

SOAR 8

Southeast Overeaters Anonymous Region 8



Alabama
Arkansas
Florida
Georgia
Louisiana
Mississippi
North Carolina
South Carolina
Tennessee
Puerto Rico
South America
Central America
Caribbean Islands

SECRETARY

JANE C
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407-532-6560
secretary@oaregion8.org

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR BUSINESS ASSEMBLY & RECOVERY CONVENTION Miami, Florida July 13-15, 2012

FIRST THINGS FIRST: IMPORTANT REMINDER:
**PLEASE BRING YOUR LAPTOP COMPUTER, POWER CORD, AND YOUR OWN
EXTENSION CORD AS THERE MAY BE A LIMITED NUMBER OF OUTLETS AVAILABLE.**

REMEMBER: Return to www.oaregion8.org after July 3rd to download the ADDENDUM to this packet

REGION 8 REPS

This packet is being distributed electronically. Please DOWNLOAD the entire packet on to your computer in case there is no WiFi connection in the Assembly room. All Reps are responsible to read the material in the packet and to bring either a printed copy or an electronic copy to the business portion of the assembly. Please read and familiarize yourself with the information in the packet prior to the assembly. You will be able to give better service as a Rep for your Intergroup by having the information in this packet with you at the assembly. Printed copies of this packet will not be available at the Assembly. Please contact secretary@oaregion8.org if you have any questions.

Together we will maintain our Abstinence (Unidos Mantendremos Nuestra Abstinencia) - There is certainly nothing more important than the message of maintaining your abstinence. Our program tells us we cannot do in alone and we cannot maintain it in isolation. Together we get better.

CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY

In order for your intergroup region 8 representatives to be able to vote at the JULY 2012 assembly, your Intergroup must have a Certificate of Eligibility on file with the Secretary that is valid for 2012. One is included with the forms at the back of the packet. Please send the Certificate of Eligibility form to the Region 8 Secretary signed by your Intergroup Chair ASAP. All Intergroups are requested to submit a new Certificate in January of each year AND during the year any time there is a change in IG Chair or reps or Alternates for a SOAR 8 Assembly. Voting at the assembly is the best way to show how much you support a healthy Region 8!

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Part of your responsibility as a Region 8 delegate is to participate in a committee. If you were not at the last assembly you will sign up for a committee when you sign in to get your credentials in Raleigh or during the first assembly meeting on Friday night. If you were a rep in the last assembly you will be placed in the same committee as last time. If you desire to change committees please first contact your Committee Chair and then contact the secretary at secretary@oaregion8.org.

ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION FORMS

Registration forms for this assembly can be found at www.oaregion8.org and at the back of this packet. You are responsible for making your hotel reservation for the assembly.

CALLING ALL INTERGROUPS

We need you. Is your intergroup going to be represented at the MIAMI Assembly in JULY? Please send at least one representative to our regional assembly. There is much work to do and we need you to get this work done. Your voice is needed. Not only will your intergroup be represented for important decisions but you will be helping the hosting intergroup. If your intergroup is unable to financially send at least one Rep. to this assembly, perhaps Region 8 can help you for this or a future assembly. Please submit the Representative Funding Application at the back of this packet. Contact the Region 8 Treasurer for more information. We appreciate your service and need you.

HOSTING A FUTURE ASSEMBLY AND RECOVERY CONVENTION

We will be accepting bids for a future Assembly and Recovery Convention at this Business Assembly. This is a great way to raise funds and promote OA in your area. Contact The Region 8 Vice-Chairman Sander B.. with questions. His contact info is in the SOAR 8 Service Directory.

HAVE MORE QUESTIONS? Please feel free to contact any board member or committee chair with anything that concerns you. Email and mailing addresses and phone numbers for all board members and committee chairs can be found on page 3.

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SOAR 8 Service Directory

SOAR 8 BOARD

CHAIRMAN

Gloria L
721 Glen Eagle Dr.
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407-340-2008
chair@oaregion8.org

VICE CHAIRMAN

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TREASURER

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SECRETARY

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PARLIAMENTARIAN

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parliamentarian@oaregion8.org

TREASURER PO BOX

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Tampa FL 33688-2081

WS Regional Trustee

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407-921-7268
trustee@oaregion8.org

WEBMASTER

webmaster@oaregion8.org

SOAR8 FUNDED COMMITTEES

Twelfth Step Within Committee

Linda H
10845 Shawnee Rd
St. Petersburg, FL 33708
727-394-7639,
TSWchair@oaregion8.org

Bylaws & Electronic Documents

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Intergroup Outreach (IGOR)

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Elkton, FL 32033
321-214-3446
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Ways And Means

Katherine M.
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561-578-2125
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Unity With Diversity (WID)

unitychair@oaregion8.org

12 Step Within: Email Sponsor

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318-458-6326
speakers@oaregion8.org

FRIDAY BOARD MEETING Miami Florida

FRIDAY, July 13, 2012

8AM-9AM Informal gathering of Board –please feel free to bring Breakfast

9AM -Board Meeting Convenes

Old Business

1. Topics for November St Pete 2012 Assembly for Presentation and Discussion (VC)
2. Revising Hosting Manual-status
3. Prepare for Forum: **OA Action Plan** ((f/k/a Strategic Plan)
4. Changing Fiscal Year to Calendar Year-status (Treas.)
5. Technology- Future use of OOVOO for Board Meetings and other options (free-conferencing technology, etc) status

New Business

1. Finances – Proposed Budget Amendment
2. PASS IT ON- What can we do as a Board to help each other in our recovery?
3. OA's Action Plan/f/k/a Strategic Operations Plan –Region and Chair responsibilities
4. Guidelines for appearing at professional conventions where OA has a booth or table
5. Status of IG Chairs email Loop-defer to afternoon when Committee Chairs check in
6. Nominations: VC and Secretary; Region Chair
7. Exchange of information from one service body to the next for assembly/convention registration; eventbrite use of OA information.
8. Funding and Education of WSBC Delegates
9. Other new business?

Lunch

12 noon Break for lunch

Reconvene

2:00 p.m. Board Meeting Reconvenes

Funded Committee Chairs join Board Meeting (Check in & update on Committee issues & activities, questions, concerns, issues)

4:00 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

ASSEMBLY AGENDA
Miami, FL. USA July 13-15, 2012

Friday July 13, 2012

1. **7:00 pm ASSEMBLY CONVENES**
 OA readings
2. Appointment of Timer
3. Recognition of New Intergroups, New Reps, **Green Dots**, Conventioneers & Visitors & Remote Attendees
4. Introduction of Region 8 Board Members, Funded Committee Chairs & IG Chairs
5. Introduction of former Region 8 Board Members and Trustee
6. Credentials & Roll Call
7. **Adoption of amended Agenda (if needed)**
8. PASS IT ON
9. Forum
10. **8:15pm BREAK**
11. Announcements
12. 8:30pm Welcome & short skit by hosting Intergroup
13. 8:50pm Presentation & Discussion - " The Doctor's Opinion " (with references to appendices in Brown Book)
14. **10:00pm RECESS**

Saturday March 10, 2012

15. **7:30 New Rep Orientation**
16. **8:30 CALL TO ORDER**-OA readings
17. Credentials
18. Adoption of Standing Rules
19. Introduction of Parliamentarian & short parliamentary lesson
20. **Approve Consent agenda (if needed)**
21. Approve minutes from last Assembly - Raleigh, N.C., USA, March, 2012
22. 7th Tradition
23. Board reports - 5 min each +5 minutes questions
24. Trustee Report – 5 minutes + 5 minutes for questions
25. **BREAK**
26. Credentials
27. **Motions** - Board
28. **12:00 LUNCH BREAK with SPEAKER**
29. **RECONVENE 2PM**
30. **2-3:30pm** Committee Meetings (Take break if needed-be ready to go @ **3:30**) Hand in report to Secretary
31. Final report from Medellin, Colombia, S.A. November 2011
32. Final report from Raleigh, N.C. USA March 2012
33. Credentials
34. Unfinished Business (Continue motions if needed)
35. New business
 - A. Nominations Vice Chair, Secretary, Region 8 Delegates to WSBC

- B. Applications Region Trustee
- C. Bids (July 2013 Assembly & Convention)
- D. OA's Action Plan
- E. Emergency Motions (if needed)

36. Committee reports

- Ways & Means
- Bylaws/Electronic Documents
- IGOR
- TSW
- PI/PO
- Technology/Website
- Unity With Diversity

37. **“Did You Know?”** Educational segment - TBD

38. Any other new Business

39. Ask – it – Basket (time permitting)

40. For the good of the order (time permitting)

41. Break out for additional Committee Meetings (time permitting)

42. **GREEN DOT CEREMONY**

43. **5:30 pm ASSEMBLY ADJOURNS**

BUSINESS ASSEMBLY MINUTES
Raleigh, N.C. USA March 9-11, 2012

Friday March 9, 2012

7:01 PM ASSEMBLY CONVENED

- OA readings Welcome and opening remarks – Color commentary by the Chair on school and sports colors
- 7:18 Appointment of Timer – Gary
- 7:20 Recognition of New Intergroups, New Reps, **Green Dots**, Conventioneers & Visitors & Remote Attendees
- 7:24 Introduction of Region 8 Board Members, Funded Committee Chairs & IG Chairs
- 7:27 Introduction of former Region 8 Board Members and Trustee
- 7:30 Credentials & Roll Call
- 7:40 Adoption of amended Agenda (if needed) Objection made. No consent agenda.
- 7:42 Change in agenda to include consent for a member to take Lonna's place at 2012 WSBC. Requirements were read. Applications are available from the secretary and on line and will be accepted until Noon Saturday.
- 7:49 PASS IT ON - Chair's vision for Region 8. Refers to Bill's book about the first years of the program and how the message was passed on from two members to three and so on. She hopes we will all pass it on to those we meet who are still suffering from the physical, emotional and spiritual manifestations of this disease,
- 7:51 Forum – "Assemblies and Conventions-who, what, where, when, why and how many?"
Break into groups to answer the questions
- 8:22 BREAK 15 minutes.
Announcements
8:30pm Welcome & short skit by hosting Intergroup
8:50pm Presentation & Discussion -
"Physical, emotional & spiritual recovery: the results of working the 12 Steps"

10:00pm RECESS

Saturday March 10, 2012

7:30 New Rep Orientation

8:36 CALL TO ORDER-OA readings

8:45 Credentials – **46 Voting**

8:46 Adoption of Standing Rules

8:47 Approve minutes from last Assembly - Medellin, Colombia, S. A, November 4-6, 2011 Small change from Bylaws

8:51 Introduction of Parliamentarian & short parliamentary lesson

8:57 7th Tradition

8:58 Board Reports

Chair read from her heart. Spoke about carrying the message and passing it on. Thinks that every workshop, speaker, skit, etc should all lead to something that strengthens our recovery and passes it on to someone else.

How
does what we are doing help the next person to stay abstinent.

Vice chair is very honored to be serving in his position. He explained how he has turned over his concerns and fears to HP. Attended hosting committee's planning meeting via remote. Relieved so many fears to know how well they had their plans in place. Is grateful that he is no longer doing double duty as web master. Asks that we be gentle with her so as not to attack the minute she takes over the position.

Secretary pitched for reps to step up and not be afraid of service at any level and how service helps her recovery

Treasurer gave report. Questions were asked and answered.

9:31 Board Motion 1 Motion carried without any edits or discussion

9:42 BREAK

9:59 Sang Happy Birthday to our Vice Chair and Parliamentarian

10:00 – Trustee report Gave away Lifelines. Gave away a subscription to Smoky Mountain. Spoke about having a trustee, or board member come to workshops throughout the region. Just ask! Encouraged people to give away lifeline. Encouraged people to apply to be a world service rep. Encouraged people to run for trustee. Encouraged 12 stepping during this assembly. Excited about what the new Chair will do. No questions were asked.

10:12 Motion: Bylaws & P&P by Baton Rouge IG Parliamentarian read from the OA 12&12 on the meaning of group conscience.

10:15: Motion was read. Pros and Cons. Question time was extended. Motion was made to limit the time to an additional 10 minutes. Motion as made to Table the motion. Motion to table failed. Questions continued for 10 minutes. Vote was taken by written ballot to be totaled by Parliamentarian and Trustee. Needs 3/4 to pass. Vote was taken and originally it was believed that the motion has passed however parliamentarian realized she made an error. The vote carried by only 2/3 in favor. It needed ¾. Motion did not pass. *It Total yes: 29 in favor out of 43 votes. Needed 33.* Motion to Destroy the ballots was made. Motion was seconded and accepted.

11:20 Final report from Medellin – partially in Spanish. Full report will hopefully will be given in July in Miami.

11:25 OA's Strategic Operations Plan

Part of the stategic plan is to make sure newcomer kits are available at all meetings.

12:00 LUNCH BREAK with SPEAKER

RECONVENE 2PM

2-3:30pm Committee Meetings Hand in report to Secretary at 3:30.

3:31 = Credentials -45 voting Credentials accepted

3:32 Bids for March 2013 Memphis GAS UP / Jacksonville North Florida both gave presentations.

Voting followed on paper ballot. Memphis was the winning bid Memphis March 15-17

4:30 Committee reports were given

4:51 **“Did You Know?”** Educational segment . Reading the 12 steps from the AA Literature or the OA Literature should be read as printed by AA. We do not have permission to change their wording.

4:59 **For the good of the order:**

Gary from Miami IG – wants you to take the fliers back home to encourage people to attend the Miami Assembly in July

Evelyn -TRIAD third Saturday of every month they have a workshop – newcomer friendly.

Linda H – Pinellas Traditions in November Assembly at the TradeWinds Island Grand Resort

Harriet – Reminder to get registrations in

Kat – There is an afghan to raffle

Zee Amelia Island Convention 3rd year- has been selling out – September FL

Barb Palm Beach workshop

Smoky Mount said there is a workshop with our Trustee as speaker which will be taking place before these minutes are released.

Low Country, at Hilton Garden Inn will be having a retreat

Joe N – Baton Rouge will have a 1 day retreat on May 19th between Baton Rouge and Slidell.

Arkansas at the Heffer Ranch will be having a retreat with workshops April 28th 9am 4 pm 1 day on a working ranch

Jenn IG is having a PI workshop and a Step Workshop in April

Sander – Savannah IG has been formed. Will have a retreat in Savannah April 27-29 – it is on the Internet.

Raleigh has given us the 12 steps traditions and concepts of service banners.

Cards given to the birthday board members

Turn your clocks ahead tonight! We lose an hour sleep!

5:09 GREEN DOT CEREMONY

5: 11 ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED



Alabama
Arkansas
Florida
Georgia
Louisiana
Mississippi
North Carolina
South Carolina
Tennessee
Puerto Rico
South America
Central America
Caribbean Islands

Region 8 Chair's Report July 2012 Gloria M. Lockridge

Dear Friends:

Miami here we come! Fun, Sun and right on the Beach! WOW!

It has been a busy 4 months for me since our wonderful Raleigh Assembly. Thank You Triangle Intergroup for hosting such a fantastic event-what a turn out!

Since Raleigh I've been to World Service Business Conference ("WSBC") with about 27 Delegates from Region 8, plus 3 Trustees! It was the best WSBC I have ever attended—**you can read all the details in my attached WSBC report**. The Report is quite long, so just pick out what interests you and leave the rest. Thanks to Trustee Gerri for parts of the report!

While at WSBC I was elected Chair of the Region Chairs Committee and am so honored to have that service position. I know I can count on Region 8 for lots of help!

It is also very exciting to have new literature and to know that Delegates from Region 8 helped that happen. Region 8 Rocks Again!

I have also been to Caracas, Venezuela at the invitation of the National Service Board of Venezuela. GST Janice S traveled with me and we stayed with Carolina P who was such a wonderful host, extraordinary driver and superlative abstinent cook. Thank You Carolina!

Many of you followed along on our trip with the emails I sent (people are calling it a "blog"- I don't think of myself as a blogger but maybe I am!) and they are also attached to this Report in case you did not get a chance to read them. Everyone we met was so loving, caring, and generous. I have never received so many wonderful hugs! My heart was so touched. I highly recommend a trip to South America or to any where in the US where OA is lived and spoken-you will get your soul fed and you will be forever changed.

I believe we will have region representatives from Colombia here in Miami and perhaps attendees at the recovery convention from Venezuela. I know all of you will treat them lovingly, just as Janice and I were treated.

Those of you who went to WSBC know we are focusing on OA's Action Plan (f/k/a "Strategic Plan") and want to do all we can to retain our current members and attract those still suffering. Together we will work on this at our Miami Assembly.

Your Board and Committee Chairs have also been busy since Raleigh, and I hope you will check out their reports.

Please feel free to call or email me (my contact information is in the Service Directory part of your agenda packet) or to introduce yourself at Assembly if we haven't met! I look forward to seeing all of you. And remember every day is an opportunity to PASS IT ON!

So get ready to be rocketed into that 4th dimension!

RECOVERY: PASS IT ON!

See you in Miami!

**Trust God, Clean House Help Others, Gloria L, Region 8 Chair
chair@oaregion8.org**

Region 8 Vice Chairman's Report

SOAR 8 Business Assembly and Recovery Convention

Miami Beach, FL

Sander B.

July 13 - 15, 2012



HAPPY, JOYOUS, AND FREE!

Welcome to Miami Beach, FL, and the SOAR-8 mid-Summer Business Assembly and Recovery Convention, hosted by the Miami-Dade Intergroup.

Our first 2012 convention and assembly in Raleigh, NC this past March was a resounding success. My many thanks to the planning committee in Raleigh for their outstanding work. I have also been extremely gratified by the outstanding efforts of the Miami-Dade Intergroup planning committee. Overcoming several logistics and planning hurdles, they have put together what promises to be an exciting and productive recovery convention and business assembly here in Miami Beach. Our November Assembly will be in St. Petersburg Beach, and I know the Pinellas Traditions Intergroup, in Clearwater, FL is also working on putting on a great convention and assembly there.

One of my duties as your Vice-Chair is to promote bids for upcoming assemblies. So far, I am aware of at least two Intergroups considering bids for 2014. One of which will be presented at this assembly on Saturday. Assembly bids are presented one year in advance of the assembly. If your Intergroup would like to bid on a future assembly, please contact me at vicechair@oaregion8.org. I will be happy to assist you in preparing your bid, and if selected, I will work with your planning committee to ensure a successful event. This is an excellent way to help spread the message of recovery in your area and to raise funds for further outreach work.

One final note. When I became your Vice Chair following the assembly in Medellin, I was serving as your webmaster and forum manager. Our Tech/Web Chair and I immediately sent out a request for any member who would like to take on the duties of webmaster. I am happy to report that we do have a new webmaster. MJ has completely redesigned our website and has given it a professional flair. If you haven't yet seen the changes, I encourage you to connect to www.oaregion8.org and see the redesign for yourself. If your Intergroup, service body or local group would like to post an event flyer on the website, first make sure that it bears the official OA logo. Then send it to me for approval and forwarding on to our webmaster. To obtain permission to use the official OA logo, download the official request form at <http://www.oa.org/pdfs/logorequestformoct2010.pdf>.

See you all in November at St. Petersburg Beach,
Sander B., Region 8 Vice Chair, Marietta, GA

Report from the Region 8 Secretary

It is hard to write my report for this assembly. My mother passed away two weeks ago today and her service is not for another five days. I have not been home in weeks and my world as I knew it, has changed forever however, I am physically, emotionally and spiritually abstinent; living this wonderful 12 step program to the best of my ability each and every day.

It is beautiful to see the promises coming true even during these sad days. The daily interaction with my siblings and family has been positive, beyond my wildest dreams. It is amazing how well the other members of my family can be when I am working my program.

I apologize for the lateness of the packet and my delayed correspondence during this past month. Thank you all for understanding.

After much consideration and prior to the loss of my mother, I shared with our Chair my decision to not seek a second term as Region 8 Secretary. Our board members and Region 8 members are ALL wonderful people to know, love and share service time with. I will miss the close contact I have enjoyed with everyone. However, it is the right decision for my personal responsibilities in my business, family and my recovery.

I encourage anyone who is interested in being Secretary to apply. Since financial sobriety is part of my recovery, I cannot keep this service for another two years. If I was not responsible to other people in my business, I would have wanted to stay for a second term.

The new term will start immediately following the assembly in November. It is a two year position with the option to run for an additional two year term.

As with all OA service: I have received SO much more than I could ever give. I believe service saved my recovery more than once during the past two years.

Together we really do get better.

Jane C.
Region 8 Secretary
Compulsive Overeater & Food Addict,
in recovery since 11/06

WSBC – What an Education!

There is so much to be said about WSBC and I know you've been given plenty of information from other sources about the various literature revisions and proposals that were addressed.

So I'm going to focus on the workshop at which I was a presenter, and how much I learned about the financial assistance available from WSO for professional outreach. I shared ways in which the World Service Office can assist groups and intergroups:

- By offering grants for funding a professional outreach event
- By offering reduced cost literature for these events
- By supplying a professionally designed table top display that we can borrow for the cost of insured shipping.

I discussed where to find the applications for the various funding online, how to budget for the events and who at WSO is available to assist with the process. See the following links where you can find all of this information:

- Professional Exhibits Fund application oa.org/pdfs/pe_fund_application_09.pdf
- Reduced Cost Literature application oa.org/pdfs/reducedcost.pdf

I'm also serving on the Finance Committee for my second consecutive year at Conference and I've learned so much about the 501(c) 3, non-profit and tax exempt designations. It is quite different than I understood so I'm sharing it here for those of you who may have had the same misunderstanding.

- If your group is a designated **Non-Profit Corporation**, it is exempt from paying federal tax
- If your group is designated as a **501(c) 3 organization**, members who make donations to your group are eligible to take a tax deduction for their contributions
- If your group is **Tax Exempt**, then it is exempt from paying state sales tax on purchases relating to your non-profit activities

These are three *different* designations, not what I had previously understood. Additionally, I have recently confirmed that Region 8 **IS** a 501(c) 3 organization, so any donations you make individually to Region 8 are tax deductible.

Thank you so much for this opportunity to do service for Region 8!

Love, in OA service ☺
Patti Schumacher
Region 8 Treasurer

Region 8
Treasurer's Report
May 31, 2012

For the month of May 2012, Region 8 expended a total of \$3,794.58 while receiving a total of \$2,368.58. Including all outstanding checks and deposits, the current checking account reconciled balance is \$27,443.01 with our prudent reserve at 79%.

Respectfully submitted
Patti Schumacher - 5/31/2012

Trustee Trivia
Gerri Helms
Region 8 Trustee

Region Trustee Ramblings
Gerri Helms, Region 8 Trustee
May 7, 2012

I have just returned from the World Service Business Conference, and am preparing my report to you now, while things are fresh in my mind. There is so much good news to report, so be ready for a long read.

I arrived in Albuquerque on Sunday evening – trustees meet in the beginning of the week before the conference begins. We also had a joint session with the Region Chairs to discuss OA's Strategic plan. You can look at that on the OA website - http://www.oa.org/pdfs/Ops_2012_WEB.pdf. Looks like we're in for a new name – OA's Action Plan! That's much better, don't you think? Gloria Lockridge, your chairman attended as a 'green dot' and I think she was amazed at this process and I suspect you'll be hearing more about the OA Action Plan in our July region assembly!

There were some excellent workshops this week, and I'm proud to say that several of our delegates were speakers – Patti Schumacher, Sander Bellman and Linda Hartman. The workshops offered this week when we weren't in business meetings were:

- Action Plan – Bringing Structure, Balance and Manageability Into our Lives
- Committee Service Bodies – How can the Traditions and Concepts Help?
- Financial Health – Money Matters
- Strong Meetings – What will it take?
- All About Conference
- Parliamentary Procedures
- Abstinance: The Foundation of our Future

On Wednesday the region chairs put on a forum entitled “Conceptualizing Principles”; their purpose was to focus on practicing these principles in all our affairs and covered the Concepts of Service. The region chairs dressed in circus attire, our own Gloria made a fine clown and they made us laugh with a funny song and dance before we broke into small groups and brainstormed on how to use the concepts in our service! Do you read the Twelve Concepts of Service in your business meetings? You can view them at <http://www.oa.org/membersgroups/the-twelve-concepts-of-oa-service/>. Our Region trusted servants would love to come and do a workshop for you on this valuable topic. Contact our chairman to arrange a date that works for you.

Wednesday afternoon encompassed committee meetings. I hope that all the delegates report on what they took away from the meetings. This work goes on for the entire year. We were well represented at Bylaws, Conference-Approved Literature, Finance, Professional Outreach, Public Information, Region Chairs, 12th Step Within, Unity with Diversity, Web/Technology and Youth in OA. I represented Virtual Service Groups as their trustee in addition to my duties with Region 8 and met with the delegates from the 12steps4coes service body. We all got together on Wednesday evening for the SOAR 8 delegate dinner, and were joined by two General Service Trustees from our region, Janice Sullivan and Karen Cornacchia. We had a nice visit and the green dots had an opportunity to meet with their mentors. We work hard at the business of OA, so the respite was

really nice. We were represented this year by delegates from Venezuela, Costa Rica, Aruba and Brazil. SOAR 8 is truly an international region.

On Thursday, we got into the work of OA. After introductions, we adopted the credentials, with 16 voting trustees, 182 delegates, a total of 198 eligible to vote. This changed a bit over the next three days, as some delegates arrived late or left early. By Saturday we had 194 delegates.

There were reports by all the trustees and committees, with a question and answer period following. I reported on Board Approved Literature, Region 8 and Virtual Services. We also heard from the candidates running for open General Service (GST) and Region Trustee positions. The business of motions began that afternoon. There were several motions put on a consent agenda which meant that they were non-controversial in nature, and were passed without debate. We were given a good amount of time to pull any of them from the agenda for debate and possible amendments. I'll report on all the motions together for ease of reading.

On Friday morning, the credentials remained the same and we voted for Region Trustees. Mary Rose Dallal (region 6), Vicki Wilcox (Region 2) and Esti Ordan (Region 9) were elected for 3 year terms. General Service Trustees Joe Lawson and Tina Collins were elected to 3 year terms and Michael Buckley was elected to fill a 1 year term. Congratulations to those who received a second year term as well as our new 'green dot' trustees, Tina and Vicki.

Here is a synopsis of the motions that were considered Those with numbers are bylaw amendments. The letters are policies:

- Four new and/or revised pieces of literature were adopted:
 - Pamphlet "Before You Take that First Bite."
 - Pamphlet "Sponsoring Through the *Twelve Steps*"
 - Pamphlet "To the Newcomer" (Which includes revised 15 questions)
 - "Voices of Recovery" E-Workbook

Watch the OA website for announcement of when these will be released.

- Proposal Item A – adopted on the consent agenda, to include virtual service boards in the list of service bodies requested to contribute and apply for funding from the Delegate Support Fund
- Proposal Item B - This was adopted and is important, because it affects what AA literature you can use in your meetings. AA books and booklets with an original copyright of 2010 or earlier are approved to be used in an OA meeting. Any additional edits of these books and booklets are included. AA pamphlets and any future AA books and booklets will not be considered as approved literature to use in an OA meeting. You may read whatever you like when you are not in an OA meeting.
- Proposal Item C – adopted, to reflect our current practice that service bodies may form service centers to assist them with communicating with groups, to carry the message, as long as they adhere to the traditions and are guided by the concepts of service.
- Proposal Item D – adopted on the consent agenda, also reflects current practice where a group can restrict access to the meetings because there is already limited access, such as on military bases, ships or institutional settings.
- Proposal Item E – adopted on the consent agenda which clarifies that OA doesn't provide group liability insurance.
- Proposal Item F – the motion was withdrawn for more work. It encompasses a statement on core values. It was too vague.
- Proposal Item G – reflects the current practice of protecting anonymity for members at the level of public media of communication – that is the internet, by removing last names on any reports from conference which are on the OA website. We approved it on the consent agenda.
- Proposal Item H – adopted on the consent agenda, to reflect our practice of debating bylaw amendments only as authorized by the current fellowship, and no motions would be carried over to a subsequent year.

- Proposal Item I – adopted to remove our restricted fund for translations, because it is already in our operating budget. Any funds left over must be used for translations.
- Proposal Item J – adopted to limit delegates from Intergroups & Service Boards attendance at WSBC to 4 consecutive years, with a possible 2 year extension. After that you'll need to rotate out for a year. This is in line with Tradition 2 & Concepts 12a and 12c. If there is a hardship, a waiver can be submitted to the BOT for consideration.
- Proposal Item 1 – adopted on the consent agenda – this clarifies the term 'registered' with reference to groups as defined in the bylaws. (Article VII – Regions, Section 2 – Regional Assemblies.)
- Proposal Item 2 – adopted on the consent agenda – removes the words region and intergroup and replaces with service body (Article X – Meetings of Delegates, Section 4 - Notice.)
- Proposal Item 3 – adopted on the consent agenda – cleans up language – replaces the word full with regular. (Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 6 – Election of Trustees.)
- Proposal Item 4, 5 & 6 – adopted together as amended – All three motions related to the same issue, with regard to Intergroups, Regions and Service Boards. You will now need to update your bylaws whenever the OA, Inc. Bylaws are amended and affect yours (such as the definition of a group was modified at 2011 WSBC) Your bylaws must be amended in two years. (Article VI – Intergroup, Section 2 - Registration – Meetings of Delegates, Section 4 – Notice, Article VII – Regions, Section 3 – Registration and Article VIII – Service Boards, Section 3 – Registration)
- Proposal Item 7 – Adopted with amendments. This provides a consequence if your service body doesn't amend bylaws with the two years. The IG, Region or SB will not be permitted to register delegate(s) for the current Conference. (Article X – Meetings of Delegates, Section 3 – Delegates) * *note- if you have not amended your bylaws within the last year, or have never amended your bylaws, this affects your service body.*
- Proposal Item 8 – adopted on the consent agenda – cleans up the language in the bylaws to accurately reflect the current tasks and direction of the WSBC Finance Committee (Article XI – Conference Committees, Section 3 – Finance Committee)
- Proposal Item 9, 10 & 11 – adopted on the consent agenda – provides the same language defining an OA group, by adding that groups are guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service (Article VI - Intergroups, Section 2 – Registration, Article VII – Regions, Section 3 – Registration and Article VIII – Service Boards, Section 3 – Registration)
- Proposal Item 12 – adopted the creation of a 17th trustee for virtual services, A VST. (Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 1 – Composition)
- Proposal Items 13 and 18 – adopted together with amendments. This amendment protects groups from being arbitrarily deregistered, by requiring a written request to the WSO, Region Chair and Trustee. (Article VI – Intergroups, Section 3 – Functioning and Article VII – Service Boards, Section 4 – Functioning)
- Proposal Item 14 – adopted on consent agenda - cleans up wording, changing that the BOT shall "speak on behalf" of OA, rather than being a 'spokesman'. (Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 2 – Duties and Responsibilities.)
- Proposal Item 15 – adopted on consent agenda - makes the language of the bylaws gender neutral by changing "chairman" to "chair" (Article X – Meetings of Delegates)
- Proposal Item 16 – adopted on consent agenda - makes the language of the bylaws gender neutral by changing "chairman" to "chair" (Article XI – Conference Committees)
- Proposal Item 17 – adopted on consent agenda - makes the language of the bylaws gender neutral by changing "chairman" to "chair" (Article XIV – Section 1 - Procedure)

A grand total of \$3,810.78 was donated in 7th tradition.

We said goodbye to Cheryle Touchton GST and Wanda Stayton, Region 3 Trustee, who rotated out of service. At the Board Meeting following the close of conference on Saturday, Teresa Kopel was elected to Chair, Joe Lawson to 1st Vice Chair, Barbara Bertelson to 2nd Vice Chair and Karen Cornacchia (from Region 8) to

Treasurer. I will be serving as chair of the Conference Planning, which means that I will chair a committee to determine the theme of next year's WSBC. I'm very excited to do this for my final WSBC in 2013.

There was a very exciting meeting which took place over lunch on Thursday. Delegates from Venezuela, Costa Rica, Mexico, Spain and Brazil met with the International Language committee (Gerri Helms, Region 8, Esti Ordan, Region 9 and Faith Mahoney, Region 10) and Terry Stuart, WSO staff. We talked about how to unite the Spanish speaking countries for translations. There was much discussion about how each have different dialects and are very proud of their own languages. We finally agreed to try something new. ILC will fund a translation of one of the newly approved pamphlets, in the most simple of language to see if each of the Spanish speaking groups can 'live with it.' If this works, it will change how we move forward with Spanish translations, so that every country doesn't have to do their own translations. This will save us all a lot of money. We are very excited about the prospects!

I am starting my last year as your trustee. I believe strongly in rotation of service. While I am eligible to run for another three years, I prefer to look at my whole service picture. I've served as your Secretary, Chairman and now your Trustee which adds up to 9 years. Every time I've rotated out of a position, I've watched the new person thrive and it's always been for the good of OA and Region 8.

Truly think about service at this level. Just go to the OA website, look at the qualifications on the application: http://www.oa.org/pdfs/trustee_application.pdf. Ask me about the time and responsibilities; I'm happy to share with you. If you are from the United States, brush up on your Spanish. And if you are from Latin America, brush up on your English! We are truly an international region!

I want to commend Triangle for buying a subscription to Lifeline for EVERY MEETING in their Intergroup! Thanks to your efforts, Lifeline magazine is well on its way to becoming self-supporting! I like to ask members what they do with their old issues. Most will say that they bring them to their meeting. I always respond, "DON'T DO THAT!" Write a local contact number on the back and leave it in your doctor's magazine rack. Leave it in the dieticians's office or your gym. Buy a subscription for your doctor's office, a newcomer, your sponsee or your sponsor. It's a great magazine.

That's it for now. Looking forward to seeing y'all in Miami.

Bylaws/Electronic Documents Committee

Interim report May 16–June 17, 2012

We have still not found a newsletter editor, though we have another idea of someone who does a good IG newsletter that I am getting ready to contact. However, in case this doesn't pan out, please continue to talk up the need for a newsletter editor to your IGs and home groups and send me contact information for any candidates.

Activities during the quarter:

- I placed a call for newsletter articles to allregion8 on June 10 asking for articles by Wednesday, June 20; but made a typo that I just discovered. Thus, no one got the message until I re-sent it today (June 17).
- I Received the Medellin history for the P&P from the Vice Chair, but need to edit a little for length (great content).
- I answered two questions from the Chair about by-laws issues.

Yours in service,
Mary Anne

UNITY WITH DIVERSITY COMMITTEE REPORT

I am sending a report for the Unity with Diversity Committee for which I am serving as the temporary chair. I have contacted the other members of the committee, and they report that there is nothing to report at the moment.

As for the Smoky Mtn. Intergroup, I have been working fervently to make positive changes. Since returning to Knoxville after the convention, I have been successful in starting two new meetings. One is a Spanish-language meeting, and the other is a 100-pounders meeting. I am interested in seeking funding for outreach and literature if at all possible. Intergroup has approved \$50 each for literature for each group, but that is so minimal, and along with helping with the costs of the Miami convention, that will leave our intergroup with very close to the prudent reserve. I have found used books in English, and the Big Book in Spanish, but the 12&12 in Spanish is only available new, that I am aware of. I purchased all of the literature I have now out of pocket, and we only have \$17 in the treasury at the moment. Should I talk to Region 8 treasurer for that request? Is her name Janet?

Assuming I am able to come to Miami, I am looking forward to the possibility of becoming the funded chair for the Unity with Diversity Committee after the July convention. One day at a time, I am looking forward to my first anniversary of continuous abstinence come June 21, 2012. July will be the second time serving as business representative for Region 8 Business Assembly, and I will have served on the Unity with Diversity Committee twice at that time. As far as I can remember, those were the requirements that I was lacking, which prevented me from taking on the funded chair role in March, 2012.

At the convention, one of the U&D Committee members donated some items that I could use as fundraisers to help me get to Miami in July, since I am the temporary chair and therefore unfunded. Motivated by that generosity, I visited the gift shop at the close of the convention, and requested more donations for fundraising for the same purpose. That was fruitful as well. Upon returning, I requested to bring the items to a workshop, was approved, and was able to raise \$41 so far toward the cost of attending the convention in Miami. We have had a group conscience meeting in the 100-pounder meeting, and it was approved to display these fundraiser items at each meeting until the next convention. On June 9, we will have a group-conscience meeting at the Saturday morning meeting to vote on whether I can display them there as well. I have also emailed Betty Smith for ideas on fundraisers as she invited to me to do while we were at the convention.

The Smoky Mountain intergroup is interested in helping me get to Miami in July for the Business Assembly. I came back from the convention extremely excited about the idea of hosting a convention here in East Tennessee, after being challenged by a board member to host a convention here within the next two years. We want to make a bid in the March, 2013 Business Convention in Memphis for hosting in March, 2014, which will be within the time frame for the two-year challenge! I am under the impression that we can get help from Region 8 to get that moving. We have a volunteer to be the event coordinator if the bid is won. We want to work with someone from Region 8 to help us get the ideas for the presentation, and any help we are offered. We honestly do not even know what all is involved. We do have the handbook, though, so we are not completely lost.

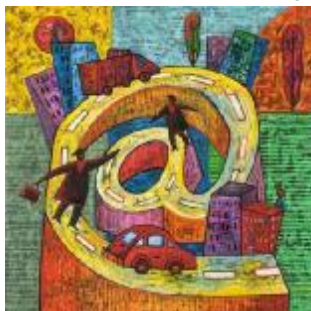
If there are other pieces of information that I have left out, please feel free to email or call me, and I will respond ASAP. Thank you for everything, and I hope to see you in July!

Katherine Guerrero

Temporary Chair for Unity with Diversity Committee

oakatherine@gmail.com

Tech Web Committee Report June 2012



First I must apologize to the lateness of the committee Report I was away during the last month in Europe I returned with Walking Pneumonia.

With our wonderful new webmaster in place we are moving ahead into an improved web presence.

We have discovered the ability to collect funds by credit card without having to have a merchant number by using various products attached to smart phones at low processing costs The cost of OOVOO has dropped to \$29.95 per year from \$179.00 when we learn to use all the facilities of OOVOO it is far superior to Free Conference Call and Skype

We are still looking to build the system for updating the email loops.

I am assisting St Pete with their upcoming Region Assembly in November by setting up their Eventbrite Pages please register early .

<http://soar8novstpetebeach.eventbrite.com>

If you cannot attend please be there via the internet

At WSBC I was elected Delegate Co-Chair of the Tech Web Committee

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at Miami and we have already had 2 groups interested in viewing the proceedings on OOVOO.

Respectfully Submitted
Burt Tucker

TSW Committee Report June 15, 2012

Hello Everyone,

This past month has been particularly slow. We had 3 requests for online sponsors and no requests for speakers. In July we will be looking for someone to take over the speakers sub committee chair position for "R-8 Speakers List". Rotation of service is a good thing..so pray about it..maybe you could be the next sub committee chair. I hope that these 2 services are announced at group meetings...If there are no available sponsors or speakers in your area.....PLEASE.....use this service!

One of our volunteers made a new presentation board for Lifeline, which will be at our Miami convention. Please make announcements for subscribing to Lifeline at your groups.

I also want to remind everyone to bring their before and after picture for "The Wall of Hope", that goes along with our presentation of the Roadshow skit.

See ya'll in Miami

Love N Hugs,
Linda

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Interim report, June, 2012

Here is what the ways and means committee has accomplished this past month:

The Region 8 finances have been audited through December, 2011.

We are all looking forward to the July assembly in Miami! We will be selling R8 sweatshirts, and adjustable measuring spoons.

We will raffle off another hand-made afghan.

Yours in service,

Kat

Katherine Marish

Ways and Means Committee Chair

WORLD SERVICE BUSINESS CONFERENCE DELEGATE REPORT – Carolina P.

Wanting to share some emotional experience I had this year in Albuquerque at the Conference. Realizing that I got to Albuquerque before the Conference started, I was beginning to think about the days when I had to meet my new two roommates! One from Maryland, and the other from New Zealand! It was going to be totally different to share with this people. How is it going to be? Oh my God! Anyway I started the week going to Santa Fe. Not becoming the favorite people that got on the bus, 'cause I was the last that got in it! I was late, and they were waiting for me! Whatever.....I said I'm sorry with a big smile and sat in the last seat, without any pal! There it is: was my first weird feeling! We got off in Sta. Fe, it seemed to me like a very beautiful little town, where the architecture has still the same when it became founded. We started visiting the Stair church! Interesting and beautiful. Then the Guide man explained that we could go one side or another of the town by ourselves, and when I saw a little group and recognized a cute and smiling face, I decided to follow them, wasn't invited, but I knew they were from OA, so I knew I got a place there. I began to feel much better. I knew I have seen that face in Medellin, Colombia last year! Wow! What a relief! She recognized me too! So we say hello to each other, remembered the experience in Medellin, and that group of fellows adopted me. I was happy and could chat and share with all this nice girls! Had a wonderful day, and a better lunch! In a very nice place in Santa Fe.

When we returned, I had earned some quite nice friends! I just started to feel comfortable, and in family. Returning to the Hotel, began the registration for the conference! Wow! I saw other faces, but no the one I wanted to see: my dear sponsor, but I knew I'll see her soon! I had one year with my new "Gringa" sponsor!! But only by skype. I know that the difference is huge between see face to face that to chat by skype! If it wasn't for my sponsor and my HP, I wouldn't be here! Anyway I began to feel curious about the other people I was going to meet. First my sweet and tiny Roommate from New Zealand. I felt her sweetness and softness. The only thing it was difficult to understand her English pronunciation. But we worked it out! I know my English was getting better, but not as much I wanted, like to have a fluid conversation. For Dinner I guided my three angels(I decide it to call them that way cause I felt secure with them) to a Mexican Rest. Not far from the Hotel. Only 1 and a half blocks! The food:-Good!- Cheap! And -Abstinent! Thank God everybody enjoy it, and I think it became a good alternative for us, if we wanted to have different meal than the Hotel's buffet. Later, at the room, my next surprise: my other roommate: have to say got a surprise, I was expecting someone else! But I felt completed. We were finally three in the room! I also could meet my Sponsor! Felt so happy! Could not believe I was there with her. Is was just a dream! Only had pass a year! I only had 1 year of continuous abstinence, unbelievable! I wanted so much to be there! She just showed me the way, and my Hp and me: got in an action plan! I only knew I had lost 2 sizes! Worked in my steps! And work a lot on service! But I did it! I was there!

Tuesday: had to go to my first early meeting, my sponsor made me go! Didn't want to, but I obeyed! I have never being in a room with so many OA people, not only the quantity, but the quality! when I began to hear them! It just blew my mind! Wanting so much to be like them! I felt like an Alien! But now: The worst part! Or the best? Without raising my hand, I did not had any alternative: had to speak in front of those people!!! What??? Noooo!! Got really scared! Began to cry(you know is easy for me, but I truly feel it, for sure) began to share my experience, and felt even more home! Felt surrounded of that energy: LOVE! The meeting finished, and got more connected to other people! Found another dear Angel! So I had 4 cute Angels that I fell in love! She gave me a cute little book with all the prayers in English. I want to learn them! So I can keep praying with them if I ever come back to USA. Later got to go to the Supermarket to buy groceries for my abstinent plan! I gotta say "I was in heaven!" Believe or not, in my country we don't have this kind of supermarkets! No way! I wanted to stay all day long! Anyway had real fun! Shared a lot with one of my Angels! Got everything we needed, she helped me a lot, reading the nutrition tables of each product I was wanting to take with me! God was there! I'm sure! So I bought what it was necessary for my food plan for the next days. At

he conference had so many emotional feeling that it was like a roller coaster. First gotta say, I had to be the first to open the conference, opening with the hands prayer, in Spanish, can you believe that? Me? Do I deserve it? Nooo! Well, yes! I was there, and as I always say: God spoils me so much! It was an Honor for me! Praying with this gigants! This brave ones! That are real committed with service, that are abstinent for so long! And me, this latin woman, with only 1 year of abstinence! A Green Dot! What a joy, and what a gift! But also: soooo nervous! Anyway! Will never ever forget! I Meet my dear mentor! From Costa Rica! A lot of experience, and a very hard worker woman! She didn't Want to miss a thing! But she was very helpful to me, when I asked her a question! Also my dear Angel, that never got separated from me, and helped me a lot with English grammar, and Always attend my questions with so much love and understanding, like another mentor for me! Thank God I was feeling so much love around me! Even when the English speakers did not understood something, the Angels remembered me and asked with little notes: " do you know what that means?"

It was funny and also overwhelmed! Too much English! To much parliamentary staff, too much structure! Got real intimidated with some fellows! I saw some of them always making question! Explaining with a very precise vocabulary a pro or a con! Got to be honest and say that sometimes I got lost! Loose in that world of English speakers! Well I began to feel a little bit secure when the days began to run. And in a moment of light I got something in my mind that wasn't clear, so I tried to discuss it with my mentor, begging her to stand up and made a question for me. But nooooo! She didn't, she wanted me to ask by myself about my doubt! I said nooooo, please! You go and asked for me! And she says again: nop! You do it! So, we prepared a very precise question, got on my two feet, took a deep breath and walked to the lady's microphone.

I remember that moment and I now smile! She read the question and said! Oh my God! That's a real good one! But she had me waiting for 3 times, she was confused, so at the third called that she made me, she sent me to the micro, I walked to the middle of the hall, in the center and made it! So nervous, but confident at the same time! I knew that the Madam chair, is a server, is an overeater, and she is just as human like I am. I saw all the chairs of the board there and a special smile I received from my other angel, the president of all of them: must say My Sponsor. I translate that smile as an approval, and a tender way to say "everything is fine" "you're doing great". It was a very special moment for me. Like a delegate of OA, and also in my personal life. I can say now, that if I did that, I can do whatever I want! Just have to wish for it. Another important thing I have to share is the opportunity to work in a comity. I didn't sign in any, but when I had to choose, I liked the most: Unity and Diversity. Maybe because I am a Spanish speaker, It was very interesting, and the beautiful part is that I could bring up a topic that was important for me, in a personal way. I wanted so much to talk about people that have had Bariatric surgery. Thinking that they made their choice, but doesn't mean they don't need help, and we must welcome them with respect and open arms. So we are going to get some stories and experiences about this topic! Cool!

When I knew I was going to come to the Conference, I said to myself: I will be a quite listener, but no, I can say I am starting with the right foot! I would love so much that my fellows from Venezuela, could feel at least the 10% of what I felt! I'm sure we could get more abstinence, more servers and more recovery!! Hope that my HP gives me the right words and the best from me to transmit the passion and emotion I got here! I want so much to motivate my fellows! Let's pray! At The last dinner: Celebration! What a nice and happy moments! Couldn't stop taking pictures! Wanted to have each of those faces that gave me so much love, experience, hopes, faith, honesty, service, and recovery!!! I dance, sing, laugh, smile! Was wonderful! Also began to feel so sad! At the end of the night, some of my Angels began to say good bye! Some of them had to leave very early! Wondering.....will I see them again? Don't know! Hope so! tried to be smiling and secure, but nope! Time began to get closer, and I said goodbye to my last cute angel! I cried! I had fallen in love with so many people! Began to feel the emptiness of everybody! A big and empty hole in my stomach, but it wasn't hungry! It was a feeling of gratitude, love, appreciation, kindness, partnership, friendship, support and secureness. I was realizing that I will never, ever repeat this moment again. And it was so powerful and so magical

that I didn't wanted to end. I now understand even more the words" one day at a time". I have to live my present with passion and the conviction that the only thing I have is my today! In two days will be back home! Will be in my routine, and I will pray always for all of you, so that God keep us abstinent and in recovery! Hope to see you some day! Maybe God will spoil me meeting us together again! Love U all deeply with all my heart! Don't have words enough to express my sense of gratitude! Dios los bendiga!

Carolina Peralta.

REGION 8 DELEGATE REPORT 2012 WSBC

In March, during the Raleigh Assembly, I could hardly believe it when I was elected as a Region 8 Delegate to the 2012 WSBC. Before I went, I thought I had an idea of what WSBC was all about. After experiencing it, I realized that I didn't have a clue beforehand! As you read in our Trustee's extensive report, the week was packed with workshops, forums, OA meetings, committee meetings, and of course, the business meetings. In between, we also managed to have fun in abstinence! The importance of abstinence is what impacted me the most. Just like at our Region Assemblies, one of the first things the WSBC Chair told us was to take care of our own abstinence first, so that we could be of service to the fellowship. It was an awesome experience to spend almost a week with 200 abstinent colleagues. Abstinence dominated our conversations. It was our shared practice. It was the focus of many of our actions. It was the gateway to service. Abstinence is awesome! As the first business meeting was convened, the Chair reminded us of our purpose. We were not there to act as individuals, or to represent our Intergroup or Region. We were there to serve as the group conscience of OA and to make decisions for the good of the entire fellowship. Many times over, as we considered the various motions, opinions were shared, points were debated, differences were discussed, but always, the good of OA was the driving force behind it all. Trustees and delegates amazed me as I witnessed their knowledge of, and passion for, the Steps, the Traditions, the Concepts of Service. The care with which our Twelve Step way of life is guarded overwhelmed me with gratitude.

Principles before personalities – I saw this practiced over and over. Divergent views, sometimes strongly expressed as we deliberated, always yielded to the consensus reached by group conscience. At one point, someone voiced their opinion in a forceful way which reflected somewhat negatively on work a group had done. Later, that same person made a public amends for their words. Interestingly, the people directly involved hadn't even taken offense in the first place at the speaker's words! Talk about living the steps and traditions!

I was astounded when I learned the extent of the work done throughout the year to carry on the work of the WSBC. Each of our Trustees serves on several standing committees in addition to their duties as a Trustee. Every Trustee who ran for election or re-election spoke eloquently of how privileged they feel to do this work, so much work!, on behalf of the fellowship. How blessed we are to have such caring, giving Trusted Servants.

WSBC has a number of standing committees whose work is mainly done during the year following the WSBC. I was assigned to the By-Laws Committee, and the Conference Policy Manual sub-committee. Our task for this year is to re-evaluate all the policies that have been created by the WSBC (there are 30 single-spaced pages of them) and recommend those that need updating. During the week I was in Albuquerque for the Conference, I learned a lot about OA, and a lot about myself. Our heritage is rich, and our future is exciting and expanding. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the privilege of sharing in this treasure.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Landry
Suncoast Intergroup

Standing Rules

These rules take precedence over Robert's Rules of Order. They may be suspended by a 2/3 vote using a Motion to Suspend the Rules, Participation in Assembly

1. Voting member must wear **appropriate identification** badge/ribbon denoting Rep, funded committee chair, or Board Member.
2. The Secretary shall make a credentials check at the beginning of each session, and prior to any important vote, as deemed necessary by the Chairman.
3. Any registered member of the Assembly may participate in Assembly procedures, e.g. vote, make a motion, speak to a motion, etc. Non-voting members may have a voice at the discretion of the Chairman.

Voting Procedures

1. Vote may be taken by voice, show of hands, standing, or ballot, at the discretion of the Chairman.
2. A voting member may request a more accurate vote count by simply calling out "Division." The Chairman may then use a voting method which assures an exact count.
3. The Chairman may also call for division by stating, "The Chairman is in doubt."
4. Ballot vote will be used for elections. Ballots will be distributed, collected, and tallied by non-voting members appointed by the Chairman. After announcement of results, motion is in order to destroy ballots.

Recognition

1. Voting members who wish to speak shall, from the center microphone, give their name and Intergroup, and wait for recognition from the Chairman. If necessary to get the Chairman's attention, the voting member may say "Madam/Mr. Chairman," but may not speak further unless recognized by the Chairman.
2. For certain procedures, the voting member, from the center microphone, may display a sign to gain recognition from the Chairman (e.g., Point of Order, Point of Information, Parliamentary Inquiry, etc.).

Motions and Debate

1. Process for New Business Motions
 - a. Secretary will distribute minutes of the Business Assembly to the Board and Committee Chairs electronically no later than fifteen (15) days after close of the Business Assembly. New motions will be contained in the Committee Reports of the minutes.
 - b. New motions arising out of committees during an Assembly shall be communicated to the Secretary within fifteen (15) days after the close of the Assembly at which they emerge. After Board notification the Secretary shall forward these motions to the Bylaws/Electronic Documents Chair within twenty-one (21) days of the close of the Assembly at which they emerge.
 - c. New motions arising outside the Business Assembly shall be submitted to the Secretary at least sixty-five (65) days prior to the Region 8 Business Assembly or special Region 8 Business Assembly at which action is to be taken on the proposed motion.
 - d. Motions must be formatted to contain the intent, the proposed motion, any possible effects (costs, time, other committees affected, etc.), date of implementation and a list of necessary changes to be made to the Policy & Procedure Manual for consistency or congruity.

- e. The Bylaws/Electronic Documents Committee may suggest changes in the motion to the maker to facilitate arriving at a more suitable version for submission to the next Business Assembly if the passing of the motion, as initially proposed, would:
 - 1.) create incongruity within either the Policy & Procedure Manual or the Bylaws,
 - 2.) create incongruity between the Policy & Procedure Manual and the Bylaws,
 - 3.) be in contradiction to or with either the Policy & Procedure Manual or the Bylaws, or
 - 4.) result in an adverse, unintended effect unrelated to content, intent or rationale (such as, but not limited to, language or structure).
 - f. The Bylaws/Electronic Documents Chair will submit the reviewed motions to the Secretary electronically, no later than (sixty) 60 days after the close of the Assembly for inclusion in the mailing packet for the following Assembly.
 - g. No motions other than emergency motions will be taken from the floor at the Assembly. Emergency motions shall be submitted to the Bylaws/Electronic Documents Chair before the lunch break on Saturday of the Assembly.
3. There will be a maximum of **three pro and three con speakers to each motion**. There will be a maximum of **two pro and two con speakers to each amendment**. Each speaker may speak for a maximum of three minutes.
 4. Pro and con speakers shall use the appropriate **pro/con microphone**. While waiting to speak, pro/con speakers may queue at the microphones.
 5. A voting **member may not speak on two consecutive motions or amendments** unless the maximum number of speakers has not been reached.
 6. The **first speaker is always pro**, and is usually the maker of the motion (unless he/she wishes to have another voting member speak).
 7. If **more than the maximum number** of speakers wishes to speak to a motion, they are encouraged to select among themselves those speakers who can best represent their views.
 8. There shall **be at least one pro and one con speaker** before any discussion on the motion is taken from the center microphone. Voting members who wish to speak shall follow the recognition procedure outlined above.
 9. A motion to close debate (**Previous Question**) or limit debate is in order for motions or amendments, and requires a 2/3 vote.
 10. To save time on a simple amendment to a motion, the Chairman may ask the maker of the motion if he/she would be willing to accept a "**friendly amendment**." If the maker of the motion agrees and there is no objection from the Assembly, the motion is changed to include the amendment.

Miscellaneous Rules

1. **No smoking** is allowed in any Assembly room.
2. **No animals** are allowed in any Assembly room, except guide dogs and service animals.
3. **All cell-phones**, beepers and 2-way pagers are to be set on vibrate or turned off.
4. **Voting members are not to leave or enter** the Assembly room while votes are being taken.
5. **No eating food** allowed during the business session.

BYLAWS Motion for Miami Business Assembly

Move to make the by-laws consistent with current practice by amending Article VII, Section 1, Part A. Page 12 as follows

Current Wording **A.** Region-8 shall hold regular Region-8 Recovery Convention and Business Assemblies three (3) times a year, on a rotation basis among the states, countries and territories in the Region as approved at the ~~previous Region 8 Business Assembly~~.

Proposed Wording **A.** Region-8 shall hold regular Region-8 Recovery Convention and Business Assemblies three (3) times a year, on a rotation basis among the states, countries and territories in the Region as approved at the Region 8 Business Assembly one year previous.

Intent:

To make the By-Laws consistent with current practice, which allows the hosting intergroup 12 months to prepare for the Assembly and Recovery Convention.

Cost: None

Rationale:

Whether by original intent or accident of wording, the current by-laws read that the site an assembly shall be chosen at “the previous meeting” implying the one four months before. This is not practical as it would not leave a local intergroup enough time to prepare and is, in fact, not our practice as a region.

Submitted by the Bylaws/Electronic Documents Committee

SOAR-8
New Business Motion

Motion:

To amend the current year's budget

Submitted By:

Region 8 Board

Intent:

Our prudent reserve exceeds what is mandated by our bylaws by 19%. Our intent is to spend down the prudent reserve, in accordance with the attached proposed amended budget, as follows:

- Increase the budget to allow our chair to meet her mandatory responsibilities as chair of Region 8 and as chair of the Region Chairs' Committee*
- Create a reserve fund to accumulate funds for international travel, particularly for reaching out to our Latin American members*
- Increase this year's annual donation to WSO by \$500.00*

Implementation:

Approve the attached proposed budget amendment

Cost:

None

Rationale:

We have excess funds on hand. Because of careful spending and the generous contributions of the fellowship in the "Keep Medellin Alive" campaign, we now have a prudent reserve in excess of what we are required to keep per our bylaws. Our bylaws mandate that we carry a prudent reserve balance between 40 and 60% of our current year budget. Our current prudent reserve is about 79%.

According to our bylaws we are required to reduce such a high reserve by fulfilling our primary purpose of carrying the message of recovery. This motion will allow us to fully fund a more accurate budget while maintaining a prudent reserve at the top end of our allowance, which is 60%.

When the 2011 – 2012 budget was adopted in November of 2011, it was underfunded with the expectation that expenses for Medellin would be high and we would be unable to meet our standard projections. The current adopted budget does not provide sufficient funding to meet all of our service obligations and needs to be amended; we have an excess prudent reserve that we are required to reduce and we can use those funds to establish a budget that more accurately addresses our needs.

Representantes de la Región 8

Repr Alt Nombre _____

Tel. casa #: () _____

Email Address: _____

Tel. celular #: () _____

Dirección postal

Calle /Apartado postal

Ciudad

Estado

Código postal

Representantes de la Región 8

Repr Alt Nombre _____

Tel. casa #: () _____

Email Address: _____

Tel. celular #: () _____

Dirección postal

Calle /Apartado postal

Ciudad

Estado

Código postal

Representantes de la Región 8

Repr Alt Nombre _____

Tel. casa #: () _____

Email Address: _____

Tel. celular #: () _____

Dirección postal

Calle /Apartado postal

Ciudad

Estado

Código postal

Representantes de la Región 8

Repr Alt Nombre _____

Tel. casa #: () _____

Email Address: _____

Tel. celular #: () _____

Dirección postal

Calle /Apartado postal

Ciudad

Estado

Código postal

Por favor borrar los siguientes nombres de la lista de representantes de la Región 8:

Yo certifico que los representantes y los alternos enlistados en este certificado se eligieron en nuestro Intergrupo para server de _____ a _____ y son elegibles para votar en la Asamblea tal como se define en el Manual de Estatutos y Políticas de la Región 8.

Firma de la Coordinadora del Intergrupo: _____

Fecha: _____

Por favor, actualice su información con la secretaria de la Región 8 cuando ocurran cambios.

Region 8 Representatives Continued

Rep Alt Name: _____

Home Phone #: () _____

Email Address: _____

Mobile Phone #: () _____

Mailing Address

Street / PO Box City State Zip

Rep Alt Name: _____

Home Phone #: () _____

Email Address: _____

Mobile Phone #: () _____

Mailing Address

Street / PO Box City State Zip

Rep Alt Name: _____

Home Phone #: () _____

Email Address: _____

Mobile Phone #: () _____

Mailing Address

Street / PO Box City State Zip

Rep Alt Name: _____

Home Phone #: () _____

Email Address: _____

Mobile Phone #: () _____

Mailing Address

Street / PO Box City State Zip

Please delete the following names from SOAR 8's list of registered Reps:

I certify that the representatives and alternates listed on this certificate were elected by our Intergroup to serve from _____ to _____ and are eligible to vote as defined in the SOAR 8 ByLaws and Policy & Procedure manual.

Signature of Intergroup Chair: _____ Date: _____

Please update your information with the Region 8 Secretary as changes occur

Rep Funding Application

(Please see page F-8 for complete guidelines governing Rep Funding)

This form must be accompanied by copies of the three most recent financial reports of your Intergroup

Date _____

Intergroup _____ Intergroup # _____ State _____

Representative

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Intergroup Contact Person

For which Assembly is funding being requested? _____

Has your Intergroup ever sent a Rep to an Assembly? _____

If yes, where and when? _____

Has a Rep from your Intergroup ever been approved for funding by this committee? _____

If yes, where and when? _____

Has your Intergroup applied for funding in the last two years? _____

If yes, where and when? _____

What service work has your Intergroup/Rep done for Region 8 in the last 2 years? _____

To help the committee determine amount of funding needed, please complete the following:

Lodging: 1/2 double-occupancy rate for two nights, including tax and tips _____

Transportation: Public transport at lowest rate, or private vehicle (\$.20 per mile) _____

Less amount your Intergroup can contribute toward expenses _____

TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED _____

Signatures:

Intergroup Officer _____ **Office** _____

Intergroup Officer _____ **Office** _____

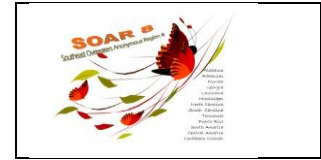
Send completed form to Intergroup Outreach Chairman (see Appendix D)
Include financial reports (see above)

Rep Funding Guidelines

1. **Priority will be given to Intergroups which have never been represented at an Assembly, and to Intergroups which have not been funded in two years.**
2. Intergroups which request funding more frequently than every two years will be considered on a case-by-case basis, at the discretion of the Rep Funding Program.
3. Funding shall be limited to expense of transportation and one-half the double occupancy rate for a maximum of two nights. Transportation should be by automobile if possible, or air/bus/train at the lowest rate.
4. Funding shall be limited to one Rep per Intergroup. However, other members may share transportation.
5. Advance funding may be requested, or funds will be given to the Rep upon arrival at the Assembly. **Voucher** (Appendix F-2) will be required for either transaction. Unused funds and reconciliation of Advance must be returned to the Region Treasurer within six weeks after Assembly.
6. Application for Rep Funding is requested sixty days prior to the Assembly; however, application received at a later date will be considered.
7. Application requires the signatures of two Intergroup officers.
8. Application requires copies of the three most recent Financial reports of your Intergroup.

SOAR 8

Southeast Overeaters Anonymous Region 8



Alabama * Arkansas * Caribbean * Central America * Florida * Georgia * Louisiana * Mississippi * North Carolina * South America * South Carolina * Tennessee

VOUCHER and Advance Request Form

Date _____ (If voucher, must be within six weeks of acquired expense)

- Expense Voucher Reconciliation of Advance dated
 Advance Request Seed Money for Assembly (date & location)

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Region Position _____ Email _____

Event _____ Date(s) _____

COMMITTEE CHAIR APPROVAL/SIGNATURE (note 1)

TRANSPORTATION

| | | | |
|---|-----------|--------------|----------|
| Public vehicle at lowest rate | \$ | _____ | |
| Private vehicle actual expense..... | \$ | _____ | (note 2) |
| Private vehicle mileage @ IRS Rate..... | \$ | _____ | (note 2) |
| Taxi/shuttle/bus/tips..... | \$ | _____ | |
| Parking/tolls..... | \$ | _____ | |
| TOTAL TRANSPORTATION - - - - - | \$ | _____ | |

ASSEMBLY

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Thursday lodging/tips..... | \$ | _____ | (note 5/6) |
| Friday lodging/tips..... | \$ | _____ | (note 5) |
| Saturday lodging/tips..... | \$ | _____ | (note 5) |
| Friday lunch/tips..... | \$ | _____ | (note 3/6) |
| Saturday meals/tips..... | \$ | _____ | (note 3) |
| Sunday bkfast/tips..... | \$ | _____ | |
| Registration..... | \$ | _____ | |
| TOTAL ASSEMBLY - - - - - | \$ | _____ | |

MISCELLANEOUS

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|--|
| Telephone | \$ | _____ | |
| Postage/shipping | \$ | _____ | |
| Printing/copying | \$ | _____ | |
| Stationery/supplies | \$ | _____ | |
| Other | \$ | _____ | |
| TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS - - - - - | \$ | _____ | |

SUB-TOTAL EXPENSES (note 4) \$ _____

LESS ADVANCE RECEIVED \$ _____

TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT \$ _____

SIGNATURE _____

NOTES

- Voucher must be submitted to Committee Chair for approval/signature.
- IRS allows actual expenses (gas/oil/tolls) or a mileage rate as specified at <http://www.irs.gov/taxpros/article/0,,id=156624,00.html> Please choose only one.
- Committee chairs, Parliamentarian and webmaster will be funded for Saturday Luncheon and Banquet, and Sunday Breakfast wrap-up meeting. Board members will be funded for Friday luncheon, Saturday Luncheon and Banquet, and Sunday Breakfast wrap-up meeting.
- Please attach specific receipts or copies of bills and explanations (as needed) for all items.
- Lodging - maximum allowable per night is one-half the double-occupancy rate.
- Board only unless requested by the Chair to arrive on Thursday

APPLICATION FOR REGION 8 DELEGATE TO THE WSBC

Name _____ Intergroup _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

OA Start Date _____ Abstinence Date _____

Number of years of service above the group level _____ Years

What year did your Intergroup last send a delegate to WSBC? _____

1. Brief account of your OA story.

2. Summary of OA service.

3. Why do you want to be a Region 8 delegate to the next WSBC?

Region 8 Board Application

(Type or print in black ink only)

**Form must be submitted to Region Secretary
at least six weeks prior to Assembly at which election will be held**

Office applied for:

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Email _____

Years in OA _____ Current Intergroup _____

Are you a past Rep? _____ If so, which Intergroup? _____

Bylaws Article VII – Section 1, B) states:

To be eligible for election to membership on the Region 8 Board, a person must be a past or present member of the Region 8 Business Assembly and be present at the Assembly. The member must receive a majority vote of the Region 8 Representatives present.

1. The nominee must have arrested their compulsive eating and be living so far as they find possible within the concept of the Twelve Steps which constitute the three-fold recover program of Overeaters Anonymous for one year.
2. The nominee must have attended at least two prior Assemblies.
3. Two Board members are elected each year for a two-year term. Chairman and Treasurer will be elected in odd years; Vice-chairman and Secretary in even years.
4. Board members shall serve no more than two consecutive terms in the same position, whenever possible.

BRIEF ACCOUNT OF OA STORY

Use separate sheet for additional space, if needed)

Summary of OA Service (including service beyond Group level):

Business, Professional skills or other experience and skill you can bring to the Board:

Why do you want to be a Region Board Member?

Date _____ Signature _____