Burlington on November 6-8. Incoming GRs will elect the new Executive for the service term starting in January 2027. Refer to Section 2A of the Area Manual for eligibility criteria for Executive positions. Resumes are required for any member standing for an Executive position, due by 01Aug26.

Assembly 2027: The Area needs Districts in the western portion of the Area (Districts 1 - 13) to put in a bid to host Assembly in 2027. Bids are requested by May 1, 2026! District Representatives, or other enthusiastic members, are asked to support the Area by researching local facilities for our Assembly meeting. Multiple bids may provide the opportunity to reduce costs.

At one of the first Assembly meetings I attended as a GR, one of the “love gifts” I took back with me was a bookmark with the saying “Service is Willingness.” I’ve learned I can be both fearful and willing.

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.

Janet B Treasurer osatreasurer3@gmail.com

From the Ontario South Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP)

The AMAIS Recertification Process began in February 2026. We began with 67 certified AMIAS this year.

As of today 27 AMIAS have been recertified. We have had 4 new AMIAS certified and 1 AMIAS reactivated.

That leaves 40 still needing to recertify. We are well on our way to getting this done by June 1, 2026 which is the cutoff date.

I was asked to take the position of aapp last February after the Recertification Process had already begun and had to learn fast. With the amazing help of Sharon R, who stepped up to the Alternate Delegate position, and Valerie S. from WSO, I am feeling at least “competent” this year. Still learning, but getting there. Much gratitude to both these ladies, and to all the AMIAS and Area South workers who have been so patient with me.

In Service to our Teens

Chrystal P, Area Alateen Process Person (AAPP) aapp.ontariosouth@gmail.com

From the Area Literature Coordinator

WANTED: Ontario South Literature Coordinator

Ontario South is in need of a new Literature Coordinator, beginning in January 2027!

The following criteria is necessary for the position:

Must love Conference Approved Al-Anon literature and be willing to learn even more about it, and discuss this amazing literature with other members in the Area.

Must be willing to connect with members throughout the Area in thoughtful and creative ways in order to support the use of Al-Anon literature throughout the Area.

Must be willing to store the Area Al-Anon literature and bring it to Area World Service Committee in May and Assembly in October, and display it for members attending these events.

Must attend Al-Anon meetings regularly and be ready for participating in service beyond the group level.

Must be willing to meet amazing people and grow your recovery immensely!

Must keep in touch with the World Service Office through the *AFG Connects* portal in order to inform the Area about all things concerning literature.

Must be prepared to serve as a member of the Literature Office Committee.

If interested, please submit your letter of interest for the position to the Area Delegate at ontariosouthdelegate@hotmail.com

More detailed information available about this position here:

https://al-anon.alateen.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/09_Section_2B_Coordinators.pdf (pg. 7&8) and here: <https://al-anon.org/pdf/G6.pdf>

Or by contacting the current Area Literature Coordinator, Sue M. at: osalitcoord86@gmail.com

Yours in service,

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

From the Alateen Coordinator

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.

A new role was created: Alateen Group Organiser. This position is specifically to have one designated person to open a new Alateen Group. The Organiser will find Al-Anon members in their district to register as AMIASs and help sponsor the upcoming group, find a venue, register the group with WSO, look for seed money. We currently have 11 people who have stepped into this role and we are all meeting on zoom once a month to support one another with challenges and solutions. The current Alateen Group Organisers are located in Arnprior, Pembroke, Keswick, Toronto East, Guelph, Barrie, Colbourne, Windsor and St. Mary's. There are discussions with a member interested in opening a group in Bracebridge and Peterborough. We have a well-attended monthly meeting on the 2nd Sunday of every month.

Downtown Yonge and Bloor are opening up a 2nd location at Holy Name School on the Thursday March 26th, just after the ORC.

The monthly AMIAS meeting takes place on the first Sunday of every month. We average 8 or 9 AMIAS who are attending. We have been discussion public outreach, conferences, and challenges with groups who don't have teens attending.

We just completed a set of AMIAS training sessions to review the modules provided by WSO and open discussions in February. The sessions are three(3) weeks for 2 hour intervals. Our next set of training sessions will run April 25th, May 2nd and May 9th

ORC is coming fast. Scott G, Alateen Advisor and Alateen Co-ordinator have been working diligently since September to put a wonderful program together.

Trillium planning for the Alateen program has begun. Lynne T., Alateen Advisor and the Alateen Co ordinator have started the planning process.

The AMIASs of Together We Can Make it are attempting to bring UNITY Conference back. They are currently looking for a venue along the 401 near Toronto in hopes of facilitating UNITY Conference in mid-August. If we are able to find a venue, this conference will be open to all Al-Anon and AA members who will have the opportunity to participate in most of the Alateen activities for the weekend. Stay tuned for more information.

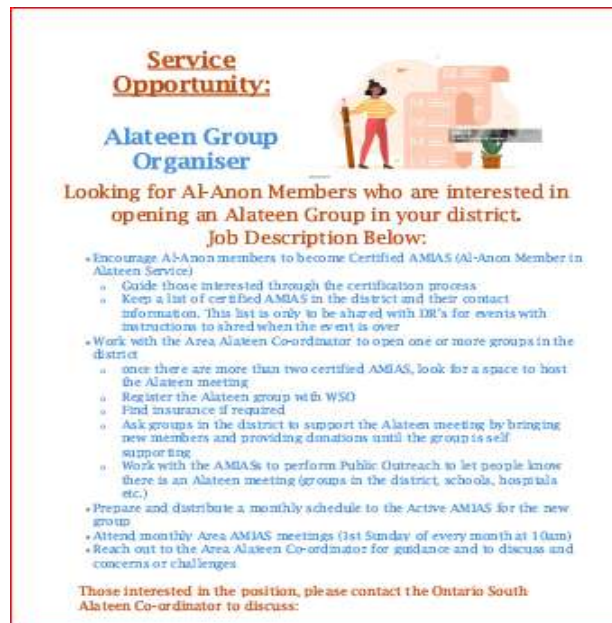
St. Mary's is hosting an Al-Anon day with the focus on Alateen on April 11, 2026. There will be a Main Alateen speaker at this event that will be run with 7th tradition.

There will be an Alateen Speaker at the Day of Recovery in Mississauga on April 18th.

We are currently looking for Alateen speakers at the following events: April 25th AA Round up in Brighton, May 2nd London Al-Anon Day, May 23rd Windson Al-Anon day, June 13 Owen Sound AA Round up, July 17 Catfish Creek Camping, August 15 Woodstock Marathon of Unity Conference.

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 share 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 and concerns or challenges

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

From the Group Records Coordinator

Greetings from Christina L, Group Records Coordinator for Ontario South.

It has been my pleasure to have served this area for the past 2 years. Service has been a huge part of my recovery in Al-Anon. As Group Records Coordinator it is important to update the WSO database. Any group that needs to change anything regarding their group such as CMA (Current mailing address, GR or meeting location) needs to fill in the jotform on the Ontario South website, this is the link:

<https://form.jotform.com/OntarioSouth/grchangeform>

To all groups, by now WSO has mailed the Annual Update Form. Please review the information on the form and let WSO know if everything is correct or not.

Accurate meeting information is a lifeline for individuals seeking Al-Anon meetings. By verifying your groups information you ensure people can find your meeting. This update can be made online or mailed to WSO.


I continue to update group records information on the WSO database, read and reply to emails from groups and AFG records team.

CALLING ALL ELECTRONIC GROUPS!

Is your group information correct or not? Let us know!

Two minutes of your time will help ensure newcomers can find your group.
Easy Two-Step Process:

- 1. Review the information on the attached Annual Group Update Form**
- 2. Let us know!**
 - a. If everything is correct, use the QR code or link below and mark "All Information is Correct"
 - b. If something is not correct, use the QR code or link below and let us know what needs to be changed.

 Scan this [QR Code] or visit al-anon.org/annual-electronic or mail the form (with or without changes) to the WSO.

Accurate meeting information is a lifeline for individuals seeking Al-Anon's help.
By verifying your group information, you ensure people can find your meeting.


View how easy it is to verify or update your group information with this short video by visiting al-anon.org/annual-video
Questions? We're here to help! • Email AFG Records at AFGRecords@al-anon.org

CALLING ALL IN-PERSON GROUPS!

Is your group information correct or not? Let us know!

Two minutes of your time will help ensure newcomers can find your group.
Easy Two-Step Process:

- 1. Review the information on the attached Annual Group Update Form**
- 2. Let us know!**
 - a. If everything is correct, use the QR code or link below and mark "All Information is Correct"
 - b. If something is not correct, use the QR code or link below and let us know what needs to be changed.

 Scan this [QR Code] or visit al-anon.org/annual-in-person or mail the form (with or without changes) to the WSO.

Accurate meeting information is a lifeline for individuals seeking Al-Anon's help.
By verifying your group information, you ensure people can find your meeting.

View how easy it is to verify or update your group information with this short video by visiting al-anon.org/annual-video
Questions? We're here to help! • Email AFG Records at AFGRecords@al-anon.org

Hugs in service

Christina L, Group Records Coordinator grpsec@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.

This newsletter is very special to me because it reminds me how truly meaningful the slogan “We are no longer alone” is!! I am travelling in the Far East and I anticipated communication might be a problem. My service sponsor had suggested that perhaps this is a good time for someone interested in the opportunity to service as Newsletter coordinator might be interested in shadowing me. I am so very grateful to Jenny M for her support. Before I left Canada we were able to connect and review the duties and procedures for this service position. While I have been away, because of technical and logistical challenges Jenny M has been able to support me making this newsletter available. Thank you Jenny!!

If you are considering serving our amazing fellowship in any position at the Area level, I encourage you to get out of your comfort zone in this year of service rotation. The growth I have experienced is something I never imagined.

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 over 400!! 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 August 1, 2026.

Yours in Joyful service,
Loretta V, Open Lines Coordinator openlinesosa@gmail.com

From the Website Coordinator

I am pleased to report that the Ontario South website continues to run smoothly and reliably. Ongoing monitoring and routine maintenance ensure stability, accessibility, and accuracy for members and newcomers alike. Our website remains one of our most visible Public Outreach tools and is often a first point of contact for those seeking recovery.

QR Redirect Tracking for Public Outreach

This year, we implemented QR redirects to help support and evaluate Public Outreach initiatives.

A QR redirect is a Quick Response (QR) code that routes through a trackable link before directing the user to the intended webpage. When someone scans the QR code — whether from a poster, rack card, community display, or event booth — the redirect records that the link was accessed.

This allows us to:

- Measure engagement from specific outreach efforts
- Identify which materials are being accessed most frequently
- Provide districts with helpful feedback
- Make informed, service-based decisions about outreach strategies

The data reflects usage only (such as number of scans) and does not collect personal information. It simply helps us better understand how effectively we are carrying the message.

This initiative supports Concept Nine and Concept Ten of the AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27), which speak to sound administration and clearly defined service responsibility.

Registration Updates

Trillium Registration

Trillium registration has been completed with the Committee, including implementation of electronic payment. The system is active and functioning well. A weekly report is submitted to the Committee to ensure transparency and accountability.

AWSC Registration

AWSC registration information has been updated and will be distributed shortly. This update will streamline communication and support effective planning.

Looking Ahead – Service Structure Recommendations

As this term of service concludes at the end of 2026, it is appropriate to reflect on structure and sustainability.

Given the increasing scope of responsibilities, I recommend dividing the current workload into two complementary Coordinator positions:

Website Coordinator (Records)

- All group record changes and registrations (excluding Alateen sponsorship processes)
- Updating group information on the Ontario South website
- Processing and maintaining group records within the World Service Office (WSO) database
- Ensuring alignment between Area records and WSO records
- Handling Alateen website records

This role should be filled by a registered AI-Anon Member Involved in Alateen Service (AMIAS), as it includes managing Alateen records within the website structure.

Website Coordinator (Content)

- Developing and updating website content
- Coordinating with Districts regarding events and announcements
- Ensuring content is current and aligned with Conference Approved Literature
- Supporting Public Outreach messaging

Both roles would cross-train and provide coverage for one another when needed. The Technology Coordinator would serve as the ultimate backup to ensure continuity and stability.

This recommendation aligns with Tradition Nine and Concept Eleven of the AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27), which encourage clear lines of responsibility and effective service structures to carry the message.

Did You Know?

Each month, the Ontario South website features selected articles from The Forum, AI-Anon's monthly magazine.

- Share members' experience, strength, and hope
- Offer inspiration and practical recovery tools
- Help newcomers understand what AI-Anon is and how it works

Featuring Forum articles supports our Public Outreach efforts by sharing authentic member voices and encouraging engagement with Conference Approved Literature.

Closing

It continues to be a privilege to serve. The website is more than a technical platform — it is often the first connection for someone reaching out for help. Ensuring it remains welcoming, accurate, and spiritually grounded is a meaningful part of carrying the message.

In Service,

Kathleen S, Open Lines Coordinator os.website.a86@gmail.com

From the Technology Coordinator

Since my last update in December 2025, I participated in the first meeting of the Hybrid Assembly Task Force. The Task Force has been tasked with implementation details for holding a hybrid assembly in 2027. I am finding this task challenging since the charge was open ended. As I write this, I am reminded of Keep It Simple, and the knowledge that the hybrid assembly technology and process can evolve and improve with time. In other words we don't have to get it perfect on the first go.

I will be following up with the 2026 Assembly Host committee chair to determine what equipment the Burlington hotel provides, and what additional equipment needs to be purchased. I will also be discussing if a technology assistant (volunteer) is able to visit the hotel. For future assemblies it would be good to get photos of the meeting hall and to find out what Audio and Video equipment the hotel has for rent, i.e. Video Projectors, Projector Screens, Audio Amplifiers, Audio Speakers, podium/lectern.

AWSC is quickly approaching and there was a brief discussion at the Task Force meeting about trying out some of the equipment at the meeting to allow a few members to attend so that we can try out some of the equipment.

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

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

From the Trillium Chair

Greetings to everyone in Area 86, my name is Don V and I am very proud and honored to have been asked to Chair Trillium 2026 for Ontario South.

It is such a privilege to be able to share this wonderful experience with the fantastic committee that has been assembled to put the Trillium Program together. We are learning so much from each other and support each other in all aspects of the process. It is a pleasure and honor for me to be associated with such a dedicated group and we are striving to meet all the expectations that this great Convention has to offer. We are also having a tremendous amount of fun with the process.

The 2026 Trillium Committee has been working overtime to get Trillium activities put together and I am happy to report that things are moving along very nicely.

Our Past Chair Shannon K has been and continues to be very helpful in keeping the flow going and is always available to give advice and has many kind words for the committee members to keep them motivated and moving in the right direction.

Our Shadow Chair Cheryl T has been very busy assembling next year's Committee and we have had the pleasure of having some join us and Shadow the position they have selected. It's a wonderful process that involves everyone and creates an environment that allows members to learn and experience ahead of the role they have chosen. Cheryl is also working on putting together the Survey for members to fill out during and after the Convention this year. This will supply valuable information to Cheryl and the 2027 Trillium Committee on what was good and more importantly what can be improved on for next year.

We are doing very well at putting together the event and everyone is participating in our monthly meetings. We are also able to have Zoom Meetings in between our monthly meetings, which allows members to meet one on one or in smaller groups to discuss specific items which typically wouldn't need everyone's input. This allows a much better flow of information during our monthly meetings and leaves the discussion open for items which require everyone's attention.

To this point we have secured all the speakers for AI-ANON, Alateen and AA, the Coordinators have been busy working on putting the program together with the help of the Graphics Coordinator. Workshops have been decided and Facilitators have been secured for the weekend. The Hospitality Coordinator is working at establishing needs for supplies and arranging for volunteers and Gratitude Coordinator is arranging to contact Volunteers to arrange Greeters at the event. Registration has been up and running since the middle of January and as of the end of February we had close to 100 guests registered for the event and we continue to add to that daily. We are scheduling a walk through at Trent sometime in March so the Registration, Gratitude, and Literature Coordinators can visit the facility to get their bearings and are familiar with what things will look like when the event takes place. Merchandise has been decided on and we should have that delivered by late March or early April, we have chosen some unique items for this year and we are excited to get feedback on the items that will be available for guests to purchase.

Our Communications Coordinator has been busy sending out Flyers to all of the contacts that we have compiled, to get the word out of our Convention, when and where it is being held, registration information and other related information as we receive it. We have put together a list of 10 areas across Ontario, Quebec and New York, reaching out to both AI-Anon and AA. Included in our contact list are Ontario South AI-Anon/Alateen, Manitoba/Northwest Ontario AI-Anon/Alateen, Ontario North AI-Anon/Alateen, Area 83 AA, Quebec West AI-Anon/Alateen and several others.

We will be visiting ORC in Toronto on March 21, 2026 to distribute flyers to promote the Convention, the flyers will not only include registration information but will also have the names of our AI-Anon and AA speakers. Our goal is to increase registration as many speakers in AI-Anon and AA have a following.

All i all things are progressing very well and the committee along with myself, are very excited as the event draws closer.

Working on this committee and doing Service at the Area Level is such a wonderful experience. As the Committee we are very honored to be a part of this event and embrace the opportunity to work closely not only with each other but with our Higher Power. I can only speak for myself but I'm confident the rest of the committee share my thoughts that this type of Service Experience enhances not only my knowledge of How AI-Anon Works but is so valuable in my day to day recovery and for that I will be forever grateful.

WHAT IS THE TRILLIUM CONVENTION



The Trillium Convention is held in various locations in Ontario and is an Annual event Supported by Area 86 Ontario South AI-Anon/Alateen

The Trillium Convention is a program/recovery focused event - not a service focused event. It is Organized by a committee of Al-Anon, Alateen and AA members.

Trillium is a weekend of Al-Anon, Alateen Programming with AA participation and is open to all members of Al-Anon, Alateen and AA and guests.

It does cost to attend through registration, as there is a cost to put the Convention together.

The costs of the event are covered by the members who attend Trillium.

The Committee Members choose a time of the year to host the event as well as a suitable Venue that will meet the needs of the event for that particular year.

Trillium is a weekend of speakers, workshops, fellowship, fun and meeting new and old friends. It also provides an environment of introduction to new members to the programs who may be just coming into their program. It provides a venue to participate in many activities such as workshops, open Al-Anon and AA Speakers, Open Alateen workshop, closed Alateen meetings, open Al-Anon meetings or just sit back, relax and enjoy the speakers and activities provided to them.

This year the event will be held at Trent University in Peterborough, June 26th to 28th

Costs include

A registration Fee of \$55.00

Optional Meal Plan covering 3 meals on Saturday and Sunday Breakfast, 129.95

An option to book accommodations at the University 181.93 for two nights Single occupancy 1 room shared bathroom, 329.96 Double occupancy two nights, two rooms one bathroom.

Registration is open now, only 350 spots available

The Trillium Page on the Al-Anon Website provides the opportunity to book your room as well as meals and registration all at once.

al-anon.alateen.on.ca/meetings-and-events/trillium/

In Loving Service

Don V, Chairperson, Trillium Convention 2026

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

District Representative Updates



District 5 (Huron/Perth) Update

As we commence this final Year term, I'm wondering how my fellow colleagues feel about their service to our District, and it's Members'. Perhaps a topic for an upcoming District Meeting! I can't say enough about their participation at our meetings, except thank-you, for the "investment" of time, ideas, questions, group visits, events, conferences and so much more. I'm hopeful their "joy of service" can spread and be of inspiration to others in our District, to participate, get involved and get elected this year!

We recently welcomed Sue G., OSA Advisor, to our Guest Speaker series. Sue shared her service journey, a progression of roles from G.R. up to Delegate and now Advisor. Her message was simple - just get involved. Seek guidance from the people before you, guide new members in their role, encourage people to do things and move on to serve in other positions. "In this fellowship we're all the same, regardless of the role we play."

Our new Stratford Group, Path to Peace AFG, is slowly gaining momentum. In January they hosted other Group members for an evening of fellowship and a topic discussion on "Finding Peace." Two newcomers were recently welcomed and encouraged to return.

See Flyer included with Open Lines.

Our Al Anon Day Committee has been busy planning a free half day event for April 11, from 1 - 5 p.m. Jason W. (Delegate) and Judith W. (Alateen Coordinator) will be speaking.

Alateen is featured to increase awareness and encourage members to consider becoming AMIAS's to join our existing AMIAS's. Members are also participating in the local AA District Round-Up Committee, planning the Al Anon portion of the event, to be held in Mitchell on June 7. See Al Anon Day flyer included with Open Lines.

In Service

Susan B. District 5 Representative

District 25 (Quinte) Update

- 1) District 25 has 10 active groups and covers the Areas from Port Hope East to Deseronto and from Campbellford South to Picton. We are very happy to report that all the groups in our District have Group representatives in place which is a change from my last report, at that time we had two groups that were not represented by a group Representative but I continued my visits to Groups in District 25, promoting Service Work at all levels. This has been very helpful in promoting awareness of the need for Members to step into service as well as giving information on what service positions are available at Group, District and Area levels. I find that as a district Representative it is very beneficial to make myself available to all groups and members in District 25. When I do that I find it enhances the interest in many members where Service is concerned and it helps keep important items up front and noticeable from group to group.
- 2) Our meetings at the Quinte Detention Center are going very well, however due to weather we have had to cancel a few meetings this winter. We are able to get two meetings in each week one with the Females and one with the Males, we typically go in pairs so we can cover each end with hour long meetings. Of all the Service work I do this is one of the most gratifying for me personally. The inmates I get to sit with weekly are open and honest and really connect to the Al-Anon program. Of course one of the downsides to the meetings and the inmates we have the privilege of meeting and sitting with is we lose connection once they leave the facility.
We have 4 members who are now entering the Facility, Mary F from the Trenton
Wednesday AFG meeting has joined and is now Shadowing with the other members
Involved in the meetings.
- 3) Our Website continues to attract members in and around the District 25 area and we are very pleased with the response we have been getting over the past 18 months. Chique A our Website Coordinator is always available to post upcoming events in our and surrounding Districts as they become available and she looks after any updates required. The Website has proven to be a key tool for Public Outreach in District 25 at minimal expense to the District and we thank Chique A, and Laura M and their families for supporting the operation of the Quinte West Al-Anon Website.
- 4) AMIAS's and Alateen are progressing very nicely in District 25, we now have 2 Certified AMIAS's and three applications into Ontario South for members to become AMIAS's in District 25. GRs and I have been announcing at our group meetings, the need for AMIAS's in the District and the need for active Alateen groups. We have a member in Campbellford who will be starting the process of getting an Alateen meeting in place and I will send more details in my Judy Open Lines Report as everything is in its primary stages at this point. Judith Ontario South Alateen Coordinator has been a huge help in helping to get AMIAS's in place by supplying information, recruiting an Alateen to speak at a local AA Round Up, and supplying a tremendous amount of training for the New AMIAS's as they are certified. I am very grateful that she is always available to answer questions, give advice and keep us on the right path during this process. We are still actively searching for a member to fill the Alateen Organiser Position that Judith introduced for each District just after Assembly and I am confident that we will be able to fill it by our next Open Lines Report.

- 5) Our Public Outreach Coordinator for District 25, Chris W has been very busy over the past several months setting up literature tables at Round Up and Al-Anon events. Chris has been very involved in Wellness Fairs in the District and has set up information tables at events in Belleville and Trenton. We have been invited back to the Older Adult Information Fair in Belleville Ontario to participate in this year's event, to be held September 9th 2026 which we are very happy about. At Last year's event we had several hundred people visit the Al-Anon Table which made the day a huge success for Al-Anon Outreach in District 25. Chris and her volunteers work tirelessly to create new ways of getting the Al-anon message out to the community and in promoting Al-Anon at all levels. We have recently purchased a Roll-up Al-Anon poster for our Public Outreach which will enhance getting our message out a great deal.
- 6) A new meeting opened up in District 25, in Campbellford Ontario which we are very excited about. Belinda C. took the initiative to start a meeting in Campbellford as she saw an immediate need for one in that area and District 25 is very grateful for her Service on this project.
- The first meeting took place on Thursday January 8th, 2026 at the St.Mary's Church located on 21 Centre Street in Campbellford Ontario. They meet every Thursday with meeting time starting at 7pm, the name of the new group is Al-Anon Serenity Group and we wish them nothing but the best in their start-up and we cannot thank Belinda enough for all her efforts in getting this meeting up and going.

In Service

Don V, District 25 Representative

District 26 (St. Lawrence) Update

The District has not been very active up to this point in the year.

We will be participating in the AA District 66 Round-up again this year. We will be presenting an Al-Anon panel, with two speakers. Our Public Outreach literature board will be on display, along with some pamphlets available for pick-up. The date for this is Saturday, April 11, 2026, with the Al-Anon panel at 2:00 pm. It is being held at the Smiths Falls Civitan Hall, 12468 Hwy. 15 North, Smiths Falls K7A4S7. Doors open at 11:30 with a potluck supper at 5:30.

The District Al-Anon Day is being held on Saturday, May 2nd, 2026. Registration begins at 8:30 with the event from 9:00 to 3:30. There will be speakers, workshops, activities, raffle baskets and a potluck lunch. District 26 looks forward to opening our hearts to you! The location is 200 Sanders St., Kemptville where we will be "Finding Serenity – One Day at a Time".

One of the groups in the District will be presenting a workshop, at the Al-Anon Day, with the focus on helping members understand the importance of Public Outreach - that it does not have to be a huge effort. But it is a huge part of personal recovery. Everyone is capable of planting a seed and we want to find places for those seeds! Lois and Ann planted seeds 75 years ago and just look at the results –

HAPPY 75th ANNIVERSARY AL-ANON !!

In Service

Carolyn S., District 26 Representative

District 32 (Kawartha South) Update

It has been a year since I took over the District Representative duties for District 32. During this year I have been involved in various projects and activities within the District as well as the Area. I feel that being involved in Al-Anon service has helped in my personal journey of recovery.

This year we will be voting in members to fill the group and District positions.

District 32 is currently in the process of forming committees for an Al-Anon Day which we are planning for early May. We will also be involved in the AA Kawartha Conference which is being held in Peterborough on June 19th and 20th. Our District is also thrilled that the Trillium Conference is being held in Peterborough at Trent University at the end of June. The groups are ensuring that their members are aware of this Conference and encouraging attendance and to volunteer at the Conference.

We recently finished a book study that we held over the winter months. The book we discussed was "Opening our Hearts Transforming our Losses ". We had on average nine members attend on a regular basis and are looking at doing another book study later in the year.

Take care and I'm sure like me that many of us are looking forward to some spring like weather.

In Service

Marie A., District 32 Representative

Literature Distribution Center (LDC) Update

I'm reminding everyone that AWSC pre-orders are to be in by 1pm on April 20th, the order will be confirmed, and payment must be in by 1pm April 27th.

I am taking pre-orders for the new service manual. My hope is that I will be allowed an ample stock when they are available from WSO. I also have a pre order folder started for the Groups at Work but as of the day I am writing this there isn't an ETA on them. If the pre ordered service manuals arrive before AWSC and are paid for they are the only thing I will bring for collection at AWSC despite being past the cut-off date.

Sales are down a bit. This is your LDC so I do hope you and your groups will support it per the Assembly vote in 2016. Some groups are doing literature studies, some having a week where they use and discuss a CAL item as their topic other than the normal ones they typically use. This is a good way to expand your library and support your LDC. Remember too that there are literature blurbs I can email to you if your group wants to know what all the options are for you.

As always, I am privileged to serve Ontario South.

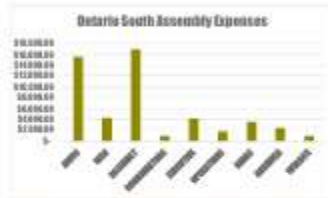
Linda LDC Office Manager os.literature.distribution@gmail.com

Click here for Upcoming Events!!

NEWS FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE 02/20/26

TREASURER'S CORNER

In 2025, group contributions were 88% of budget. Thank you to those groups and members who contributed in 2025 and who continue to support the activities in Ontario South!



AREA PUBLIC OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Our Area needs a PO Coordinator for the current term ending in December 2026. Interested members, please contact Jason W. for more information at ontariosouthdelegate@hotmail.com.

AWSC 2026 WORKSHOPS:

1. "Smooth Moves – Tips for a Smooth Handover"
2. "Ask Me Anything" – The Executive panel will answer all your questions. DRs, come prepared with your questions and take turns drawing them from a hat.

ONTARIO SOUTH ASSEMBLY (OSA) POLICIES & GUIDELINES MANUAL

The Area Manual and Forms can be found on the Area website at <http://al-anon.alateen.on.ca/member-ontariosouth/>

AWSC 2026

May 29-31, 2026
Information Package coming at the end of March!

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. Resumes, Form 19-A, requested by **01Aug26**.

ASSEMBLY 2027

Will be held in the West. Districts 1-13 are requested to submit a Bid Form by **01May2026** to alateen2027@gmail.com.

The Handover Meeting for the incoming Executive is planned for **Jan 15th, 2027** in Brantford.

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

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

Finding Serenity

One Day at A Time

Saturday May 2nd 2026

9:00am - 3:30pm

Registration begins at 8:30 AM

200 Sanders Street, Kemptville

Raffle Baskets, Speakers, Potluck Lunch,
Workshops/Activities.

Al-Anon is for everyone! District 26 looks forward to
opening our hearts to you at this years Al-Anon day!

NEW

Stratford Al Anon Group

Path to Peace AFG

We meet every Friday at 7:30 p.m.

Spotlight Church

58 Griffith Road West, Stratford, Ontario N5A 6S4

Contact Louise at 519.271.7691



DISTRICT 14 AL-ANON DAY "IT TAKES COURAGE"

Saturday, April 25th, 2026

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Doors open at 8:30 am

St. Michael's Anglican Church

1188 Fennell Ave E. Hamilton, ON, L8T 1S6

Tickets \$5.00 to be purchased at the door

Prizes, Potluck, Al-Anon Bingo, Speakers,

For questions or donations, contact Jen at

(289)439-8363 or Daniela (905)966-5262



District 5 Al-Anon Day

April 11, 2026

1-5pm

West Perth (Mitchell) Community Centre
185 Wellington St, Mitchell

Free Admission – 7th Tradition Appreciated

Coffee, Tea, Water and Snacks Provided

Schedule for the Day

- 1:00 Speaker Jason (Area Delegate)
My Journey – Alateen to Delegate
- 2:00 Alateen speaker shares Experience, Strength and Hope
- 3:00 Judith, Bonnie, Murray: Interactive Exploration of Alateen Tools
- 4:00 Informal discussion, fellowship and snacks

OPEN To All Al-Anon, A.A. and Alateen Members
And Potential Members

We look forward to seeing you there!



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

APRIL 25, 2026

[CLICK HERE FOR EVENT DETAILS](#)