

DELEGATE REPORT FOR WSBC 2015

We hit the ground running on Monday. We registered and received our Credentials, went grocery shopping, and settled in. I also set up our “make a change” bracelets in the boutique. The BOT Consensus meeting was held at 1:30pm and all delegates were welcome. Monday’s workshop was “HOW THE MIRACLE OF ABSTINENCE IS SUPPORTED BY THE FELLOWSHIP.” I attended the 7am OA Meeting on Tuesday morning, as well as the available workshops. During lunch on Tuesday I was summoned to the Region Chair Committee meeting by text. It turned out that the Virtual Services Trustee, the chair of the Region Chairs Committee, had been hospitalized, and they needed someone to cover her part in the FORUM. I was happy to help out....but then they asked me to audition!! After which I was accepted for the part of the Wicked Witch of Excess, in the Wednesday FORUM at 8am. So I attended 2 of the 3 workshops on Tuesday, and then went back to the Region Chairs Committee Meeting to run our lines. Amy, Region 7’s Chair and I, roomed together this year, and we both got up early on Wednesday and prepared for the FORUM. I was unable to attend the 7am OA meeting, because we were having a dress rehearsal at 7am, followed by the FORUM at 8am.

The FORUM was called “THERE’S NO PLACE LIKE OA: FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD TO RECOVERY!! It was interactive, and fun. Each table helped Dorothy work a step, and the principle involved. Each table had a step challenge, and after working together, a reporter was chosen to share from each table, on their step, as it related to the skit. I was impressed how each reporter spoke to Dorothy as if they truly were her sponsor. It was a very successful FORUM.

After the FORUM the Committee meetings began. I went into BYLAWS, and we broke into subcommittees, after discussing sections of the Bylaws we feel may need some editing. We will continue to be in communication with our subcommittee and co-chairs throughout the year.

Wednesday evening the members of our Region 7 met at the Church Street Café for Dinner, and a brief meeting, to make sure our Green Dots were doing ok. A Green Dot is a newcomer to World Service Business Conference. The shuttle returned us back to the Embassy Suites just in time for the Literature Q&A, which Ross will talk more about.

Thursday morning I met for the Reference Subcommittee Orientation at 7am. The first Business Meeting began at 8:30am.

There were a total of 5 Business Meetings. The Trustees were introduced, and anyone who had questions about their reports was able to ask at this time. Region Chairs were also introduced, and some amendments were made to a few reports, and some questions were asked at this time as well.

The Makers of the Motions were also introduced at this time. We were directed to speak with these people privately outside the Business Meetings if we had questions. It was announced that there would be only one Tradition 7 collected during Conference to avoid the disruptions, and possible spills that can happen during the passing of the bags. We were reminded that we have the opportunity to attend 4 OA meetings per day, so remember that when the Tradition 7 bag go around the room. It was a good decision, last year with a Tradition 7's bag passed at each Business meeting, \$4,455.00 was donated. This Business Conference, with just one Tradition 7 passed, \$5,921.51 was donated.

The Consent Agenda was explained, and New Business Motions H and B were withdrawn from the Consent Agenda to be voted on separately.

Elections:

Vicky W was re-elected as Region 3 Trustee

Karin H was re-elected as Region 6 Trustee

Stella Maria C. was elected as the new Region 9 Trustee

Tina C. was elected for a second term as General Service Trustee

Bonnie L. who was center mike last year, was elected as General Service Trustee

All three literature Motions were adopted with the Conference Seal of Approval.

We learned that there were 2 bequests left to OA: our late Founder, Roseanne left \$100,000.00 to OA, and \$15,000.00 was left by Mary Rose, a late Trustee.

An announcement was made that the Chairman of the Board, Joe, as well as the Board of Trustees would be meeting on Thursday night, at 8:30pm to explain those motions that were deemed out of order.

That meeting ran at the same time as the workshop that I chaired, at 8:30pm, entitled: THE MIRACLE OF ABSTINENCE WITHIN INTERGROUPS/SERVIC BOARDS.

Our workshop was still well attended, and Mary R6 and Gloria R8 joined me in sharing a bit of our own OA histories, and then went into the different ways that our IG and Service Boards support abstinence. Mary and I brought props, and we were all very informative.

Voting outcome:

Proposal B was adopted, the intent was to ensure delegates understand that committee work is part of being a delegate and to ensure that committee work continues between conferences.

Proposal G was adopted after the reference subcommittee made a substitute motion, which was much more inviting and inclusive. See below:

Proposal Item: G

Substitute Motion was adopted

Overeaters Anonymous is a Fellowship of individuals who, through shared experience, strength, and hope, are recovering from compulsive overeating. We welcome everyone who wants to stop eating compulsively. There are no dues or fees for members; we are self-supporting through our own contributions, neither soliciting nor accepting outside donations. OA is not affiliated with any public or private organization, political movement, ideology, or religious doctrine; we take no position on outside issues. Our primary purpose is to abstain from

compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors and to carry the message of recovery through the Twelve Steps of OA to those who still suffer.

Proposal H was withdrawn by the Maker of the Motion, because it was not needed.

Proposal J was adopted, with the world service office no longer sending hard copies of the Final Conference Report, which will save the fellowship \$7,356,00 which can be budgeted for other ways to carry the message.

Proposal J was passed after an amendment by the maker to remove the word badges, so that at all World Service Events there will be signs and banners displaying the full name of Overeaters Anonymous.

Bylaws proposals 1-2-3-4-5-6 all passed on the consent agenda.

Bylaws Proposal 7, **Failed**, which was a proposal to lower the minimum percentage of groups that need to respond, in order to change bylaws.

There was one proposal brought to the reference subcommittee on Friday night, as Emergency New Business, but we agreed it did not fit the criteria as emergency new business. The maker was given directions, and support on how to follow up, and move on with her proposal.

We ended the final Business Meeting in record time, allowing all committee chairs to give a 2 minute report on their committees, and then the chairs of all the workshops also had time to give a brief 2 minute report on their workshops. We each will send follow up with a complete written report for the Final Conference Report.

Because the final Business Meeting ended early, the BOT (Board of Trustees) meeting followed promptly and we watched how the new Chairman of the Board was elected. Two trustees were nominated, and each spoke for 5 minutes; they were then each asked questions for 10 minutes. The BOT vote by written ballot, which came back as a tie, 8 to 8, so the vote was again done by written ballot. There was no change....still 8 to 8. The bylaws for voting in the BOT meeting states that if a tie is repeated, the tie breaker is decided by drawing lots. A cowboy hat was borrowed, and both names were placed in the hat. General Service Trustee, Gerri H. name was picked, and she will be the Chairman of the Board for her last year as General Service Trustee. She shared with me, that as the names were being placed in the cowboy hat, she said a simple prayer: "Dear Lord, please allow me to grow wherever I am planted." Understanding that no matter what happened; she is ready to do the necessary service. Then her name was picked.

Being part of the bylaws and reference subcommittee was informative and amazing. It was a positive group of people, who asked lots of good questions, and worked together well, and of course, met often. I've been asked to be part of reference again next year, and accepted, with the understanding that I would wait to be sure CJI is able to send us for our final WSBC.

We had free time on Saturday afternoon, for shopping and enjoying Old Town. Saturday night's Banquet was lovely, with dinner and dancing. WSBC was an amazing experience and privilege.

Thank you for electing me, and allowing me to serve.

Love in recovery and service,

Ginny S.