



Region 5 Trustee Report

Submitted by Barb K.

July, 2021

**2021 World Service Convention at Orlando Sea World!
August 26–28, 2021
“Walking in the Sunlight: One Day at a Time”
Register by July 30 for full registration rate of US\$150**

Check out the Convention web page at oa.org/world-service-convention for information on the hotel and venue, roommates, parking, the banquet menu, and the tentative schedule of events, which includes all workshop topics, OA meetings, general sessions, and the Saturday banquet.

All Intergroup and meeting websites will need to be reviewed this year by each Region Trustee. Here are the review guidelines:

Service Body/OA Meeting Website Review

Yes **No**

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1) Is Tradition Three respected?
Article V – Overeaters Anonymous Groups, Section 1 – Definition
a) <i>These points shall define an Overeaters Anonymous group:</i>
1) <i>As a group, they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.</i>
2) <i>All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the group.</i>
3) <i>No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice (share at a meeting).</i>
4) <i>As a group they have no affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous.</i>
5) <i>It has affiliated as an Overeaters Anonymous group by registering with the World Service Office.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2) Do they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3) Are all who have the desire to stop eating compulsively welcome in the group? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4) As a service body, do they have no affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5) Is only OA-approved literature referred to on the website? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6) Are there no endorsements of outside enterprises? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7) Are all meetings listed on the website registered with the WSO? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8) Has the use of the OA logo on the website been approved per BRM, Section III, Part C-3? |

WSBC Updates

There are a lot of updates from WSBC this year. We had an incredible Hybrid Conference and accomplished so much. This includes learning more about translation of our conference as well as closed caption options so we can read what is being said. More is constantly being revealed. Here is an overview:

- **Abstinence and Recovery Policy** OA's Abstinence and Recovery Policy, which defines the meaning of abstinence and the means of recovery in OA, was revised. The new policy is: "Abstinence is the action of refraining from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors while working towards or maintaining a healthy body weight. "Spiritual, emotional, and physical recovery is the result of living and working the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve Step program on a daily basis." "Unity with Diversity" Policy The "Unity with Diversity" Policy was revised with grammar corrections and changes in wording to more correctly reflect how it applies to the Fellowship. Please update your meeting formats!
- **Diverse Voices Policy** OA has adopted a Diverse Voices Policy to make our literature more inclusive of all OA members. The policy states, "When developing new and updating existing literature published by Overeaters Anonymous World Service, the Literature Committees will make a concerted effort to include stories and/or quotes from members of diverse populations that are underrepresented in OA (i.e., reflect a variety of compulsive food behaviors, belief systems, nationalities, genders, sexual orientations, indigenous peoples, and peoples of color, etc.)."
- **Special Focus Service Boards** OA has adopted a new category of service body, which is the special focus service board. Special focus service boards are composed of two or more groups or intergroups to serve the common needs of groups/intergroups with the same special focus, regardless of geographic proximity. Among registered groups, OA recognizes the following special focuses: • 100-pounders • Anorexia/Bulimia • Asian Pacific Islanders (new in 2021) • Bariatric Surgery • Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (new in 2021) • Health Issues • LGBT • Men • Women • Young Persons
- **Hybrid Meetings** Hybrid meetings are a blend of virtual and face-to-face meetings, where some members attend in person and others attend by telephone or videoconference. As the pandemic events of 2020 developed, many face-to-face groups that had gone virtual registered their virtual meetings as a new group. To fix the confusion this has caused, the existing hybrid meeting policy was amended to allow a face-to-face or virtual group (telephone or online) to become a hybrid group. Going forward, hybrid groups and all other groups will be registered only once with the World Service Office and will be assigned only one group number. Hybrid groups, however, will appear in both face-to-face and virtual meeting results in Find a Meeting on oa.org. This change to Find a Meeting will take effect once the World Service Office has made the necessary upgrades to Find a Meeting. Stay tuned for that announcement!
- **Delegate Support Fund Applications for WSBC 2022** are due to Region 5 on October 1, 2021. Decisions affecting OA for years to come are made each year at WSBC, we need input from all service bodies to represent OA as a whole.
 - The board has decided to support 5 members this year that will represent Region 5.
 - If you are interested as one of Region 5 delegates, then please apply for WSBC Delegate Support Fund. The first deadline to apply is **October 1, 2021**, to Region 5. Once your region has processed your application and provided region funds, the application must be received by the World Service Office by November 1, 2021, where a board committee will evaluate the application and award further funding. To apply, go to oa.org/document-library and look for the "2022 Delegate Support Fund Application" under category "WSBC: Frequently Used Documents."

- Literature Updates:
 - The Tools of Recovery pamphlet (#160);
 - A New Plan of Eating: A Physical, Emotional, and Spiritual Journey (#144), which combines into a single pamphlet the information and inspiration found in Dignity of Choice (#140) and A Plan of Eating (#145) and which will replace these two pamphlets
 - The second edition of Voices of Recovery

Look for the new pamphlets to be in stock later this summer and for Voices of Recovery, Second Edition to be released early in 2022.

- OA Handbook Moved to Third Party Platforms
 - The OA Handbook is now available as an e-book from Amazon Kindle, Barnes & Noble Nook, and Apple Books for US\$1, and will no longer be available as a downloadable PDF in the OA bookstore.

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- Update your meeting information on the OA website. Remember, if you choose to stay virtual – you can still be connected to your land-based intergroup! Hybrid meetings are cropping up everywhere too! If you want information about this, please let me know and I can get you in touch with some meetings that have been quite successful with their hybrid format.
 - ***Here is the link to oa.org to update your meetings. <https://oa.org/add-a-meeting/edit-a-meeting/>***
 - Podcasts on oa.org! Our founder – Rozanne S. – her recordings are now on our website at oa.org/podcasts. It is so wonderful to hear her voice and her experience, strength and hope! In addition, we have 5 new podcasts by young people in OA. Here is the link to those podcasts. <https://oa.org/young-persons-podcasts/>
 - Local events will soon be able to be downloaded to oa.org. Yay! Stay tuned for this information. It probably will start in January 2022.
 - The Twelfth Step Within Committee has developed 5 new workshops for OA holidays. Find all new workshops under the category “Twelfth Step Within: OA Holiday Workshops” at <https://oa.org/document-library>.

Respectfully Submitted,
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