

REGION 9 CHAIR'S REPORT - REGION 9 ASSEMBLY & CONVENTION 2012

This year we had the pleasure of being hosted by Poland for the 2012 R9 A&C. We started the Assembly on Wednesday, October 24 to Friday, October 26. The Convention began Friday evening, October 26 to Sunday, October 28. It was held near Warsaw, and we even had some snow!

The Assembly began with many announcements, reminders, introductions, some official business (Agenda approval; Assembly Materials Binder; Parliamentary Procedure; Adoption of Ground Rules), and the credentials report. During the 3 days, we had 17 countries being represented (Poland, UK, Netherlands, Denmark, Italy, Greece, Ireland, Hungary, Spain, Belgium, Russia, Switzerland, Israel, Austria, Finland, Iceland, and Sweden). We had 27 eligible voters, 2 non-voting members, and 10 or more visitors (they came from Poland, Italy, Greece, Israel, and Finland). We had a Strategic Plan Presentation, an ice breaker, a fun exercise on communication, and a workshop on the Principles of the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of OA Service. Each representative had a chance to share triumphs and problems within their own Service Body. We celebrated the birth of Region 9 - 30 years, with balloons, prizes, and a Trivia.

Thursday was a full day which started out with Approval of the 2011 Assembly Minutes, Appointment of the Minutes Approval Committee 2012 & Time Keeper, and a General Overview of the Assembly. We went into any questions concerning reports from those holding R9 Service Positions. Included within this day were many workshops (Abstinence, Tradition 7, Translations, a Mock Debate, and Abstinence Readings from OA literature). We broke up into committees, and with a lot of enthusiasm, the goals were discussed and prioritized for the coming year. We discussed the suggested budget for 2012 - 2013, and created a "General Fund" which will include funds for Translations, PI/PO, etc. (Workshops, Committee Session Reports, Budget, Motions - these will be available in the 2012 Region 9 Assembly Minutes and on the R9 Website).

We had elections for Region 9 Service Positions. Those voted in were :

Treasurer, & Finance Committee Chair - Isabella, Sweden
Banker - Joanna, UK
Secretary - Mette, Denmark
Electronics Communications Committee Chair - Fawn, Ireland
Twelfth-Step-Within Committee Chair - Chadia, Spain
Public Information Committee Chair - Debora, Belgium
Bylaws Committee Chair - Siobhan, Ireland

Those continuing in their term with service are :

Region 9 Chair - Susan, Israel
Region 9 Trustee - Esti, Israel
Literature & Translations Committee Chair - Irenne, Denmark

The service of Signatory continues with Pam from UK.

The volunteered position as R9 Newsletter Coordinator is Roy from Israel.

We also spoke about hosting Region 9 Assembly & Convention in 2014 (Israel will host the 2013 R9 A&C).

On Friday, we had motions to vote on - and we had many this year. The budget was passed. We had a committee wrap-up. Then, sharing and closing. During these 3 days, we had 3 OA meetings (topics consisted of Abstinence, Sponsorship, and Service). We took the time throughout the Assembly to have fun, whether it was with our Abstinence Readings or Trivia where the "winner" received a prize, or when we took a break to "exercise". We gave ourselves the chance to laugh!

The Convention started Friday evening and went to Sunday with speaker meetings and sharing. These sessions focused on Abstinence. Saturday night R9 had a raffle

with prizes, a 50/50 raffle, and an auction. Our new R9 Magnet was featured and sold. All turned out to be great fun.

I would like to thank everyone for helping and volunteering. A thank you to all the attendees of the R9 Assembly. A big thank you to the Polish National Service Board and all those helpers in the background! We are not alone. Together, we had a very successful and fruitful 2012 Region 9 Assembly and Convention.

Thank you.

Susan
Region 9 Chair