

WORLD SERVICE BUSINESS CONFERENCE
Albuquerque, New Mexico USA
May 5th through 10th, 2008

I again participated on the Professional Outreach Committee. I am working on a subcommittee charged with offering suggestions for changes to the PO Manual which will be up for revision. My particular section deals with the Military where I knew I'd have lots of expert help in our area. Anyone with any suggestions or questions about this is welcome to contact me.

We again considered and acted upon many motions which were proposed by various service bodies. A summary:

- A motion to grant the Conference Seal of Approval to the revised pamphlet, *Treatment and Beyond*, was APPROVED. It should be available in the fall.
- A motion to revise policy dealing with discontinued literature due to low sales PASSED with the amendment to have this literature available by download.
- A motion to endorse an annual week entitled "Compulsive Overeaters Awareness Week" to precede IDEA Day was DEFEATED.
- A motion to sell recovery chips marked with years from 1 to 20; 25; 30; 35; and 40 PASSED. Watch *Lifeline* and *A Step Ahead* for information on availability.
- A motion to revise policy to insert "following a plan of eating" in the definition of abstinence was DEFEATED.
- A motion proposing a change in policy dealing with special focus meetings was divided into two parts. The section which added "people of various cultural backgrounds" to the examples of types of special focus meetings PASSED. The section which asked people to not attend such meetings if general meetings were available nearby was DEFEATED.
- Many motions dealing with virtual groups (groups which replicate face-to-face meetings through electronic media) were presented and PASSED. These groups will now have the ability to affiliate with an Intergroup (without regard to geographic proximity) or form a Service Board of their own. That will give them representation at the WSBC by allowing them to elect their own delegates. The ad hoc committee proposed that representation on the Region level was not possible since Regions are established geographically and virtual groups are not limited by geography. Virtual groups will be served by a Region Trustee who is appointed by the Chairman of BOT. This trustee will rotate among the regions annually. This year's trustee appointed is Di Cockburn, the trustee from Region 10. She can be contacted through oa.org.
- We elected Trustees from Regions 1,3,4,7, and 9. We also elected 2 General Services Trustees and a 3rd will be appointed by the BOT. Only two applications were received for the 3 available positions.

Some “tidbits” I thought might be of interest from the various reports presented:

- **TREASURER:** *Sales of literature made up 58.2 percent of our total revenue. Contributions made up approximately 25.12 percent.
 - *BOT has voted to begin charging \$10.00 for returned checks.
 - *A recent audit was conducted. When questioned, the auditor offered the opinion that a prudent reserve could be four to six months of operating expenses. Our treasurer was not willing to commit that this should apply to all groups since the current “thought” on the subject is one year.
 - **MANAGING DIRECTOR:** *Contributions increased this year by 20%, and we ended the year in the black. *Lifeline* continues to operate at a loss of about \$40,000. a year. Fellowship is urged to support *Lifeline*.
 - *Two new pages have been added to the website, “The Family and Friends” and “The Youth in OA”.
 - *The convention in Philadelphia (HOSTED BY OUR REGION 7) had the highest net revenue from a Convention ever!!
 - *Funds are available from WSO for service body projects. This year funds went to three intergroups for Public Information projects. The deadline for applications for these funds is March 1 of each year. Applications are available on the website.
 - *The Public Awareness Campaign fund will remain open for contributions throughout 2008.
- *****In 2008 WSO will conduct a survey of all OA’s registered groups to determine our current number of members. This is to give a baseline from which to measure progress in increasing membership, an objective of the BOT’s Strategic Plan. THESE SURVEYS WILL BE MAILED OUT SHORTLY SO PLEASE WATCH FOR THEM AND PARTICIPATE. It is known that many members participate in more than one group. Through consultation with other fellowships, it was decided that those duplicated would not be statistically significant.
- **YOUTH IN OA COMMITTEE:** * Webpage is up and running. You can get to it by going to oa.org., clicking on the “Is OA for you?” drop down menu, and selecting the “Youth in OA” page. There is information for a wide distribution of age groups, from young children to young adults. There is also information for the family members.
 - * The YIOA committee generates a quarterly e-newsletter for the OA community. You can view previous issues of the newsletter on the “Youth in OA” webpage by scrolling to the bottom of the page.

Contributions to World Service in 2007 were reported as follows:

Tidewater IG (this includes retreat contribution) \$1,070.00
St. Thomas Episcopal, Chesapeake \$105.61
Hiddenwood Pres., Newport News \$ 60.00

Christ United Meth., Norfolk	\$15.00
Maryview, Portsmouth	\$15.00
Benn's United Meth., Smithfield	\$ 5.00
Emmanuel Epis. Va. Bch.(38782)	\$ 132.40
Heritage Store, Va. Bch.	\$ 259.66
Emmanuel Epis. Va. Bch.(46141)	\$90.22
St. Stephen Luth., Wmsbrg.	\$10.00

Thank you for the opportunity to do this service as our intergroup delegate. If you have any questions about this report, please feel free to contact me at jfkreimer@cox.net.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan K., WSBC delegate