Embrace the Similarities
Love the Differences
In all Our Affairs

Region 9

ASSEMBLY MATERIAL
FOR REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

REGION 9 ASSEMBLY 2012

PLEASE READ AND REVIEW ALL THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY BEFORE ARRIVING AT THE ASSEMBLY

Make sure you file the pages in the order of the Table of Contents with the Reference Letters readily available.

Poland

October 24-26, 2012
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Please organise your Assembly Materials Binder in the following order so that we can save on time of finding where papers are during the Assembly itself. Please label the various sections with the letters and use file dividers.

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Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Region 9 Assembly is the same as that of all OA service – to carry the OA message to the still suffering compulsive overeaters, wherever they live and whatever language they speak. In fulfilling our purpose, we should ever strive to achieve worldwide OA unity and common policies among all countries. With love and tolerance as our code, together we can do what we could never do alone.
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**Committee Chairs Not Representing Regions**

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**Visitors**

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**Visiting Chairs from Other Regions**

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P=Published, W=Working on it
Dear OA Member & Service Body Representative

Welcome to the 2012 Region 9 Assembly.
As a representative you will have the opportunity to meet & share with others from Region 9, take part in workshops and consider business motions that affect the Bylaws and Principles & Procedures of the Region, as well as the OA service structure as a whole.
We need to remember, when doing all forms of service, to carry the OA message of recovery.

We will have a settling in session on the Wednesday evening of the Assembly where you can share your service bodies' triumphs or concerns - please consider anything you might like to bring to this session before you come.
We will also have an Ask it Basket – in which you can ask anything you like about the program or service or service structure, etc – anonymously, if you like.
We will try to answer these to the best of our ability.

Committees – Region 9
We have various committees at Region 9 Service level:-
• Translations
• Electronic Communications
• ByLaws
• Public Information (PI)
• Finance
• Twelfth-Step-Within (TSW)
Please consider the work of these committees before you come to the Assembly and start to think of which committee you can contribute to and be involved with during the coming year.
Let’s make our Region 9 an exciting place where we all reach out & help each other recover & have some fun doing it.

Treasurer, Banker, and Bylaws Committee Chair
This year these positions will be considered for election.
Many thanks to the outgoing officers, and to those who may continue on for another term, if reelected.
Please think about the vacant positions before you come to Assembly, and consider whether you are the right person for one of these jobs. You can put an application in at any stage.

Bringing the Message Home
We are also obliged to report back to our service bodies the activities and details of workshops attended when we return home. This is all part of carrying the OA message.

Have fun and enjoy the Assembly.

Thank you for your service.

Susan
Region 9 Chair
REGION 9 ASSEMBLY

REGION 9 ASSEMBLY…OCTOBER 24 – 26, 2012
skazregion9@wp.pl

PLEASE WEAR DELEGATE BADGE AT ALL TIMES

REGISTRATION MONIES WILL BE COLLECTED PRIOR TO ENTRY TO THE ASSEMBLY. PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY SO THAT THIS CAN BE DONE BEFORE WE START. REGISTRATION FOR THE ASSEMBLY IS 50€/£33 – PLEASE HAVE THE CORRECT MONEY WHEN YOU ARRIVE

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2012

17:00 – 18:30  Serenity Prayer in Polish & English

Serenity Prayer in Polish & English

Settling in – Readings, Intro’s, Thank you’s & Welcomes, Final Green Dot Allocation...

Announcements - "Broken Telephone"; Unaffiliated Service Bodies; WSBC 2013 & OA Convention 2013; lead oa meetings; Region 9 7th Tradition Item & Raffle; 30th Birthday & Trivia Questions & Readings on Abstinence

Strategic Plan Presentation

Strong Meetings; Public/Professional Awareness; Committed Service Bodies; Financial Health (OA Handbook, Suggested Meeting Format)

Ice Breaker

Trivia & Serenity Prayer – Hebrew & English

18:30 – 19:45  Dinner Break

19:45-21:20  Serenity Prayer in Dutch & English, & Abstinence Reading

Informal Opening

A brief sharing from each Service Board or Intergroup Representative at the Assembly. Triumphs to share. Problems and concerns in your service body, possible solutions

Orientation meeting

General overview of the processes of the Assembly.
Organisation of the Assembly Materials & Agenda Approval, Adoption of Ground Rules and 2011 Assembly Minutes, if time permits

21:20 – 21:35  
**Break**

21:35–22:30  
Abstinence Reading

Length of Abstinence in Program

Region 9 Birthday Celebration

7th Tradition & Trivia, & Serenity Prayer in Danish & English

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2012**

07:00 – 08:00  
**OA meeting** (Suggested Topic – Abstinence)

08:00 – 09:00  
**Breakfast**

09:00 – 11:00  
**Official opening**

- Serenity Prayer in Italian & English
- Readings
- Abstinence Reading
- Agenda Approval (if not done last night)
- Adoption of Ground Rules (if not done last night)
- Adoption of 2011 Assembly Minutes (if not done last night) & appointment of Minutes Approval Committee
- Reports and Questions arising out of reports:
  * Chair
  * Treasurer and Suggested Basic Draft Budget & Banker
  * Secretary
  * Translation committee
  * Bylaws committee
  * Public Information committee
  * 12th Step Within committee
  * Electronic communications committee
  * Finance committee
  * Trustee (courtesy report)

Secretary – explanation of responsibilities (during r9 assembly & all year)

Treasurer – explanation of responsibilities (during r9 assembly & all year)

7th Tradition Workshop & Finances within Strategic Plan (Treasurer)

How to bring back home Region 9 Assembly Information

11:00 – 11:15  
**Break**

11:15 – 12:30  
Abstinence Reading
Region 9 Trustee - explanation of responsibilities (during r9 assembly & all year)

**Translations Workshop**

Parliamentarian - explanation of responsibilities during r9 assembly

**Parliamentarian - Mock Debate**

Trivia & Serenity Prayer in Greek & English

12:30 - 14:00  
**Lunch Break**

14:00  
Deadline for Ask-it Basket questions

14:00 - 16:00  
Serenity Prayer in French & English, & Abstinence Reading

**2011 - 2012 Suggested Basic Budget - presentation and discussion**

**Committee Sessions:** break out into groups (Finance, Translations, Bylaws, Electronic Communications, Public Information, 12th Step Within)

16:00 - 16:15  
**Break**

16:15 - 18:30  
Abstinence Reading

Reports from Committee Sessions and discussion of any proposals of emergency new business from the committees - draft motions for next assembly from committees

Region 9 Chair - explanation of responsibilities (during Region 9 Assembly and all year)

Statement on Abstinence & Recovery

**Abstinence Workshop & Feedback**

**Liaison with service bodies not present at the Assembly**

7th Tradition & Trivia & Serenity Prayer in Hungarian & English

18:30 - 19:45  
**Dinner Break**

19:45  
Deadline for submitting Emergency new business motions

19:45 - 21:30  
Serenity Prayer in Finnish & English, & Abstinence Reading

**Election of service positions** - Treasurer (2 year term); Banker (2 year term); Bylaws Committee Chair; (Electronic Communications Committee Chair)
Election of Assembly/Convention Venue for 2014 (Please consider hosting R9)

**Ask-It-Basket:** answering questions from the basket, if any

Trivia & Serenity Prayer in Russian & English

21:30 - 22:30 **OA meeting** (Suggested topic Sponsorship)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2012**

07:00 - 08:00 **OA meeting** (Suggested topic - Service)

08:00 - 09:00 Breakfast

09:00 - 10:45 Serenity Prayer in Spanish & English, & Readings & Abstinence Reading

*Formal discussion and vote on:*

Consent Agenda as well as separate motions & any emergency new business

- Bylaws amendment motions
- New business motions

10:45 - 11:00 Break

11:00 - 12:30 Abstinence Reading

**Approval & Adoption of 2011 – 2012 Budget**

*Formal discussion continued*

7th Tradition & Trivia & Serenity Prayer in Swedish & English

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00 - 15:30 Serenity Prayer in Icelandic & English, & Abstinence Reading

*Formal discussion continued* (if necessary and time permits)

**Committee Sessions** (Sum up and forward plans) (if time permits)

15:30 - 15:45 Break

15:45 - 17:00 Abstinence Reading & Trivia

Wrap up session

- Uncompleted business
- Emergency new business
- Announcement of 7th Tradition collected from Assembly
- Personal Sharing
- Closing
Responsibility Pledge

17:05 – 17:25      Region 9 Board Meeting (Location TBA) & Committee Chairs
                     Hand - over of service positions (session just for the members concerned)

17:25 – 18:15      Region 9 Board Meeting (Location TBA)

Responsibility Pledge (WSBC 1977 b)

“Always to extend the hand and heart of OA to all who share my compulsion: for this I am responsible”.

NB Convention starts @ 20.00
Ground Rules for Region Nine Assembly 2012

1. Each Representative and Alternate will be registered by the Secretary and issued Assembly materials including an identification badge to be worn at all meetings.

2. A Minutes Approval Committee consisting of the Chairman and two (2) appointed Representatives shall approve the minutes of the Region Nine Assembly.

3. Representatives from at least five countries constitute a quorum in accordance with Article VI of Region 9 Bylaws.

4. The voting membership of the Assembly is defined in Article IV of Region 9 Bylaws, Section 2 (I) as follows:

   a) Representatives from Intergroups who are registered with the World Service Office and who are within the geographical boundaries of Region Nine,

   b) Representatives from National/Language Service Boards who are registered with the World Service Office and who are within the geographical boundaries of Region Nine, National/Language Service Boards shall not represent Intergroups that have sent Representatives to the Assembly. However, if all Intergroups are represented, the National/Language Service Boards will still be entitled to one Representative,

   c) Region Nine Board Members,

   d) The Chair shall have no vote at the Assembly, except to break a tie and for elections,
e) Committee Chairs, who are not Intergroup or National/Language Service Board Representatives. In the event of a Region Nine Representative from a registered unaffiliated group receiving a voice as per Article IV, Section 2 (II) c) of these Bylaws, they may also be given a vote, subject to majority approval of the voting body. See Article IV – Section 2 (I)

5. The non-voting membership of the Assembly is defined in Article IV of Region 9 Bylaws, Section 2 (II) as follows:

a) The Region Nine Trustee is entitled to a voice but no vote at the Assembly,

b) Region Nine OA members who are not represented, are entitled to a voice but no vote at the Region 9 Assembly,

c) A Representative from a registered unaffiliated group within Region Nine may be given a voice if they receive the majority approval of the voting body. Consideration may also be given to giving such a Representative a vote – see Article IV, Section 2 (I) f) of Region Nine Bylaws,

6. OA visitors are very welcome at the Region Nine Assembly. In accordance with Article IV of Region 9 Bylaws, Section 2 (III):

a) Visitors from Region Nine who are already represented will not be given a voice or a vote.

b) The Region 9 Assembly is open to OA visitors from outside Region Nine. In order to be given consideration to speak at the Assembly, the visitor shall give proper notice to the Chair for the Agenda. Pertinent suggestions may be written and handed to the Chair for consideration.

7. Robert’s Rules are the basic parliamentary guidelines that will be used for conducting the Assembly.

8. No personal voice-recorders are to be used during business sessions of the Assembly, except by the Secretary.
9. In all deliberations, group conscience is more important than the technicalities of the actual motion.

10. In accordance with the above, there is no limited debate (although intent is to stick to the timetable), subject to the Chair bringing the Assembly back to a sense of meeting. The exception is Agenda discussion items when debate is limited to fifteen (15) minutes each, after which recommendations for a motion can be made, debated and voted upon. Only voting members of the Assembly may enter into debate on actual motions proposed at the Assembly, or make said motions.

11. Executive Committee sessions are possible, according to Robert’s Rules.

12. Region 9 Committee Chairs may be appointed by the Region 9 Chair or elected by the voting members of the Assembly.

13. Procedure for voting on Bylaw Amendment proposals will be:

   a) The chair will present the Consent Agenda to the Assembly which will enable automatic adoption of motions listed on the Consent Agenda. Representatives who wish to discuss any of these motions will request that they be pulled from the Consent Agenda. Each motion not voted in the Consent Agenda will be discussed and voted upon separately.

   b) The Bylaws Committee or the maker of the motion will present the motion, describing the purpose and intent of the proposal. This will be considered as the first pro speaker of the motion,

   c) There will be up to three (3) pro and three (3) con speakers on the motion, including the presenter, and each speaker will be limited to three (3) minutes.

   d) Up to fifteen (15) minutes will be allowed for questions on the motion,

   e) Thereafter the vote will be taken by a show of hands,

   f) Written ballots may be used upon request,
g) Bylaw amendments require a two thirds majority to be adopted in accordance with Region Bylaws Article XI, Section 1.

h) Up to two (2) amendments to the motion will be accepted. There will be up to two (2) pro and two (2) con speakers on the amendment, including the presenter. Each speaker will be limited to three (3) minutes. Then, up to 5 minutes will be allowed for questions on the amendment. Thereafter the vote will be taken by a show of hands.

i) If a proposal gets stuck in discussion and/or more than two (2) amendments are proposed, the motion will be referred back to the Ad Hoc Reference Committee session. This Committee will discuss the proposal and bring back a recommendation at the time allotted at the end of the business. The amended proposals will be submitted to the Secretary prior to discussion and voting.

j) Adopted Bylaw amendments take effect from the end of the current Assembly.

14. Procedure for voting on New Business Motions will be:

a) Each motion not on the Consent Agenda will be discussed and voted upon separately,

b) There will be up to three (3) pro and three (3) con speakers on the motion, including the presenter. Each speaker will be limited to three (3) minutes,

c) Up to fifteen (15) minutes will be allowed for questions on the motion,

d) Thereafter the vote will be taken by a show of hands,

e) Written ballots may be used upon request.

f) New Business motions require a normal majority to be adopted,

g) Up to two (2) amendments to the motion will be accepted. There will be up to two (2) pro and two (2) con speakers on the amendment, including the presenter. Each speaker will be
limited to three (3) minutes. Then, up to 5 minutes will be allowed for questions on the amendment. Thereafter the vote will be taken by a show of hands.

h) If a proposal gets stuck in discussion and/or more than two (2) amendments are proposed, the motion will be referred back to the Ad Hoc Reference Committee. This committee will discuss the proposal and bring back a recommendation at the time allotted at the end of the business. The amended proposals will be submitted to the Secretary prior to discussion and voting,

i) New Business motions that are adopted will take effect from the end of the current Assembly.

15. Procedure for conducting Committee sessions:

a) The participants at the Assembly are divided into groups and assigned to different Committees.

b) Committee sessions will be chaired by the Committee Chair. If the Chair is not present, the Region Nine Chair will appoint a temporary Chair for the session.

c) A Minutes Secretary will be appointed by the Committee.

d) The session will be conducted according to the agenda prepared by the Committee Chair, plus any items that may arise out of the reports presented previously to the Assembly.

e) Visitors may join a Committee and have a voice but no vote during the committee sessions.

f) The minutes of the Committee sessions will be submitted in writing to the Region Nine Secretary at the end of Committee sessions. This will include any motions the Committee is proposing to the Assembly.

16. Emergency New Business motions have to be submitted to the Chair in writing by 19.45 hours on Thursday, 25th October 2012.
Chair’s Report to the 2012 Assembly

August 2012

Dear OA Members, Service Body Representatives, Committee Chairs & Visitors,

Thank you to the Polish National Service Board

Our hosts this year are the Polish National Service Board and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them on all of our behalf. To organise an Assembly & Convention is a big challenge and there is a lot of hard work going on behind the scenes. Thank you all so much.

Region 9’s Birthday

This year we celebrate the birth of Region 9 - 30 years! Be ready to celebrate together.

Welcome to first time Region 9 Representatives

I extend a very special welcome to our first time representatives. You green dots (first timers) will be assigned a mentor – someone who has been to Region 9 Assembly, and can guide you before, during, and after the assembly. Before the assembly, you will be notified with the name and email address of your mentor. Do be in contact with them. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Region 9 Committees

At Region 9 level, we have 6 committees which we take part in during the Region 9 Assembly, and continue working on during the year. These committees are: Translations, Electronic Communications, Bylaws, Public Information, Finance, & Twelfth-Step-Within. Please take the time to decide which committee you would like to be a part of. Also, for you committee chairs, please come with an agenda for your committee session.

Motions

There are many bylaw amendments & new business motions this year. Please go over them before the assembly. It will save considerable time if you familiarize yourself with these motions. Any questions can be directed to the maker of the motion before the day of voting. Please refer to the charts (consent agenda & other motions) and the individual motions and explanations in sections O & P.

Contact of another country in Region 9 and attendance at Region 9 Assembly & WSBC

For the last few R9 Assemblies, we arranged for those present to contact another service body in the region that did not send a representative. One of the goals in our Strategic Plan is to improve the attendance at Region Assemblies and World Service Business Conference. This is so that we not only share the service but also share the recovery. Region 9’s Twelfth-Step-Within committee coordinates the results of these contacts.

Translation List

This is new in the Assembly Materials Binder. It lists OA Literature which has been translated into different languages within Region 9. Please – this list can only be kept updated with your help. All additional information for the list – contact the R9 Literature Committee Chair.

Register of Service Bodies and attendance at Region 9 Assembly

This list can be found in section B. It shows how we are doing with attendance and representation at R9 Assembly over the years. Our outreach to countries within R9 has given us positive results.
Region 9 currently has 56 service bodies registered with WSO – of that number we had 23 representatives at the Region 9 Assembly last year, an increase from the year before.
We had 9 delegates plus myself & Region 9 Treasurer attend WSBC 2012 – also an increase from the year before. Our numbers of representation at Region 9 A&C, and at WSBC are increasing, but we still have room for improvement. Overall, our numbers are still impressive, considering the fact that these assemblies are held in English, which is not the mother tongue of most of our members.

Tent cards and OA Service

Has your service body downloaded and translated the tent cards from the R9 web site – Worldwide Service Structure, Strategic Plan & 7th Tradition. These are all located under the R9 Assembly section of the website.

Region 9 Newsletter

As you have seen, our newsletter has increased in size this year. We can read shares about Region 9 A&C, Service, WSBC, Abstinence, and other topics. Anyone interested in contributing articles, contact the Region 9 Secretary.
**Region 9 Tradition 7 Item**
This year at the Region 9 A&C, you will be able to see (and buy) the new R9 Magnet. This was created as a R9 Fundraiser, so please support R9 by purchasing these magnets and taking them back to your SB to sell.

**Region Chairs Committee (RCC)**
As you may be aware – one of the tasks as Chair is to represent our Region at the Region Chairs Committee (RCC) meetings. There are three of these in each calendar year.
The 1st RCC Meeting was held during the week of the WSBC in Albuquerque in April/May this year. The purpose of this meeting was to finalize the forum (presented by the RCC during WSBC), meet with the BOT, hold RCC elections, and plan for the coming year. One of my reports was sent out through email. One was also posted on the region 9 website.
The 2nd RCC Meeting is being held towards the end of August – again in Albuquerque. This will be with the RCC and the Board of Trustees (BOT). The main focus of these meetings is to work on the Strategic Plan (SOP). A report from these meetings will go out upon my return home.
The 3rd RCC Meeting will be held the very end of September/beginning of October in Region 1 – in Spokane, Washington. This is held in a different region every year. The purpose here is to observe the assembly & convention of another region. I will also report back to you after this meeting.
The purpose of the RCC is to provide a channel of information and communication between members and the Board of Trustees through the regions and to provide a network for the purpose of sharing resources and solutions. We Region Chairs need to take on service in this committee, and I will be acting as Region Chair's Committee Vice Chair this year.

**OA 5 Year Plan ‘Strategic Plan’ (SOP)**
We have discussed our strategic plan at our previous Region 9 Assemblies and this has been mentioned in many previous reports. As a Region Chair – I am tasked to help facilitate our Region in fulfilling various aspects of that plan. We will be speaking about this at the beginning of the assembly and how it can fit in with our Region 9 committees. A copy of the current strategic plan is included in the assembly materials – section F.

**Meeting Information and meeting list accuracy.**
It is very important for your service body to continuously update your meeting list information and to update the WSO records. If you don't already know, please find out how this is done in your SB before coming to the R9 Assembly.

**OA Finances at WSO level & Region 9 Contributions**
Although Region 9 is in a very different situation than most other regions (using some of our Tradition 7 within our SB for OA literature translations), we still don't contribute enough to Region 9 or World Service to be self supporting. This is something we need to address.

**Lifeline**
Lifeline is still in need of our help. Whether we, as individuals, take out a subscription, or for our group, or to subscribe for a copy to go to healthcare professionals, we want to do more. Lifeline is such a source of inspiration – we want to keep it alive. This year at the Region 9 Convention, we will offer a subscription to Lifeline from Region 9 (as part of a fund raiser).

**Emails Received and Replied**
This is a very valuable tool and I have been trying to reply to all emails within a couple of days upon receipt. Along with that, I have been sending more information out through email, such as the monthly Region 9 Chair's message, and keeping in contact with the R9 Board members, R9 Trustee, BOT's, WSO, R9 committee chairs, and individual OA members and SB's within R9. An ordinary month of incoming and outgoing emails comes to about 400 per month, more or less.

**Thanks for allowing me to serve**
A thank you to everyone who has helped me along the way in my first year as Region 9 Chair. I have received so much support and positive feedback – it just makes me want to give, and give more. Service is something I need to do in my program, and I am so lucky to have the opportunity to do this service.

Again, thank you.

Susan
Region 9 Chair
### I. STRONG MEETINGS

*Filled with abstinent members; all service positions filled; active rotation of service; meeting is growing; newcomers stay and become abstinent; sufficient sponsors; operates in the spirit of all 12 Traditions.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN GOAL</th>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By the end of 2013, the member base of Overeaters Anonymous will increase by at least 20%.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>By the end of 2013, educate Fellowship about how personal abstinence impacts the strength of groups.</td>
<td>1) Increase awareness of abstinent sponsors.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2) Make 2013 &quot;The Year of Abstinence Awareness.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By the end of 2013, educate Fellowship about why/how to fulfill service positions at the group level.</td>
<td>1) Encourage sponsors to educate sponsees re: the value of fulfilling service responsibilities.</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>2) Educate the Fellowship about the Gifts of Giving Service.</td>
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<tr>
<td>By the end of 2013, educate Fellowship re: the value of focusing on the solution instead of the problem.</td>
<td>1) Emphasize importance of studying Steps and Traditions in meetings.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2) Raise newcomers' awareness of how to become abstinent and stay in the Fellowship through working the Steps.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educate Fellowship re: strong meetings.</td>
<td>1) Educate members re: available support materials.</td>
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<tr>
<td>By the end of 2013, determine the number of members attending OA meetings.</td>
<td>1) Conduct census of all registered groups with valid addresses.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Compare census data to baseline data collected in 2008.</td>
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II. PUBLIC/PROFESSIONAL AWARENESS
All members, groups and service bodies working at carrying the message so that the possibility of recovery is offered to the still-suffering compulsive eater.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>MAIN GOAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By the end of 2013, OA will have invested $100,000 additionally to money already budgeted on public/professional awareness.</td>
<td>1) Work with staff, PAC/PO and PR firm to create and implement outreach plan to targeted professional organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Continue attendance at professional tradeshows.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3) Provide guidelines/materials to local SBs for distribution to local professionals.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4) Educate Fellowship on how to research professional tradeshows and the importance of participation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In 2013, continue to create name recognition in professional community.</td>
<td>1) Work with PI/PO and regions to inform them of what publicity materials are available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Redistribute publicity materials to the media.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3) Educate Fellowship on how to research local events and importance of participation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In 2013, continue with public awareness activities.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### III. COMMITTED SERVICE BODIES

*All service positions filled; active rotation of service; operates within the spirit of the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts; involved in carrying the message locally, regionally, internationally.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN GOAL</th>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By the end of 2013, at least 50% of registered service bodies will be</td>
<td>1) Develop action plan to address financial, personal and apathy/negative perception barriers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>represented at WSBC and region assemblies.</td>
<td>2) Promote attendance at region assemblies and WSBC by focusing on how it enhances personal recovery and strengthens service bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By the end of 2013, increase by 5% attendance of SBs at WSBC and region</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>assemblies over previous year.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase all recovery workshops conducted by trustees and region board</td>
<td>1) Develop more resources like PowerPoint workshops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>by 10% over 2012.</td>
<td>2) Promote exchange between neighboring SBs to bring fresh recovery to one another.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IV. FINANCIAL HEALTH

*Sufficient contributions to enable OA to grow; sufficient contributions to do outreach to the public and professionals; all levels of service structure are fully self-supported; and sufficient contributions to decrease the reliance on literature sales for income.*

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<tr>
<th>MAIN GOAL</th>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
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| By the end of 2013, combined revenue from sales and contributions will exceed 2008 levels by 20%. | 1) Number of groups and SBs contributing at WS level will increase by 10% over 2012.  
2) Integrate virtual services into OA financial structure to encourage contributions and service. |
| By the end of 2013, contributions to WSO will increase 5% over 2012 levels. | 1) Increase Lifeline renewal rate to 30%.  
2) Make Lifeline available on e-readers. |
| By the end of 2013, increase Lifeline subscriptions by 5% over 2012 level. | 1) Develop new literature. |
| Increase overall literature sales by 10% over 2012 levels. |  
Net revenue from WSC 2013 will increase by 50% over WSC 2010. |
| Increase net revenue by 50% over WSC 2010. | Increase attendance at WSC 2013 by 25% over 2010. |
Dear friends in Region 9,

This has been my first year as Secretary for the Region, and I have found the service to be rewarding and enjoyable. I have enjoyed helping my fellows from around the Region, answering questions or passing emails on to the appropriate people.

Much of the service has consisted of forwarding Lifeline Weekly and news from the other Board Members. I have been involved in the publication and distribution of the Region 9 Newsletter, which has been received well.

I have been involved in all the Region Board Meetings this year, and produced the minutes for them.

It has been a pleasure to receive emails from fellows throughout the Region, and I hope I have been able to give back as much as I have received from doing this service.

I look forward to continuing in the position for the second year of my term of office, and I hope I can carry on serving the fellowship and the Region to the best of my ability.

Thanks to my other Board Members, the Committee Chairs, our Trustee and anyone who has given me help and advice over the year. I am also grateful to my predecessor, Karolina, for the help she gave me during the transition period after the last Assembly.

With love in service,

Patrick
This has been my second year as your treasurer and I'm really enjoying this service position. It has been a pleasure to work with our new board members, with our Trustee, and with our banker. It has also been the second year for the division of the treasurer’s role into treasurer and banker, I feel that this is an arrangement that can be considered even in the future.

After the Assembly 2011 in Belgium, the finance committee has sent out a reminder to all service bodies within Region 9 regarding the display of the 7th Tradition tent cards at meetings and the use of 7th Tradition workshops and skits, all available at www.oa.org. May I, again, encourage you to use these materials – your group's budget is an overt matter and we will be more inclined to give if we know where our money goes, and if we can see in which ways it serves R9.

**Accounts for the year ended 31 May 2012**

We have three accounts, Current, Euro and Bonus Saver (held with NatWest in the UK). We are using an exchange rate of an average of 1.18 Euros to the Pound. This has been used in the accounts calculations for the year ended May 31, 2012.

**Income**

Our income from Region 9 is almost the same as it was last year; that also means that we kept a decrease of nearly 13% since 2009. The recommended contribution rate, which encouraged every group to give 5% of their income, is still operational as per the recommendation in 2009. However, our current income does not cover our costs and we need to consider that, if the income keeps decreasing, we won't be able to send money to WSO or increase the funds for translation. To receive a regular amount via direct payment helps us to budget. Furthermore, we would be grateful if you have the possibility to send your contributions before September 1st, that makes budgeting easier for us.

**Outgoings**

*In general* all of our costs came in under budget - please refer to schedule 1 of the accounts.

**New line-items:** The 2013 budget includes one additional line-item – the cost for secretarial expenses for the R9 committees.

**Regional Chair Meetings** are held three times a year. The first of these is at WSBC in Albuquerque and, according to our Bylaws, our chair is required to attend these meetings. The costs for each meeting came in under budget. Please note that these costs have increased – we are a large region and we do believe in the principle that everybody ought to be able to do service. This means that we will experience different financial needs when there is a rotation of board members. I kindly ask you to consider this when you make your contributions.

**Delegate Assistance:** The costs shown in the budget refer to the assembly 2011 in Belgium where we supported four delegates.

This year, your region has agreed to assist 4 delegates for the full amount they requested; the claims were between 140 and 1130 Euros. Currently, our total budget for delegate assistance is Euro 2130 / GBP 1805. One country applied for funding after the deadline had passed; the board did not
consider this application. I have received two (out of four) financial summaries as requested with the Delegate Assistance Application Form and agreed by the Assembly previously in our Policies & Procedures 2008e. Please note that if the financial summary is not provided, your delegate might not get the funding in the future if more delegates apply, or our financial position falls and/or our expenses increase. Details of any funding for attendance at the region 9 Assembly from elsewhere are required.

I kindly ask you to be as thorough as possible when applying for Delegate Assistance. Receiving a detailed list of your expenses helps us a lot. We will update the Delegate Assistance Application form as to make it more clear which information we require from you.

**Translations:** At the 2010 assembly we decreased the amount for translation funding to Euro 1875 / GBP 1500. The translation fund is a restricted fund only serving the purpose of translation and printing. At the Assembly 2011 in Belgium, it has been decided that the money granted to your service body for translation or printing does not have to be repaid. Unfortunately, there have not been any applications for the past two years. I would like to encourage all service bodies within our region to consider translation. It helps your fellowship grow in your area. Don't hesitate to contact me with any inquiry regarding translation or printing.

**Secretarial expenses:** consists of photocopying, cartridges, stationary etc. for all of the R9 board.

**WSO Contribution:** Region 9 is a large region but it is not the poorest one. However, we have been one of the lowest contributing regions and we do receive a lot of financial support from WSO. Please consider an extra Tradition 7 on a regular basis. There are various suggestions for your groups to apply in order to make contributions a part of your meeting culture. At the Assembly in Belgium, it has been decided to take 1695 GBP/Euro 2000 from our Delegate Assistance Fund in order to contribute to WSO. That means that our contribution to WSO has decreased compared to the 2011 budget.

**Contributions**

May I remind all contributors to send an e-mail to the treasurer and the banker before making a bank transfer. Banks do not give much information on the transfer forms and it can be rather time consuming to search for the right e-mail address to send the receipt. Please note that our banker, Alison, has a new address and phone number, these can be requested via email.

Love in Service
Isabella V
Treasurer Region 9
treasurer@oaregion9.org
Embrace the Similarities
Love the Differences
In all our Affairs

Financial Statements
To be added later
Embrace the Similarities
Love the Differences
In all our Affairs

Banker’s Courtesy Report
To be added later
October 2012

Region 9 Trustee’s Courtesy Report

Dear OA fellow friends and representatives,

At WSBC 2012 I was re-elected to the service position as Region 9 Trustee for an additional term of 3 years. Thank you Region 9 for electing me as nominee and I am grateful to the OA fellowship that has elected me again to do this important service. To be a Regional Trustee means to be the liaison between the Board of Trustees and WSO and the Region. As part of my service I have to spread the message of OA throughout the Region by conducting workshops and attending Assemblies, Retreats and Conventions so if you would like me to come to one of your events, just let me know and I’ll try to come and help as best as I can.

The theme of WSBC 2012 was Visions for the Fellowship
  • At the WSBC Conference this year we had very interesting workshops about Action Plan, Committed Service Bodies, Financial Health and Strong Meetings where we could hear speakers and share our experience as well.
  • We had a Forum with the topic Conceptualizing Principles where we discussed the 12 concepts, their principles and how to use them.
We discussed the motions that where brought up to the conference.
  • We granted the Conference seal of Approval to the rewritten pamphlet, Before You Take That First Compulsive Bite. To the revised pamphlet, Sponsoring Through the Twelve Steps, to the revised pamphlet, To the Newcomer and to the electronic workbook Voices of Recovery
  • We discussed a motion regarding the literature that we are allowed to use in meetings and decided that in accordance with our Traditions, we suggest that OA groups maintain unity and honor our Traditions by using, selling and displaying only approved books and pamphlets at their meetings. This includes OA Conference- and board-approved literature; AA Conference-approved books, booklets, and all future editions thereof, with original edition copyright 2010 or earlier; and locally produced OA literature. Locally produced literature must be developed according to the OA Guidelines for Locally Produced Literature, and should be used with the greatest discretion. Local literature should be considered temporary and discontinued when OA literature approved for general use is available to cover the topic
  • We decided to rescind the special fund we have established some years ago to assist in translating literature as we have now enough money in the budget for this purpose and that any money left when the fund ceases to exist on December 31, 2012 will continue to be used for translation until the balance of the fund is exhausted.
  • We discussed and decided upon several amendments to the OA Bylaws Sub Part B.
We had elected 3 regional Trustees for Region 3, Region 6 and Region 9 and 3 General Service Trustees one for one-year term and 2 for three- year term.

During the last year I attended the Board of Trustees' meetings in Albuquerque, New Mexico, U.S.A. At these meetings we discuss the financial statements of OA, the budget, the Strategic Plan, motions that are submitted by the Trustees and other issues; it is quite similar to our agenda at our Region Assembly.

Until WSBC 2012 I was also the chair of the Translation Board Committee. This Committee assisted some Intergroups with funds to help them translate and publish OA literature As of WSBC
I am not the chair of this Committee but I am still a member of this Committee and if any of you need assistance with translations please send your applications to WSO on time and give all the needed details so we can consider it at the Committee meeting.

As of WSBC 2012 I am the Trustee Co Chair of the Conference Committee Unity with Diversity

At this Committee we have three sub committees, Diversity of Choice, Diversity of Disease Manifestations and Diversity Statement & Checklist. They all had set their goals, action plans and dates for the coming year.

The Manifestations of the Disease sub-committee has been following up on the survey that was begun at last year’s business meeting. They are preparing it for BOT approval and distribution to the fellowship.

The goals of the Diversity Choice Sub-Committee are to work on a mission statement for this subcommittee and to collect personal stories reflecting acceptance of member's choices around physical, emotional and spiritual recovery.

This sub-committee has written or solicited others to write their stories of their decisions to have or not have bariatric surgery either before or after they found OA. We have received seven stories at this time. The plan is to send them to the whole UWDC for approval and then submit them to Lifeline.

The Diversity Statement sub-committee has completed a cover letter to go with the Diversity Statement to all targeted service bodies. It requests all meetings to use the Diversity statement in their meeting format, even if they do not use the suggested meeting format.

The Diversity Checklist, which the committee sent to the Conference Literature Committee, and was sent by them to the BOT, has been returned to the Literature Committee with suggestions and comments for further work.

This year I was invited to attend Assemblies and conventions in our Region, to share my experience, strength and hope. I also visited our fellowship in region 9 and held workshops of Service, Traditions and Concepts and other topics that are on the strategic plan such as abstinence, Sponsorship, strong meetings etc.

On November 2011 I attended the Spanish Assembly and Convention in Madrid, Spain. The assembly discussed the budget, some motions and held elections for officers. Some of the officers were reelected and some of them were elected for the first time. The theme of the convention was Growing Together there were speakers and sharing on several topics such as, asking for help, abstinence, daily inventory etc.

I held a service workshop and there was an open meeting with many family members and professionals. There were more than 100 people in the room. OA members shared and 2 spouses shared as well. The local television came to interview some members and we saw it on television that same afternoon.

In March 2012, I visited our fellowship in Vienna, Austria and in Bratislava, Slovakia. I attended local meetings, and conducted Service and Traditions workshops in each city. Although they are very different countries, they are geographically nearby, only one hour’s drive apart. Because of their proximity, some members from Vienna attended the workshop in Bratislava. Resulting from this, they have decided to have mutual events in the future, and to include members from Budapest, Hungary and Prague, Czech Republic, neither of which is far from the other. Originally, they scheduled an event for June 23, but it has been temporarily postponed.
On June 15, I attended the Israeli NSB yearly Assembly. They discussed the financial report and the budget for the upcoming year; and elected new members to the NSB. The Assembly was followed by a convention with the theme “Honesty, Willingness, and an Open Mind – the Path to Personal Recovery”.

In July I have visited our fellowship in Russia. It was the first time I really experienced the “language barrier” we are always talking about. I travelled to Samara, Uliyanovsk, Moscow, and St. Petersburg. In Samara and Uliyanovsk, they needed to have outside interpreters, as no one there knows enough English; and for the Service, Traditions, Abstinence, and Strong Meetings workshops that I led there each of the two groups hired professional interpreters. In Moscow and in St. Petersburg, OA members acted as interpreters.

I answered many questions, since the fellowship there (except in Moscow) is quite young—about two years old, and they do not know much about OA. As a result of this lack of understanding, they are breaking Traditions on the Russian website by introducing an outside (Kay Sheppard) food plan, with some of the members sure that this was the only way to work the physical part of our program. They did not know about OA’s structure, or OA’s website; and did not know they have to register their meetings so that we know they exist.

Before going there, I went especially to the Israeli NSB’s office to bring with me some copies of the OA 12+12 that had been translated by Russian-speaking Israelis. I was sure that there was no literature in Russian and that by bringing these copies, I was “saving” OA Russia. However, when I arrived, I learned that they already have translations of the OA 12+12, For Today, Overeaters Anonymous, and the Twelve-Step Workbook. I was very happy about this, but explained the need for licenses and for avoiding duplication of efforts. Lack of information is also a local problem there, because members in St. Petersburg knew only about the OA 12+12 but nothing about the other three translated pieces of literature.

Another problem is the Seventh Tradition. They did not know they have to contribute to other levels of service. In Moscow, I learned that they use the money for translating literature; but in the other cities, I am not sure what they are doing with the monies they collect in excess of their expenses.

I hope that, because of my visit, changes will happen in Russia: Meetings will be registered, groups will establish intergroups, they will forward contributions to region and to the WSO, and there will be cooperation among themselves and with the WSO. I hope that I helped strengthen their personal recovery as well.

As part of my service I answered questions regarding Steps, Traditions or other matters connected to the program from members in our Region and reviewed Bylaws submitted by Service Bodies and Intergroups of our Region.

I am grateful to you and to My Higher Power for this service as it helps me keep my abstinence, meet a lot of people, learn new things and grow spiritually.

Love in service

Esti Ordan

Region 9 Trustee
Embrace the Similarities
Love the Differences
In all our Affairs

Translations Committee Report
To be added later
Dear OA friends in Region 9,

On our website has new pages been added since our last Assembly. We have also on our Home page a section called “Whats New” which addresses the last updated pages and new uploads.

Contents on the website:

Pages

- Home
- Events
- About Region 9
- Links
- About OA
  - 15 Questions for a newcomer
  - Twelve Steps
  - Twelve Traditions
  - Twelve Concepts
- Region 9 Assembly
- Newsletters
- Literature & Translation
- WSBC & RCC
- Service/Committees
  - Job Descriptions
  - Bylaws
  - Translations
  - Public Information
  - 12th Step Within
  - Electronic Communications
  - Finance
- Materials
  - Workshops
- Contact us

With love in service,

Karolina
REGION 9

BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT TO R9 ASSEMBLY 2012

JOBS COMPLETED SINCE 2011 ASSEMBLY:

- The bylaws have been amended and checked by all three members of the committee and were forwarded to R9 Board and then circulated
- Letter drafted, checked by Susan and amended and returned ready to send to R9 service bodies and to add to website to give them a summary of the bylaws changes and how this affects them
- RCC comparison amended and returned to Susan
- Worked on updating P&P with Assembly amendments
- Worked on bylaw amendments for 2012 Assembly
- Checked and amended draft Ground Rules for 2012 Assembly
- Worked on job description for role of Banker and other R9 board positions
- Assisted other R9 members with possible bylaw amendments / new business motions

Submitted by Joanna Cobb

Chair of Bylaws Committee

23rd July 2012

Committee:
- Joanna C bylaws@oaregion9.org
- Pam G
- Loes H
PI update for 2011-2012:

The following was carried out by the PI committee since the last R9 Assembly in Oct 2011:

- PI letter was written up and sent out to Intergroups outlining ideas to help IGs in spreading the word about OA, information and supports available to them in carrying out this work. This letter was also posted on the R9 website by the website coordinator.

- Reports of PI ventures undertaken by Intergroups in Great Britain, Spain and Belgium were attached to the letter and also posted on the website.

- Contact between PI chair and members in various countries with questions and also information on PI work carried out i.e. Cairo, Great Britain, Ireland

- The PI committee held a Skype call meeting Sunday 22nd April, two members attended, minutes of meeting were sent to Chair and secretary of R9.

Siobhan
Chair of PI Committee
In the past year, the Twelfth-Step-Within Committee has been working on issues we agreed on, at the committee meetings we held during the R9 Assembly 2011. Abstinent sponsors, Sponsorship workshop, and that we wanted to work out a form so every country could do the exact same workshop. Our aim for the past year has been: “Increase the number of abstinent members in the groups”, “Let’s double the number of abstinent members who work all the 12 steps”.

During the year we have held a TSW Committee skype meeting every second month and this has been a great and exciting way to work as a committee.

One country made their own workshop papers “Workshop: Plan of Eating and Abstinence” and those was mailed out to the committee to work with. The committee found that these papers were very good to go on with, and this seems to be a better solution than making workshops exact alike. There are a lot of opportunities in the papers; for instance, people can take out one subject as they like, or use all of the material in their workshops, and they can have workshops in different length of time.

“How can we bring the message to the still suffering compulsive overeater within the fellowship in our own country? – Ideas that work”. This subject has been very interesting because a lot of various kinds of service are going on in each country, and with a lot of commitment.

The TSW Committee has been responsible for the list “Liaison with Service Bodies not represented at the Assembly 2011”. On the list is gathered information from each representative about the country they contacted, contact information such as email addresses, numbers of groups etc. The representatives had worked on this to make the counties aware of the existence of Region 9 and the R9 Assembly & Convention, and to show the countries that they have an opportunity of going to R9 A & C. At the Assembly in 2012, there will be a list with countries not represented, for the representatives to choose from.

The TSW Committee has also been responsible for managing the Region 9 sponsor list, which is an ongoing list. On the R9 website, there is contact information for people who want to be a sponsor in the region, and people who wish to find a sponsor who talks their language. On the list are sponsors who talk both English and other languages, and sponsors who only talk one language, this do not have to be English. To find information about the list, go to: www.oaregion9.org and “12th Step Within”, and you will find what you need.

Love in service

Mette
Region 9 TSW Committee Chair
August 2012

Dear OA Intergroup / Service Board Representative.

**Region 9 Assembly 2012 – Agenda & Motions**

Please find attached:-

Chart 1 - Consent Agenda
Chart 2 – Proposed Motions to be considered separately.

Thank you for your service.

Susan
Region 9 Chair

For and on behalf of OA Region 9

**Extract from R9 Bylaws**

**Article V Section 4**

Agenda for the Region 9 Assembly will be mailed or emailed at least sixty days prior to the Assembly to all those service associations and registered Intergroups. The material for the Assembly will be mailed or emailed when possible only to registered representatives and invited visitors to the Assembly. The registration form will request whether the material is sent by email or mail.

**Extract from R9 Principles & Procedures**

1999h – Bylaws Committee Chair

The duties would include:

Sending a printed copy of all proposed Bylaw Amendments to the Chair of the Board to be included in the mailing with the Agenda for Assembly.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BL / BM No.</th>
<th>Article/Section</th>
<th>What motion does</th>
<th>Submitted by</th>
<th>Intent</th>
<th>Cost to R9 Budget</th>
<th>Rationale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BL1</td>
<td>A2 S2</td>
<td>Clarify that Virtual SB’s are a part of R9</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>The word “Virtual” has been added to references to service bodies to keep R9 bylaws in line with WSBC bylaws</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL2</td>
<td>A3 S3</td>
<td>Clarify that Virtual SB’s are a part of R9</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>The word “Virtual” has been added to references to service bodies to keep R9 bylaws in line with WSBC bylaws</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL3</td>
<td>A4 S2,3,4</td>
<td>Clarify that Virtual SB’s are a part of R9</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>The word “Virtual” has been added to references to service bodies to keep R9 bylaws in line with WSBC bylaws</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL4</td>
<td>A10, S1</td>
<td>Clarify that Virtual SB’s are a part of R9</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>The word “Virtual” has been added to references to service bodies to keep R9 bylaws in line with WSBC bylaws</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL5</td>
<td>A5 S1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Clarify that Virtual SB’s are a part of R9</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>The word “Virtual” has been added to references to service bodies to keep R9 bylaws in line with WSBC bylaws</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL6</td>
<td>A7 S2</td>
<td>Clarify that Virtual SB’s are a part of R9</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>The word “Virtual” has been added to references to service bodies to keep R9 bylaws in line with WSBC bylaws</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL7</td>
<td>A3 S2</td>
<td>To standardise the text with reference to Intergroup with a capital “I”</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>Standardise text</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL9</td>
<td>A7 S3B</td>
<td>To put in line with WSBC bylaw amends that R9 board are guided by 12 concepts</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To keep our R9 bylaws in line with WSBC bylaw changes</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL 12</td>
<td>A5 S2</td>
<td>Adds in application for financial assistance and letter from R9 Chair to Assembly invite pack</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To clarify what documents should be sent out in the invitation pack to service bodies for the Assembly</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL / BM No.</td>
<td>Article/Section</td>
<td>What motion does</td>
<td>Submitted by</td>
<td>Intent</td>
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<td>Rationale</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM A II</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>Provide an updated job description for position of Region 9 Secretary</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To clarify job description</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM B II</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>Provide a job description for position of Region 9 Parliamentarian</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To clarify job description</td>
<td>£200 - £600 depending on location of Assembly &amp; Parliamentarian</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM D II</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>Add in as currently missing in list of committee participation for delegates attending assembly</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To ensure all committees are listed</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM E II</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>Update to current process of emailing (instead of posting) and using minutes approval committee</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To ensure P&amp;P reflects current practice and new technology</td>
<td>Saving</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM F III</td>
<td>III</td>
<td>Add in references to PI and add summary line of what these three committees do</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To ensure all committees are listed</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM G II, III &amp; IV</td>
<td>Amend title of translations committee to translations and literature</td>
<td>Translations Committee</td>
<td>To clarify role of this committee through title</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM H IV</td>
<td>IV</td>
<td>Ensure this section is up to date with current practices</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To ensure P&amp;P reflects current practice and new technology</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM I V</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>To allow two application dates per year instead of one and to adhere to WSO deadlines</td>
<td>R9 Treasurer</td>
<td>To assist with deadlines for applying for funding</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM J V</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>Add plan of how to manage signing cheques if R9 board live in Great Britain</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To ensure ease and speed of paying our bills</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL / BM No.</td>
<td>Article/Section</td>
<td>What motion does</td>
<td>Submitted by</td>
<td>Intent</td>
<td>Cost to R9 Budget</td>
<td>Rationale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM K</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>Amend 4 to 3 months for application forms for delegate assistance and require rather than request service bodies to provide financial info on application and clarify practice already agreed for online banking</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>This information is needed to make an educated decision on funding and it hasn't always been provided. Region 9 chair and Treasurer if relying on posted statements causes undue delay on finance decisions</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM L</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>Provide an improved election process for role of Banker, keep costs low</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>Improve election procedure and give transparency to assembly on nominees not in attendance</td>
<td>Possible cost of a call</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM M</td>
<td>VI</td>
<td>Rescind sections no longer relevant as WSO now provide meeting lists</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>Tidy up P&amp;P</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM N</td>
<td>VIII</td>
<td>Add TSW committee in to aiding with informing about R9 week</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To ensure P&amp;P reflects current practice</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM O</td>
<td>XI</td>
<td>Rescind sections no longer relevant</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>Tidy up P&amp;P</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM P</td>
<td>XI</td>
<td>Rescind sections no longer relevant</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>Tidy up P&amp;P</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM Q</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>Provide an updated job description for position of Region 9 Chair</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To clarify job description</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM R</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>Provide an updated job description for position of Region 9 Treasurer</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To clarify job description</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM S</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>Include a Translations List in Assembly materials</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To ensure that Region 9 members are aware of the number of translations already completed and those in progress &amp; as an aid to other members starting out with translations and to avoid duplications</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### CHART 2: PROPOSED MOTIONS TO BE DISCUSSED AND VOTED ON SEPARATELY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BL / BM No.</th>
<th>Article / Section</th>
<th>What motion does</th>
<th>Submitted by</th>
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<th>Rationale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BL8</td>
<td>A7 S3</td>
<td>To look at how long a R9 board member may serve (current R9 is less than in other Regions / WS Trustee service positions)</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>Remove time limits and set out interval period for R9 board</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL10</td>
<td>A9 S2</td>
<td>Clarify that although a committee chair does not have to be a voting member of the assembly, that this is preferable as they have already been voted to be part of R9 for at least the coming year and to allow elections to take place when vacancies arise.</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To clarify election of committee chairs</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BL 11</td>
<td>A9 S2, 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Clarify finance / budget committee and it's chair and role, election and qualification for new position of banker</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To clarify procedures</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BM C</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>Provide a job description for position of Region 9 Banker</td>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>To clarify job description</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>As per intent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Extract from Ground Rules –**

13. Procedure for voting on ByLaw amendment proposals will be:
   a) The chair will present the Consent Agenda to the Assembly which will enable automatic adoption of motions listed on the Consent Agenda. Representatives who wish to discuss any of these motions will request that they be pulled from the Consent Agenda. Each motion not voted in the Consent Agenda will be discussed and voted upon separately.

14. Procedure for voting on New Business Motions will be:
   a) Each motion not on the Consent Agenda will be discussed and voted upon separately.
**REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012**
**BYLAWS AMENDMENT MOTION**

**MOTION:**
TO AMEND ARTICLE II, SECTION 2 AS FOLLOWS:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT WORDING</th>
<th>PROPOSED WORDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARTICLE II - PURPOSE</strong></td>
<td><strong>ARTICLE II - PURPOSE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2</td>
<td>Section 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The responsibilities to fulfil this purpose shall include:</td>
<td>The responsibilities to fulfil this purpose shall include:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a Administering and co-ordinating OA activities common to the various Groups, Intergroup and National/Language Service Boards comprising its membership.</td>
<td>a Administering and co-ordinating OA activities common to the various Groups, Intergroup and National/Language /Virtual Service Boards comprising its membership.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b Establishing and maintaining a regional office mailing address to facilitate communication between Region 9 and the various groups, Intergroups, National/Language Service Boards, OA worldwide, and the World Service Office.</td>
<td>b Establishing and maintaining a regional office mailing address to facilitate communication between Region 9 and the various groups, Intergroups, National/Language /Virtual Service Boards, OA worldwide, and the World Service Office.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUBMITTED BY:**
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

**INTENT:**
To clarify wording and include Virtual Service Boards which now exists and previously didn’t

**IMPLEMENTATION:**
Amend bylaws

**COST:**
None

**RATIONALE:**
As per intent

**BACKGROUND:**
None
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
BYLAWS AMENDMENT MOTION

MOTION:
TO AMEND ARTICLE III, TITLE AND SECTION 3 AS FOLLOWS:-

CURRENT WORDING
ARTICLE III – GROUPS, INTERGROUPS AND NATIONAL SERVICE BOARDS WITHIN REGION 9

Section 3

The Definition of a National/Language Service Board.

a A National/Language Service Board shall be a duly registered service body with the purpose of dealing with issues that require a combination of membership and financial resources of Intergroups and Groups in a country/countries. The National/Language Service Board shall serve and be responsible and accountable to these Groups and Intergroups. These Service Boards may also be known as Language Service Boards.

b To establish that a National/Language Service Board is registered, the World Service Register shall be used.

PROPOSED WORDING
ARTICLE III – GROUPS, INTERGROUPS AND NATIONAL / LANGUAGE / VIRTUAL SERVICE BOARDS WITHIN REGION 9

Section 3

The Definition of a National/Language / Virtual Service Board.

a A National/Language /Virtual Service Board shall be a duly registered service body with the purpose of dealing with issues that require a combination of membership and financial resources of Intergroups and Groups in a country/countries. The National/Language /Virtual Service Board shall serve and be responsible and accountable to these Groups and Intergroups. These Service Boards may also be known as Language Service Boards.

b To establish that a National/Language/Virtual Service Board is registered, the World Service Register shall be used.

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
To clarify wording and include Virtual Service Boards which now exist and previously didn’t
To delete words that do not make sense in the paragraph
To ensure the Article title reflects the contents of the article

IMPLEMENTATION:
Amend bylaws
N.B. If this amendment were adopted, the contents page reference to this Article would also change in line with the amended Article Name

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As per intent

BACKGROUND:
None
# REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
## BYLAWS AMENDMENT MOTION

**MOTION:**

TO AMEND ARTICLE IV, SECTION 3 AS FOLLOWS:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT WORDING</th>
<th>PROPOSED WORDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP OF REGION 9 ASSEMBLY</strong></td>
<td><strong>ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP OF REGION 9 ASSEMBLY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Section 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a In accordance with the Bylaws of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Subpart B, Region 9 shall be composed of Africa, Europe, Middle East and Western Asia.</td>
<td>a In accordance with the Bylaws of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Subpart B, Region 9 shall be composed of Africa, Europe, Middle East and Western Asia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Section 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The voting membership of the Assembly shall consist of</td>
<td>The voting membership of the Assembly shall consist of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a Representatives from Intergroups who are registered with the World Service Office and who are within the geographical boundaries of Region 9.</td>
<td>a Representatives from Intergroups who are registered with the World Service Office and who are within the geographical boundaries of Region 9.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b Representatives from National/Language/Virtual Service Boards, who are registered with the World Service Office and who are within the geographical boundaries of Region 9. National/Language/Virtual Service Boards shall not represent Intergroups which have sent representatives to the Assembly, however if all Intergroups are represented, the National/Language/Virtual Service Board will still be entitled to one representative.</td>
<td>b Representatives from National/Language/Virtual Service Boards, who are registered with the World Service Office and who are within the geographical boundaries of Region 9. National/Language/Virtual Service Boards shall not represent Intergroups which have sent representatives to the Assembly, however if all Intergroups are represented, the National/Language/Virtual Service Board will still be entitled to one representative.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c Region 9 Board Members.</td>
<td>c Region 9 Board Members.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d The Chair shall not have a vote at the Assembly, except to break a tie and for elections.</td>
<td>d The Chair shall not have a vote at the Assembly, except to break a tie and for elections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e Committee Chairs, who are not Intergroup or National/Language Service Boards representatives.</td>
<td>e Committee Chairs, who are not Intergroup or National/Language/Virtual Service Boards representatives.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In the event of a Region 9 representative from a registered unaffiliated group receiving a voice as per Article IV Section 2 (II) c) of these Bylaws, they may also be given a vote, subject to majority approval of the voting body.

Section 2 (II)

The non-voting membership of the Assembly shall consist of:

a) The Region 9 Trustee is entitled to a voice but no vote at the Assembly.

b) Region 9 OA members, who are not represented, are entitled to a voice but no vote at the Region 9 Assembly.

c) A representative from a registered unaffiliated group within Region 9 may be given a voice if they receive the majority approval of the voting body. Consideration may also be given to giving such a representative a vote – see Article IV Section 2 (1) f) of these Bylaws.

Section 2 (III) – Visitors

a) OA Visitors from Region 9 who already have a representative attending the Assembly from their service body will not be given a voice or a vote.

b) The Region 9 Assembly is open to OA visitors from inside and outside Region 9. In order to be given consideration to speak at the Assembly, the visitor shall give prior notice to the Chair so that the item may be considered for the Agenda. Pertinent suggestions during the Assembly may be put in writing and handed to the Chair for consideration.

Section 3 – Qualifications

a) Each representative shall be elected by the Intergroup, National/Language Service Board or unaffiliated groups they serve.

b) The term of Region 9 representative shall be designated by their Intergroup, National/Language Service Boards or unaffiliated Groups and each representative is always subject to recall by those who selected them.

c) Each representative should have a minimum of six (6) consecutive months of current abstinence.

Section 2 (II)

The non-voting membership of the Assembly shall consist of:

a) The Region 9 Trustee is entitled to a voice but no vote at the Assembly.

b) Region 9 OA members, who are not represented, are entitled to a voice but no vote at the Region 9 Assembly.

c) A representative from a registered unaffiliated group within Region 9 may be given a voice if they receive the majority approval of the voting body. Consideration may also be given to giving such a representative a vote – see Article IV Section 2 (1) f) of these Bylaws.

Section 2 (III) – Visitors

a) OA Visitors from Region 9 who already have a representative attending the Assembly from their service body will not be given a voice or a vote.

b) The Region 9 Assembly is open to OA visitors from inside and outside Region 9. In order to be given consideration to speak at the Assembly, the visitor shall give prior notice to the Chair so that the item may be considered for the Agenda. Pertinent suggestions during the Assembly may be put in writing and handed to the Chair for consideration.

Section 3 – Qualifications

a) Each representative shall be elected by the Intergroup, National/Language/Virtual Service Board or unaffiliated groups they serve.

b) The term of Region 9 representative shall be designated by their Intergroup, National/Language/Virtual Service Boards or unaffiliated Groups and each representative is always subject to recall by those who selected them.

c) Each representative should have a minimum of six (6) consecutive months of current abstinence.
Section 4 - Delegates

a Each member Intergroup, National/Language Service Board shall be entitled to one representative at the Region 9 Assembly. Intergroups, National/Language Service Boards serving more than 10 Groups shall be entitled to two representatives. Intergroups, National/Language Service Boards serving more than 50 Groups shall be entitled to three representatives.

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
To clarify wording and include Virtual Service Board which now exists and previously didn’t. To delete reference to a) in Section 4 when there are no parts following

IMPLEMENTATION:
Amend bylaws

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As per intent

BACKGROUND:
None
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
BYLAWS AMENDMENT MOTION

MOTION:
TO AMEND ARTICLE X, SECTION 1 AS FOLLOWS:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT WORDING</th>
<th>PROPOSED WORDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARTICLE X FINANCIAL STRUCTURE</strong></td>
<td><strong>ARTICLE X FINANCIAL STRUCTURE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SECTION 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>SECTION 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a  The activities of Region 9 shall be</td>
<td>a  The activities of Region 9 shall be</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>financed primarily by the contributions</td>
<td>financed primarily by the contributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of its member Groups, Intergroups and</td>
<td>of its member Groups, Intergroups and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National/Language Service Boards.</td>
<td>National/Language Virtual Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boards.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUBMITTED BY:**
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

**INTENT:**
To clarify wording and include Virtual Service Boards which now exist and previously didn’t

**IMPLEMENTATION:**
Amend bylaws

**COST:**
None

**RATIONALE:**
As per intent

**BACKGROUND:**
None
**REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012**
**BYLAWS AMENDMENT MOTION**

**MOTION:**

TO AMEND ARTICLE V, SECTIONS 1 AND 2 AS FOLLOWS:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT WORDING</th>
<th>PROPOSED WORDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **ARTICLE V – MEETING TIMES AND NOTIFICATION.**  
Section 1 | **ARTICLE V – MEETING TIMES AND NOTIFICATION.**  
Section 1 |
| Region 9 shall hold one Assembly per year. | Region 9 shall hold one Assembly per year. |
| A Region 9 Convention may also be held in conjunction with the Region 9 Assembly if the hosting Intergroup or National/Language /Virtual Service Board is in a position to do so. | A Region 9 Convention may also be held in conjunction with the Region 9 Assembly if the hosting Intergroup or National/Language /Virtual Service Board is in a position to do so. |
| **Section 2** | **Section 2** |
| Notification of this Assembly shall be mailed or emailed to all member groups, Intergroups, unaffiliated groups and National Service Boards at least six months prior to the date of the Assembly. The notification will include an invitation to the Assembly from the organising committee, the registration form to send a delegate, a blank new business motion, and bylaws amendment motion. | Notification of this Assembly shall be mailed or emailed to all member groups, Intergroups, unaffiliated groups and National /Language /Virtual Service Boards at least six months prior to the date of the Assembly. The notification will include an invitation to the Assembly from the organising committee, the registration form to send a delegate, a blank new business motion, and bylaws amendment motion. |

**SUBMITTED BY:**

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

**INTENT:**

To clarify wording and include Virtual Service Boards which now exist and previously didn’t  
And to add in Language Service Boards which appear to have been missed off.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

Amend bylaws

**COST:**

None

**RATIONALE:**

As per intent

**BACKGROUND:**

None
**REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012**
**BYLAWS AMENDMENT MOTION**

**MOTION:**
TO AMEND ARTICLE VII, SECTION 2 AS FOLLOWS:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT WORDING</th>
<th>PROPOSED WORDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARTICLE VII</strong></td>
<td><strong>ARTICLE VII</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 2 – Duties</strong></td>
<td><strong>Section 2 – Duties</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duties of members of the Region 9 Board shall include but not be limited to the following:</td>
<td>Duties of members of the Region 9 Board shall include but not be limited to the following:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a The Chair is responsible to see that a notification of the Assembly is mailed in accordance with Article V – Section 2; to see that Region 9 Intergroups, National/Language Service Boards are notified that amendments to these Bylaws should be sent in accordance with Article XII – Section 1; to prepare an agenda for the Assembly and see that the agenda is mailed in accordance with Article V – Section 4; to preside over the Assembly; and in accordance with the Bylaws of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. – Subpart B is entitled to be a voting delegate to the annual World Service Business Conference.</td>
<td>a The Chair is responsible to see that a notification of the Assembly is mailed in accordance with Article V – Section 2; to see that Region 9 Intergroups, National/Language /Virtual Service Boards are notified that amendments to these Bylaws should be sent in accordance with Article XII – Section 1; to prepare an agenda for the Assembly and see that the agenda is mailed in accordance with Article V – Section 4; to preside over the Assembly; and in accordance with the Bylaws of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. – Subpart B is entitled to be a voting delegate to the annual World Service Business Conference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b The Secretary is responsible for maintaining accurate minutes and records of all Region decisions and actions at the Assembly. The Secretary must see that the Minutes are mailed or emailed when possible within 45 days of the Assembly to all participants of the Assembly, unaffiliated groups in Region 9 and Service Bodies that have not sent a representative to the Assembly. Any Service Body interested can ask the Region 9 Secretary for a copy of the Minutes by mail or email.</td>
<td>b The Secretary is responsible for maintaining accurate minutes and records of all Region decisions and actions at the Assembly. The Secretary must see that the Minutes are mailed or emailed when possible within 45 days of the Assembly to all participants of the Assembly, unaffiliated groups in Region 9 and Service Bodies that have not sent a representative to the Assembly. Any Service Body interested can ask the Region 9 Secretary for a copy of the Minutes by mail or email.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c The Treasurer is responsible to chair the Budget and Finance Committee; and to see that the annual financial statements are mailed to all members Intergroup and National/Language Service Boards.</td>
<td>c The Treasurer is responsible to chair the Budget and Finance Committee; and to see that the annual financial statements are mailed to all members Intergroup and National/Language /Virtual Service Boards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d In an emergency situation, approval of two members of the Region 9 Board is required to execute decisions deemed necessary for Region 9 as a whole. Notification of such decision shall be</td>
<td>d In an emergency situation, approval of two members of the Region 9 Board is required to execute decisions deemed necessary for Region 9 as a whole. Notification of such decision shall be</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
sent within 45 days to all registered Groups, Intergroup and National/Language Service Boards within Region 9.

For additional and a more detailed explanation of duties for Chair, Secretary and Treasurer refer to the Region 9 Principles & Procedures manual.

**SUBMITTED BY:**
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

**INTENT:**
To clarify wording and include Virtual Service Boards which now exist and previously didn’t

**IMPLEMENTATION:**
Amend bylaws

**COST:**
None

**RATIONALE:**
As per intent

**BACKGROUND:**
None
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
BYLAWS AMENDMENT MOTION

MOTION:
TO AMEND ARTICLE III, SECTION 2 AS FOLLOWS:-

CURRENT WORDING

Section 2
The Composition of an Intergroup.

a Two (2) or more Groups may form an Intergroup for the purpose of servicing and representing the Groups of which they are composed and acting as the guardian of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA Service. Each Intergroup should be composed of groups within its geographical proximity.

b Each State/Province may have at least one Intergroup. In a State/Province having only one Group, that Group may function as an intergroup.

c To establish that an Intergroup is registered, the World Service Register shall be used.

PROPOSED WORDING

Section 2
The Composition of an Intergroup.

a Two (2) or more Groups may form an Intergroup for the purpose of servicing and representing the Groups of which they are composed and acting as the guardian of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA Service. Each Intergroup should be composed of groups within its geographical proximity.

b Each State/Province may have at least one Intergroup. In a State/Province having only one Group, that Group may function as an intergroup.

c To establish that an Intergroup is registered, the World Service Register shall be used.

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
To keep the continuity of the description of Intergroup with a capital “I”

IMPLEMENTATION:
Amend bylaws

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As per intent

BACKGROUND:
None
**REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012**
**BYLAWS AMENDMENT MOTION**

**MOTION:**
TO AMEND ARTICLE VII, SECTION 3 D AS FOLLOWS:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT WORDING</th>
<th>PROPOSED WORDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARTICLE VII</strong></td>
<td><strong>ARTICLE VII</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 3.</td>
<td>Section 3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Board members should not serve more than two consecutive terms in the same position. No Board member shall serve for more than eight (8) consecutive years in a combination of positions.</td>
<td>d) Board members are elected to serve for a two (2) year term. A member who has already served may stand for re-election for a further term in any Board position. A member who has just completed eight (8) consecutive years of service may stand for re-election only after an interval of two (2) years. Board members should not serve more than two consecutive terms in the same position. No Board member shall serve for more than eight (8) consecutive years in a combination of positions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUBMITTED BY:**
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

**INTENT:**
To allow qualified members to serve additional terms on the Region 9 Board if they wish to

**IMPLEMENTATION:**
Amend bylaws and no member will be disqualified to serve on Region 9 Board because they have already served for eight years.

**COST:**
None

**RATIONALE:**
Currently the Region 9 sometimes struggles to find suitable candidates and almost never has contested elections because there are a limited number of qualified members willing and able to do the service. It does not seem sensible to further reduce the number of available candidates by imposing a time limit on the number of years any given individual may serve. This policy is out of kilter with other service bodies which quite commonly place a limit on consecutive terms but have no overall limit on number of years that can be served.
If there were only a one year interval this would mean that someone stepping down from a position would be assisting the incoming member as a “mentor” for a year and then would be eligible to stand for a further eight years. Having an interval encourages rotation of service, but not having an unduly long interval means that those willing and able to serve are not excluded from standing as a nominee for long periods of time.

For example, the Board of Trustees places a limit of eight consecutive years but there is no limit on the total number of years that may be served. Removing this limitation will potentially strengthen the board and enable more service to be done in Region 9.

Finally, if the Assembly is disquieted by members serving multiple terms then it will not re-elect those members to Region 9 Board.

**BACKGROUND:**

This amendment was brought to the 2011 Assembly but with a maximum of two consecutive two year terms (totalling 4 years) followed by a two year break, this motion was withdrawn and in various discussions the current wording was suggested.

Another interval considered by the bylaws committee was for four years.

OAGB recently removed the lifetime restriction.

The other regions concentrate on restricting consecutive years on the board rather than restricting overall in a lifetime.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R1</th>
<th>R2</th>
<th>R3</th>
<th>R4</th>
<th>R5</th>
<th>R6</th>
<th>R7</th>
<th>R8</th>
<th>R10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NO LIFE TIME LIMIT.</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO LIFE TIME LIMIT.</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO LIFE TIME LIMIT.</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO LIFE TIME LIMIT.</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO LIFE TIME LIMIT.</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO LIFE TIME LIMIT.</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO LIFE TIME LIMIT.</strong></td>
<td><strong>NOT SPECIFIED</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO LIFE TIME LIMIT.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO MORE THAN 5 CONSECUTIVE YEARS ON BOARD.</td>
<td>NO MORE THAN 5 CONSECUTIVE YEARS ON BOARD.</td>
<td>SC MEMBERS CAN SERVE NO MORE THAN 8 YEARS IN A CONSECUTIVE 10 YEAR PERIOD.</td>
<td>(DISCUSSED IN MAR 11 – NO CHANGE ANTICIPATED)</td>
<td>NO MORE THAN 12 CONSECUTIVE YEARS ON BOARD.</td>
<td>NO LIFE TIME LIMIT DEFINED.</td>
<td>NOT SPECIFIED</td>
<td>NO MORE THAN 8 CONSECUTIVE YEARS ON BOARD.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
### BYLAWS AMENDMENT MOTION

**MOTION:**

TO AMEND ARTICLE VII, SECTION 3B AS FOLLOWS:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT WORDING</th>
<th>PROPOSED WORDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b To be eligible for election to membership of the Region 9 Board, a person must be present at the meeting and be an OA member from Region 9. In addition a person standing for the office of Chair must have been a representative at a previous Region 9 Assembly. To be elected, a member must receive a majority vote of the representatives present. In addition each candidate for the Region Board shall have where possible at least one year of current abstinence and at least two years of service above group level at the time of election. In the event of a candidate with these qualifications not being present a candidate who has not these qualifications can be elected provided that they can demonstrate that they have a good record of service to the Fellowship, and faithful adherence to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of OA.</td>
<td>b To be eligible for election to membership of the Region 9 Board, a person must be present at the meeting and be an OA member from Region 9. In addition a person standing for the office of Chair must have been a representative at a previous Region 9 Assembly. To be elected, a member must receive a majority vote of the representatives present. In addition each candidate for the Region Board shall have where possible at least one year of current abstinence and at least two years of service above group level at the time of election. In the event of a candidate with these qualifications not being present a candidate who has not these qualifications can be elected provided that they can demonstrate that they have a good record of service to the Fellowship, and faithful adherence to the Twelve Steps, and Twelve Traditions and guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUBMITTED BY:**
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

**INTENT:**
To include that anyone wishing to stand for a R9 Board position should be guided by the Twelve Concepts

**IMPLEMENTATION:**
Amend bylaws

**COST:**
None

**RATIONALE:**
As per intent and to keep in line with OA Inc. bylaws

**BACKGROUND:**
The 12 Concepts are an integral part of OA and over recent years references to them have been inserted into OA Inc. Bylaws.
### REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012

#### BYLAWS AMENDMENT MOTION

**MOTION:**
TO AMEND ARTICLE IX, SECTION 3 AS FOLLOWS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT WORDDING</th>
<th>PROPOSED WORDDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 3 – Election of Committee Chairs.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Section 3 – Election of Committee Chairs.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a Nominations and elections shall be held in each odd numbered year at the Region 9 Assembly</td>
<td>a Nominations and elections shall be held in each odd numbered year when a committee chair position is vacant at the Region 9 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b To be eligible for election, a person must be present at the meeting and an OA member from Region 9. To be elected, a member must receive a majority vote of the representatives present.</td>
<td>b To be eligible for election, a person must be a voting member present at the meeting and an OA member from Region 9. To be elected, a member must receive a majority vote of the representatives present.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c Committee Chairs are elected for a two year term.</td>
<td>c Committee Chairs are elected for a two year term.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUBMITTED BY:**
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

**INTENT:**
To ensure that committee chairs are selected from voting members present at the Assembly in which the vote takes place. Voting members are known by their service body and therefore have already been endorsed by them and fulfilled any necessary criteria. Whilst we welcome visitors to join in with our committee sessions, we suggest that it is best that a committee chair is a member who has already been endorsed by a service body. Committee chairs sometimes resign part way through a term and so this amendment allows elections to take place as and when required.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**
Amend bylaws

**COST:**
None

**RATIONALE:**
As per intent

**BACKGROUND:**
Prior to the 2011 Assembly it has always been assumed that committee chairs would be selected from voting members. At the 2011 Assembly the question was asked to clarify if a visitor could be a committee chair and the bylaws did not make it clear and therefore a bylaw motion is put forward to clarify this matter.

In recent times, committee chair positions have been voted on in even as well as odd years rather than have a vacancy for a year.
**REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012**

**BYLAWS AMENDMENT MOTION**

**MOTION:**

TO AMEND AND INSERT ARTICLE IX, SECTION 2, 4, 5, 6 AND 7 AS FOLLOWS:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT WORDING</th>
<th>PROPOSED WORDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARTICLE IX – COMMITTEES</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 2 Duties</strong></td>
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<td>b If the Treasurer does not reside in United Kingdom, then the role of Banker may be created. The Banker will automatically become a member of the Finance Committee.</td>
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<td>The role of Banker is to receive monies from Region 9, bank them, and provide receipts to the sender; confirm incoming and outgoing money to the Region 9 Chair and Treasurer; copy and forward bank statements to the Region 9 Chair and Treasurer; liaise with the Treasurer; report annually to the Region 9 Assembly in written format.</td>
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<td><strong>Section 6 Election of Banker</strong></td>
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<td>If the Treasurer does not reside in the United Kingdom and the role of Banker is required to assist the Treasurer then the following process may be used:</td>
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<td>a To be eligible for election of position of Banker, the person does not have to be present at the Assembly at which the election is taking place, see Region 9 Policies and Procedures for guidelines on election.</td>
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<td>b To be elected as Banker, a member must receive a majority vote of the representatives present.</td>
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<td>c The position is elected for a two year term to run concurrently with the Treasurer’s position and these elections can be held in any year that the position is required.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
d. The Banker should serve for no more than four consecutive years.

e. Nominations may be received from voting delegates present at the Region 9 Assembly at which the election is taking place or from visitors to the Region 9 Assembly or a member of OA who is not in attendance. If the nominee is present they shall be called upon to present their qualifications briefly to the Assembly. If the nominee is not present they may submit an application which will be read out to the Assembly.

f. If no applications are received at the Region 9 Assembly at which the election is required or if a vacancy occurs during the term of office between Assemblies then the position can be filled by a person appointed by a majority vote of the Region 9 Board.

Section 7 Qualifications of Banker
To be eligible the nominees for the position of Banker shall have where possible at least one year of current abstinence and at least two years of service beyond group level at the time of election. In the event of a candidate with these qualifications not being present a candidate who does not have these qualifications can be elected provided that they comply with ARTICLE IV – Section 3 c and can demonstrate that they have a good record of service to the Fellowship, and faithful adherence to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of OA.

SUBMITTED BY:  
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
This bylaw amendment moves part of this wording from Section 2 into a new Section 4 and here also clarifies the duties of the members of the Finance committee including the role of Banker which has not previously been covered in our bylaws, and the method of election and qualifications for nominees for this role.

IMPLEMENTATION:
Amend bylaws

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As per intent

BACKGROUND:
The position of Banker was first created in 2010 in the absence of a suitable candidate standing for the position of Treasurer from the UK, it was agreed to split the duties of the Treasurer so that this R9 Board role was open to those from outside of the UK. The duties that must be carried out by someone who resides in the UK are done by the Banker who is not a Board member but as they are fulfilling a vital role for R9, it is essential that some criteria for election are provided for in our bylaws.
**REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012**
**BYLAWS AMENDMENT MOTION**

**MOTION:**
TO AMEND ARTICLE V, SECTION 2 AS FOLLOWS:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT WORDING</th>
<th>PROPOSED WORDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARTICLE V – MEETING TIMES AND NOTIFICATION.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Section 2</strong></td>
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<td>Notification of this Assembly shall be mailed or emailed to all member groups, Intergroups, unaffiliated groups and National Service Boards at least six months prior to the date of the Assembly. The notification will include an invitation to the Assembly from the organising committee, the registration form to send a delegate, a blank new business motion, and bylaws amendment motion.</td>
<td>Notification of this Assembly shall be mailed or emailed to all member groups, Intergroups, unaffiliated groups and National Service Boards at least six months prior to the date of the Assembly. The notification will include an invitation to the Assembly from the organising committee, the registration form to send a delegate, a blank new business motion and a blank new bylaws amendment motion, an application for financial assistance and a letter from the Region 9 Chair.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUBMITTED BY:**
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

**INTENT:**
To clarify in the bylaws the current practice

**IMPLEMENTATION:**
This is already being done by the Region 9 Chair and Secretary

**COST:**
None

**RATIONALE:**
As per intent
SECRETARY:
The main responsibilities of the Secretary are to produce and mail minutes of all Region 9 Assemblies, and maintain updated listing of R9 Intergroups and National/Language Service Boards. The procedure for this is as follows:

MINUTES OF THE ASSEMBLY:
1. The Chair will send out an agenda prior to the Assembly, and will include reminders to all Officers and presenters of topics to bring with them to Assembly a written report for inclusion with the minutes.
2. It is useful to record the Assembly with a tape recorder. A small hand held machine is quite adequate. A tape recorder may be used if required.
3. At the R9 Assembly, the Secretary needs to collect copies of all reports to be included with the minutes. It is also necessary that all motions are given to the Secretary in writing. It is important to record the name of the proposer and seconder, and the count of the voting on each motion.
4. The time scale for producing the minutes is short, and it is helpful to have copies of all paperwork to be included with the minutes in your possession, when coming home from the assembly, as there may not be time to use the postal system and still get the minutes out to ensure the minutes are distributed in the timescale set out in the bylaws.
5. Typing the actual minutes is time consuming. It's probably a full day's work. Please see the ground rules for current wording for minutes approval committee. When the first draft is complete, it is useful to fax a copy of the minutes to the chair, or another officer who was present at the Assembly for any comments. It's also useful to have a local member proof read the minutes for spelling or grammar mistakes. The minutes will include all reports, and revised copies of the R9 Bylaws and P&P Manuals, if possible.
6. Once the minutes are printed and bound in a simple binder, one copy can be taken to the post office where it is weighed and the postage costs for the different parts of the world assessed. Then one can buy the stamps and do the mailing from home, if that is suitable. The minutes are expensive to produce, so it is always helpful to keep a balance of monies in a satellite account if the Secretary is not in local contact with the Treasurer.

The minutes are then distributed to all registered service bodies in R9 and to those members present at the Assembly by email where possible or in post.

UPDATE OF LISTS Another duty for the Secretary is to see that an up to date list of all R9 Intergroups and National/Language /Virtual Service Boards is mailed periodically to each R9 officer. This is compiled from information which the Intergroups may send directly to the Secretary and also from the information which the World Service Office sends directly to the Secretary. The World Service Office will send a list of all Intergroups and meetings in R9 to the Secretary periodically, as well as all enquiry letters they may have received. The letters are forwarded to the Outreach chair who will send off letters welcoming new meetings. It is helpful
for the Secretary to inform the R9 Trustee or Chair of new Intergroups forming in the Region. It is useful to keep in contact with the R9 Chair on a regular basis. (1999h)

Move that reports and documents be delivered to the registered representatives prior to Assembly. (2002h)

Addresses are to be provided on the contact list attached to the assembly minutes. Any person not willing to have their address published, should advise the secretary at the Assembly, who will not publish their address. (1999a)

Move to adopt the Region 9 Minutes to a manageable size. The Region 9 Minutes will contain: Date/Time and place of Region 9 Assembly, names of Officers, number of representatives present, record of action taken on the minutes of the previous meeting, the exact wording of each motion as it was voted on, and whether it passed or failed, the maker’s name. If the vote counted, the count should be included. Any notice given at the meeting. Points of order and appeals, and Committee reports. A note that the revised version of Region 9 Bylaws and P & P can be obtained from the Region 9 web site or can be requested from the Region 9 secretary. To avoid confusing the Minutes with other Region 9 Assembly materials, they will be called Region 9 Minutes. (2005a)

UPDATING OF OTHER R9 DOCUMENTS
The Secretary will periodically check and update various R9 documents e.g. Vital Link, where necessary

WORKSHOPS
Facilitate Service, Traditions and Concepts (STC) workshops when and where possible within Region 9

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
TO ENSURE THE JOB DESCRIPTION MATCHES CURRENT UPDATED PRACTICES

IMPLEMENTATION:
TO BE PUT IN THE P & P

COST:
NONE

RATIONALE:
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P&P BY INSERTING THE FOLLOWING INTO SECTION 2 AFTER THE TRUSTEE’S JOB DESCRIPTION:

PARLIAMENTARIAN
The Parliamentarian is appointed by the R9 Chair to assist the Chair at the R9 Assembly in the smooth running of the business. The Parliamentarian has no opinion on any of the issues under debate but will help to guide the Chair and representatives present of Robert’s Rules of Order, the R9 Bylaws, Ground Rules and Traditions. The costs of travel and accommodation are to be agreed in the budget of the year prior.

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
To ensure that anyone taking on this role knows what the service entails

IMPLEMENTATION:
To be put in the P&P

COST:
Cost of one additional person to attend the business part of the assembly – travel and accommodation, approx £200 – 600 depending on location of assembly and parliamentarian.

RATIONALE:
This is a new service position created at 2011 R9 Assembly and a job description needs to be inserted into the P&P. The Chair has so many jobs to fulfil that it is useful to have a Parliamentarian to guide on correct procedure. There are Parliamentarian’s at WSBC and most other Region assemblies.
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P & P BY INSERTING THE FOLLOWING INTO SECTION 2 AFTER THE TREASURER’S JOB DESCRIPTION:

BANKER
The Region 9 Banker is not a Board position, but is a Region 9 member from Great Britain who is elected by the Region 9 Assembly if the Region 9 Treasurer is not from Great Britain for a two year term in line with the Treasurers term. The roles the Banker undertakes can be undertaken by the Region 9 Treasurer if they are living in Great Britain. The Banker’s service is overseen by the Region 9 Treasurer and works in conjunction with the Treasurer. The Banker receives all 7th Tradition Contributions, and sends out receipts in reply (usually by email). Arranges cheques to be signed and forwarded to the registered Region 9 bank account signatories. Is ideally a signatory for the Region 9 bank account. Maintains a list of all incoming and outgoing financial transactions of the bank account and sends this to the Region 9 Chair and Treasurer regularly. Carries out duties on behalf of the Treasurer. Receives, maintains and reconciles the bank statement and ensures the Region 9 Chair, Treasurer and Accountant receive a copy.

SUBMITTED BY:
B YLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
TO ENSURE THAT ANYONE TAKING ON THIS ROLE KNOWS WHAT THE SERVICE ENTAILS.

IMPLEMENTATION:
TO BE PUT IN THE P & P

COST:
NONE

RATIONALE:
This is a new service position created at 2010 R9 Assembly and a job description needs to be inserted into the P&P

Binder Page 66
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P&P SECTION 2 BY INSERTING / DELETING AS FOLLOWS
3. Committee Participation.
The representatives are encouraged to join one of the following Region 9 committees: Budget and Finance, Public Information, Bylaws, Electronic Communications, Translations, Twelfth step within. Although committee meetings take place during the Assembly, in most cases members are required to work for the committee throughout the year.

SUBMITTED BY:
Bylaws Committee

INTENT:
To ensure the P&P includes accurate names of all committees

IMPLEMENTATION:
To be put in the P&P

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P& P SECTION 2 BY INSERTING / DELETING AS FOLLOWS

5. Typing the actual minutes is time consuming. It's probably a full day's work. When the first draft is complete, it is useful to fax a copy of the minutes to the chair, or another officer who was present at the Assembly for any comments. It's also useful to have a local member proof read the minutes for spelling or grammar mistakes. Email the draft to the R9 chair and the minutes approval committee to check. Once any amendments are made and the Chair and MAC have agreed them all then the minutes can be distributed. The minutes will include all reports, and revised copies of the R9 Bylaws and P&P Manuals, if possible.

6. Once the minutes are printed and bound in a simple binder, one copy can be taken to the post office where it is weighed and the postage costs for the different parts of the world assessed. Then one can buy the stamps and do the mailing from home, if that is suitable. The minutes are expensive to produce, so it is always helpful to keep a balance of monies in a satellite account if the Secretary is not in local contact with the Treasurer. The minutes are then emailed where possible and posted if requested and a copy added to the website.

SUBMITTED BY:
Bylaws Committee

INTENT:
To ensure the P&P reflects current and updated practices

IMPLEMENTATION:
To be put in the P&P

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P&P BY ADDING IN REFERENCES TO PUBLIC INFORMATION, FINANCE AND BUDGET UNDER COMMITTEE SECTION AND RESCINDING 1997B “REGION 9 PLAN” AND MOVING THE CURRENT TEXT REGARDING BYLAWS COMMITTEE FROM SECTION II TO SECTION III

III REGION 9 COMMITTEES
COMMITTEES RELEVANT FOR REGION 9
The following committees will operate: Budget and Finance, Bylaws, Electronic Communications, Translations. (1997b) Twelfth step within (2008j), Public Information TRANSLATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR Will be the centre for information flow about translation and printing of OA material, both for matters of policy and of process. (1997b) ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS Will be the centre for information flow about electronic communications, both for matters of policy and of process. (1997b) REGION 9 PLAN (formally “Long Range Planning Committee”) The Long Range Planning Committee has completed its work and will cease to exist. Planning will form part of the work of the full Assembly. One member will be appointed to give a presentation on Region 9 planning at each Assembly. (1997b) TWELFTH STEP WITHIN The purpose of this committee is to offer support and guidance to new and existing groups and service bodies. (2008j) PUBLIC INFORMATION Will help OA groups and service bodies to spread the word about OA’s programme of recovery to professionals, media and the public through attraction not promotion in the area covered by Region 9 BUDGET AND FINANCE Will deal with all financial and budgeting matters relating to OA R9 BYLAWS Will maintain and update the R9 bylaws and the Policy and Procedure manual, will assist in wording and review all bylaw amendments and new business motions that are to be presented to the assembly.

SUPPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Move that a “Buddy” system be brought into place for committee chairs to support each other in the work they have undertaken for the year. (2002b)

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
TO ENSURE THAT THE P&P REFLECTS ALL COMMITTEES CURRENTLY FORMED AT R9

IMPLEMENTATION:
TO BE PUT IN THE P & P

COST:
NONE
RATIONALE:
As per intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P& P BY RENAMING “TRANSLATIONS COMMITTEE” AS “LITERATURE AND TRANSLATION COMMITTEE” IN CONTENTS TABLE AND IN SECTIONS II, III AND IV

SUBMITTED BY:
Translations Committee Chair

INTENT:
To clarify the true definition of this committee by changing the name of the committee

IMPLEMENTATION:
To be put in the P&P

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As intent

Note to bylaws committee if this is adopted. The listings to be reviewed in P&P:

- Contents table
- Section II Board Positions and Duties – Committees 3. Committee Participants
- Section III Region 9 Committees – list and paragraph
- Section IV Translations
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P&P BY ADDING IN AS INDICATED IN SECTION IV

IV REGION 9 TRANSLATIONS
ASSEMBLY ASSISTANCE WITH TRANSLATIONS
The R9 Assembly will assist the Service Boards within Region 9 by doing the helping with any necessary legal work for getting translated literature approved by the WSO. At the assembly; the translations committee and/or Region 9 trustee will assist with filling in and explaining the licensing agreement forms to get translated literature approved. (2008k)
Each year at the Assembly we will set aside time in the agenda for issues regarding translating literature. This may include a workshop and/or assisting with questions regarding translating literature, understanding the different licensing agreement forms, filling in licensing agreement forms, copyright-issues and other issues related to translating literature. (2008n)
We encourage each non English speaking country to translate at least one piece of literature each year.
“TRANSLATION GUIDELINES
The Translation guidelines submitted by the R9 Translations committee in 1999 and updated in 2002 and approved in 2005 have now been rescinded and R9 will now refer to the document “OA TRANSLATION GUIDELINES FOR OA LITERATURE” which is available on the www.oa.org website for the worldwide fellowship of OA.”

SUBMITTED BY:
Region 9 Trustee

INTENT:
To ensure the P&P reflects current practices

IMPLEMENTATION:
To be put in the P&P

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P& P BY AMENDING SECTION V 2004F (AMENDED 2008B) BY STRIKING AND INSERTING

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR TRANSLATION/PRINTING
Move to provide funding for the professional translation and/or printing of Literature
After adopting a budget for Translation at that Region Nine Assembly, application forms will be sent out with the minutes of the Assembly. The treasurer will then send a reminder (via the Secretary) to all service bodies by email by 31st of January, 1st December and 1st May. These applications must be sent to the treasurer by 31st of March, 1st February and 1st July of the following year. The board is authorised to make a decision on the allocation of the translation and printing of literature budget by 30th April, 1st March and 1st August.

SUBMITTED BY:
Region 9 Treasurer

INTENT:
To give the service bodies within Region 9 two deadlines per year to apply for financial assistance for translation. Furthermore, to adjust the Region 9 deadlines close to WSO's deadlines and to encourage service bodies within our region to apply to Region 9.

IMPLEMENTATION:
To be put in the P&P

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P & P BY INSERTING THE FOLLOWING INTO SECTION V FINANCE & BUDGET

SIGNATORIES ON BANK ACCOUNT
As the R9 bank account is held in Great Britain, there needs to be 3 signatories of OA members residing in Great Britain who are able to sign cheques. Any two of those can sign a cheque. If there are not sufficient Region 9 Board members residing in Great Britain to cover all three signatories, then the Banker may also be a signatory and up to 2 (two) additional OA members chosen by the Region 9 Assembly or if this is not possible appointed by the Region 9 board to carry out this service. Those signatories should be chosen carefully for longevity and service in OA, 12 month’s minimum abstinence, no bankruptcy history and a prompt response to requests for cheques to be signed. The decision over what cheques are to be signed still resides with the Treasurer. If it is possible under the bank’s rules for the Region 9 board members who reside outside of Great Britain to be signatories then they may still be signatories but due to the length of time it would take to post cheques abroad it is still advisable to have sufficient signatories in Great Britain.

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
TO CLARIFY THE TERMS OF THE BANK ACCOUNT CURRENTLY HELD

IMPLEMENTATION:
TO BE PUT IN THE P & P

COST:
NONE

RATIONALE:
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P & P BY INSERTING / DELETING THE FOLLOWING INTO SECTION V FINANCE & BUDGET

V FINANCE AND BUDGET
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DELEGATES TO REGION 9 ASSEMBLY
Financial assistance be granted to delegates travelling to Region 9 Assemblies. Draft claim form approved. (1985b)
That the mailings to all member groups and Intergroups as in article 5(ii) of the Bylaws, shall include applications for assistance. This application form will also be posted on the R9 website. Completed application forms will be submitted to the R9 Treasurer at least four 3 months prior to the date of the Assembly. (2011d)
It is requested required that the service bodies requesting such funds attach to the application form for assistance – the latest financial summary of the service body and that they give details of any funding for attendance at Region 9 Assembly from elsewhere. The Region 9 Board are authorized to consider (by email) those applications (2008e)
The Assembly resolves that priority for financial assistance for Regional representatives travelling to the R9 Assembly will be given to those IGs and NSBs that cannot afford to fund a delegate on their own, to those with the greatest distance to travel and to those attending their first Assembly. (1996h) (2011c)
The Board is authorized to make a decision on transferring up to EUR 2400.00 (GBP 1700.00) from Service to Delegate Assistance, 3 months before the next Assembly, whenever that takes place. (2007a)
Payment of this assistance will be at the Assembly itself. (2011c)
AD-HOC PAYMENTS FOR MISCELLANEOUS BY COMMITTEE CHAIRS
That Committee Chairpersons can spend up to EUR 110.00 (GBP 73.33) for Region 9 without written (includes email) prior permission from Assembly, Region 9 Chairperson or Secretary Board. (2006g)
ON-LINE BANKING
An online policy with bank established with online access available to Region 9 signatories, Banker, Chair and Treasurer.

SUBMITTED BY:
BY LAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
To clarify the financial arrangements of Region 9 with current practices

N.B. the highlighted section – in the current P&P it is written as “4” as I am unable to strikethrough a single number so I have written it as the word “four” so you can see the amendment.

IMPLEMENTATION:
TO BE PUT IN THE P & P

COST:
NONE

RATIONALE:
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P& P BY INSERTING THE FOLLOWING INTO SECTION V  FINANCE & BUDGET

ELECTION OF BANKER
Should anyone standing for the position of Banker not be present at the assembly at which their nomination is taking place, it is preferable (if it can be arranged) if the nominee makes themselves available for a live communication (e.g. by Skype) with the Assembly at the time of the election. The R9 board will give instructions to all nominees for this position about the method and timing of this communication. If it is possible, then the Assembly delegates should be able to ask questions of (and hopefully “see”) the nominees to assist them in making their decisions as to who to elect to this vital position. The election process will continue as normal if this method is not possible.

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
TO CLARIFY A POSSIBLE WAY TO ASSIST THE METHOD OF ELECTION (AS ALREADY LAID DOWN IN THE BYLAWS ARTICLE V SECTION 3) SHOULD ANYONE STANDING FOR THIS POSITION NOT BE PRESENT AT THE ASSEMBLY AT WHICH THEIR NOMINATION TAKES PLACE

IMPLEMENTATION:
TO BE PUT IN THE P & P

COST:
NONE

RATIONALE:
As intent
**REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012**  
**NEW BUSINESS MOTION**

**MOTION:**  
Move to amend the P&P by rescinding out of date items as follows in SECTION VI  
WEBSITE

**VI WEBSITE**  
**AUTOMATION OF WORLD SERVICE ONLINE MEETING**  
Motion adopted that Region 9:  
a) investigates options and cost benefits for the automation of the world service online meeting;  
b) contact other Region chairs to get their views on the value of the automation with a view to putting forward a proposal to the world service office at the next world service business conference. (2001e)

**WSO ONLINE MEETING DIRECTORY**  
We move to ask World Service, to investigate the options and costs to improve the search capabilities of the world service online meeting directory. The search results should be narrowed down by allowing search by “closest city” and zip code, and the results should be displayed in a single page making it quicker to find the appropriate meeting. The meeting form would have to be changed to include “closest city.” (2002d)

**SUBMITTED BY:**  
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

**INTENT:**  
The OA WSO maintains the current meeting list and this information is shown via our Region 9 website, this motion rescinds out of date policies

**IMPLEMENTATION:**  
To be put in the P&P

**COST:**  
None

**RATIONALE:**  
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P&P BY INCLUDING AS FOLLOWS IN SECTION VIII PUBLIC INFORMATION

VIII PUBLIC INFORMATION
REGION 9 WEEK
Move to adopt a Region 9 week to think of our members and the still suffering compulsive overeater. Also in view of our geography, countries, states and language barriers within our Region to think about OAs who may be living in troubled or poor areas. (2006c)
The first week of September is designated as Region 9 week. (2008c)
The Assembly will make a detailed plan for PI work in order to increase awareness of OA in countries that do not have any OA meetings at all or have only very few meetings. The nature and content of this PI will be decided by the Assembly or the Translation, Twelfth Step Within and PI committees. (2008i)

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
The TSW committee have been passing on information about Region 9 week for several years so this clarifies something that already happens

IMPLEMENTATION:
To be put in the P&P

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P&P BY RESCINDING OUT OF DATE ITEMS AS FollowS IN SECTION XI
MISCELLANEOUS

FOOD PLANS
Move that in the event that WSBC does not adopt the pamphlet Dignity of Choice, the WSBC
Policy 2000a directing the Board of Trustees to develop this pamphlet, will be rescinded. The
Board of Trustees shall evaluate the events that took place at WSBC between 2000-2003. The
BOT will collect further information from Regions, National/Language Service Boards and
Intergroups and will submit their conclusions and/or proposals for bringing about unity on the
issue of food plans to WSBC 2004. (2002L)

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
The pamphlet Dignity of Choice was passed at WSBC and has been in production for a number of
years now.

IMPLEMENTATION:
To be put in the P&P

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P& P BY RESCINDING OUT OF DATE ITEM AS FOLLOWS IN SECTION XI
MISCELLANEOUS

ANOREXIA / BULIMIA
Region 9 to propose new business policy motion for WSBC 1998 to rescind WSBC policy 1982a
that states “Overeaters Anonymous does not have any literature for specific eating disorders other
than compulsive overeating. We welcome in love and fellowship all who have the desire to stop
eating compulsively” (1997f)
Anorexic/Bulimic issue After a long and moving discussion the following position statement was
adopted:
We believe our literature is not yet inclusive; it is especially important that the first contact with a
newcomer (of all types) be inclusive.
The term “compulsive eater” is more inclusive than “compulsive overeater.”
Some members feel that the term “abstinence” is the biggest obstacle to an inclusive approach.
The majority feel that what we have in common is our thinking.
Some feel that the real differences exist but that it is possible to find common ground within the
existing literature. (1997h)

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
The following is a quote from the updated Suggested Meeting Format “As we extend the heart
and hand of the OA Fellowship to those who still suffer, let us be mindful of OA’s Unity With
Diversity Policy, which respects our differences, yet unites us in the solution to our common
problem. Whatever problem you may have with food, you are welcome at this meeting.” The
policies listed in the R9 P&P are now out of date with current experience in meetings where
anyone with a problem with food is welcomed at meetings.

IMPLEMENTATION:
To be put in the P&P

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P & P SECTION 2 BY INSERTING / DELETING (1999H) AS follows

CHAIRPERSON:
The Chairperson is elected by the Region 9 Assembly for a period of two years and fills a variety of duties:
- Chairs the R9 business assemblies, including preparation of the Agenda
- Communicates with the different R9 officers and committees during the year
- Attends functions within the Region, where budget allows
- Represents R9 at the World Service level, including at the WSBC
- Represents R9 in the Board of Trustees Intergroup and Region committee (IGAR)
- Works with the R9 Trustee on some of the issues directly concerning the Region
- Chairs the R9 Board
- Is responsible for ensuring that the Assembly invitation and associated necessary documents are sent to all registered service bodies and officers of Region 9. This include but are not limited to:
  - An Officer Nomination form is sent to each Intergroup and Delegate in an election year
  - Is responsible for sending a Bid form for hosting a R9 Assembly to Intergroups and Delegates on election year (1999h)
  - Facilitate Service, Traditions and Concepts (STC) workshops when and where possible within Region 9

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
TO ENSURE THE JOB DESCRIPTION MATCHES CURRENT UPDATED PRACTICES

IMPLEMENTATION:
TO BE PUT IN THE P & P

COST:
NONE

RATIONALE:
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P & P SECTION 2 BY INSERTING AS FOLLOWS

TREASURER:
The Treasurer is elected by the Region 9 Assembly for a period of two years and fills a variety of duties:
- Chairs R9's Budget and Finance committee
- Prepares an annual budget for approval of the assembly
- Maintains records of all Income and expenses incurred by the different activities in the Region
- Provide an annual report of all contributions received, as well as income and expenses
- Maintains the R9 bank account and records of monies kept by different functions in other countries (satellite banking)
- Serves on the R9 Board (1999h)
- Liaises with the Accountant, signatories and the Banker as necessary
- Facilitate Service, Traditions and Concepts (STC) workshops when and where possible within Region 9

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
TO ENSURE THE JOB DESCRIPTION MATCHES CURRENT UPDATED PRACTICES

IMPLEMENTATION:
TO BE PUT IN THE P & P

COST:
NONE

RATIONALE:
As intent
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:
MOVE TO AMEND THE P&P BY ADDING IN TO SECTION I ASSEMBLY AFTER PARAGRAPH AS INDICATED BELOW:

REGISTER OF SERVICE BODIES AND ATTENDANCE TO BE INCLUDED IN ASSEMBLY MATERIALS
The Assembly Materials of Region 9 are to include a register of Region 9 countries with details of Intergroups in each country and the current number of groups, also including details of when the Service Body was represented at Region Assembly. (2010b)

REGION 9 TRANSLATIONS LIST TO BE INCLUDED IN ASSEMBLY MATERIALS.
The Assembly Materials of Region 9 are to include a Translations List of Region 9 with details of OA Literature and which languages they have been published in or are being worked on in order for them to be published.

ASSEMBLY PROCEDURES AND SUGGESTIONS
To adopt into the Region 9 P & P Manual the document circulated at 2010 Region 9 Assembly (since amended and updated) entitled “Overeaters Anonymous Region 9 – Assembly Procedures and Suggestions” (2011a).(see Appendix B)

SUBMITTED BY:
BYLAWS COMMITTEE

INTENT:
To ensure that Region 9 members are aware of the number of translations already completed and those in progress as an aid to other members starting out with translations and to avoid duplications

IMPLEMENTATION:
TO BE PUT IN THE P & P

COST:
None

RATIONALE:
As per intent
Dear Fellowship,

My name is Isabella and I am your current treasurer for Region 9. The past two years in this service position have been truly wonderful and interesting. I've learned a lot and am still learning. We had a rotation of board members and I have great support from our new chair, secretary and from our trustee. We work well together and their dedication is inspiring to me. I would like to offer my service for another period (two years).

I came to OA in December 2000 and, by the grace of my HP and with the help of my OA friends, I have been abstinent since November 2002; one day at the time. I understood early that service would help me to keep coming back (let's say my HP pushed me in that direction; I'm not sure that I understood a great deal of anything back then, it just appeared to be a very sane thing to go to meetings and do as I was told). After 6 month I became the secretary of my Intergroup and since then I have been doing service above group level: IG chair, NSB secretary, NSB chair, WSBC delegate, Region 9 delegate, Region 9 treasurer. I have a sponsor and two sponsees.

Since I do not bring any finance-knowledge from my professional life (other than the knowledge needed for my everyday private financial matters) I have had the willingness, the patience, and a strong ambition to grow into the position of region treasurer. I hold two master’s degrees (acting and English literature) and am about to get my teacher’s degree. I work thoroughly, am good with numbers, and ask a lot of questions.

Love in Service
Isabella V
**Personal Statement/OA Biography:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Joanna C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td>On request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e-mail</td>
<td>On request</td>
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<tr>
<td>phone</td>
<td>On request</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Brief account of my OA recovery:**
I have been in OA and abstinent since February 2nd 1997. I have been blessed with a 3 stone weight loss and have been maintaining my current healthy weight since about July 1997. I have completed my 12 steps a number of times with both an AA and an OA sponsor. I now work the steps daily. I have immense freedom from the bondage to food and have been able with my HP and my programme friends for support and guidance to create a wonderful, full and varied life for myself, when I had spent ages trying to kill myself through my addiction to food. It’s such a contrast that I feel eternally grateful for the opportunity to be alive and to be abstinent and to serve.

**Summary of OA service responsibilities:**
Started an OA meeting in 1997 which has been running since, done all group positions many times and am currently treasurer.
Spoken at many meetings, conventions and organised workshops and run a weekend retreat.
Founder member of first ever weekend OA convention now in it’s 12th year
Helped organised hosting 2 R9 assemblies in UK
R9 and WSBC rep and Treasurer of Intergroup (attended R9 I think 6 times, and WSBC 3 or 4 times)
Secretary and then Chair of National Service Board of OA Great Britain
Been on 12th Step Within WSBC committee and helped revise 12th Step Within Handbook amongst other things
Also Conference Approved Literature committee for several years and assisted with a number of pamphlet re-writes and creation of Voices of Recovery e-book
Bylaws committee for IG and committee chair for Region 9
Acted as parliamentarian for R9 and centre microphone and parliamentarian for OAGB National Assembly
Signatory on bank accounts for Hereford meeting, IG convention and AA group
Lots of sponsees who I help to take through the steps

**I can bring the following business, professional or other experience and skill to the board:**
I run three businesses of my own, all of which handle money. I am honest, have good financial skills and value the good practise of banking promptly and dealing with money efficiently. I am easily accessibly by email.

**Time in OA**
15 years

**Date Continuous abstinence began**
2nd Feb 1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature of Candidate</th>
<th>Date Signed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joanna C</td>
<td>23/07/2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Region 9 Service Positions Available...

This year, the 2 year term of some of our service positions are coming to an end. This means that it becomes possible for anyone, who meets the qualifications, to apply for one of these positions. The service positions are: Treasurer, Banker, and Bylaws Committee Chair. Please send applications to R9 Chair & R9 Secretary. Also, please take notice of the qualifications in attending Region 9 Assembly as Representative of your ig/country.

Keep in mind – 2 years ago we voted at Region 9 Assembly the possibility of dividing the job of Treasurer into 2 positions - Banker & Treasurer. We will be voting on motions/amendments at the 2012 R9 Assembly to clarify the responsibilities of these 2 service positions. For those of you who are interested in applying for either of these positions, the Banker handles the money coming in and out of Region 9 and has contact with our bank and our accountant (therefore, it was decided that the Banker needs to be living in England). The Treasurer is part of the R9 Board, takes part in all R9 Assembly responsibilities regarding finances, and communicates with R9 members and WSO with letters and emails about funds and tradition 7 (Treasurer can live anywhere within R9). Banker and Treasurer are elected at R9 Assembly, 2 year term, option of being reelected for a 2nd term. If anyone (from England) is interested in applying for the position of Banker/Treasurer (1 position), this is also possible.

Below, you will find the duties needed for Treasurer (some apply to Banker, and some to Treasurer), the duties for Bylaws Committee Chair, and as a Representative at Region 9 Assembly:

II BOARD POSITIONS, AND DUTIES (REGION 9 POLICIES & PROCEDURES) 
The Treasurer is elected by the Region 9 Assembly for a period of two years and fills a variety of duties:
- Chairs R9’s Budget and Finance committee (Treasurer)
- Prepares an annual budget for approval of the assembly (Treasurer)
- Maintains records of all Income and expenses incurred by the different activities in the Region (Banker)
- Provides an annual report of all contributions received, as well as income and expenses (Banker)
- Maintains the R9 bank account and records of monies kept by different functions in other countries (satellite banking) (Banker)
- Serves on the R9 Board (1999h) (Treasurer)
Where possible, at least 1 year of current abstinence and at least 2 years of service beyond group level (REGION 9 BYLAWS)

ARTICLE IX- COMMITTEES (REGION 9 BYLAWS)
The Chairperson of the Bylaws Committee is elected at the R9 Assembly and serves for a period of two years with the option of being re-elected for a further two years. The duties would include:
- Chairing committee meetings and reporting back to the R9 Assembly and Board when appropriate
- Ensuring that the Secretary gets written Bylaw reports at the beginning and end of Assembly
- After the revised Bylaws and P & P Manual have been checked furnishing the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Web Committee Chair with an electronic of the up-dated Bylaws and Policy & Procedure Manual in time to have these available on the web site at the same time as the minutes of the Assembly (in accordance with Region 9 Bylaws Art VII S2 Duties 2 - within 45 days of the Assembly). (2008h)
- Sending a printed copy of all proposed Bylaw Amendments to the Chair of the Board to be included in the mailing with the Agenda for Assembly
- Gathering an active committee to work throughout the year, reviewing the Bylaws and preparing new or revised motions where necessary. These members may be from anywhere within R9 but it is vitally important to encourage people from the Chair’s local Intergroup who will be at hand to do the practical work...
- To update the P&P Manual annually. While updating the manual make any spelling, punctuation or grammatical corrections as necessary so that the intent of the policy is unchanged. To ensure that the layout of the document is consistent and clear. (2008g)

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP OF REGION 9 ASSEMBLY (REGION 9 BYLAWS)
a Each representative shall be elected by the Intergroup, National/Language Service Board or unaffiliated groups they serve.
b The term of Region 9 representative shall be designated by their Intergroup, National/Language Service Boards or unaffiliated Groups and each representative is always subject to recall by those who selected them.
c Each representative should have a minimum of six (6) consecutive months of current abstinence.

Hosting 2014 Region 9 Assembly & Convention

This year at the 2012 R9 A&C, we will vote on where the 2014 R9 A&C will take place. Those ig/countries interested, please bring information to the 2012 Assembly (location, possible dates,...). Look in the R9 website at the end of Policies & Procedures and you will find information in hosting the assembly. It is suggested to email the Region 9 Chair before the 2012 Assembly with your intentions in hosting the 2014 R9 Assembly.
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY 2012
EMERGENCY NEW BUSINESS MOTION

MOTION:

SUBMITTED BY:

INTENT:

IMPLEMENTATION:

COST:

RATIONALE:

Why this is urgent:
INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Manual is to provide National and Language Service Boards in Region Nine with information about how these Service Boards are formed and operate.

National/Language Service Boards (N/LSBs) were officially recognized in the OA service structure in 1995. However, such Service Boards were already operating in several countries by this time. In each place this happened, the local OA organization established their N/LSB based on their needs and experience. This Manual does not prescribe one fixed model for the structure and operation of these Service Boards. For the purpose of keeping it simple these guidelines will not attempt to describe every single possible structure but will rather try to provide basic ideas that can be easily applied and adjusted.

THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF N/LSBs

The primary purpose of National and Language Service Boards is to provide common services for Intergroups and groups within a country or language group.

The official definition in Overeaters Anonymous, Inc.'s Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII, Section 1, states:

"A national/language service board shall be a duly registered service body with the purpose of dealing with issues that require a combination of membership and financial resources of intergroups and groups in a country/countries. The national/language service board shall serve and be responsible to these groups and intergroups. These service boards may also be known as language service boards."

ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL/LANGUAGE SERVICE BOARD

Generally N/LSBs were established as a practical need in a specific country or language area.

Sometimes several Intergroups in a country or language region would exist and the members in the country/language area recognized the need to create a Service Board that would take care of the many common administrative needs of the Intergroups.

In other places there would be one Intergroup in the country/language area, probably with a large membership and serving a large area. The
members recognized that the Intergroup could not take care of all the needs of all the groups spread out over the area, and that it would be wise to maintain a central body to deal with the administrative needs and to create “local” Intergroups to deal with their local group needs. In this case the previous Intergroup would become the N/LSB and new affiliated Intergroups would be established.

In places where OA was smaller and possibly did not require more than one Service Board, yet the members felt that their purpose was to serve the entire country, they decided to define themselves as a NSB.

**Why form a National/Language Service Board?**

*Growth and expansion*

Intergroups focusing on spreading the OA message in the area, backed up by a National Service Board that provides essential services to the Intergroups, create a healthy springboard for growth and effectiveness. Sometimes the area and size that a single Intergroup has to cover prevents maximum effectiveness. In one country the IG comprised of about 100 groups and about 50 representatives were coming to IG meetings one evening a month. It was almost impossible to cover more than the basic “business” needs of the meeting and no time was left for hearing about what was happening at the group level and how the IG could support the groups. By creating a N/LSB, the Intergroup can focus on group support and spreading the message in their local area and the N/LSB can focus on providing the resources for all the Intergroups and spread the message on a larger scale.

*"Together we can do what we cannot do alone”*

When common needs among several Intergroups (beyond geographical borders) create a need for combining resources and joining forces (e. g. language).

*International ties*

When the different Intergroups within a country or within a specific language group cannot send representatives to OA international business meetings, usually for lack of funding, they could do so through the National Service Board Delegate or Representative who can then represent the entire area, and bring back the message of both the business conducted at the meetings, and the spirit of unity in the fellowship, back to the area.

*Non-English speaking countries*

Non-English speaking countries have special needs that require extra resources. In these countries, usually only a minority of the members speaks English well and the responsibility of spreading the message by translating OA literature, guidelines, and information received from World Service and Region Nine is great.
In such countries, where there are more than one Intergroup, it is important to have a centralized body for this function.

In addition the costs and resources required for translating and producing OA literature in different languages is great, so it’s recommended to combine these resources through the N/LSB.

**How do you decide whether to change the OA Service Structure in your area?**

1. The first action to take is to establish a “service structure” committee. The purpose of this committee will be for people to get together and to form ideas as to how they believe the fellowship can grow and expand in that country.

2. Discuss the service structure at Intergroup meetings and/or at special meetings held for this purpose. Allow for everyone to participate and to voice their opinions. Don't be put off if there is resistance or people are indifferent and have no opinions. Many of us react negatively towards change and need time to absorb the ideas.

3. Prepare different models for the new structure and how it can possibly develop. At this stage it is important to study both the possible benefits and possible disadvantages that may arise out of the change. Contact people in other countries to hear about their structure, and what works for them. Attached is a suggested guideline (Appendix 2) for some of the questions and issues to be explored during this process.

4. Set up a meeting in which a formal motion to establish a new structure will be presented, formally discussed and VOTE! The motion should already include a presentation of the basic structure of the proposed L/NSB and affiliated Intergroups, the relationship between the Service Boards and basic operations and functions of the L/NSB.

5. If the vote is positive, CONGRATULATIONS. The next step is to register the new Service Board on WSO's form designated for that purpose. You will have to list the Intergroups and groups that are affiliated to the new L/NSB so that WSO will be able to adjust all the records accordingly.

6. The new Service Board will also be required to submit bylaws to the WSO.

**NATIONAL/LANGUAGE SERVICE BOARD ASSEMBLY**

The National/Language Service Board Assembly is a meeting of the membership of the entire service structure in the country/language area.

**Assembly frequency**
It is recommended to hold an assembly at least once a year, twice a year, if possible.

Assembly location
Ideally the assembly would be held in a central location, with the same travel time for people coming from different directions out of town. Some countries prefer to rotate the assembly location throughout the country. Ultimately this is a group conscience decision.

Assembly Membership
The membership of the assembly consists of:

- Group representatives
- Intergroup Board Officers and Committee Chairs
- N/LSB members

Election of the members of the N/LSB
The members of the N/LSB are elected at the annual Assembly by all voting members attending the assembly. These are group representatives, Intergroup and N/LSB representatives. The term is usually two years, but this is decided upon by each country separately.

Bylaws
The bylaws of the N/LSB are adopted by the National Assembly, preferably at the first assembly held after the N/LSB is established. If possible, at least a Statement of Purpose should be drawn up and adopted at the very same meeting the Assembly is established. This document will enable the N/LSB to register with the World Service Office (WSO). Guidelines for registering with WSO are attached in Appendix 3.

Policies & Procedures
There are two types of policies and procedures:
- Those adopted by the National Assembly, which will become the policies of the National Assembly, and
- Those adopted internally by the N/LSB, which will govern the way the N/LSB operates and functions.

NATIONAL/LANGUAGE SERVICE BOARD FUNCTIONS

One of the most important issues is defining the responsibilities of the N/LSB and the affiliated Intergroups. We have already established that the role the N/LSB is to provide common services for Intergroups and groups.

The functions of the N/LSB may include:

* National meeting list
*National newsletter
*Translation of OA literature into the local language
*Printing of OA literature
*National Public Information work
  * National PI work with Hospitals, Institutions, Professionals and the Military “HIPM” work
*National OA Events (marathons, IDEA Day, Unity Day events)
*Translation of information coming from World Service and Region Nine
*Representation at WSBC and Region Nine Assembly.

NATIONAL/LANGUAGE SERVICE BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the N/LSB will usually comprise of Officers and Committee Chairpersons:

Officers
- Chairperson
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Committee Chairpersons
- Bylaws/Policies
- Literature
- Public Information
- Professional Communities
- Events
- 12th Step Within
- Newsletter
- Region Nine Representative/s
- WSBC Delegate/s

As there is as a certain amount of discussion of similar issues, input and flow between Region Nine and WSBC, it is recommended that the delegates be the same people, if this is possible. In one country these delegates form the "International" Committee where, in addition to being representatives to Region Nine and WSBC, they deal with all the issues requiring liaison with Region Nine, WSBC and WSO. This could be particularly helpful in non-English speaking countries. It is recommended that more than one person serve on this committee, even if only one delegate attends Region Nine and WSBC business meetings.

Intergroup Chairpersons
The Intergroup Chairperson is elected by the members of the Intergroup and serves the Intergroup. It is suggested that a good way to ensure good communications with the Intergroups is for the Intergroup Chair to be part of the N/LSB by attending meetings as voting members (NOTE:
Having Intergroup Chairpersons part of the N/LSB is not mandatory and may not be common. However those boards doing this have found this the best method to keep close ties and communications open between the N/LSB and Intergroups).

**Elections**
The members of the N/LSB are elected at the National Assembly. Usually it takes a majority vote to be elected to the N/LSB.

It is possible to consider setting a quota of members from each Intergroup thus maintaining equal possible representation on the Board from each area. It is also possible to call for elections from anyone who qualifies.

There are three general methods of elections:

1) Hold elections for general membership to the N/LSB only. The allocation of the different positions is decided upon by the Board at its first meeting.

2) Hold elections for specific positions (Intergroups usually do this) – Chair, Treasurer, Delegate, Bylaws Chair, Literature Chair, etc.

3) Combine the two systems – have some positions elected directly and others generally.

The advantage of electing general members at the Assembly is that it gives the board flexibility in filling positions (especially Committee positions), allowing for changes and creating new positions as needed. If members are elected directly to a position then only the Assembly can approve the changes made and this might affect the Board’s ability to serve the fellowship best.

Sometimes it may still be important to have some positions voted upon by the full Assembly and responsible to the full Assembly, such as Chair, Treasurer and “international” delegates.

It is entirely up to each country/area to decide what would work best for you, but it is worth considering each method.

**Qualifications**
Qualifications to serve on the N/LSB are defined in the bylaws of the Service Board. Each Service Board is autonomous to set its own qualifications, but here are some ideas.
Consider the following criteria in general: time in fellowship, service in fellowship, particularly previous Intergroup service (in cases where there will be both an IG and N/LSB), and length of abstinence.

Some positions may require longer time in the Fellowship, such as Chair, Treasurer, Representatives to Region Nine/WSBC (one country requires 5 years for these positions and 3 for other positions). Naturally, the qualifications should not be so high that no one or very few people can qualify! Service boards should note the current WSBC and Region Nine delegate requirements and incorporate these into your own requirements. In non-English speaking countries it would also be wise to ensure that the delegates have a good speaking, reading and writing knowledge of English.

**NATIONAL/LANGUAGE SERVICE BOARD MEETINGS**

Ideally the N/LSB would meet once a month. In larger geographic areas this may not be possible, so the final decision would be decided upon by the N/LSB. It would seem important to meet at least once in every three months.

One suggestion is to hold a telephone-conference call at least once a month if there is no meeting. If an agenda and motions are distributed in advance, it is found that this is a useful way of holding a meeting. Most countries now have facilities for holding conference calls at fairly inexpensive rates, certainly much cheaper than travel for larger areas. This is a good method getting important business done in between meetings.

E-mail is also an excellent way of transmitting information quickly.

The Internet has many tools for holding “meetings” online and this tool can be used for conducting OA business between meetings.

**N/LSB RELATIONSHIP WITH INTERGROUPS**

**Finances**

The financial ties between the Intergroups and the N/LSB are critical. The traditions teach us that each OA service group is autonomous (Tradition 4) and that each OA group should be “self supporting” (Tradition 7). How do we ensure, within the framework of our traditions, that the N/LSB is supported well enough? If we look at the responsibilities of the N/LSB we will see that most of the really big expenses will be the responsibility of the N/LSB – running an office, translating and producing literature, sending representatives to international meetings, funding meetings of the National-/Language Service Board and Assembly, etc.
In many places, traditionally groups contribute to Intergroup and Intergroups would contribute to the N/LSB. There is nothing to prevent groups to contribute directly to the N/LSB as well. The N/LSB is dependent on the contributions from the Intergroups and groups to function and to serve the local fellowship. This means that the two Service Boards depend on one another. The N/LSB depends on the Intergroups to raise the necessary funds to cover the large expenses they have. The Intergroups depend on the N/LSB to provide the necessary services to them. There must be close ties and a true a sense of common purpose between all the service bodies in the country/language area in order for this structure to be successful.

In one country, as the NSB was legally incorporated it turned out that only one bank account was allowed for the entire "organization". Therefore in this country all funds go directly to the N/LSB, which then covers all the expenses of all the Service Boards. While to some this may seem to be a breach of “group” autonomy it does work well and is legally required. Each Intergroup then receives adequate funds for its own operating expenses, which are usually quite small. The amount is approved at the national assembly within the budget approval process.

**Division of work**
It is very important that the Intergroups and N/LSBs in a country agree upon the division of work between the service bodies as it would be easy to overlap and create misunderstandings. There are some areas in which both services bodies would be active, for example Public Information. The NSB would concentrate on nationwide coverage and events, while the Intergroups would concentrate on local coverage. Another example is OA sponsored events. The Intergroups and N/LSB can find themselves clashing with dates of events so it would seem that some kind of common planning in advance would help. In some areas, maybe the Intergroups would like guidance and assistance from the L/NSB so cross-Service Board meetings could be held to join resources and exchange ideas.

**Office**
When OA in a country becomes large enough to run an office and hire employees the responsibility for this would reside with the N/LSB. At this point it would seem mandatory for the N/LSB to be legally incorporated in that country in order to be able to legally hire space, employ office workers, and purchase insurance. There is a point where it is no longer feasible to do this informally.

It is not mandatory that there be BOTH a physical office and staff but it does seem to go together. People can be paid to do certain jobs out of their homes but if the decision is taken to have an office then it would seem to require some on hand staff. An office with financial and legal
obligations, operated completely by volunteers doing service could be a very risky undertaking. We give service out of the time we have and cannot always be on the spot to do all the work all the time.

When our homes, spare rooms and cars become packed with OA literature and materials and when the amount of service administration becomes unmanageable, you will know that the time has come to consider hiring office space and employing staff. Read both AA and OA Traditions (Tradition 8) where there is some discussion on hiring staff. The Traditions allow the staff to be either OA members or not. Experience has shown that there is an advantage to having an OA member answer phones from the public. This is an issue for each Service Board to decide for itself.

In one country the office space includes a fairly large meeting area (seating up to about 50 people). About 10-12 meetings a week operate there, various workshops are held there, the NSB and one of the Intergroup business meetings are held there, the National Assemblies are held there, there is space for both an office and storage. This is almost an ideal situation as the meetings pay for use of the room and this goes a long way to help cover the rent costs. Quite a bit of money is also saved by holding the business meetings there too.

NATIONAL/LANGUAGE SERVICE BOARD “INTERNATIONAL LIASON RESPONSIBILITIES”

**Representation at Region Nine and at World Service Business Conference (WSBC)**

Some countries are lucky enough to be able to send representation from Intergroups and the L/NSB to the Region Nine Assembly and to the WSBC and this is welcome. The bylaws take this into account and ensure that there is no formal duplication of representation. In many places, however, this is not possible and only the L/NSB sends a representative to represent all the Service Boards of that country. In this case, it is recommended that the representative does his/her best to report back to the Intergroups as well as the L/NSB. Reporting back to as many people as possible is an important task as that one person may be the only contact many people may have with OA outside of their area/country.

**International Publications**

All OA publications are supervised by the Board of Trustees (BOT) and the World Service Office (WSO). OA service bodies throughout the world are permitted to translate OA literature into different languages and to reproduce the literature **provided that they follow the**
Guidelines formulated by the BOT and the WSO. These guidelines may change from time to time and are available from the WSO at any time.

Reproduction of OA Conference Approved Literature.

Sometimes OA service bodies around the world find that the shipping costs of OA material and literature from the USA and taxes, result in very high literature costs and that it would be more economical to reproduce the literature locally (in English) for sale to the local fellowship and surrounding countries. Permission to do this needs to be given by the WSO and guidelines are available for following this process.

Translations and publications of OA conference approved literature in different languages.

As most countries around the world do not speak English as their native tongue and there are many countries where most people speak very little or no English or their reading skills are not good enough to fully understand and benefit from the English literature, it is necessary to produce OA literature in local languages. WSO gives permission to different countries to translate and reproduce OA literature. This is a very long and costly process but nonetheless once completed, is usually of great benefit to the local fellowship.

OA Copyrights

OA is a spiritual fellowship. We might not like to concern ourselves with finances and legalities because we feel these are not in harmony with the spiritual side of our program. We have come to realize that this is not so. Taking collective responsibility for our finances is part of our spiritual development. OA, as an organization producing materials, logos and literature, takes simple steps to be the “legal owners” of its products to prevent other organizations and people from “claiming” or using this material and literature for themselves. This is part of our responsibility of maintaining our fellowship for our personal recovery. This is why OA, AA and other Twelve Step Fellowships file copyright claims on their literature. What this means is that OA is the “legal owner” of all its literature and nobody may reproduce OA literature including the OA logo, the brochures, the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA Service without permission.

What does this mean for our service bodies? We also may not reproduce any copyrighted material without permission. This includes using the OA logo and OA material in our meetings, events, letterheads, web sites etc. There is a very simple procedure in place to apply for permission from WSO and WSO generally grants permission to OA
service bodies and groups. There is no intent to supervise or control what service bodies reproduce, but simply to make sure we meet the legal obligations that arise out of the copyright process which requires that permission be granted by WSO to use the materials and literature. WSO will more than willing to provide you with the forms and guidelines. It takes just a few minutes to apply for permission each time.

The N/LSB needs to study this issue and to reach a group conscience decision on how best to comply.

**OA Royalties**

As already mentioned above OA, Inc. is the legal owner of all its literature and material. This gives OA, Inc. the right to receive some return for the literature even if it is not sold or produced directly by WSO. This is called “royalties”.

In the music world, every time a song is heard on the radio or video clip screened on TV, we know that the legal owner of the song is entitled to get some kind of return. When people reproduce music without purchasing it (and today this is very simple) – this is called “piracy”! In the literature world, when novels are translated and/or reproduced in different countries by different publication houses, these companies have to pay the legal owner of the novel large sums of royalties for each book reproduced. This cost is included in the price of the novel.

We all understand this concept quite easily outside of OA. Yet we may feel differently when it comes to OA. We may feel resentful that “they” are trying to make it harder and more expensive for us, or that “they” are just interested in making more money!

OA has invested a great deal of time and money to produce each piece of literature. Literature is OA’s biggest source of financial survival together with contributions. When we start reproducing the literature locally OA loses that extra return on the investment, which is vital to our survival as fellowship. This goes beyond just the legal issue; it is part of our responsibility to do our part to make sure that OA survives, that OA benefits from the sale of literature as well as our local service groups.

The guidelines mention that a percentage of the sale of OA books and brochures should be sent as royalties to WSO. We need to take this amount into consideration when pricing the sales cost of our literature. Payments can be made annual or more frequently.

It should also be noted that until now OA, Inc. has not taken steps to enforce this procedure and it is unlikely that it will do so in the near future, although this can change at any time. This actually leaves it up
to our good conscience and sense of responsibility to comply. The
general consensus is that new and small and struggling services bodies
probably cannot manage to meet this requirement. Well established
service bodies should start taking more responsibility and make an effort
to start paying royalties.

The N/LSB needs to study this issue and to reach a group conscience
decision on how best to comply.

**WSO meeting lists and updates**

The official OA worldwide meeting list is the list posted by the WSO.
Therefore, updating the WSO directory is of vital importance and the
N/LSB should find the best method for that area/country to send
updates to the WSO, especially in non-English speaking countries.
Updates can be done via the web, email, fax and post. WSO staff can
e-mail the latest print out for an area at request and do everything
possible to encourage service bodies to keep information up to date.
Possibly this could be the job of a person at the L/NSB level. The
importance of this process cannot be stressed too much as the web site
is becoming one of the principle ways of finding OA in your area!
Sometimes there are bugs in the system and human error causes the
updates and information to be lost or incorrect – just keep on sending
your updates in, it’s never a waste of time.

**The Bylaws, Policies and Guidelines produced by the BOT and the
WSBC, take precedence over the information in this Manual,
which is designed just to be helpful and explain what these
procedures are about in a simple matter.**
APPENDIX 1 - TERMS

Some of the definitions below have been quoted from other documents: OA Inc. Bylaws, Region Nine Bylaws, WSO web site. These documents may change from time to time, so please check them out occasionally for updates as they will always take precedence over what is stated here.

Groups

Section 1 - Definition
a) These points shall define an Overeaters Anonymous group:
   1) As a group they meet to practices the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous.
   2) All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the group.
   3) No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice (share at a meeting).
   4) As a group they have no affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous.

Section 2 – Composition
a) A group may be formed by two (2) or more persons meeting together as set forth in Article V, Section 2 – Composition
b) Groups compose the intergroups as set forth in Article VI hereof.

Intergroups
Section 1 – Composition
a) Two (2) or more groups may form an Intergroup for the purpose of servicing and representing the groups of which they are composed and acting as the guardian of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA service. Each Intergroup should be composed of groups within its region or groups within its geographical proximity.
b) Each state/province may have at least one (1) intergroups. In a state/province having only one group, that group may function as an Intergroup.

National/Language Service Board
“A national/language Service Board shall be a duly registered service body with the purpose of dealing with issues that require a combination of membership and financial resources of intergroups and groups in a country/countries. The national/language service board shall serve and be responsible to these groups and intergroups. These service boards may also be known as language service boards.”

**World Service Business Conference (The Conference, WSBC)**
(taken from Overeaters Anonymous, Inc., Bylaws, Article X – World Service Business Conference, Section 1a) –Annual Meeting: The World Service Business Conference is simply defined as “the collective conscience of the Fellowship of Overeaters as a whole.”

**Regions**
There is no definition of the role of Regions in OA's bylaws, just the geographical boundaries of each Region.
The current definition of Region's role as defined in Region Nine Bylaws, Article 2 – Purpose:

**Section 1**
The purpose of the Region 9 Assembly shall be to carry the OA message within Region 9 to the still suffering compulsive overeater - wherever they live and whatever language they speak.

**Section 2**
a) The responsibilities to fulfill this purpose shall include:
   1) Administering and co-coordinating OA activities common to the various groups, Intergroups and National Service Boards comprising its membership.
   2) Establishing and maintaining a regional office mailing address to facilitate communication between Region 9 and the various groups, Intergroups, National Service Boards and members
   3) Promoting OA unity within the widely differing cultures and languages included in Region 9.
   4) Furthering the OA programme in accordance with the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous as set out in the Bylaws of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc., - Subpart B, Article I and II and III.

**Board of Trustees (BOT)**
The Bylaws of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc., Subpart A, legally define the operations of the Board of Trustees. In Subpart B, Article IX defines the power, duties and responsibilities of the Board of Trustees and the individual Trustees towards the fellowship.

Section 2 a) defines the role of the Trustees:
“Each trustee shall serve and represent Overeaters Anonymous as a whole. The members of the board, subject to the laws of the State of California, are expected to exercise the powers vested in them by law in a manner consonant with the faith that permeates and guides the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous, inspired by the Twelve Steps of Overeaters Anonymous, in accordance with the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA Service of OA service and in accordance with the bylaws.“

**World Service Office (WSO)**

Here is a description of the WSO found in the Newcomers packet, which describes the functions of WSO:

“Located in Rio Rancho, New Mexico, we exist to support individual members and OA's thousands of groups worldwide, as well as to carry our message of recovery to compulsive overeaters who are still suffering.

We provide this support in a variety of ways. We produce over 100 literature and recovery-related items, taking member ideas and turning them into polished products. We publish *Lifeline*, a monthly recovery magazine, made up of stories written by and for the OA member. We distribute *A Step Ahead*, a quarterly newsletter, which keeps members up-to-date on OA happenings.

We also maintain current directories on meetings all across the world – we can tell you where to find meetings from Alabama to Zimbabwe! If you don't feel at home at your first meeting, you can call us to find another meeting that works better for you, so don't quit before the miracle happens. We can even connect you with a sponsor or pen pal in another city, state or country, if that is what you need to work your program.

In addition, we provide new groups with everything they need to get started. We also give information about OA to media representatives, health professionals and others interested in OA's Twelve-Step approach to recovery from compulsive overeating.

Although there are no dues or fees for members, the WSO is funded through literature sales and through your contributions. In keeping with
OA's Seventh Tradition, we are member-supported. So, when the basket is passed in meetings, keep in mind that you are supporting your own recovery by helping to maintain your group, Intergroup or National/Language Service Board, Region and World Service Office.”
APPENDIX 2 - Should your Service Body become a National/Language Service Board?

Below are some topics and some tips to think about when trying to decide whether or not to establish a National/Language Service Board in your area.

1. In countries where there are few OA groups, mostly one city, the biggest issue for discussion is VISION. How do you want to define yourselves? Do you see yourselves trying to spread the message more in your local area/city at some time in the future? Do you see yourselves trying to spread the message beyond your local area to the rest of the country at some time in the future? Maybe right now there may seem no practical difference between your registering as an Intergroup or as a National/Language Service Board. Your decision will depend on how you want to define yourselves as part of where you think you would like to develop. If you define yourselves as a National/Language Service Board it may give you the inspiration to take action.

2. In countries where there are many groups and only one Intergroup trying to serve all the groups the issues are more complex:
   a) How many groups do you have?
   b) How far spread out are the groups?
   c) How many groups attend Intergroup meetings?
   d) Can Intergroup representatives travel to the Intergroup meeting within a reasonable time frame?
   e) How would you benefit from creating a National/Language Service Board with local intergroups?
      i. Are you currently able to reach out to all the groups in your area?
      ii. Do you have time to cover all the necessary business at your Intergroup meeting plus hear what’s happening at the group level and address group concerns?
      iii. How would you benefit from separating between the central administrative Service Board and providing local group support and events?
      iv. How well are your events attended?
      v. Would you benefit from holding both central and localized events?
      vi. Would you be able to draw more people into service above the group level by having some members dealing with the localized services?
      vii. Do you have enough service resources (people doing service) to run separate Service Boards?

3. In countries where are there are some separate Intergroups and no centralized National/Language Service Boards:
a) Are there common needs between all your Intergroups that would make it common sense to have a centralized Service Board – e.g.
- National Meeting List
- National Newsletter
- Centralized translation services, if required
- Central literature publication, if required
- Purchase of literature from WSO
- National PI work
- Centralized representation at Region Nine
- Centralized delegation to WSBC
- Centralized payments to Region Nine/WSBC (for places where foreign financial transactions are costly).

b) Is there cooperation between the Intergroups in attending and organizing OA recovery events?

c) What benefits would there be to pooling resources of all the Intergroups to take actions that would benefit the country as a whole?

d) What benefits would there be to pooling resources of all the Intergroups to have common representation at Region and WSBC business meetings? Remember, this will NOT PREVENT larger and stronger Intergroups to still send individual representation. Do you have enough service resources (people doing service) to run separate Service Boards? Do you have enough service resources (people doing service) to run separate Service Boards?

4. When considering the establishment of a Language Service Board the geographical borders of different countries are less important. Language Service Boards can match specific geographic areas. An example would be the German speaking Language Service Board that covers Germany, German speaking Switzerland, Austria and Luxembourg – all clearly defined geographical areas with a common language.

Language Service Boards can also join up groups that are run in a specific language that is not the language of the country and exists in different countries fairly close to one another. An example of this is the English Language Service Board of Region Nine that covers English speaking groups from all over Europe outside the UK and Ireland.

It may be considered that communications over such large geographic areas are too large. If so, local Intergroups will exist within the framework of these language Service Boards as well. Their relationship with the Language Service Board would be similar to that between an Intergroup and a National Service Board.
There are also cases where people might feel that they should join forces with speakers of other languages in different continents. However, it does seem that distance in such a case would make an effective formal affiliation impractical. World Service Bylaws also do not allow for a group in Region Nine to be affiliated to a Service Board in Region Eight (for example). It would seem best to have an informal relationship with speakers of the same language in different continents, in which the more established Service Boards could provide literature and materials to the smaller ones.

It should also be noted that sometimes despite having a common language, sometimes dialectic differences discourage the different Service Boards from using each other’s literature. A current example is Spanish. There are a number of different versions of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions translated to Spanish by different Spanish-speaking Boards that prefer to read their dialect of Spanish. These issues need to be addressed and decided upon locally.

The most important issues involving the decision to create a Language Service Board are:

a) What benefits are there for the different groups and Intergroups to affiliate?
   i. Would common literature translations and publication be helpful?
   ii. Would a common newsletter be helpful?
   iii. Would joint representation at Region Nine and WSBC be helpful especially for the smaller and weaker areas?
   iv. Would it be possible to hold strong recovery events for the area?
   v. Is it possible to do joint PI work and prepare PI materials?

b) Is at least an annual meeting of the Language Service Board possible and practical, thus enabling joint business and recovery events for all the affiliated Service Boards to be possible?

c) How would finances crossing over financial borders work?

Would you elect Board members from all over the areas and how will the Board function? There is a large country in Region Nine that is so big this is impossible, so that National Service Board actually rotates from area to area for certain periods, thus making it possible for them to operate smoothly and cost-effectively.
Region 9 Guidelines for Translation

Content

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I. Region 9 Experience with Translations

1. These guidelines are not intended to give you any specific instructions on conducting translations into your own language, but rather to share some of the experience learned from our struggles in this area.
2. These guidelines do not replace WSO's formal approval process. We also suggest that you look for the World Service Office's International Translations and Publishing Guidelines, as it contains valuable information about translating OA materials into other languages.
3. When OA Literature is updated, it is recommended that Service Boards selling existing stock insert an errata slip when detailing the most recent changes.
4. Be aware that there may be people in other regions/countries working on translations in your own language. Consider keeping in touch with them.

II. Creation of a Translation Committee

If you are starting OA in your country, you probably have a lot of work ahead of you. Before you can think about an OA group or any service structure you need to have some translated material. It is very common that in the beginning this service is carried out by one or more committed members, but the earlier you can form a Translation Committee the better. This will avoid too much dependence on specific members and also form a structure that can enable the process to develop smoothly.

A. Members of a Translation Committee

The Translation Committee should have a list of people that update the OA literature in the different countries. These members should have information about all changes in OA literature.

When you express the need to translate OA materials many OA members will likely volunteer to assist. At first it seems a very easy and attractive job. However, very few of them will really go ahead with the task, why?

1. Many people think that all you need is to speak English well. As a matter of fact, the level of your English is just one among other talents required to perform a good translation. For example, you may have a good understanding of English but you may not know how to verbalize an English text in your own language.
2. Others are willing to translate until they find out that the material is not as interesting as they thought it would be. They decide maybe it is not so important...
and postpone the translation indefinitely.
3. Some members are not mature enough in the program to assist. You will need to understand the full meaning of a text to translate it otherwise the translation can either become senseless or alter the original meaning and intention. Try to be careful with literal translations. It is necessary to pay attention to the general meaning of the text in its original form and to its translated form in your own language, but it has to make sense in the end.
4. Remember that people come and go. A lot of people enter the program full of energy and willing to do service. However, not many assume real responsibility, especially in the long term. So, don't give them the original material, always a photocopy. Make a list of all the people involved with the committee, as well as who is doing what. If possible, talk to them once in a while to see how things are going. And don't forget to ask them to copy the translation onto a floppy disk for you or send to you electronically (that will make your life a lot easier).

B. Translation an Individual and a Group Effort

Try to show people that this kind of service is not something that you do completely alone, in your own time and pace and in your own way. Help them to realize that they are part of a committee and that the work of others should be taken into account. As much as each one of us has our own style, there should be some general standards to be followed.

1. A glossary with the translation of key terms will not only facilitate the translation work, but also will help a great deal in creating a general standard.
2. Using former translations as a reference can be very helpful, especially when you find quotes from other pieces of literature (even from AA, although their translation choices are not necessary the best ones).
3. Always keep members in touch with each other, and if possible promote committee meetings once in a while to discuss problematic points.
4. As important as it is to promote group work and not rely too much upon one individual, it is advisable that you use one single person when translating a book, so that you don’t have many different translation styles in a single piece of literature, which might make the translation a little awkward.
5. If OA members are doing translation a team could be formed and one person translates the literature and another checks it. One helpful suggestion is that two members get together to review the translation. One will read the translation out loud in your own language, and the other will follow it in the English version. This way you will not only make sure the translation sounds good in your language, but can also check how accurate it is in relation to the English version.
6. As to the International Translation & Publishing Guidelines outline, it is important to have other OA members checking the translated material. Not only for the accuracy of the translation, but also to help with problems concerning the style in your own language. Of course, always ensure that the translation is exactly the same as the original.
7. In spite of all the problems we might have when using OA members as translators, they are always the best choice. No professional translator, as good as they might be, will understand our literature so well. Being so versed in the subject, we make the best translators ever. And we will certainly put much more effort and love in this task than a professional. However, if you do not have qualified members you may of course use professionals.
8. Also, make sure that you review the translation carefully after it has been delivered to you to make sure everything is correct as far as the content is concerned.
9. Finally, before printing, make a careful review for typographical errors. There is
always a little thing that can be overlooked even after a lot of work.

C. Professional Translators

Drawbacks of using OA members have been mentioned i.e. length of time for the work etc. In this respect it was stressed that where possible a professional translator was to be used. In the past OA members had been used and this had lead to major delays and even loss of texts!

In regard to professionals, it is best to give them a glossary of common terms and how you have been translating them (in case you already have something translated). When choosing a professional translator give him/her a small piece of literature to be translated. If you like the translation give him/her more work. If not try the same thing again with someone else.

No professional translators can do a better job than qualified OA members, unless we give them good Glossaries to rely on.

1. Use of a Contract
   a. It is very important the use of a Contract with the translator right from the beginning so that both parties understand fully what is being asked of the translator and in what time factor.
   b. It was suggested that the arrangements include resisting any possible attempts by the translator to put his/her name to the document or to include ‘further reading’ of an outside nature.
   c. It was stated that in circumstances where the Professional Translator does not accept the OA Glossary then ‘he is not the person to do the translation – find another’.
   d. When choosing a professional translator give him/her a small piece of literature to be translated. If you like the translation give him/her more work. If not try the same thing again with someone else.

III Glossary of Terms

It’s very important the compilation and use of a GLOSSARY – by OA members who are translating, local translators and professional translators as well as being sent off with the draft for approval. This glossary can be compiled by a dedicated sub committee of the National Language Service Board – agreed upon in group conscience and added to if necessary over time

IV. Priorities for Translation Work

To begin with, such a committee could select, in a democratic and sensible manner, what are the priorities for the translation work. Of course the first thing that you will need is the latest English version of the literature. Every once in a while the literature is revised at the World Service Business Conference and you may have an outdated version.

V. Urgent Service Material Translation

In addition, there will always be service related materials that need urgent translation. It’s very common that we receive a lot of service material in English, all of them requiring responses in a very short period of time. Usually this is because it already took a long time for the material to arrive.

1. There may be some materials that you receive and your members don’t understand what “they” are talking about. Some issues are simply not part of our lives and the OA service structure is not as obvious for the different cultures. In this case you can add footnotes explaining the issues and giving further
information regarding the context in which they were raised.

2. The best thing to do, when you don’t have much time to translate everything, is to highlight the most important information from the material and use it in your own newsletter or in other mediums to distribute information about service (e.g. Releases, announcements at the Intergroup meetings, etc.).

3. Some Intergroups have special newsletters just to summarize the most important information that come from the WSO and the Region.

VI. Region 9 Policy for Financial Support of Literature Translations

To provide funding for the professional translation and/or printing of Literature is a very important issue and reflects the feelings of the Assembly that when funds are available we should be spending them on getting the message out to those in the Region who do not speak English.

Funds would be supplied as a loan to be paid back once the service body starts to sell the translated literature in substantial quantities.

Applications will be considered by the Officers. This policy gives the Treasurer the authority to make the payments in the year and clarifies the procedures for that payment.

VII. World Service Office

Once we have translated a piece of literature we have to send it to WSO for approval. That means we have to send a copy of the translation to the trustee in charge of this committee. We shall include the year in which the original piece was published. Usually they prefer an electronic copy in Word.

VIII. Copyright Legend

Apart from the English title of the document translated, the copyright notice needs to be in the language of the translation.

"Translated and reprinted from (English name of the document, and its reference number)____ the edition with the copyright date____

Copyright © (date of the translation) of the (language of the) translation by Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. World Service Office, 6075 Zenith Court, Rio Rancho, NM 87144-6424. Mail Address: P.O. Box 44020, Rio Rancho, NM 87174-4020, USA +01 (505) 891-2664, With the permission of OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, INC. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form without the prior written consent of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc."

IX. Reaching Out

We tried through these guidelines to share as much information and experience as we could, but we are aware that other problems may always come up, as they usually do. In this case, the best suggestion we can give is that you reach out and look for those with more experience in this area. You can do this through our Region, where there are certainly a good number of Intergroups that are surely facing or have faced similar problems.
**REGION NINE’S VITAL LINK:**

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR DELEGATES ATTENDING REGION NINE’S ANNUAL ASSEMBLY**

The Delegate is a vital link in the chain of OA’s Service Structure – You have been elected by your Intergroup or Language/National Service Board to attend the Region 9 Assembly – Congratulations!

If you are lucky, your predecessor has briefed you on the job or given you a file with information in it. If not, you may need to find out a lot, very quickly. We hope this booklet helps you.

Here are some of the questions that experienced members in OA are frequently asked about Region 9 service matters. These answers may give you a clearer idea of what the role of a Delegate is in relation to the Region 9 assembly.

It must be emphasized that there are no “right answers”, only shared experience of what has worked well for others. All the suggested answers are to be found either in the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA, the Bylaws or the Policy Manual of Region 9. Other sources of information are Groups, Intergroups and National/Language Service Boards and previous year’s Region 9 minutes, which should be handed to you. When in doubt, don’t hesitate to ask the advice of more experienced OAs.

**Glossary**

OA  Overeaters Anonymous  
IG  Intergroup  
BOT  Board of Trustees  
WSBC  World Service Business Conference (also known as the Conference)  
NSB/LSB  National/Language Service Board  
R9  Region 9  
WSO  World Service Office  
RCC  Region Chairs Committee

**REGION NINE’S STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

Our statement of purpose reads: “Our primary purpose is to carry the OA message to the still suffering compulsive overeater, wherever they may live and whatever language they may speak. In fulfilling our purpose we should ever strive to achieve worldwide unity and common policies among all countries. With love and tolerance as our code, together we can do what we could never do alone”.

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WHERE AND WHEN DO WE MEET?

Every year we hold an Assembly in which the officers of R9 meet with delegates from Intergroups and National/Language Service Boards from all over R9. Non-affiliated groups (groups which are not part of an Intergroup) may also be represented.

We meet within Region 9. Intergroups and National/Language Service boards who feel able to host the event put in a bid, with the selection usually taking place 1-2 years in advance.

WHY SHOULD MY INTERGROUP SEND A DELEGATE?

Because this is the only way to get your Intergroup or NSB/LSB’s views heard by the group conscience of Region 9 as a whole. If your delegate isn’t there you cannot contribute or change anything or indeed listen and take home to your IG or NSB/LSB news and views of what’s going on elsewhere. Your absence weakens the group conscience.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO BE A DELEGATE?

Your local IG or NSB/LSB decides. Successful delegates are OAers who have previously had some active experience of service at group, Intergroup or NSB/LSB level and are familiar with the 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts of OA Service and the OA Service structure. This service is not appropriate for a newcomer. Qualifications are set by the local IG or NSB/LSBs in their bylaws.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE DELEGATE?

In a word – communication. The delegate’s role is to make sure that their Intergroup understands Region 9 matters, and that the Assemblies which they attend are informed of the needs and wishes of their Intergroup or NSB/LSB. You should be aware that some service commitment may be required during the year after the Assembly. The delegate’s length of service depends on their own IG Bylaws. But it is suggested that some continuity is beneficial to both R9 and to the delegate her/himself as the first year is often a learning year. Should you wish to submit amendments to the Region 9 bylaws, please refer to Region 9 bylaws, Article XII, Section 1.
WHAT IS THE REGION ASSEMBLY COMPOSED OF?

The Assembly is composed of a Board and Intergroup and NSB/LSB delegates. The board members are elected at the Assembly for a period of 2 years and a further two year term if re-elected. The board members are: Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. In addition, committees are formed (from the delegates present) and committee chairs are elected or nominated. The Region 9 Trustee attends the Assembly and has a voice but no vote. Visitors are welcome as observers.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE ASSEMBLY?

- To carry the OA message of recovery within Region 9
- To re-affirm OA unity within Region 9
- To report and discuss the different activities in the Region since the last Assembly
- To vote on bylaw changes, if any proposals are on the floor
- To elect new officers and Committee chairs (every two years)
- To serve as a place where delegates from throughout the Region can get together to share their common experiences, problems and solutions
- To receive input from the BOT through the Trustee and more information and news about the WSO

WHAT SERVICES DOES REGION 9 PROVIDE?

Through several committees that operate year round, R9 offers the following services to its members, NSB/LSBs, Intergroups and groups:

Budget and Finance
The treasurer heads this committee, whose function is to project expenditure for the upcoming year, produce a budget and promote contributions throughout the Region. Details of our expenses are listed further in this document.

Bylaws
The Assembly operates in accordance with bylaws that were first laid down in the second Assembly (Munich 1985). This committee evaluates the bylaws and proposes changes/additions to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the Assembly and the Region as a whole and are in accordance with OA bylaws Subpart B.
Translation
This committee encourages countries to translate and print literature in their own language. Region 9 Translation guidelines are available on the website of R9. A hard copy can be ordered from the R9 secretary.

Electronic Communications
This committee is responsible for the maintenance of the R9 website. The website “www.oaregion9.org” will carry news and information to R9 members. The second phase will be to translate as much material as possible to languages other than English. The R9 Newsletter will be published on the website.

This committee will encourage countries to set up websites in different languages, to facilitate communications and to provide prompt information about OA in their own language.

Twelfth Step Within
The Twelfth-Step-Within Committee was created to reach out to those in the Fellowship who still suffer and to address the relapse and recovery of our members. The committee’s purpose is to strengthen Overeaters Anonymous by sharing information and ideas that generate recovery within the Fellowship. Those who give Twelfth-Step-Within service encourage existing OA members to become or remain abstinent, to work the Twelve Steps and to give service to the best of their ability. Doing this service increases the quantity and quality of recovery in our Fellowship, thereby assisting our own spiritual journey. Twelfth Step Within does not focus on attracting new members; it explicitly supports the ones we already have. We can all help carry the message of recovery through abstinence and working the Steps by (1) being well ourselves; (2) giving service, sponsorship and friendship; (3) encouraging membership retention; and (4) attending meetings and OA events.

Public Information
The purpose of this committee is to help ensure that OA and our programme of recovery becomes better known by the public and more accessible through methods such as press releases; community and health fairs, press and advertising, posters, billboards, community notices, telephone lines, professional outreach and public speaking.
HOW DOES THE REGION CO-ORDINATE
WITH OTHER SERVICE BODIES?

World Service Business Conference (WSBC)
The WSBC (the Conference) is an annual meeting of delegates from NSB/LSBs and Intergroups worldwide, held in April/May in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA. The conference lasts 4 days with discussions, debates and decisions relating to OA as a whole, and represents the Group Conscience of OA as a whole.

The WSBC discusses and provides guidelines for all aspects of OA group, Intergroup and NSB/LSB activities – literature, budget, group handbook, committee guidelines, public information etc. All literature that is approved at the WSBC carries the “conference seal of approval” which means that it represents the group conscience of OA as a whole.

The WSBC also supports a Delegate fund aimed at assisting NSB/LSB and Intergroups to attend WSBC. Contributions are received from service bodies throughout the fellowship and are distributed to NSB/LSB and Intergroups who apply for assistance. Details can be received from WSO.

Board of Trustees
The BOT is elected by the Conference comprising of Trustees from the different Regions and General Service Trustees. Candidates are put forward to the Conference by the Regions. The main functions of the BOT are to represent OA as a whole, to act as guardians of the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous and to promote education within the fellowship worldwide.

Region 9 Trustee
The WSBC elects a Trustee from Region 9 every 3 years. This Trustee is a member of the BOT. In addition to the Trustees duties as a member of the BOT, the Trustee carries the message of the BOT in the Region, by visiting and communicating with the NSB/LSB, Intergroups and groups within the Region and by holding service and traditions workshops in different locations in the Region. The Trustee attends BOT meetings, WSBC and WSO convention. The Trustee also attends the Region 9 Assembly as the representative of the BOT and has a voice but not a vote.
World Service Office

The WSO located in Albuquerque New Mexico, USA, provides a variety of services for the BOT, WSBC, Regions, National-/Language Service Boards, Intergroups and Groups, including:

- Clearing house for worldwide inquiries
- Providing information about OA to the still suffering compulsive overeaters, to media representatives and health professionals interested in OA’s Twelve-Step approach to recovery from compulsive overeating
- Supporting individual members and OA groups worldwide
- Registration of all OA groups, Intergroups and NSB/LSBs (available online)
- Providing everything new groups need to get started in the Group Starter Kit
- Providing office services to the BOT, WSBC and the World Service Convention, including printing and distribution of material
- Producing all the Conference and BOT approved literature
- Selling over 100 literature and recovery-related items which can be ordered from the Catalog
- Producing and printing *Lifeline* the monthly OA recovery magazine and mailing it to subscribers (available online)
- Producing and distributing of the quarterly newsletter *A Step Ahead*, and the annual *Courier* (newsletter for professionals) to all NSB/LSBs, Intergroups (available online)
- Website – maintaining the OA Website ([www.oa.org](http://www.oa.org) or [www.overeatersanonymous.org](http://www.overeatersanonymous.org))

Region 9 Chair

The R9 Chairman is elected by the R9 Assembly for a period of 2 years and fills a variety of duties; reelection for another two-year term is possible.

- Represents R9 at WSBC and is involved in different Conference Committees and activities
- Is invited with other Region Chairs to attend one BOT meeting per year
- Attends one additional Region Chairs Committee meeting held in conjunction with an assembly of one of the other regions
- Is a member of the WSBC’s Region Chairs Committee (RCC), working in cooperation with the Chairs of the other 9 regions, meeting and communicating about the services and needs of all the regions
- Chairs the annual R9 Assembly
- Attends different functions within the Region and may hold Service and Traditions workshops where budget allows.
HOW IS REGION 9 FUNDED?
Region 9 is self-supporting, receiving contributions from its member NSB/LSBs, Intergroups, groups and non-affiliated groups. The surplus from our conventions/assemblies is an important source of funding of activities.

WHAT ARE OUR EXPENSES?
Due to the vast geographic range of our Region, our expenses for travel and postage are much higher than other Regions and they are:

- Funding of R9 Officers to R9 Assemblies.
- Funding R9 Chairman to WSBC, partly funding to a BOT meeting, and funding the travel to a Region Chairs Committee meeting if funds are available.
- Printing of Assembly minutes, Notebook, reports, etc.
- Postage.
- Holding a delegate fund, when possible, to subsidize NSB/LSB and Intergroup delegates to attend R9 Assembly.
- Assistance to IGs, NSB/LSBs for translation costs.

WHAT AREA DOES REGION 9 COVER?
Region 9 is composed of OA groups and Intergroups and NSB/LSB / VSBs in Africa, Europe, Middle East and Western Asia.

WORLD SERVICE OFFICE ADDRESS
Overeaters Anonymous Inc.,
PO Box 44020
Rio Rancho
NM 87174-4020
USA
Tel: +1-505-891-2664
Fax: +1-505-891-4320
Website: www.oa.org
Email: info@oa.org

Region 9
Website: http://www.oaregion9.org/
Service Structure of OA in the Countries that make up Region 9

Overall Service Structure

This chart shows the overall flow of service within the OA Fellowship.

The most important point that I can make is that WE dictate policy, and OUR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT. For example, WSO doesn’t tell us that we can’t distribute food plans at our meetings. Members of our meetings are sent to intergroup, and intergroup sends delegates to Region where perspectives can be heard from other members within our region. Then, at the World Service Business Conference, the GROUP CONSCIENCE of the body as a whole decides that we have no right to distribute food plans because we are not professional nutritionists.

OA is OUR PROGRAM, but it works only if you work it! If your meeting isn’t sending a delegate to intergroup, then your meeting does not have input into the process.

We can give service at all levels, and service of all kinds is essential to our continuing recovery as a Fellowship. We would not exist if people were not willing to extend their hands.

All of us can do some kind of service every day—let’s all try to incorporate service into our daily lives by using this valuable tool of recovery.
OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY

BYLAWS

Nov 2011 Version

Embrace the similarities
Love the differences
In all our affairs

ADOPTED BY REGION NINE ASSEMBLY
OF OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS

Revised November 2011 after the Assembly in Leuven
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BYLAWS OF
OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS REGION 9 ASSEMBLY

ARTICLE I- NAME

Section 1
The name of this organisation shall be the Region 9 Assembly of Overeaters Anonymous

ARTICLE II-PURPOSE

Section 1
The purpose of the Region 9 Assembly shall be to carry the OA message within Region 9 to the still suffering compulsive overeater - wherever they live and whatever language they speak.

Section 2
The responsibilities to fulfill this purpose shall include:

a Administering and co-ordinating OA activities common to the various Groups, Intergroup and National/Language Service Boards comprising its membership.

b Establishing and maintaining a regional office mailing address to facilitate communication between Region 9 and the various groups, Intergroups, National/Language Service Boards, OA worldwide, and the World Service Office.

c Promoting OA unity within the widely differing cultures and languages included in Region 9.

d Furthering the OA programme in accordance with the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous Inc. – Subpart B, Article I and II and III.
ARTICLE III – GROUPS, INTERGROUPS AND NATIONAL SERVICE BOARDS WITHIN REGION 9

Section 1.

The Definition of a Group.

The points that define an Overeaters Anonymous Group are listed in OA Inc Bylaws, Subpart B Article V, Section 1 Overeaters Anonymous Groups.

a These points shall define an Overeaters Anonymous group:
1 As a Group, they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.
2 All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the group.
3 No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice (share at a meeting).
4 As a Group they have no affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous.
5 It has affiliated as an Overeaters Anonymous group by registering with the World Service Office.

b Virtual Groups (groups which replicate face-to-face meetings through electronic media) may be an Overeaters Anonymous group if they:
1) Otherwise meet the definition of Overeaters Anonymous groups
2) are fully interactive, and;
3) meet in real time.

Section 2

The Composition of an Intergroup.

a Two (2) or more Groups may form an Intergroup for the purpose of servicing and representing the Groups of which they are composed and acting as the guardian of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of OA Service. Each Intergroup should be composed of groups within its geographical proximity.

b Each State/Province may have at least one Intergroup. In a State/Province having only one Group, that Group may function as an intergroup.

c To establish that an Intergroup is registered, the World Service Register shall be used.

Section 3

The Definition of a National/Language Service Board.

a A National/Language Service Board shall be a duly registered service body with the purpose of dealing with issues that require a combination of membership and financial resources of Intergroups and Groups in a country/countries. The National/Language Service Board shall serve and be responsible and accountable to these Groups and Intergroups. These Service Boards may also be known as Language Service Boards.
To establish that a National/Language Service Board is registered, the World Service Register shall be used.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP OF REGION 9 ASSEMBLY

Section 1

a In accordance with the Bylaws of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Subpart B, Region 9 shall be composed of Africa, Europe, Middle East and Western Asia.

Section 2

The voting membership of the Assembly shall consist of

a Representatives from Intergroups who are registered with the World Service Office and who are within the geographical boundaries of Region 9.

b Representatives from National/Language/Virtual Service Boards, who are registered with the World Service Office and who are within the geographical boundaries of Region 9. National/Language/Virtual Service Boards shall not represent Intergroups which have sent representatives to the Assembly, however if all Intergroups are represented, the National/Language/Virtual Service Board will still be entitled to one representative.

c Region 9 Board Members.

d The Chair shall not have a vote at the Assembly, except to break a tie and for elections.

e Committee Chairs, who are not Intergroup or National/Language Service Boards representatives.

f In the event of a Region 9 representative from a registered unaffiliated group receiving a voice as per Article IV Section 2 (II) c) of these Bylaws, they may also be given a vote, subject to majority approval of the voting body.

Section 2 (II)

The non-voting membership of the Assembly shall consist of:

a The Region 9 Trustee is entitled to a voice but no vote at the Assembly.

b Region 9 OA members, who are not represented, are entitled to a voice but no vote at the Region 9 Assembly.

c A representative from a registered unaffiliated group within Region 9 may be given a voice if they receive the majority approval of the voting body. Consideration may also be given to giving such a representative a vote – see Article IV Section 2 (1) f) of these Bylaws.
Section 2 (III) – Visitors

a OA Visitors from Region 9 who already have a representative attending the Assembly from their service body will not be given a voice or a vote.

b The Region 9 Assembly is open to OA visitors from inside and outside Region 9. In order to be given consideration to speak at the Assembly, the visitor shall give prior notice to the Chair so that the item may be considered for the Agenda. Pertinent suggestions during the Assembly may be put in writing and handed to the Chair for consideration.

Section 3 – Qualifications

a Each representative shall be elected by the Intergroup, National/Language Service Board or unaffiliated groups they serve.

b The term of Region 9 representative shall be designated by their Intergroup, National/Language Service Boards or unaffiliated Groups and each representative is always subject to recall by those who selected them.

c Each representative should have a minimum of six (6) consecutive months of current abstinence.

Section 4 - Delegates

a Each member Intergroup, National/Language Service Board shall be entitled to one representative at the Region 9 Assembly. Intergroups, National/Language Service Boards serving more than 10 Groups shall be entitled to two representatives. Intergroups, National/Language Service Boards serving more than 50 Groups shall be entitled to three representatives.

ARTICLE V – MEETING TIMES AND NOTIFICATION.

Section 1

Region 9 shall hold one Assembly per year.

A Region 9 Convention may also be held in conjunction with the Region 9 Assembly if the hosting Intergroup or National/Language Service Board is in a position to do so.

Section 2

Notification of this Assembly shall be mailed or emailed to all member groups, Intergroups, unaffiliated groups and National Service Boards at least six months prior to the date of the Assembly. The notification will include an invitation to the Assembly from the organising committee, the registration form to send a delegate, a blank new business motion, and bylaws amendment motion.
Section 3

Special meetings may be called at World Service functions other than those designated in Section 1 wherever Region 9 members are gathered. Such meetings are for the purpose of discussion and are not decision making unless emergency business that affects Region 9 Assembly itself is brought to the floor. A positive vote of 2/3 of the delegates attending this meeting will be required. Eighty per cent (80%) of the delegates Attending WSBC will constitute a quorum, providing there are five countries of Region 9 present. The decision voted upon can be enforced right away and must be validated by a majority vote at the next Region 9 assembly. If the emergency concerns the removal of an officer for reasons stated in Region 9 Bylaws Article VII section 4b, 8 weeks prior to the WSBC, the Chair will inform, by registered letter, the officer concerned; that a motion for his/her removal will be proposed at WSBC Region 9 Special Meeting; and that he/she is given 15 days to respond and explain his/her position. Six weeks before the WSBC, the Chair will send the motion to Assembly members.

Section 4

Agenda for the Region 9 Assembly will be mailed or emailed at least sixty days prior to the Assembly to all those service associations and registered Intergroups. The material for the Assembly will be mailed or emailed when possible only to registered representatives and invited visitors to the Assembly. The Agenda and materials for the Assembly, except for the list of attendants, will also be placed on the Region 9 website. The registration form will request whether the materials are to be obtained by downloading from the Region 9 website or sent by email or mail.

Section 5

The Region 9 Assembly shall be conducted according to the current Robert’s Rules of Order. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern this Region in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B and any special rules of order Region 9 may adopt.

The Chair shall see that a book is available for ready reference, and if possible shall appoint a parliamentarian.

ARTICLE VI- QUORUM

Section 1

At a Region 9 Assembly, representatives from at least five countries shall constitute a quorum.
ARTICLE VII – COMPOSITION OF REGION 9 BOARD.

Section 1- Composition

The Region 9 Board shall consist of a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2 – Duties

Duties of members of the Region 9 Board shall include but not be limited to the following:

a. The Chair is responsible to see that a notification of the Assembly is mailed in accordance with Article V – Section 2; to see that Region 9 Intergroups, National/Language Service Boards are notified that amendments to these Bylaws should be sent in accordance with Article XII – Section 1; to prepare an agenda for the Assembly and see that the agenda is mailed in accordance with Article V – Section 4; to preside over the Assembly; and in accordance with the Bylaws of Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. – Subpart B is entitled to be a voting delegate to the annual World Service Business Conference.

b. The Secretary is responsible for maintaining accurate minutes and records of all Region decisions and actions at the Assembly. The Secretary must see that the Minutes are mailed or emailed when possible within 45 days of the Assembly to all participants of the Assembly, unaffiliated groups in Region 9 and Service Bodies that have not sent a representative to the Assembly. Any Service Body interested can ask the Region 9 Secretary for a copy of the Minutes by mail or email.

c. The Treasurer is responsible to chair the Budget and Finance Committee; and to see that the annual financial statements are mailed to all members Intergroup and National/Language Service Boards.

d. In an emergency situation, approval of two members of the Region 9 Board is required to execute decisions deemed necessary for Region 9 as a whole. Notification of such decision shall be sent within 45 days to all registered Groups, Intergroup and National/Language Service Boards within Region 9.

e. For additional and a more detailed explanation of duties for Chair, Secretary and Treasurer refer to the Region 9 Principles & Procedures manual.

Section 3- Elections

a. Nominations and elections shall be held in each year at the Region 9 Assembly.

b. To be eligible for election to membership of the Region 9 Board, a person must be present at the meeting and be an OA member from Region 9. In addition a person standing for the office of Chair must have been a representative at a previous Region 9 Assembly. To be elected, a member must receive a majority vote of the representatives present. In addition each candidate for the Region Board shall have where possible at least one year of current abstinence and at least two years of service beyond group level at the time of election. In the event of a candidate with these qualifications not being present a candidate who has not these qualifications can be elected provided that they comply with ARTICLE IV – Section 3 c and can demonstrate that they have a good record of service to the Fellowship, and faithful adherence to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of OA.

c. Board members are elected for a term of two consecutive years in the same position.
Board members should not serve more than two consecutive terms in the same position. No Board member shall serve for more than eight (8) consecutive years in a combination of positions.

Nominations for qualified nominees to the Region 9 Assembly may be made from the floor at the Assembly. Upon nomination, the nominees shall be called upon to present their qualifications briefly to the Assembly.

Any vacated position may be temporarily filled by a representative on request of the Region 9 Chair at the Assembly with the approval of the Region 9 representatives.

Vacancies that occur during the term of office between Assemblies shall be filled by a person appointed by the Chair. In the event that the position of Chair becomes vacant, the Secretary shall act as the Chair until the next Assembly with the authority to perform all prescribed duties and responsibilities. In the event that the position of Secretary becomes vacant, the Treasurer shall act as the Chair until the next Assembly with the authority to perform all prescribed Chair’s duties and responsibilities. All vacancies shall be filled by an election at the next Region 9 Assembly.

Section 4 – Removal of Officers

Any Officer may be removed for cause by a 2/3 vote of the delegates attending Region 9 Assembly

The failure to perform the duties and responsibilities of such an officer, as enumerated in the Region 9 Bylaws, Article VII, Section 2 may constitute cause for removal.

8 weeks prior to Assembly, by registered letter, the Chair will inform the officer concerned that a motion for his/her removal will be proposed at Assembly and that he/she is given 15 days to respond and explain his/her position. 4 to 6 weeks prior to Assembly, the Chair will send the motion to Assembly members.

The vote may be enforced right away.
ARTICLE VIII- REGION 9 TRUSTEE

Section 1- Nomination and Selection

The Region 9 Trustee is elected at the World Service Business Conference. Nominees for this position should reside within Region 9, have been endorsed by Region 9 and must be members of OA who meet the requirement of the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws – Subpart B. The Region Trustee serves Overeaters Anonymous as a whole as a member of the Board of Trustees and maintains liaison between the Board of Trustees and Region 9.

Section 2- Endorsement Procedure

a  The Region 9 Assembly will endorse the candidacy of up to 3 Trustee Nominees.

b  Trustee Nominees should forward their original World Service Trustee Application Forms to the Region 9 Chair to arrive not later than 1st October in the year prior to the Region 9 Trustee Election.

c  Up to three nominees may be voted for.

d  To be eligible for election, each nominee must appear before the delegates at the Region 9 Assembly and there address the assembled delegates for three to five minutes and answer questions from the floor.

e  A ballot shall take place at the Region 9 Assembly. All voting members attending the Region 9 Assembly shall be entitled to a vote. The Chair and Secretary will independently tabulate the results and confer. The three nominees receiving the highest number of votes will have their original application endorsed and returned to them by 15th January. Unsuccessful nominees will also have their forms returned by this date.

f  Nominees who are endorsed will receive up to 980 EUR for their expenses in attending World Service Business Conference if funds permit. Available funds to be apportioned.

Section 3 – Nomination and Selection of Region 9 Trustee where no application has been received, the deadline for submission has passed or a vacancy occurs mid term

In the event that either:
1) WSBC nominations are due for the position of Region 9 Trustee and no application has been received by Region 9; or
2) A vacancy for the position of Region 9 Trustee occurs outside the deadline for submissions for applications for the position; or
3) A vacancy occurs mid term

The following actions will be taken to fill the vacancy of Region 9 Trustee:
a) The Region 9 Board will solicit applications from Region 9 Service Bodies
b) The Region 9 Board will consider only those applicants meeting all requirements for Region Trustee as
c) A majority vote of the Region 9 Board will constitute affirmation of the applicant(s). 
d) Notification of outcome of the vote by the Region 9 Board shall be made to Region 9 Service Bodies, 
the Board of Trustees and World Service Office.

**ARTICLE IX- COMMITTEES**

**Section 1**

The Region 9 Board and/or the Region 9 Representatives shall appoint Committees that are deemed 
necessary for the purpose of the Region 9 Assembly.

**Section 2 Duties**

a) Committee Chairs are responsible for co-ordinating the activities of their Committees, chairing 
Committee meetings, and reporting to the Region 9 Assembly and Board when appropriate, 
Committee Chairs shall furnish a written activity report to the annual Region 9 Assembly.

b) The Treasurer of Region 9 shall chair the Budget Committee.

**Section 3 – Election of Committee Chairs.**

a) Nominations and elections shall be held in each odd numbered year at the Region 9 Assembly.

b) To be eligible for election, a person must be present at the meeting and an OA member from 
Region 9. To be elected, a member must receive a majority vote of the representatives present.

c) Committee Chairs are elected for a two year term.

d) Committee Chairs should not serve more than two consecutive terms.

e) Nominations for qualified nominees may be made from the floor at the Assembly. Upon 
nomination, the nominees shall be called upon to present their qualifications briefly to the 
Assembly.

f) Any vacated position may be temporarily filled by a representative on request of the Region 9 
Chair at the Assembly with the approval of the Region 9 representatives.

g) Vacancies that occur during the term of office between Assemblies shall be filled by a person 
approved by the Chair.
ARTICLE X FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

Section 1

a The activities of Region 9 shall be financed primarily by the contributions of its member Groups, Intergroups and National/Language Service Boards.

b Region 9 may accept donations from OA members, Groups, Intergroups and other service bodies, conforming with the general principles of Overeaters Anonymous.

c A secondary source of financial income to Region 9 may be from such occasional projects or activities as may be authorised by the Region 9 Board.

d All proceeds over and above expenses from the Region 9 Convention shall be designated for Region 9.

e The Region 9 representatives shall not accept the responsibility, trusteeship, or enter into the distribution of funds set up outside the Region 9 Board.

f Region 9 funds shall be banked in one or more countries designated by the Region 9 Assembly. All financial transactions that have not been approved by the Region 9 Assembly are subject to approval of three members of the Region 9 Board. This must be interpreted as to include all unusual items or requests for payment in advance of expenditure.

g Funds of Region 9 are primarily earmarked for use in operating costs.

h Where funds permit, Region 9 should have a prudent reserve equal to (1) years standard costs. The standard costs to be determined by the assembly and updated annually.

ARTICLE XI – MAJOR POLICY MATTERS

Section 1

Matters which relate to major policy affecting Overeaters Anonymous as a whole shall be referred to the Region 9 Trustee or another member of the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. World Service Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Section 1

These Bylaws, representing our table of organisation, may be amended by a two thirds majority of the voting body at the annual Regional Assembly provided that representatives are present from at least five different countries within Region 9. Proposed amendments should be submitted to the Region 9 Bylaws Committee at least ninety days before the Region 9 Assembly, and are to be submitted, in writing, by this committee to the Region 9 Chair at least seventy-
five days before the Region 9 Assembly.

Section 2 – Emergency New Business

Bylaw amendments, including items raised during the Assembly by a Committee, which have not been submitted to the Region Chair seventy-five days before the Assembly and which are considered to be of an emergency nature by the Region 9 Board and the Bylaws Committee Chair may be voted on at the Assembly.

Section 3 – The Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts.

The Region 9 Bylaws Article XIV, the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts cannot be amended by this Assembly.

ARTICLE XIII – LEGAL DISCLAIMERS

Section 1

All members of the Assembly and all members of local groups which are members of the Assembly shall be deemed to have expressly consented and agreed that, upon dissolution of the Assembly, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, the assets of the Assembly, when remaining in the hands of the Board, after all debts have been paid, shall be used for the purpose of Overeaters Anonymous as determined by the current Region 9 Board. In the event of there being no remaining Region Nine Board any remaining funds should go to the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous.

Section 2

No member of the Assembly or any member of any Intergroup or Group which is a member of the Assembly, and no Officer or member of a Committee or person connected with the Assembly or any other private individual shall receive at any time any earnings or pecuniary profit from the operations of the Assembly; provided that they shall not prevent the payment to any such person of such reasonable compensation for services rendered to or for the Assembly affecting any of its purposes as shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the assets upon the dissolution of the Assembly.
### ARTICLE XIV- TWELVE STEPS, TWELVE TRADITIONS, AND TWELVE CONCEPTS.

#### TWELVE STEPS

1. We admitted we were powerless over food – that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to compulsive overeaters and to practice these principles in all our affairs.
TWELVE TRADITIONS

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon OA unity.

2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

3. The only requirement for OA membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively.

4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole.

5. Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the compulsive overeater who still suffers.

6. An OA group ought never endorse, finance or lend the OA name to any related enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

7. Every OA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

8. Overeaters Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

9. OA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

10. Overeaters Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the OA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather that promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television and other public media of communication.

12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all these Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.
TWELVE CONCEPTS

1. The ultimate responsibility and authority for OA world services reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

2. The OA groups have delegated to World Service Business Conference the active maintenance of our world services; thus, World Service Business Conference is the voice, authority and effective conscience of OA as a whole.

3. The right of decision, based on trust, makes effective leadership possible.

4. The right of participation ensures equality of opportunity for all in the decision-making process.

5. Individuals have the right of appeal and petition in order to ensure that their opinions and personal grievances will be carefully considered.

6. The World Service Business Conference has entrusted the Board of Trustees with the primary responsibility for the administration of Overeaters Anonymous.

7. The Board of Trustees has legal rights and responsibilities accorded to them by the OA Bylaws, Subpart A; the rights and responsibilities of the World Service Business Conference are accorded to it by Tradition and by OA Bylaws, Subpart B.

8. The Board of Trustees has delegated to its Executive Committee the responsibility to administer the OA World Service Office.

9. Able, trusted servants, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are indispensable for effective functioning at all service levels.

10. Service responsibility is balanced by carefully defined service authority; therefore, duplication of efforts is avoided.

11. Trustee administration of the World Service Office should always be assisted by the best standing committees, executives, staffs and consultants.

12. The spiritual foundation for OA service ensures that;
   a. no OA committee or service body shall ever become the seat of perilous wealth or power;
   b. sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, shall be OA’s prudent financial principle;
   c. no OA member shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority;
   d. all important decisions shall be reached by discussion, vote and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity;
   e. no service action shall ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; and
   f. no OA service committee or service board shall ever perform any acts of government, and each shall always remain democratic in thought and action.
OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS
REGION NINE ASSEMBLY

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
A SUMMARY OF CONTINUING EFFECT MOTIONS

Embrace the similarities
Love the differences
In all our affairs

1983 – 2011
(Re-organised 2008)

ADOPTED BY REGION NINE ASSEMBLY
OF OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS
### TABLE OF CONTENTS

**SUMMARY OF SECTIONS OF OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS REGION NINE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL A SUMMARY OF CONTINUING EFFECT MOTIONS**

The Region Nine Policies and Procedures Manual is arranged in topics as follows and the sub-topic of each motion is capitalized for ease of understanding. This is then followed by a list of continuing effect motions which are listed in chronological order.

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I. ASSEMBLY

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The primary purpose of the Region 9 Assembly is the same as that of all OA service – to carry the OA message to the still suffering compulsive overeaters, wherever they live and whatever language they speak. In fulfilling our purpose, we should ever strive to achieve worldwide OA unity and common policies among all countries. With love and tolerance as our code, together we can do what we could never do alone. (1983a)

DURATION OF ASSEMBLY

That Assembly be extended to two full days. (1989b)

DESCRIPTION

Motion to call the European Service meeting, the R9 European Service meeting agreed (1991m)

REGISTRATION FORMS

Move that Region 9 adopts the following forms:
1. Officer and Committee Chairs
2. Delegate Registration. (1995m)

ORIENTATION SESSION

At each Assembly there will be an orientation session. The aim being to give delegates (particularly first time delegates) a general overview of the processes of the Assembly. (1997a)

LOCATION & ELECTION OF ASSEMBLY

The annual Region 9 Assembly will be held within Region Nine. (1999b)

The hosting service body for the regional Assembly and Convention shall be elected two years prior to running the event. (2009b)

REGISTRATION FEE FOR ASSEMBLY

Move to charge 50€/£33 or equivalent registration fee for the Region Nine Assembly, payable upon registration at the Assembly. (2006d)

BYLAWS

That Delegates are asked to bring their own copies of Bylaws to Assembly. (1989a)

REPRESENTATIVE ADDRESSES ON ASSEMBLY MINUTES

Addresses are to be provided on the contact list attached to the assembly minutes. Any person not willing to have their address published, should advise the secretary at the Assembly, who will not publish their address. (1999a)

VITAL LINK

Move to approve the newly revised R9 Vital Link. (2004a)

AUTOMATIC REMOVAL OF OUTDATED POLICIES

Automatically remove outdated or completed Region 9 Assembly policies from the Policies and Procedure manual (2006a)

LIAISON WITH SERVICE BODIES NOT REPRESENTED AT ASSEMBLY

The Assembly will divide up the list of IGs and NSBs not represented at the Assembly amongst the delegates who are in attendance at the assembly. Each delegate will be responsible for undertaking liaison activity with the SB they have adopted. Each delegate will then submit a written report to the Region 9 12th Step Within Committee within 6 months of the Assembly. The 12th Step Within Committee will then log these responses and continue to try to encourage contact with service bodies not represented at assembly (2010a).

ORGANISATION OF THE P&P MANUAL

The P&P shall be organised with a table of contents followed by the various detailed motions in relevant Region 9 topics / sections and then finalised with a list of detailed motions in chronological order. (2008a)

EMERGENCY NEW BUSINESS

In order to qualify as emergency new business any motion must be:

a) Referring to new business only and not addressing the same issues as other motions brought to the current Assembly;

b) Of an urgent nature so that not considering the motion immediately would be harmful to the welfare of OA as a whole. (2009d)

REGISTER OF SERVICE BODIES AND ATTENDANCE TO BE INCLUDED IN ASSEMBLY MATERIALS

The Assembly Materials of Region 9 are to include a register of Region 9 countries with details of Intergroups in each country and the current number of groups, also including details of when the Service Body was represented at Region Assembly. (2010b)
II  BOARD POSITIONS, AND DUTIES

Move to adopt the following

JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS as part of our Regional policy and procedure.

CHAIRPERSON:
The Chairperson is elected by the Region 9 Assembly for a period of two years and fills a variety of duties:
- Chairs the R9 business assemblies, including preparation of the Agenda
- Communicates with the different R9 officers and committees during the year
- Attends functions within the Region, where budget allows
- Represents R9 at the World Service level, including at the WSBC
- Represents R9 in the Board of Trustees Intergroup and Region committee (IGAR)
- Works with the R9 Trustee on some of the issues directly concerning the Region
- Chairs the R9 Board
- Is responsible for ensuring that an Officer Nomination form is sent to each Intergroup and Delegate in an election year
- Is responsible for sending a Bid form for hosting a R9 Assembly to Intergroups and Delegates on election year (1999h)

TREASURER:
The Treasurer is elected by the Region 9 Assembly for a period of two years and fills a variety of duties:
- Chairs R9's Budget and Finance committee
- Prepares an annual budget for approval of the assembly
- Maintains records of all Income and expenses incurred by the different activities in the Region
- Provide an annual report of all contributions received, as well as income and expenses
- Maintains the R9 bank account and records of monies kept by different functions in other countries (satellite banking)
- Serves on the R9 Board (1999h)

SECRETARY:
The main responsibilities of the Secretary are to produce and mail minutes of all Region 9 Assemblies, and maintain updated listing of R9 Intergroups and National/Language Service Boards. The procedure for this is as follows:

MINUTES OF THE ASSEMBLY:
1. The Chair will send out an agenda prior to the Assembly, and will include reminders to all Officers and presenters of topics to bring with them to Assembly a written report for inclusion with the minutes.
2. It is useful to record the Assembly with a tape recorder. A small hand held machine is quite adequate.
3. At Assembly, the Secretary needs to collect copies of all reports to be included with the minutes. It is also necessary that all motions are given to the Secretary in writing. It is important to note the name of the proposer and seconder, and the count of the voting on each motion.
4. The time scale for producing the minutes is short, and it is helpful to have copies of all paperwork to be included with the minutes in your possession, when coming home from the assembly, as there may not be time to use the postal system and still get the minutes out in the timescale set out in the bylaws.
5. Typing the actual minutes is time consuming. It's probably a full day's work. When the first draft is complete, it is useful to fax a copy of the minutes to the chair, or another officer who was present at the Assembly for any comments. It's also useful to have a local member proof read the minutes for spelling or grammar mistakes. The minutes will include all reports, and revised copies of the R9 Bylaws and P&P Manuals, if possible.
6. Once the minutes are printed and bound in a simple binder, one copy can be taken to the post office where it is weighed and the postage costs for the different parts of the world assessed. Then one can buy the stamps and do the mailing from home, if that is suitable. The minutes are expensive to produce, so it is always helpful to keep a balance of monies in a satellite account if the Secretary is not in local contact with the Treasurer.
UPDATE OF LISTS Another duty for the Secretary is to see that an up to date list of all R9 Intergroups and National/Language Service Boards is mailed periodically to each R9 officer. This is compiled from information which the Intergroups may send directly to the Secretary and also from the information which the World Service Office sends directly to the Secretary. The World Service Office will send a list of all Intergroups and meetings in R9 to the Secretary periodically, as well as all enquiry letters they may have received. The letters are forwarded to the Outreach chair who will send off letters welcoming new meetings. It is helpful for the Secretary to inform the R9 Trustee or Chair of new Intergroups forming in the Region. It is useful to keep in contact with the R9 Chair on a regular basis. (1999h)

Move that reports and documents be delivered to the registered representatives prior to Assembly. (2002h)

Addresses are to be provided on the contact list attached to the assembly minutes. Any person not willing to have their address published, should advise the secretary at the Assembly, who will not publish their address. (1999a)

Move to adopt the Region 9 Minutes to a manageable size. The Region 9 Minutes will contain: Date/Time and place of Region 9 Assembly, names of Officers, number of representatives present, record of action taken on the minutes of the previous meeting, the exact wording of each motion as it was voted on, and whether it passed or failed, the maker’s name. If the vote counted, the count should be included. Any notice given at the meeting. Points of order and appeals, and Committee reports. A note that the revised version of Region 9 Bylaws and P & P can be obtained from the Region 9 web site or can be requested from the Region 9 secretary. To avoid confusing the Minutes with other Region 9 Assembly materials, they will be called Region 9 Minutes. (2005a)

BYLAWS COMMITTEE:
The Chairperson of the Bylaws Committee is elected at the R9 Assembly and serves for a period of two years with the option of being re-elected for a further two years. The duties would include:
- Chairing committee meetings and reporting back to the R9 Assembly and Board when appropriate
- Ensuring that the Secretary gets written Bylaw reports at the beginning and end of Assembly
- After the revised Bylaws and P & P Manual have been checked furnishing the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Web Committee Chair with an electronic of the up-dated Bylaws and Policy & Procedure Manual in time to have these available on the web site at the same time as the minutes of the Assembly (in accordance with Region 9 Bylaws Art VII S2 Duties 2 – within 45 days of the Assembly). (2008h)
- Sending a printed copy of all proposed Bylaw Amendments to the Chair of the Board to be included in the mailing with the Agenda for Assembly
- Gathering an active committee to work throughout the year, reviewing the Bylaws and preparing new or revised motions where necessary. These members may be from anywhere within R9 but it is vitally important to encourage people from the Chair's local Intergroup who will be at hand to do the practical work
- To update the P&P Manual annually. While updating the manual make any spelling, punctuation or grammatical corrections as necessary so that the intent of the policy is unchanged. To ensure that the layout of the document is consistent and clear. (2008g)

It is helpful to remember that when the Chairperson presents amendments she/he will have to defend them and so it can be helpful to have notes from the committee as to intent - one may not always remember why the committee selected a particular wording. (1999h)

TRUSTEE

Motion adopted for proposal as an amendment to WSBC bylaws "An applicant for R9 trustee shall live in R9 and also have at least one year's service on the board or committee level of the R9 assembly." (1991k)

REGION 9 REPRESENTATIVE

A Region 9 Representative is an OA member chosen by an Intergroup/NSB/LSB/unaffiliated group meeting within Region 9 to be its representative during the Region 9 Assembly, and to carry out all the associated tasks of a liaison between the Assembly and the represented group. Groups are encouraged to choose their representatives for a 2 or 3 year period, so that the representative is able to learn the Assembly procedures and stand for regional elections.

1 According to the Region 9 Bylaws Article IV, Section 2f and Section 2(II)c, a representative of an unaffiliated group may be granted a voice and even a vote if and only if this is approved by the majority of the Assembly. The group might decide to send its representative to the Region 9 Convention as well.

1. Registration for the Assembly/Convention.

After the Assembly/Convention details have been decided upon by the hosting group and sent out to service bodies by the Region 9 Secretary, it is the responsibility of the representative to:
OA Region 9 Policies and Procedures – A Summary of Continuing Effects Motions

a) Register for the Assembly with the Region 9 Secretary (using the form provided by the Region), taking care to do so before the registration deadline stated on the form. If the representative wishes to participate in the Convention, they should register for that event following the instructions provided by the hosting service body.

In addition to that, the representative can ask the region for financial assistance, in case the cost of participating in the Assembly prove to be too high for their service body to cover. The request has to be made within 2 months after receiving the Assembly invitation. Note that the funds allocated for representative assistance are limited and there is no guarantee that the support will be granted to all those applying.

b) Book Hotel Accommodation – the representative may choose to stay at the place where the Assembly and Convention are held (details will be provided by the Region), which usually proves the most convenient option, but if they wish, they may also find a different place to stay.

c) Organise and book the travel arrangements.

2. Receive the Assembly Materials Binder before the Assembly.
Materials relating to the business that is to be carried out during the Assembly will be sent out before the Assembly takes place. On the Assembly registration form the representative will be asked whether they wish to receive an electronic or a printed copy of the materials. The representative should read those materials (they will include information on the motions that are to be voted upon) and, if possible, discuss them with the service body they represent. The service body has the right to instruct its representative according to the way they should vote. However, as new information and amendments to the motions may appear during the Assembly, most service bodies allow their trusted representatives to make the final decision as to the voting during the Assembly itself.

3. Committee Participation.
The representatives are encouraged to join one of the following Region 9 committees: Budget, Bylaws, Electronic Communications, Translations, Twelfth step within. Although committee meetings take place during the Assembly, in most cases members are required to work for the committee throughout the year.

4. Assembly Participation.
The representative is to attend all of the business sessions of the Assembly in order to vote and participate in the debates.

5. Standing for Elections
During every Assembly, elections for positions of Committee Chairs and members of Region 9 Board are held (see Region 9 Bylaws, Article VII, Section 3 and Article IX, Section 3). A representative that feels willing to serve at region level is welcome to put themselves forward as a candidate. They may want to discuss such a decision with the Region Chair and their sponsor.

6. Reporting back to the Service Body.
The representative is supposed to report the matters discussed by the Assembly back to their service body. The report should also cover the Assembly workshops, as well as any ideas and goals for the future. The form of this report is up to the representative and their service body. Many representatives prepare written reports and present them during workshops.

7. Hand your service to the next representative.
Encourage your group to choose its next representative a year before your term is due to end. During that year, allow the person chosen to have a closer look at your work and assist them when their term begins.

(2010d)
III  REGION 9 COMMITTEES
COMMITTEES RELEVANT FOR REGION 9
The following committees will operate: Budget, Bylaws, Electronic Communications, Translations. (1997b)
Twelfth step within (2008j)
TRANSLATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR Will be the centre for information flow about translation and printing of OA material, both for matters of policy and of process. (1997b)
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS Will be the centre for information flow about electronic communications, both for matters of policy and of process. (1997b)
REGION 9 PLAN (formally “Long Range Planning Committee”) The Long Range Planning Committee has completed its work and will cease to exist. Planning will form part of the work of the full Assembly. One member will be appointed to give a presentation on Region 9 planning at each Assembly. (1997b)
TWELFTH STEP WITHIN The purpose of this committee is to offer support and guidance to new and existing groups and service bodies. (2008j)
SUPPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Move that a “Buddy” system be brought into place for committee chairs to support each other in the work they have undertaken for the year. (2002b)

IV  REGION 9 TRANSLATIONS
ASSEMBLY ASSISTANCE WITH TRANSLATIONS
The R9 Assembly will assist the Service Boards within Region 9 by doing the necessary legal work for getting translated literature approved by the WSO. At the assembly, the translations committee will assist with filling in and explaining the licensing agreement forms to get translated literature approved. (2008k)
Each year at the Assembly we will set aside time in the agenda for issues regarding translating literature. We will help each other with questions regarding translating literature, understanding the different licensing agreement forms, filling in licensing agreement forms, copyright-issues and other issues related to translating literature. (2008n)
TRANSLATIONS GUIDELINES
The Translation guidelines submitted by the R9 Translations committee in 1999 and updated in 2002 and approved in 2005 have now been rescinded and R9 will now refer to the document ‘OA GUIDELINES – TRANSLATION GUIDELINES FOR OA LITERATURE’ which is available on the www.oa.org website for the worldwide fellowship of OA (2011b)

V  FINANCE AND BUDGET
REGION 9 FUNDS TO BE USED LOCALLY
In the event of an Intergroup having on hand funds raised for Region 9, these can, with permission, be used for Region 9 purposes in that country without going through central account. (1983d)
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DELEGATES TO REGION 9 ASSEMBLY
Financial assistance be granted to delegates travelling to Region 9 Assemblies. Draft claim form approved. (1985b)
That the mailings to all member groups and Intergroups as in article 5(ii) of the Bylaws, shall include applications for assistance. This application form will also be posted on the R9 website. Completed application forms will be submitted to the R9 Treasurer at least 4 months prior to the date of the Assembly. (2011d)
It is requested that the service bodies attach to the application form for assistance – the latest financial summary of the service body and that they give details of any funding for attendance at Region 9 Assembly from elsewhere. The Region 9 Board are authorized to consider (by email) those applications (2008c)
The Assembly resolves that priority for financial assistance for Regional representatives travelling to the R9 Assembly will be given to those IGs and NSBs that cannot afford to fund a delegate on their own, to those with the greatest distance to travel and to those attending their first Assembly. (1996h) (2011c)
The Board is authorized to make a decision on transferring up to EUR 2400.00 (GBP 1700.00) from Service to Delegate Assistance, 3 months before the next Assembly, whenever that takes place. (2007a)
Payment of this assistance will be at the Assembly itself. (2011c)
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR TRANSLATION / PRINTING
Move to provide funding for the professional translation and/or printing of Literature.
After adopting the Budget for Translation at the Region Nine Assembly, application forms will be sent out with the minutes of the Assembly. The treasurer will then send a reminder (via the Secretary) to all service bodies by email by 31st January. These applications must be sent to the treasurer by 31st March of the following year. The board is authorised to make a decision on the allocation of the translation and printing of literature budget by 30th April. Consideration will be given by order of priority as follows:

Service Boards
a) who currently do not have anything translated in their language  
b) are interested in translating The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous. (amended 2011e)

The Officers will consider the applications and make payments by 31st May.

It is required that the Service Body requesting such funds
a) Include that in the application, a list of material that has already been translated in that language
b) Considers that this funding is a “payment on account” with a view to it being contributed back (in part or full) to Region Nine as the literature is sold, so that funds are reintroduced for translation of further material in future years

c) Make a substantive contribution to the cost and give details in the application.

The appropriate forms are available from the Secretary. (2004f)(amended 2008b)

SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION SPLIT
Donations to be divided 70/30 between service/delegates, unless otherwise specified. (1989d)

FUNDING OF REGION 9 CHAIR TO WSBC & ALL REGION 9 BOARD TO REGION 9 ASSEMBLY
Region 9 chairman to attend every World Service Conference. (1989h)

To fund all Region 9 officers to attend R9 assembly. (1999k)

SATELLITE BANKING
Move to amend the P&P manual by adding the description of Satellite banking as follows: The Satellite banking concept described in the minutes of the 1994 Assembly is endorsed by the R9 Assembly as a procedure for simplifying and regulating the money transfers between donations and expenses in R9. (1994a)

ORGANISATION OF BANKING
Move to authorise the Regional Treasurer to set up a Business Account with PayPal.com. (2004b)
Move to authorise the Regional Treasurer to open an interest bearing deposit account with a bank. (2004c)
Move to authorise the Regional Treasurer to open a new bank account with an institution chosen at the Treasurer’s discretion. (2004d)

FUND RAISING PRODUCT
Move that R9 shall have a fund raising product for sale. (1994b)
The finance committee shall investigate and purchase OA Region 9 merchandise for sale at WSBC and other OA events, to raise funds for Region 9. (2002f)

SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION TO REGION 9
To suggest to all Region 9 groups and service bodies that they aim to contribute a minimum of 5% of their annual income to Region 9. The suggested contribution, however it is to be paid, payable before 1st September each year. (2009c)

SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION TO WSO
Adopt a suggested contribution per group to WSO however it is paid of equal to 1/3 of its contribution to Region 9. (2006i)

ACCOUNTING YEAR, ACCOUNTS & REVIEW THEREOF
The Account year for Region 9 shall be 1st June to 31st May and the review of these accounts shall be completed by 31st August of the same year.
The person reviewing the accounts shall be an appointee of the Region 9 Board and shall ideally be a qualified account (or equivalent) and shall live in the same country as the Region 9 Treasurer.
The Region 9 Treasurer shall make available to the person reviewing the accounts all records, or copies of all records relating to the Region 9 Accounts.
The Region 9 Treasurer will furnish the person reviewing the accounts with details of all monies held in Satellite Banking and the names and addresses of the person/bodies holding these monies.
The person reviewing the accounts shall satisfy themselves of the accuracy of the Region 9 Accounts and shall verify the balance in all Satellite Banking Accounts.
The person reviewing the accounts shall submit a written report to the Region 9 Board. (2006b)
REGISTRATION FEE FOR ASSEMBLY
Move to charge 50€/£33 or equivalent registration fee for the Region Nine Assembly, payable upon registration at the Assembly. (2006d)
AD-HOC PAYMENTS FOR MISCELLANEOUS BY COMMITTEE CHAIRS
That Committee Chairpersons can spend up to EUR 110.00 (GBP 73.33) for Region 9 without prior permission from Assembly, Region 9 Chairperson or Secretary. (2006g)

VI WEBSITE
ACQUIRE WEBSITE FOR REGION 9 & COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED TO AGREE CONTENT & DESIGN
Region 9 will register/purchase the domain name OARegion9.org Cost: £20/year ($30/year to buy domain name); usually paid 2 years in advance (monthly) + £50 for source (to keep it running), DNS Service (£80 per year?) (2000b)
NB The Region 9 website address has now been revised to :- www.oaregion9.org
Motion adopted to establish a Region 9 web site. A committee will be set up to agree content and technical design.
Committee members will include
 - content editor
 - technical editor
who will liaise with the Region 9 Board. (2001c)

AUTOMATION OF WORLD SERVICE ONLINE MEETING
Motion adopted that Region 9
a) investigates options and cost benefits for the automation of the world service online meeting.
b) contact other Region chairs to get their views on the value of the automation with a view to putting forward a proposal to the world service office at the next world service business conference. (2001e)

WSO ONLINE MEETING DIRECTORY
We move to ask World Service, to investigate the options and costs to improve the search capabilities of the world service online meeting directory. The search results should be narrowed down by allowing search by “closest city” and zip code, and the results should be displayed in a single page making it quicker to find the appropriate meeting. The meeting form would have to be changed to include “closest city.” (2002d)

PUBLICATIONS POLICY
Every registered Service Body within Region 9, as well as the WSO or other Regions, can submit material to place on the Region 9 website. (2008l)
We move to create a document explaining the procedure for application to the Region 9 translation fund. (2009a)

MAINTAINING ANONYMITY
The Region 9 Electronic Communications Committee Chair and the Region 9 Secretary will ensure anonymity is maintained when publishing material from registered Service Bodies within Region 9, WSO or other Regions. (2008m)

NOTIFICATION FOR FUNDING FOR TRANSLATION
The Region 9 Website should include the “Notification concerning Application for Funding for Translation and Printing of OA 12 Steps and 12 Traditions in Region 9” as attached to this motion. (2010a)
The Region 9 Website should include the document “How do service bodies trying to translate OA literature apply for financial assistance from Region 9?” (Refer Appendix) (2010c)
VII SERVICE BODIES
MANUAL FOR NATIONAL /LANGUAGE SERVICE BOARDS
Motion adopted that Region 9 should produce a Manual for National and Language Service Boards, including sample Bylaws, that allow flexibility and options for different needs, with examples from bylaws already established and from the current draft. (2001b)
Move that the Assembly adopt the outline of the guidelines as revised for National/Language Service Boards. (2002a)
Adoption of the Guidelines for National/Language Service Boards under the title Region 9 Manual: Guidelines for National/Language Service Boards and also publish it on the Region Web Site. (2005c)
NEW GROUPS & CONTACT WITHIN REGION 9
When new groups emerge in R9 the Chair and Trustee will encourage neighbours to help each other and use money from the liaison budget to promote service visits from an existing IG or NSB to these new areas of OA activity. (1996g)
RESTRUCTURING WSBC
This Region believes that restructuring decisions should take account of both cost and principle – they are equally important. (200f)
OA OVERALL SERVICE STRUCTURE
The following statements were adopted. Under the current structure we do not recommend breaking up into further groups. Recommend Option 1. To consider carrying on as is.
Recommend that the assembly seek to improve communication during the year and that the strategic planning groups specifically work on this as action items. For now we do not foresee the development of an OA International and believe it is in the best interest of countries in Region 9 to maintain representation at WSBC. We recommend that Region 9 Assembly take action to promote an increase of contributions to Region 9 and World Service Office.
We do not recommend country autonomy at this time.
In the long term we see Europe & Eastern Mediterranean as one group and Africa and Asia as separate groups. (2000c)
1. Motion adopted reaffirm the 2000 Region 9 Assembly statement:
For now we do not foresee the development of an OA International and believe it is in the best interest of countries in Region 9 to maintain representation at World Service Business Conference.
We recommend that Region 9 Assembly take action to promote an increase of contributions to Region 9 and World Service Office.
We do not recommend country autonomy at this time.
2. Continue to relay this message within the OA service structure, creating a restructuring sub-committee for this purpose. (2001a)
REGISTER OF SERVICE BODIES AND ATTENDANCE TO BE INCLUDED IN ASSEMBLY MATERIALS
The Assembly Materials of Region 9 are to include a register of Region 9 countries with details of Intergroups in each country and the current number of groups, also including details of when the service body was represented at Region Assembly. (2010c)

VIII PUBLIC INFORMATION
REGION 9 WEEK
Move to adopt a Region 9 week to think of our members and the still suffering compulsive overeater. Also in view of our geography, countries, states and language barriers within our Region to think about OAs who may be living in troubled or poor areas. (2006e)
The first week of September is designated as Region 9 week. (2008c)
The Assembly will make a detailed plan for PI work in order to increase awareness of OA in countries that do not have any OA meetings at all or have only very few meetings. The nature and content of this PI will be decided by the Assembly or the Translation and PI committees. (2008i)
IX WORLD SERVICE BUSINESS CONFERENCE & WSO

FUNDING OF REGION 9 CHAIR TO WSBC
Region 9 chairman to attend every World Service Conference. (1989h)

REGIONAL DELEGATES TO WSBC
1. If the Region is represented by less than forty per cent of its Intergroups, up to 5 additional delegates to WSBC could be selected.
2. Preference shall be given to Delegates from Intergroups and service bodies that otherwise will not be represented.
3. If there are no candidates from those Intergroups, the Region 9 Assembly will select the candidates from among its voting members who will be able to attend WSBC.
4. The selection of candidates will be made at the yearly Region 9 Assembly.
5. All candidates have to comply with the qualifications for delegates in the OA Inc, Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X, Section 3, c, 1-5.
6. Intergroups that submit candidates to be selected as Region 9 Delegates to the WSBC have to file an application at least 60 days prior to the Region 9 Assembly where the selection will be made.
7. All applications are to be sent to the Region 9 Treasurer.
8. The Treasurer will inform the Region 9 Assembly of the Candidates on the Friday morning and the Assembly will make a selection from among those having filed the Application provided they meet the requirements.
9. The funding of the Region 9 Delegate will depend on the availability of funds. If the funds are available the Region 9 Delegate to the WSBC will be funded according to the Policy and Procedure 1996h.
10. Prior to selection of the delegates, the Treasurer will inform the Assembly of the funds available for this purpose.
11. The number of delegates selected will depend on the funds available, but in any case shall not be more than five. (2006c)

COMMUNICATION FROM WSO
Move to instruct WSO that all mailings sent out to Service Boards and which require responses to be returned to WSO, will allow for a minimum of 60 days for the required response to be returned. These mailings will be made available electronically and electronic returns will be acceptable. (2002k)

FUNDING OF REGION 9 DELEGATES
Delegates representing Region 9 as a whole may be sent to the WSBC if funds are available within the Region 9 budget or from the WSO. Those delegates will be (in order of privilege, in case the financial supplies are limited): the R9 board secretary, the R9 treasurer, and/or OA members from within Region 9 who have been to the World Service Business Conference before, meet the requirements for a WSBC delegate and will not be representing any other service body at the WSBC. Information about such persons being sought will be mailed to the service bodies that are sending delegates to the R9 Assembly in the year before the Conference in Question, the order of applications will determine the choice of the future Region 9 delegates. (2010f)

X CONVENTION

DURATION OF CONVENTION & MISC
Length of Convention at the discretion of its host SB. (1991l)
The annual Region 9 Assembly will be held within Region Nine. On even years, a Region 9 Convention will not be necessarily held. (1999b)
XI  MISCELLANEOUS

REGION 9 OFFICE
Move to adopt a policy to prepare guidelines for setting up an office. (1995k)

ANOREXIA / BULIMIA
Region 9 to propose new business policy motion for WSBC 1998 to rescind WSBC policy 1982a that states
“Overeaters Anonymous does not have any literature for specific eating disorders other than compulsive
overeating. We welcome in love and fellowship all who have the desire to stop eating compulsively”. (1997f)

Anorexic/Bulimic issue After a long and moving discussion the following position statement was adopted:
We believe our literature is not yet inclusive; it is especially important that the first contact with a newcomer (of
all types) be inclusive.
The term “compulsive eater” is more inclusive than “compulsive overeater.”
Some members feel that the term “abstinence” is the biggest obstacle to an inclusive approach.
The majority feel that what we have in common is our thinking.
Some feel that the real differences exist but that it is possible to find common ground within the existing
literature. (1997h)

WSO ENCRYPTION PROGRAM TO SAFEGUARD ANONYMITY & PERSONAL DATA
Move to implement an encryption program within 3 months to allow for secure transmission of all online
meeting updates, between the computer at which the data is entered and the WSO server. This program will
further safeguard the anonymity of members whose personal data appears on the update form. (2002i)

FOOD PLANS
Move that in the event that WSBC does not adopt the pamphlet Dignity of Choice, the WSBC Policy 2000a
directing the Board of Trustees to develop this pamphlet, will be rescinded. The Board of Trustees shall evaluate
the events that took place at WSBC between 2000-2003.
The BOT will collect further information from Regions, National/Language Service Boards and Intergroups and
will submit their conclusions and/or proposals for bringing about unity on the issue of food plans to WSBC
2004.(2002I)

NOTEBOOK
Region 9 will cease to publish the Notebook. (2004e)

REGION 9 NEWSLETTER
Region 9 Assembly to implement a newsletter. The newsletter is to be produced at least once a year, after the
assembly. This Region 9 Newsletter might include articles written by the Region 9 Committees, the Region 9
Representatives, the Region 9 Board and the R9 Trustee as well as news about the assembly itself that is not
included in the minutes, and other features and articles relevant to the region. The R9 Newsletter is
recommended to be 2 pages in size with one page divided equally and to be devoted to articles from the Region
9 Committees. The other page to be devoted to articles submitted by representatives attending the assembly or
the R9 Board / Trustee. The Newsletter will be assembled by an appointed member of Region 9 and the R9
Secretary. Articles should be submitted within 45 days of the assembly. The newsletter will then be produced
within a further – 30 days, reviewed by the R9 Board & Trustee and then placed on the Region 9 website.
(2010e)
INTRODUCTION
It is noted that all motions appearing in this summary were adopted by the group conscience of the Overeaters Anonymous Region Nine Assembly. Furthermore, until changed, these motions set self-imposed limits on the Region.

Continuing Effect Motions

1983a  The primary purpose of the Region 9 Assembly is the same as that of all OA service - to carry the OA message to the still suffering compulsive overeaters, wherever they live and whatever language they speak. In fulfilling our purpose, we should ever strive to achieve worldwide OA unity and common policies among all countries. With love and tolerance as our code, together we can do what we could never do alone.

1983d  In the event of an Intergroup having on hand funds raised for Region 9, these can, with permission, be used for Region 9 purposes in that country without going through central account.

1985b  Financial assistance be granted to delegates travelling to Region 9 Assemblies. Draft claim form approved.

1988d  That the mailings to all member groups and Intergroups, as in article 5(ii) of the Bylaws, shall include applications for assistance to be returned within 2 months. To restrict assistance to Intergroups at present, and to include a registration form with this mailing. Rescinded by 2011d

1989b  That Assembly be extended to two full days.

1989d  Donations to be divided 70/30 between service/delegates, unless otherwise specified.

1989h  Region 9 chairman to attend every World Service Conference.

1991k  Motion adopted for proposal as an amendment to WSBC bylaws "An applicant for R9 trustee shall live in R9 and also have at least one year's service on the board or committee level of the R9 assembly."

1991l  Motion to leave the length of a convention at the discretion of a host country agreed.

1991m  Motion to call the European Service meeting, the R9 European Service meeting agreed

1994a  Move to amend the P&P manual by adding the description of Satellite banking as follows: The Satellite banking concept described in the minutes of the 1994 Assembly is endorsed by the R9 Assembly as a procedure for simplifying and regulating the money transfers between donations and expenses in R9.

1994b  Move that R9 shall have a fund raising product for sale.

1995j  Move to adopt a policy to translate material into French. This material will include information from Region 9 and WSO, and various forms. The policy would be implemented by a committee of Israeli members, to be formed for this purpose.

1995k  Move to adopt a policy to prepare guidelines for setting up an office.
Move that Region 9 adopts the following forms:

1. Officer and Committee Chairs
2. Delegate Registration.

The Assembly will divide up the list of IGs and NSBs not represented here at Assembly amongst the delegates who are here. Each delegate here will be responsible for undertaking some liaison activity with the IG or NSB they have adopted. Each delegate will then submit a written report to the Region 9 Chair within 6 months of Assembly.

When new groups emerge in R9 the Chair and Trustee will encourage neighbours to help each other and use money from the liaison budget to promote service visits from an existing IG or NSB to these new areas of OA activity.

The Assembly resolves that priority for financial assistance for Regional representatives travelling to the R9 Assembly will be given to those IGs and NSBs with the greatest distance to travel and secondly to those attending their first Assembly. Amended by 2011c

At each Assembly there will be an orientation session. The aim being to give delegates (particularly first time delegates) a general overview of the processes of the Assembly.

The following committees will operate: Budget, Bylaws, Electronic Communications, Translations.

TRANSLATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR Will be the centre for information flow about translation and printing of OA material, both for matters of policy and of process.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS Will be the centre for information flow about electronic communications, both for matters of policy and of process.

REGION 9 PLAN (formally “Long Range Planning Committee”) The Long Range Planning Committee has completed its work and will cease to exist. Planning will form part of the work of the full Assembly. One member will be appointed to give a presentation on Region 9 planning at each Assembly.

Region 9 to propose new business policy motion for WSBC 1998 to rescind WSBC policy 1982a that states “Overeaters Anonymous does not have any literature for specific eating disorders other than compulsive overeating. We welcome in love and fellowship all who have the desire to stop eating compulsively”.

Anorexic/Bulimic issue After a long and moving discussion the following position statement was adopted:

We believe our literature is not yet inclusive; it is especially important that the first contact with a newcomer (of all types) be inclusive.

The term “compulsive eater” is more inclusive than “compulsive overeater.”

Some members feel that the term “abstinence” is the biggest obstacle to an inclusive approach.

The majority feel that what we have in common is our thinking.

Some feel that the real differences exist but that it is possible to find common ground within the existing literature.

Addresses are to be provided on the contact list attached to the assembly minutes. Any person not willing to have their address published, should advise the secretary at the Assembly, who will not publish their address.

The annual Region 9 Assembly will be held within Region Nine.
To suggest to all Region 9 Intergroups and National/Language Service Boards that they set a goal for annual Contributions to R9. The suggested amount will be reviewed at the annual Assembly.

Amended 2004

Move to adopt the following

JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS as part of our Regional policy and procedure.

CHAIRPERSON:

The Chairperson is elected by the Region 9 Assembly for a period of two years and fills a variety of duties:

- Chairs the R9 business assemblies, including preparation of the Agenda
- Communicates with the different R9 officers and committees during the year
- Attends functions within the Region, where budget allows
- Represents R9 at the World Service level, including at the WSBC
- Represents R9 in the Board of Trustees Intergroup and Region committee (IGAR) - Works with the R9 Trustee on some of the issues directly concerning the Region
- Chairs the R9 Board
- Is responsible for ensuring that an Officer Nomination form is sent to each Intergroup and Delegate in an election year
- Is responsible for sending a Bid form for hosting a R9 Assembly to Intergroups and Delegates on election year

TREASURER:

The Treasurer is elected by the Region 9 Assembly for a period of two years and fills a variety of duties:

- Chairs R9's Budget and Finance committee
- Prepares an annual budget for approval of the assembly
- Maintains records of all Income and expenses incurred by the different activities in the Region
- Provide an annual report of all contributions received, as well as income and expenses
- Maintains the R9 bank account and records of monies kept by different functions in other countries (satellite banking)
- Serves on the R9 Board

SECRETARY:

The main responsibilities of the Secretary are to produce and mail minutes of all Region 9 Assemblies, and maintain updated listing of R9 Intergroups and National/Language Service Boards. The procedure for this is as follows:
MINUTES OF THE ASSEMBLY:

1. The Chair will send out an agenda prior to the Assembly, and will include reminders to all Officers and presenters of topics to bring with them to Assembly a written report for inclusion with the minutes.

2. It is useful to record the Assembly with a tape recorder. A small hand held machine is quite adequate.

3. At Assembly, the Secretary needs to collect copies of all reports to be included with the minutes. It is also necessary that all motions are given to the Secretary in writing. It is important to note the name of the proposer and seconder, and the count of the voting on each motion.

4. The time scale for producing the minutes is short, and it is helpful to have copies of all paperwork to be included with the minutes in your possession, when coming home from the assembly, as there may not be time to use the postal system and still get the minutes out in the timescale set out in the bylaws.

5. Typing the actual minutes is time consuming. It's probably a full day's work. When the first draft is complete, it is useful to fax a copy of the minutes to the chair, or another officer who was present at the Assembly for any comments. It's also useful to have a local member proof read the minutes for spelling or grammar mistakes. The minutes will include all reports, and revised copies of the R9 Bylaws and P&P Manuals, if possible.

6. Once the minutes are printed and bound in a simple binder, one copy can be taken to the post office where it is weighed and the postage costs for the different parts of the world assessed. Then one can buy the stamps and do the mailing from home, if that is suitable. The minutes are expensive to produce, so it is always helpful to keep a balance of monies in a satellite account if the Secretary is not in local contact with the Treasurer.

UPDATE OF LISTS Another duty for the Secretary is to see that an up to date list of all R9 Intergroups and National/Language Service Boards is mailed periodically to each R9 officer. This is compiled from information which the Intergroups may send directly to the Secretary and also from the information which the World Service Office sends directly to the Secretary. The World Service Office will send a list of all Intergroups and meetings in R9 to the Secretary periodically, as well as all enquiry letters they may have received. The letters are forwarded to the Outreach chair who will send off letters welcoming new meetings. It is helpful for the Secretary to inform the R9 Trustee or Chair of new Intergroups forming in the Region. It is useful to keep in contact with the R9 Chair on a regular basis.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE The Chairperson of the Bylaws Committee is elected at the R9 Assembly and serves for a period of two years with the option of being re-elected for a further two years. The duties would include:

- Chairing committee meetings and reporting back to the R9 Assembly and Board when appropriate

- Ensuring that the Secretary gets written Bylaw reports at the beginning and end of Assembly

Amended 2008h

- Sending a printed copy of all proposed Bylaw Amendments to the Chair of the Board to be included in the mailing with the Agenda for Assembly

- Gathering an active committee to work throughout the year, reviewing the Bylaws and preparing new or revised motions where necessary. These members may be from anywhere within R9 but it is vitally important to encourage people from the Chair's local Intergroup who will be at hand to do the practical work Amended 2008g
It is helpful to remember that when the Chairperson presents amendments she/he will have to defend them and so it can be helpful to have notes from the committee as to intent - one may not always remember why the committee selected a particular wording.

1999k  To fund all Region 9 officers to attend R9 assembly.

1999l  The Translation guidelines submitted by the Translations committee were adopted. Rescinded by 2011b

2000b  Region 9 will register/purchase the domain name OARegion9.org Cost: £20/year ($30/year to buy domain name); usually paid 2 years in advance (monthly) + £50 for source (to keep it running), DNS Service (£80 per year?) (Website now www.oaregion9.org)

2000c  The following statements were adopted. Under the current structure we do not recommend breaking up into further groups. Recommend Option 1. To consider carrying on as is.

  Recommend that the assembly seek to improve communication during the year and that the strategic planning groups specifically work on this as action items. For now we do not foresee the development of an OA International and believe it is in the best interest of countries in Region 9 to maintain representation at WSBC.

  We recommend that Region 9 Assembly take action to promote an increase of contributions to Region 9 and World Service Office.

  We do not recommend country autonomy at this time.

  In the long term we see Europe & Eastern Mediterranean as one group and Africa and Asia as separate groups.

2001a  1. Motion adopted reaffirm the 2000 Region 9 Assembly statement:

  For now we do not foresee the development of an OA International and believe it is in the best interest of countries in Region 9 to maintain representation at World Service Business Conference.

  We recommend that Region 9 Assembly take action to promote an increase of contributions to Region 9 and World Service Office.

  We do not recommend country autonomy at this time.

  2. Continue to relay this message within the OA service structure, creating a restructuring sub-committee for this purpose.

2001b  Motion adopted that Region 9 should produce a Manual for National and Language Service Boards, including sample Bylaws, that allow flexibility and options for different needs, with examples from bylaws already established and from the current draft.

2001c  Motion adopted to establish a Region 9 web site. A committee will be set up to agree content and technical design.

  Committee members will include

  -content editor

  -technical editor

  who will liaise with the Region 9 Board.

2001e  Motion adopted that Region 9

  a) investigates options and cost benefits for the automation of the world service online meeting.
b) contact other Region chairs to get their views on the value of the automation with a view to putting forward a proposal to the world service office at the next world service business conference.

2002a Move that the Assembly adopt the outline of the guidelines as revised for National/Language Service Boards.

2002b Move that a “Buddy” system be brought into place for committee chairs to support each other in the work they have undertaken for the year. Rescinded by 2011b

2002c Move to add the following statements to the current Region 9 Translations Guidelines in the appropriate places:

“When OA Literature is updated, it is recommended that Service Boards selling existing stock insert an errata slip when detailing the most recent changes.”

“Be aware that there may be people in other regions/countries working on translations in your own language. Consider in keeping in contact with them.”

2002d We move to ask World Service, to investigate the options and costs to improve the search capabilities of the world service online meeting directory. The search results should be narrowed down by allowing search by “closest city” and zip code, and the results should be displayed in a single page making it quicker to find the appropriate meeting. The meeting form would have to be changed to include “closest city.”

2002f The finance committee shall investigate and purchase OA Region 9 merchandise for sale at WSBC and other OA events, to raise funds for Region 9.

2002g Motion adopted “to revise the format of the Region 9 Guidelines for translations, by adding an index, sub-headings, bullet points and editorial changes.” Rescinded by 2011b

2002h Move that reports and documents be delivered to the registered representatives prior to Assembly.

2002i Move to implement an encryption program within 3 months to allow for secure transmission of all online meeting updates, between the computer at which the data is entered and the WSO server. This program will further safeguard the anonymity of members whose personal data appears on the update form.

2002j Move that representatives of the Region 9 Assembly volunteer to be in contact on a regular basis with a service body (bodies) that are not represented currently at the Region 9 Assembly. The representatives will report to the Region 9 Chair every 3 months about progress made.

2002k Move to instruct WSO that all mailings sent out to Service Boards and which require responses to be returned to WSO, will allow for a minimum of 60 days for the required response to be returned. These mailings will be made available electronically and electronic returns will be acceptable.

2002l Move that in the event that WSBC does not adopt the pamphlet Dignity of Choice, the WSBC Policy 2000a directing the Board of Trustees to develop this pamphlet, will be rescinded. The Board of Trustees shall evaluate the events that took place at WSBC between 2000-2003.

The BOT will collect further information from Regions, National/Language Service Boards and Intergroups and will submit their conclusions and/or proposals for bringing about unity on the issue of food plans to WSBC 2004.

2004a Move to approve the newly revised R9 Vital Link.

2004b Move to authorise the Regional Treasurer to set up a Business Account with PayPal.com.

2004c Move to authorise the Regional Treasurer to open an interest bearing deposit account with a bank.
2004d Move to authorise the Regional Treasurer to open a new bank account with an institution chosen at the Treasurer’s discretion.

2004e Region 9 will cease to publish the Notebook.

2004f FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR TRANSLATION / PRINTING
Move to provide funding for the professional translation and/or printing of Literature.
After adopting the Budget for Translation at the Region Nine Assembly, application forms will be sent out with the minutes of the Assembly. The treasurer will then send a reminder (via the Secretary) to all service bodies by email by 31st January. These applications must be sent to the treasurer by 31st March of the following year. The board is authorised to make a decision on the allocation of the translation and printing of literature budget by 30th April. Consideration will be given by order of priority as follows:
Service Boards
a) who currently do not have anything translated in their language
b) who have a small number of pamphlets currently translated (approved or not approved)
c) are interested in translating The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous.
The Officers will consider the applications and make payments by 31st May.
It is required that the Service Body requesting such funds
a) Include that in the application, a list of material that has already been translated in that language
b) Considers that this funding is a “payment on account” with a view to it being contributed back (in part or full) to Region Nine as the literature is sold, so that funds are reintroduced for translation of further material in future years
c) Make a substantive contribution to the cost and give details in the application.
The appropriate forms are available from the Secretary. Amended by 2011e

2005a Move to adopt the Region 9 Minutes to a manageable size. The Region 9 Minutes will contain:
Date/Time and place of Region 9 Assembly, names of Officers, number of representatives present, record of action taken on the minutes of the previous meeting, the exact wording of each motion as it was voted on, and whether it passed or failed, the maker’s name. If the vote counted, the count should be included. Any notice given at the meeting. Points of order and appeals, and Committee reports. The revised version of Region 9 Bylaws and P & P can be obtained from the Region 9 web site or can be requested from the Region 9 secretary. To avoid confusing the Minutes with other Region 9 Assembly materials, they will be called Region 9 Minutes.

2005b Move to approve the Translation Guidelines. Rescinded by 2011b


2006a Automatically remove outdated or completed Region 9 Assembly policies from the Policies and Procedure manual

2006b The Account year for Region 9 shall be 1st June to 31st May and the review of these accounts shall be completed by 31st August of the same year.
The person reviewing the accounts shall be an appointee of the Region 9 Board and shall ideally be a qualified account (or equivalent) and shall live in the same country as the Region 9 Treasurer.
The Region 9 Treasurer shall make available to the person reviewing the accounts all records, or copies of all records relating to the Region 9 Accounts.
The Region 9 Treasurer will furnish the person reviewing the accounts with details of all monies held in Satellite Banking and the names and addresses of the person/bodies holding these monies.
The person reviewing the accounts shall satisfy themselves of the accuracy of the Region 9 Accounts and shall verify the balance in all Satellite Banking Accounts. The person reviewing the accounts shall submit a written report to the Region 9 Board.
1. If the Region is represented by less than forty per cent of its Intergroups, up to 5 additional delegates to WSBC could be selected.

2. Preference shall be given to Delegates from Intergroups and service bodies that otherwise will not be represented.

3. If there are no candidates from those Intergroups, the Region 9 Assembly will select the candidates from among its voting members who will be able to attend WSBC.

4. The selection of candidates will be made at the yearly Region 9 Assembly. All candidates have to comply with the qualifications for delegates in the OA Inc, Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X, Section 3, c, 1-5.6. Intergroups that submit candidates to be selected as Region 9 Delegates to the WSBC have to file an application at least 60 days prior to the Region 9 Assembly where the selection will be made. 7. All applications are to be sent to the Region 9 Treasurer.

8. The Treasurer will inform the Region 9 Assembly of the Candidates on the Friday morning and the Assembly will make a selection from among those having filed the Application provided they meet the requirements.

9. The funding of the Region 9 Delegate will depend on the availability of funds. If the funds are available the Region 9 Delegate to the WSBC will be funded according to the Policy and Procedure 1996h.10. Prior to selection of the delegates, the Treasurer will inform the Assembly of the funds available for this purpose.

11. The number of delegates selected will depend on the funds available, but in any case shall not be more than five.

Move to charge 50€/£33 or equivalent registration fee for the Region Nine Assembly, payable upon registration at the Assembly.

Move to adopt a Region 9 week to think of our members and the still suffering compulsive overeater. Also in view of our geography, countries, states and language barriers within our Region to think about OAs who may be living in troubled or poor areas.

That Committee Chairpersons can spend up to EUR 110.00 (GBP 73.33) for Region 9 without prior permission from Assembly, Region 9 Chairperson or Secretary.

Adopt a suggested contribution per group to WSO however it is paid of equal to 1/3 of its contribution to region 9.

The Board is authorized to make a decision on transferring up to EUR 2400.00 (GBP 1700.00) from Service to Delegate Assistance, 4 months before the next Assembly, whenever that takes place.

Re-organise the Region 9 Policies & Procedures by removing the current ‘index’ section and organising the various detailed motions in the first instance into a list of relevant Region 9 topics / sections, setting up a table of contents and then finalising with a list of detailed motions in chronological order.

After adopting the Budget for Translation at the Region Nine Assembly, application forms will be sent out with the minutes of the Assembly. The treasurer will then send a reminder (via the Secretary) to all service bodies by email by 31st January. These applications must be sent to the treasurer by 31st March of the following year. The board is authorised to make a decision on the allocation of the translation and printing of literature budget by 30th April. Consideration will be given by order of priority as follows:

Service Boards
a) who currently do not have anything translated in their language
b) who have a small number of pamphlets currently translated (approved or not approved)
c) are interested in translating The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous. The Officers will consider the applications and make payments by 31st May.
OA Region 9 Policies and Procedures – A Summary of Continuing Effects Motions

It is required that the Service Body requesting such funds
a) Include that in the application, a list of material that has already been translated in that language
b) Considers that this funding is a “payment on account” with a view to it being contributed back
   (in part or full) to Region Nine as the literature is sold, so that funds are reintroduced for translation
   of further material in future years
c) Make a substantive contribution to the cost and give details in the application.

The appropriate forms are available from the Secretary.
Amended by 2011d

2008c The first week of September is designated as Region 9 week.

2008d Suggested Contribution to Region 9. To suggest to all Region 9 Intergroups and National/Language
Service Boards that they set a goal for annual Contributions to R9. The suggested amount will be
reviewed at the annual Assembly. (1999e)
Suggested contribution for small IG: EUR 310.00 (GBP 205.00)
Suggested contribution for large IG: EUR 620.00 (GBP 410.00)
Suggested contribution per group however it is paid to Region 9 of between EUR 13 – EUR 32
   (GBP 9 - GBP 22) payable where possible to Region 9 funds before 1st September each year.

2008e It is requested that service bodies attach to the application form for assistance the latest financial
summary of the service body and that they give details of any funding for attendance at Region 9
Assembly from elsewhere. Rescinded by 2011d
The Region 9 Board are authorised to consider (by email) those applications

2008f This Region believes that restructuring decisions should take account of both cost and principle –
   they are equally important.

2008g Bylaws Committee Chair
To update the P&P Manual annually. While updating the manual make any spelling, punctuation or
grammatical corrections as necessary so that the intent of the policy is unchanged. To ensure that
the layout of the document is consistent and clear.

2008h Bylaws Committee Chair
- After the revised Bylaws and P & P Manual have been checked furnishing the Chair, Secretary,
  Treasurer and Web Committee Chair with an electronic of the up-dated Bylaws and Policy &
  Procedure Manual in time to have these available on the web site at the same time as the minutes of
  the Assembly (in accordance with Region 9 Bylaws Art VII S2 Duties 2 – within 45 days of the
  Assembly).

2008i The Assembly will make a detailed plan for PI work in order to increase awareness of OA in
countries that do not have any OA meetings at all or have only very few meetings. The nature and
content of this PI will be decided by the Assembly or the Translation and PI committees.

2008j Twelfth Step Within Committee created. The purpose of this committee is to offer support and
guidance to new and existing groups and service bodies.

2008k The R9 Assembly will assist the Service Boards within Region 9 by doing the necessary legal work
for getting translated literature approved by the WSO. at the assembly, the translations committee
will assist with filling in and explaining the licensing agreement forms to get translated literature
approved.

2008l Every registered Service Body within Region 9, as well as the WSO or other Regions, can submit
material to place on the Region 9 website.
2008m The Region 9 Electronic Communications Committee Chair and the Region 9 Secretary will ensure anonymity is maintained when publishing material from registered Service Bodies within Region 9, WSO or other Regions.

2008n Region 9 Assembly
Each year at the Assembly we will set aside time in the agenda for issues regarding translating literature. We will help each other with questions regarding translating literature, understanding the different licensing agreement forms, filling in licensing agreement forms, copyright-issues and other issues related to translating literature.

2009a We move to create a document explaining the procedure for application to the Region 9 translation fund.

2009b The hosting service body for the regional Assembly and Convention shall be elected two years prior to running the event.

2009c To suggest to all Region 9 groups and service bodies that they aim to contribute a minimum of 5% of their annual income to Region 9. The suggested contribution, however it is to be paid, payable before 1st September each year.

2009d In order to qualify as emergency new business any motion must be:
   a) Referring to new business only and not addressing the same issues as other motions brought to the current Assembly;
   b) Of an urgent nature so that not considering the motion immediately would be harmful to the welfare of OA as a whole.

2009e The Assembly resolves that priority for financial assistance for Regional representatives travelling to the R9 Assembly will be given to those IGs and NSBs that have never been represented before, secondly to those with the greatest distance to travel.

2010a The Assembly will divide up the list of IGs and NSBs not represented at the Assembly amongst the delegates who are in attendance at the assembly. Each delegate will be responsible for undertaking liaison activity with the SB they have adopted. Each delegate will then submit a written report to the Region 9 12th Step Within Committee within 6 months of the Assembly. The 12th Step Within Committee will then log these responses and continue to try to encourage contact with service bodies not represented at assembly (1996f) (2002j).

2010b REGISTER OF SERVICE BODIES AND ATTENDANCE TO BE INCLUDED IN ASSEMBLY MATERIALS
The Assembly Materials of Region 9 are to include a register of Region 9 countries with details of Intergroups in each country and the current number of groups, also including details of when the Service Body was represented at Region Assembly.

2010c The Region 9 Website should include the document “How do service bodies trying to translate OA literature apply for financial assistance from Region 9?” (Refer Appendix)

2010d Insert job description for the Region 9 Representative into the P&P Manual II Board

2010e Region 9 Assembly to implement a newsletter.
The newsletter is to be produced at least once a year, after the assembly. This Region 9 Newsletter might include articles written by the Region 9 Committees, the Region 9 Representatives, the Region 9 Board and the R9 Trustee as well as news about the assembly itself that is not included in the minutes, and other features and articles relevant to the region. The R9 Newsletter is recommended to be 2 pages in size with one page divided equally and to be devoted to articles from the Region 9 Committees. The
other page to be devoted to articles submitted by representatives attending the assembly or the R9 Board / Trustee. The Newsletter will be assembled by an appointed member of Region 9 and the R9 Secretary. Articles should be submitted within 45 days of the assembly. The newsletter will then be produced within a further 30 days, reviewed by the R9 Board & Trustee and then placed on the Region 9 website.

2010f FUNDING OF REGION 9 DELEGATES
Delegates representing Region 9 as a whole may be sent to the WSBC if funds are available within the Region 9 budget or from the WSO. Those delegates will be (in order of privilege, in case the financial supplies are limited): the R9 board secretary, the R9 treasurer, and/or OA members from within Region 9 who have been to the World Service Business Conference before, meet the requirements for a WSBC delegate and will not be representing any other service body at the WSBC. Information about such persons being sought will be mailed to the service bodies that are sending delegates to the R9 Assembly in the year before the Conference in Question, the order of applications will determine the choice of the future Region 9 delegates.

2011a ASSEMBLY PROCEDURES AND SUGGESTIONS
To adopt into the Region 9 Policies and Procedures Manual the document circulated at 2010 Region 9 Assembly (since amended and updated) entitled “Overeaters Anonymous Region 9 – Assembly Procedures and Suggestions”. (See Appendix B)

2011b TRANSLATIONS GUIDELINES
The Translation guidelines submitted by the R9 Translations committee in 1999 and updated in 2002 and approved in 2005 have now been rescinded and R9 will now refer to the document ‘OA GUIDELINES – TRANSLATION GUIDELINES FOR OA LITERATURE’ which is available on the www.oa.org website for the worldwide fellowship of OA

2011c FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DELEGATES TO REGION 9 ASSEMBLY
The Assembly resolves that priority for financial assistance for Regional representatives travelling to the R9 Assembly will be given to those IGs and NSBs that cannot afford to fund a delegate on their own, to those with the greatest distance to travel and to those attending their first Assembly.

2011d FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DELEGATES TO REGION 9 ASSEMBLY
That the mailings to all member groups and Intergroups as in article 5(ii) of the Bylaws, shall include applications for assistance This application form will also be posted on the R9 Web site. Completed application forms will be submitted to the R9 Treasurer at least 4 months prior to the date of the Assembly. It is requested that service bodes attach to the application form for assistance the latest financial summary of the service body and that they give details of any funding for attendance at Region 9 Assembly from elsewhere.

2011e FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR TRANSLATION / PRINTING
Deleted “b) who have a small number of pamphlets currently translated (approved or not approved)” and renumbered “c” as “b”
APPENDIX A
Rescissions, Amendments and Deletions

1983c amended by 1999d and 2006g
1988c deleted in 2004
1988d rescinded by 2011d
1988e amended by 2006h
1989a amended 2008h
1991a amended by 2004e
1991b amended by 1999e
1991e amended by 2004e
1991j amended by 1999k
1993b amended by 1999g
1994c amended by 2004e
1995a amended by 2006b
1995c amended by 2004e
1995l amended by 1999h rescinded by 2011b
1996a amended 1999b
1996b amended 1999c
1996f amended 2002j and 2010c
1996h amended by 2009e and 2011c
1997c amended by 2004e
1997g amended by 2008f
1999a amended by 2006f
1999c amended by 2004e
1999d amended by 2006g
1999e amended by 2009c
1999g amended by 2004e
1999l rescinded by 2011b
2000a amended by 2004e
2001a amended by 2004e
2001b amended by 2004e
2002a amended by 2006d
2002c rescinded by 2011b
2002g rescinded by 2011b
2002j amended by 2010c
2004f amended by 2008b and 2011e
2005b rescinded by 2011b
2006f amended 2008d
2006h amended by 2007a
2007a amended by 2011d
2008b amended by 2011e
2008d amended by 2009c
2008e amended by 2011d
This document has been prepared by Region 9 members who have helped to organise previous Region 9 Assemblies and Conventions and whilst it is not intended to cover every eventuality, we hope it will be helpful for service bodies considering taking on this service so they know what to expect and for those in the process of organising to be a useful starting point for your committee discussions. This document will mostly concentrate on the Assembly part and leave the Convention part more open for your service body to arrange.

SECTIONS COVERED IN THIS DOCUMENT:

- Page 1: Bylaws
- Page 2: Timetable
- Page 3: Assembly Guidelines & Responsibilities for Region 9 Board
- Page 3: Finance
- Page 3: Sub Committee
- Page 3: Venue and Room Requirements
- Page 4: Food
- Page 4: Theme
- Page 4: Flyers
- Page 4: Registration
- Page 5: Speakers
- Page 5: Voting & Time Keeping
- Page 5: Visitors
- Page 5: Convention
- Page 6: Strategic Plan
- Page 6: Afterwards
- Page 6: Checklist

Bylaws

Extract from Article V of Bylaws (following 2010 Assembly)

Section 1
Region 9 shall hold one Assembly per year.

A Region 9 Convention may also be held in conjunction with the Region 9 Assembly if the hosting Intergroup or National/Language Service Board is in a position to do so.

Section 2
Notification of this Assembly shall be mailed or emailed to all member groups, Intergroups, unaffiliated groups and National Service Boards at least six months prior to the date of the Assembly. The notification will include an invitation to the Assembly from the organising committee, the registration form to send a delegate, a blank new business motion, and bylaws amendment motion.

Even though the Bylaws state that the notification need to go out 6 months prior to Assembly – there will be considerable organization beforehand and so it is best for the Region to let the fellowship know about the Assembly arrangements as early as possible to help facilitate travel arrangements and keep travel costs to a minimum etc and thus encourage attendance. The following are some suggestions:-
TIMETABLE

2 YEARS IN ADVANCE

- Service bodies need to be thinking about whether they can host the Region 9 Assembly a few years in advance of the assembly they might host. The service body will need to consider whether they have enough willing members to arrange what is necessary.
- The service body will need to do some research on the venue as to times available / costs / facilities / travel arrangements some two years in advance of the assembly. The venue needs to accommodate the assembly room, the committee rooms, representatives accommodation. It does not need to be lavish. It does however, need to accommodate OA members food plans, be clean and functional and reasonably easily to access by public transport.
- The service body will bring this information to the Region 9 Assembly that same Autumn – to be considered by the Assembly along with other service bodies.
- The Assembly will consider the date and venue suitability as well as the committee arrangements together with other service body proposals at that stage and will discuss and vote on all the proposals.
- The place and date of the Region 9 Assembly will be at the latest established at the Assembly prior.
- If successfully elected as R9 Assembly host, and once the date is confirmed then the committee need to book the venue as soon as possible.

ONE YEAR PRIOR

- The hosting service body committee should then begin to put in place the various details of the Assembly and Convention. They will need a theme, speakers, packs of materials for the Convention if necessary, timetables for the weekend, meeting rooms etc.
- Confirm the theme with the Region 9 Board

NINE MONTHS PRIOR

- Ensure the flyer, invitation and registration forms has been prepared and sent to Region 9 Board 6 months in advance of the Assembly

SIX MONTHS PRIOR

- Over the next few months, work on the finer details of the assembly, arrange speakers and any materials you need (voting cards, badges, handouts, etc), exact timetable for convention, liaise with venue, and receive registrations.

SIX WEEKS PRIOR

- Liaise with R9 Secretary regarding numbers of attendees

ASSEMBLY GUIDELINES AND R9 BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES:

- The Region 9 board are responsible for organiSing and assembling the materials that the representatives will need for the assembly itself. The hosting intergroup do not need to get involved in the details of the assembly itself. However, the Chair and some of the organisers of workshops will often need various ‘handouts’ and schedules. There is usually 20 – 30 in attendance at the Assembly and to carry 20 – 30 copies of each piece of paper is often not possible due to air craft weight restrictions etc. If possible please arrange with the Chair if anything is needed to be copied – ahead of the Assembly.
- Once the venue has been organized – the Region 9 Board members and OA Region 9 representatives will book their own accommodation directly with the venue and sort out who they are sharing a room with. Traditionally members will share rooms whenever possible to save costs.
- The hosting service body decides on the theme for the Convention (check with R9 Board).
FINANCES:
- Region 9 will pay the expenses for attendance of the Region 9 Board (Chair, Secretary & Treasurer) which will include travel and accommodation and food for the Assembly & Convention. (Wed – Sun)
- Assembly registration fee will be collected by the Region 9 treasurer and will go to Region 9 – this will go towards the various expenses that the Region covers and will be included in the income as covered in the Region Budget.
- The service body that organizes the Assembly will collect any Convention registration fee following the Assembly. This should cover any costs that the Convention will incur. The Convention has historically made a considerable contribution to Region 9 after the Assembly / Convention by the hosting service body which is part of or the entire surplus for the Convention.
- To keep costs down often documents are printed by the hosts to save on luggage weight costs, if you are asked to print items, please consider printing each document on to a different colour paper as it helps delegates to easily identify documents

SUB COMMITTEE
- As you will be working as a Committee and are part of a Fellowship, please follow the Traditions, making all decisions by group conscience and unanimous agreement wherever possible. Members are expected to liaise closely with each other, consulting with the rest of the Committee when making decisions that affect the Assembly and/ or OA as a whole.
- A subcommittee to organize this sort of event is ideally made up of 4-6 OA members (less people means a lot of work for only a few people, too many and it becomes unwieldy)
- It is useful to have a chair for the committee to oversee the timetable and liaise with the R9 Board and a secretary to make notes of all telephone discussions / meetings / decisions made
- If you correspond by email, it is helpful to keep to one subject per email and to ensure that the subject is clear

VENUE REQUIREMENTS
- With regard to the room for the assembly meeting and any ancillary rooms for the committee meetings – it is normal for the Hosting service body to try to arrange with the hotel / venue that these rooms will be free as part of the organization of the weekend. This needs to be given careful consideration as there are no funds in the Region 9 budget to cover this aspect. We arrange the hotel in the autumn partly to accommodate the fact that it is cheaper than the summer. Hotels often accept that if a group takes their full quota of rooms – that is enough to then grant them use of the necessary meeting rooms to hold the assembly.
- Establish the no of representatives registered with the Region 9 Secretary approximately 6 weeks before the Assembly. Keep in touch with the Secretary after this date for late registrations. (Recently – this can be as many as 25 attendants to the Assembly + visitors).
- Organise the meeting room so that there is a meeting table space and chair available for each representative – arranged in an oblong style so that the Chair, Parliamentarian, Secretary and Treasurer can be seated at the ‘top’ of this oblong and thus see the representatives for voting and recognition purposes.
- Several people may be using laptops and will need access to power points (please do not agree to any additional rooms costs though without discussing with R9 board first)
- Each representative needs a card in front of them that shows their name, service body and / or Country that they are representing - that will be visible in front of them while they are seated. (NB It is not a requirement but in the past sometimes these cards have had the National Flag on them also).
The representatives will also require a name badge that they will be required to wear at all meetings in order to be recognized. This will normally be on a string so that it can be hung around the neck or on a clip so that it can be pinned to the representative’s clothing. The hosting service body prepares these at the same time as the cards for the places.

The Chair will normally require a flip chart and pens and flip chart pad to use at the Assembly. This will need to be organized by the hosting service body – There may be call for one / two microphones depending on the room.

Occasionally the Chair / Secretary / Treasurer may require an overhead projector. - Once again there is not a budget for these items in the Region 9 finances so it is a good idea that if there is a charge - that we know what they are ahead of time so that the Region 9 Board can make the decision of whether to have these services or not. Often hotels try to raise their revenue / re-coup their expenses by charging for these sorts of services – Region 9 avoid this if at all possible and at best pay only a minimum.

Committee Meetings are usually held in a different room from the Main assembly room and often are several small rooms so that each committee has enough space to work without disturbing each other.

The R9 Board hold a meeting at the end of the Assembly, please ensure there is a suitable room for up to 6 people.

**FOOD**

- Be very clear from the outset about our specific needs (e.g. people bringing in their own food, buffet style meals) and ask the hotel how they would propose to cater for them.
- Discuss a menu, first with the committee and then with the hotel. Usually sugar-free, most sauces served separately, and some wheat-free, dairy-free and vegetarian options.
- Served buffet style works best for all meals. A label in front of dishes on the buffet is helpful saying e.g. “Chicken Stir fry, sugar and wheat free”. It is normal to give the hotel clear guidelines with regard to the food and to monitor this closely near to the date preferably by agreeing menus.
- Meal times need to be discussed with venue and R9 Board so that the timetable can be worked out.
- It is also useful to provide details to delegates about proximity to supermarkets etc.

**FLYERS**

- Put at least 2 contact numbers / 2 email addresses on the flyer and preferably 3. One mobile, one landline and two email addresses is ideal.
- Put an address on where people can send the completed delegate registration forms and cheques.
- On the booking form put in a section where they can indicate if they are booking for the Assembly / Convention or Both.
- Put a deadline to receive registrations / book with hotel.
- Put details of the nearest train station and airport, plus the venue postcode for those driving with satellite navigation.
- On the flyer put some directions and or a map.

**REGISTRATION**

- It is obviously preferable to get as many registrations in early as possible, although be prepared for some at the last moment.
- Be prepared for quite a lot of enquiries, (often asking about things that you have carefully written on your flyer!)
- Keep a note of who is paying for which day(s) as this obviously affects the money distribution at the end.
- Have a cash box with a float at the Assembly / Convention itself.
- Name badges which also indicate which service body they are representing or if R9 Board member or visitor.
SPEAKERS

- The Board will be on call to take part and speak at workshops during the Convention. They have been elected as R9 Board members and act in that capacity – but they are first and foremost OA members in recovery. Please use that recovery. It is important that service is ‘seen’ by those attending the Convention – albeit not in a grandiose way. When OA officers are seen to take part in the business part as well as the convention – it spreads the message of the necessity of service. Often – there are motions passed at the Assembly which need circulating to the fellowship as soon as possible. Please consider this when scheduling your Convention workshops / meetings.
- Speakers may need to be timed, have a timer available in case
- It is best for speakers to be qualified by the committee prior
- Please ask speakers stay within the spirit of the Traditions, e.g., no reference to outside issues (such as mentioning by name books, therapies, religions, other weight loss programmes, or undue focusing on such outside issues)
- Some thoughts for speakers when they introduce themselves:
  1) How long have you been in programme?
  2) How long have you been abstinent?
  3) Define this abstinence, what it is for you.
  4) Outline your physical recovery, weight loss / (gain if anorexic) , how long maintained
  5) Describe the daily actions that you take in order to maintain this recovery.
  6) Then move onto the topic, following the format of what you were like, what happened, and what you are like now as it relates to the topic. OA members especially like to hear about what you actually did or do to keep well or to change in respect of the topic.

VOTING AND TIMEKEEPING

- At the Assembly votes will need to be taken and possibly ballots which need to be counted by people who are not eligible to vote. Please discuss this with R9 Board and see if you need to have any coloured card on hand, voting ballots, boxes to collect ballots in and non-voting members able to assist with this.
- A non voting member with a stopwatch and a bell available as a timekeeper is very useful especially during the Assembly

VISITORS

Visitors are welcome to attend the Assembly and Convention, at the Assembly it is important that they are not seated with the delegates at the table but preferably in a row / seats behind or at edge of room. Visitors should leave the assembly room if they wish to talk to one another.

CONVENTION

The convention is best described by those who have attended a number of conventions, and we recommend speaking to previous organizers.

It is worth considering the following:
- Early Bird and Night Owl Meetings (during assembly as well as convention) – the easiest way to arrange these is with a Pocket Reference Guide and a list of topics (see Strategic Plan if you need inspiration)
- Translating Speakers into your local language
- Free Time
- Entertainment on Saturday evening, this has been done in many forms – plays, meetings, celebration of recovery, free time, dancing, singing, all sorts!
STRATEGIC PLAN

We have a Strategic Plan – many in OA don’t know what it is or what we are trying to achieve in having it. – This can be used as the theme of the Convention by incorporating just one aspect of that plan –

• Strong Meetings,
• Committed Service Bodies,
• Public & Professional awareness
• Financial Health.

Has the OA bicycle been translated into your language? – In the past we have displayed two big poster drawings of this if possible please by a willing local volunteer– one in your language and one in English!

AFTERWARDS

Please consider the best way to get feedback from R9 Board and delegates so that we can offer any suggestions for things that do or don’t work to future hosts. Please ensure if you get feedback from delegates or your sub committee that this information is then given to R9 Board

CHECKLIST:-

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Select a committee of local OA members willing to work on the arrangements for the Assembly / Convention. (3-8 people on average)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Approximately 2.5 years before you propose to host the Assembly / Convention commence organizing items below:-</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Choose a date (autumn time to accommodate cheaper travel etc. and ensuring to avoid holidays, dates of BOT / RCC meetings) (keep in mind accessibility and cost)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Choose a venue (accommodating approximately 20 – 40 reps for the OA assembly and additional numbers for the convention) plus allowing for overnight and day visitors.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Prepare a proposal bid to be brought to the R9 Assembly two years before the Assembly is due to take place.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Choose a theme for the Convention (refer to local group conscience and OA Strategic Plan) to be approved by R9 Board</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>If bid is successful – book venue and make final arrangements</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Locate supermarkets within the venue vicinity and prepare map showing these.</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Finalise travel arrangements to venue.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Prepare proposed flyer well in advance of the 6 months before Assembly deadline and send to R9 Board for approval.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Oversee registrations and arrange speakers</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Make rep badges and table name places</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Make copies on different coloured paper of various documents (ask R9 Board for information)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Set up room for Assembly (flip chards, timer, bell, registration desk, posters up etc</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Set up Convention</td>
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WORLD SERVICE BUSINESS CONFERENCE 2012 (WSBC)

WSBC "Visions for the Fellowship" was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, U.S.A, from April 30, to May 5, 2012. This year, Region 9 had 12 attendees coming from England, Netherlands, Sweden, Israel, Spain, Denmark, and Poland. We were a mixture of green dots (1st timers) and mentors (those who have been at WSBC before). It was a busy week with workshops, general sessions, OA meetings, a Forum, committee meetings, Region Chairs’ and Board of Trustees’ (BOT) meetings, business sessions, and a dinner/dance on Saturday evening.

On Monday, April 30, I attended the Consensus meeting of the BOT’s (this was open to all). I thought this was very interesting. The Board discussed motions – whether to be pulled or kept on the consent agenda for the Board meeting (not to be confused with motions on the consent agenda for the WSBC business meetings). As Region 9 Chair, I went to dinner with the other 9 Region Chairs. This was informal, and the first time, for me, to meet many of the Region Chairs. Something very unusual happened this time – 6 of the 10 chairs were new (including myself). And this coming November, the 4 oldtimers finish their term and 4 "newer" chairs will join us! Afterwards, we had a meeting about the Forum (the Region Chairs present this). At the same time, the 1st workshop was taking place, which was called "Action Plan: Bringing Structure, Balance & Manageability Into Our Lives". The purpose was to share the benefits of incorporating this new tool in our program of recovery. As Region Chair, my schedule was quite different that when I came as delegate of Israel, so… I missed the workshops the 1st 2 days due to meetings with the Chairs & BOT’s. In my opinion, a small price to pay in order to have the privilege of representing Region 9 as Chair!

My roommate was a lovely woman – Chair of Region 8. Day 2 – Tuesday, May 1, we started out together with breakfast in the hotel. This year we moved to another hotel. It wasn’t in Old Town Albuquerque, like the previous hotel, but the rooms were much larger and included a refrigerator & microwave, and breakfast in the hotel was included. After our meal, we joined the other Chairs for a Region Chairs’ meeting, along with the Trustee who works with us. We got to introduce ourselves and a brief share. We spoke about Region Chairs Committee (RCC) goals – Lifeline; General Information List, Financial Budget Comparison; RCC Website; Reference Manual; and Green Dot & Mentor Program (for WSBC Delegates, and for new Region Chairs – I was so happy I had a mentor!). We also discussed the Strategic Operations Plan (SOP); Tent Cards; and Podcasts, including other issues. I was amazed at how much the RCC accomplishes!

I then attended the BOT/RCC joint meeting. First, introductions of Chairs and Trustees. Then, each Region Chair was given 2 minutes to report on their region (1/2 page reports were turned in previously). We presented our goals to the BOT’s, and how each region is working on achieving these goals. The Podcast was discussed – the purpose to discuss the joys of serving at the WSBC. We spoke about WSBC Delegate Qualifications concerning abstinence and service above group level. Also, where possible, it was discussed that the WSBC Delegate would have attended at least 1 Region Assembly prior to WSBC. This meeting ended with an Ice Breaker (no more about that will be discussed here… we will do this activity at the Region 9 Assembly!).

I chose to eat my lunch during the OA meeting. It was on service – appropriate! Then, the 2nd BOT/RCC joint meeting. This was entirely devoted to the Strategic Plan. We discussed 2013 as "The Year of Abstinence Awareness". We talked about the 4 points: Strong Meetings; Public/Professional Awareness; Committed Service Bodies; and Financial Health, and reviewed the main goals and objectives. All of what we spoke about was brought...
forth in the Strategic Plan Workshop which took place during one of the Business Meetings. Also, the August meeting between the BOT & RCC will be about reviewing and setting tasks of this plan for 2013, the final year of this five-year plan. We had another RCC meeting. This included all the items we had discussed earlier the same day, but now with the purpose of discussing each point in detail. And we did! Shortly after, I had a Region 9 Board meeting over dinner. I was fortunate enough that myself, as R9 Chair, along with Region 9 Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee, were all present at WSBC. We discussed a 7th Tradition item which will be available at the Region 9 Assembly & Convention, along with other points of interest.

During this same day, the schedule was a bit different for delegates. Some took a tour. Others attended the workshops: "Committed Service Bodies: How Can the Traditions & Concepts Help" (develop the unity necessary to attract trusted servants responsible to those they serve); "Financial Health: Money Matters" (review issues and practices which impact the financial health of groups and service bodies); and "Strong Meetings: What Will It Take" (focus on the elements of strong meetings which keep members and newcomers coming back to OA). The evening workshops were: "All About Conference" (hear experienced members discuss the workings of Conference and have their questions and concerns answered) and "Public/Professional Awareness: Are We Communicating Our Message" (to encourage public and professional outreach events by service bodies).

**Wednesday, May 2** began with the Forum - "Conceptualizing Principles". This was lead by the Region Chairs and focused on practicing these principles in all our affairs. We Region Chairs all dressed up in circus costumes (I was one of the clowns!), singing and dancing. We had puzzles, table discussion/brainstorming/presenting ideas - all in connection to the 12 Concepts of OA Service. We even got to take some things home with us from the Forum. It was truly a fun experience (can you believe we’re talking about the Concepts of Service here!).

After this, everyone broke up into their committees (Bylaws; Conference-Approved Literature; Finance; Professional Outreach; Public Information; Twelfth-Step-Within; Unity with Diversity; Youth in OA; Web/Technology; and Region Chairs. For me - RCC. We Region Chairs wrapped up and reviewed the Forum (what worked/what can we improve upon). Our Trustee Co-Chair gave her report. We spoke about other topics, and upcoming RCC meetings. We had elections of RCC Officers. All of us "newcomers" had to take on service in the Region Chairs Committee and I became the Vice Chair of the RCC (my roommate was elected as Chair of the RCC). Our meeting closed with a short share from each one of us. After lunch, all committee meetings continued.

In the evening, Region 9 Attendees met over dinner. It was a combination of fun & business. It was mentioned that our R9 May Newsletter will be devoted to WSBC 2012, so articles! A suggestion was to include delegates’ articles in English and their mother tongue, so… this will be available. We announced that our R9 Tradition 7 Item will be magnets. A plug for the R9 A&C was given (October 24-28, 2012, in Poland). Delegates gave an update of their service body – talk about translations, websites, pi, and even mention of a retreat which brought in a lot of money! Good job Region 9!! Following this was the "Parliamentary Procedure" meeting – especially helpful to green dots (to facilitate an orderly Conference by reviewing parliamentary procedures with delegates), and "Literature Q&A" (to allow for questions concerning the OA literature up for Conference Seal of Approval).

Business Meeting I began on **Thursday, May 3.** We heard the Serenity Prayer in Spanish. There were introductions, with 198 eligible voters (an increase from last year!). We went over the Consent Agenda, which was adopted after some changes were made. We heard reports, along with other business. Business Meeting II was held in the afternoon, beginning with the Serenity Prayer in Hebrew. There was a “fun” introduction and presentation of the 2013 World Service Convention, which will be held in Cleveland, Ohio (this world convention takes place every 3 years). We were introduced to the Trustees running for R3 (Vicky), R6 (Mary Rose), and R9 (our very own Esti) Trustee. Also, 3 General Service Trustees got to speak (Michael, Tina, and Joe). We began with New Business Motions (results at end of this report). It all run so smoothly! In the evening there was a meeting - "Abstinence: The Foundation of Our Future" (to emphasize the importance of abstinence in our program of recovery).
**Friday, May 4** ushered in Business Meeting III, beginning with the Serenity Prayer in Danish. Voting of Region Trustees and General Service Trustees took place - all were elected. We had a session on Strategic Planning. All the delegates broke into small groups of 4, and brain stormed. We got to hear the feedback: Strong Meetings - a lot of talk about abstinence & sponsors; Public/Professional Awareness - existing material there for our use and the importance of more tradeshows; Committed Service Bodies - use more personal contact and pass on positive experiences from WSBC; Financial Health - treasurer’s report every month and give a Tradition 7 for step 9 amends. Power Point used will be available. Then some New Business Motions were voted on.

The OA meeting during lunch had a special focus: "A Vision of Unity", which was accompanied by a cute skit. Then Business Meeting IV, with the Serenity Prayer in Swedish, and 199 eligible voters. We continued with New Business Motions. Friday night was a "Free Evening", and many of us caught the shuttle, provided by the hotel, to Old Town or ABQ Uptown. A night to enjoy a good meal, good company, good conversation.

**Saturday, May 5** lead us to the final Business Meeting V, with the Serenity Prayer in Portuguese, and 194 eligible voters. We finished with the New Business Motions, and even had time for reports, not to mention a workshop on bringing back the message of WSBC. Then - the famous ceremony for the Green Dots. It was announced what was collected for Tradition 7 during the Business Meetings - over $3800! After lunch, I attended the Board of Trustees Meeting. Congratulations to the new Trustees and Region Trustees were given. New Officers were elected. Some other business was discussed. Then a final committee meeting.

The evening was the Delegates Buffet Dinner/Entertainment/Presentations to Outgoing Trustees and Introduction of New Board of Trustees/Dance. All was delightful. The week was busy, but there was always time for smiles and hugs, and even personal conversations with OA friends. How exciting and amazing WSBC is! How much to bring home and pass on! And on a personal note - what a beautiful way to strengthen my own abstinence and recovery. Thank you all for allowing me to do this service!!

Susan
Region 9 Chair

The delegates at the 2012 World Service Business Conference have approved the following...

**New and Revised Literature:**
- A rewrite of *Before You Take That First Compulsive Bite, Remember*...
- An updated version of *To the Newcomer*, which also includes updates to the Fifteen Questions
- A new item titled *Voices of Recovery e-Workbook*, which provides thought-provoking questions for each of the daily readings in *Voices of Recovery*; and
- A revision of *Sponsoring Through the Twelve Steps*, to incorporate additional Big Book references.

**New Policy Motions/Bylaw Amendments on Consent Agenda - Adopted:**
- **Proposal A** - strike and insert words... *Intent* - to include **virtual service boards** in the list of service bodies that will be asked to contribute to or be allowed to apply for funding assistance from the Delegate Support Fund. The amendment also clarifies that assistance is granted according to financial need.
- **Proposal E** - "Statement on Group Liability Insurance..."... *Intent* - to clarify that OA, Inc. cannot provide group liability insurance coverage for OA groups or service bodies registered with the WSO.
- **Proposal G** - strike and insert words... *Intent* - *protect anonymity* for members on the online version of the Final World Service Business Conference Report.
- **Proposal H** - rescind... *Intent* - if a bylaw amendment proposal is important enough to be carried over to the next year, our rules provide for the assembly to refer it to committee.
Proposal 1 - strike and insert words... Intent - to refer to the exact term "register" that appears in the newly updated bylaws definition of an OA group, and to clarify that nominees for regional trustee are not necessarily selected each year.

Proposal 2 - strike and insert words... Intent - to specify how notice shall be deemed to have been given to each type of service body, including service boards.

Proposal 3 - strike and insert words... Intent - to use the same language in Subpart A & B of OA, Inc. Bylaws.

Proposal 8 - strike and insert words... Intent - to update the statement of purpose for the WSBC Finance Committee.

Proposal 9 - strike and insert words... Intent - to provide the same language as used in OA, Inc. Bylaws defining an OA group (intergroups).

Proposal 10 - strike and insert words... Intent - to provide the same language as used in OA, Inc. Bylaws defining an OA group (regions).

Proposal 11 - strike and insert words... Intent - to provide the same language as used in OA, Inc. Bylaws defining an OA group (service boards).

Proposal 14 - strike and insert words... Intent - to make the language of OA, Inc. Bylaws gender neutral (Board of Trustees).

Proposal 15 - strike and insert words... Intent - to make the language of OA, Inc. Bylaws gender neutral (Meetings of Delegates).

Proposal 16 - strike and insert words... Intent - to make the language of OA, Inc. Bylaws gender neutral (Conference Committees).

Proposal 17 - strike words... Intent - to make the language of OA, Inc. Bylaws gender neutral (Bylaw Amendments).

New Policy Motions/Bylaw Amendments Voted on Separately & Adopted:

Proposal B - "Statement on Approved Literature", strike and insert words along with an amendment... Intent - to affirm that the "early" AA books are among our essential founding texts and are approved for use at OA groups, while upholding OA Traditions 6 & 10, that OA as a whole has no opinion on the ongoing or future work of AA.

Proposal I - rescind along with an amendment... Intent - to remove the WSBC directive which established a restricted fund for translations. As an international Fellowship, translations are vital and are a part of the cost of doing business. For that reason they should be supported through stable and consistent funding from general revenues, rather than depending on the fluctuating contributions to a special restricted fund.

Proposal J - Substitute Motion J... Intent - in the spirit of Tradition 2 and Concepts 12a & 12c, to encourage and allow for substantial long-term service to the Fellowship while recognizing that rotation of service is fundamental to being a trusted servant in OA.

Proposal 4 - insert words along with an amendment... Intent - to ensure that intergroup bylaws are updated to reflect motions adopted at WSBC.

Proposal 5 - insert words along with an amendment... Intent - to ensure that region bylaws are updated to reflect motions adopted at WSBC.

Proposal 6 - insert words along with an amendment... Intent - to ensure that service board bylaws are updated to reflect motions adopted at WSBC.

Proposal 7 - insert words along with an amendment... Intent - to show what happens to delegate credentials recognition if service body bylaws are in conflict with OA, Inc. Bylaws.

Proposal 12 - strike and insert words... Intent - to create a new trustee position to support virtual groups and service boards.

Proposal 13 - Substitute Motion 13 & insert words... Intent - to ensure that an intergroup cannot be deregistered without advance notification, meeting and vote.

Proposal 18 - Substitute Motion 18 & insert words... Intent - to ensure that a service board cannot be deregistered without advance notification, meeting and vote.

New Policy Motions/Bylaw Amendments Voted on Separately & Referred back to the BOT:

Proposal F - "Statement on Core Values"... Intent - to provide authority to the BOT’s to find that service body bylaws are in agreement or in conflict with OA, Inc. Bylaws depending on whether definitions in service body bylaws (What is an OA group? Who may be a WSBC delegate?) reflect the definitions as set out in OA, Inc. Bylaws or policies. (Referred back to the BOT for further development... possible revised motion for next year).
Embrace the Similarities  
Love the Differences  
In all our Affairs

Chair's Report of 2nd RCC

To be added later
Chair’s Report of 3rd RCC

To be added later
**What is Region 9?**

**DEFINITIONS: – AREA OF REGION 9**

Overeaters Anonymous Inc. Bylaws Subpart B

**ARTICLE VII REGIONS**

**Section 1 – Composition**

b) The regions shall be as follows:

9) Region No.9 shall be composed of countries and territories in Africa, Europe, The Middle East and Western Asia.

10) Region No.10 shall be composed of countries and territories in Australia, the Far East, New Zealand, South East Asia and the Western Pacific Basin.

**DEFINITIONS OF THE TERMS USED IN OA BYLAWS TO DESCRIBE AREAS OF REGIONS 9 & 10**

- **FAR EAST** - Countries of E & SE Asia bordering on the Pacific Ocean. Including Siberia (Soviet Union) China, N & S Korea, Japan and sometimes Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines. Often generally applied to all countries of E & SE Asia.

- **SOUTH EAST ASIA** - Association of South-East Asian Nations, Indonesia, Malaysia, The Philippines, Singapore.

- **WESTERN PACIFIC BASIN** - Presumably countries bordering: Sea of Japan, Yellow Sea, South China Sea.

- **MIDDLE EAST** - Iran, Arabian peninsula & Mediterranean seaboard.

**COUNTRIES IN REGION 9 THAT HAVE AT LEAST ONE OA GROUP**

World Meeting Directory

Number of groups in the country, according to January 2006

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<td>Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina</td>
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**At least one loner in the following countries**

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**Regions of Overeaters Anonymous**

[Map of regions of Overeaters Anonymous]

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Region One
Canadian Provinces: Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan, Yukon

Region Two
U.S.: California, Hawaii, Reno/Tahoe area of Nevada
Mexico

Region Three
U.S.: Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah

Region Four
U.S.: Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota
Canadian Provinces: Manitoba, Nunavut, Northwest Ontario

Region Five
U.S.: Greater Chicago Illinois area, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin
Canadian Provinces: Southwest Ontario

Region Six
U.S.: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont
Canadian Provinces: New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec

Region Seven
U.S.: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia

Region Eight
U.S.: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Bermuda, Central and South America, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands

Region Nine
Africa, Western Asia, Europe, Middle East

Region Ten
Southeast Asia, Australia, the Far East, New Zealand, the Western Pacific Basin
ASSEMBLY MINUTES

REGION 9 ASSEMBLY 2011

Leuven, Belgium

November 23-25, 2011
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INTRODUCTION TO THE ASSEMBLY MINUTES 2011

In these Minutes of our Region 9 Assembly held in Leuven, Belgium, from Wednesday 23rd until Friday 25th of November 2011, you'll find the facts of the discussions held, reports on the workshops and committee sessions, the changes discussed and voted on regarding our Bylaws and our Policies and Procedures, and appendices like the list of the attendants at the assembly, Committee Reports and others.

We started each day, with some readings from our OA literature: the 12 Steps, the 12 Traditions, the 12 Concepts and the Preamble. Every day at the Assembly, before and after every meeting or point on the agenda, we said the Serenity Prayer, each time in one of the languages which was represented at the Assembly.

At the Assembly there were visitors attending from different countries, approximately 10 visitors attended during the three days and participated in the workshops and the Committee sessions.

At least once a day during the Assembly, we passed the 7th Tradition basket.
WEDNESDAY 23rd of November 2011

1. **Settling in**

- Our Chair, Stella, welcomed everybody to the 29th Region 9 Annual Assembly;
- The 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts were read.
- The Board introduced themselves, gave their qualifications as OA members and stated their commitment to Abstinence.
- We had an “Eleventh Step Sandwich” which started with the Serenity prayer followed by a short meditation and finished with the third step prayer.
- We then did an ice breaker in which we spoke to as many other OA members present as possible about what we had in common, what our differences were and what we do with Lifeline. We came back together and shared what we had learned about each other and especially what we do with Lifeline. (In France they have their own magazine, some organized a group subscription for Lifeline, in Poland they translate certain parts of Lifeline into Polish, Lifeline Weekly was translated into a few languages and distributed. In summary - Lifeline is not translated into that many languages in Region 9. 
- Seventeen countries were represented at the Assembly: Great Britain, Belgium, Israel, Slovakia, Italy, South Africa, The Netherlands, Sweden, Spain, Poland, Hungary, Iceland, Norway, Greece, Ireland, France and Denmark.
- Green dot mentors and green dots were brought together.
- A list for liaison with Service Bodies not present at the Assembly were brought up.
- Parliamentary procedures were explained by our Parliamentarian, Joanna.
- Stella shared from the 3rd RCC Meeting in Colombia regarding translated literature and printed literature from different Regions.

2. **Strategic Plan Presentation & Brainstorming Session (Report Appendix A)**

3. **Informal opening – Orientation Meeting – Adoption of the Agenda - General Overview of the Processes of the Assembly**

**Informal Opening**

- Representatives shared from their Service Body (SB) about their problems and triumphs and questions were answered.
- Concerns brought up were among others; literature regarding anorexia, history of Region 9 – are there any archives? Telephone meetings protocol. Problems regarding Intergroups. How to have structured service? Fear of doing service. Clinics are using 12 step material and making up their own way of working it. OA members who are active and doing service fall out and never come back – how to inspire them to stay on? How do we keep newcomers coming back? How to push people to do the steps?
- Triumphs: Israel - 2 Flyers translated by the WSO into Hebrew, workshops carried out. NSB of GB has doubled its number of people on the board this year. Denmark has created a packet for new meetings. Spain is doing a video to be put on youtube etc. PI work in different countries were shared.
- Among the total number of representatives and visitors we celebrated 272 years of Abstinence.
Orientation Meeting

Adoption of the Agenda

The proposed agenda was approved as written.

General Overview of the Processes of the Assembly

- The formal format of the Assembly and the Consent Agenda was explained by the Parliamentarian.

4. 7th Tradition Workshop

Held by our treasurer, Isabella.
The chair, secretary and treasurer started with one of the 7th Tradition skits that you can find at www.oa.org ("What's it worth" with Trixie, Dixie and the Abstinence Fairy).

The workshop then evolved around the following questions:

- In what way does/did tradition 7 support my recovery?
- Have I ever felt that, when I do a lot of service, I ought to put less money in the basket?
- How does my home meeting encourage members to contribute to tradition 7?
- Suggestions for successful fund raisers.

Important right now: The WSO wants to be less dependant on literature sales. That would be possible if every group contributes with 146 USD per year (as opposed to the 71 USD groups are currently giving).

Suggestions for 7th Tradition:
- use the 7th tradition tent cards at every meeting.
- suggest a certain amount that ought to be in the basket after every meeting.
- continuously clarify where the money goes.
- talk about the importance of sending a representative to IG/NSB meetings
- have a gratitude week at your meeting where you suggest to put the cost of your last binge in the basket.
THURSDAY 24\textsuperscript{th} of November 2011

1. Official Opening – Readings – Adoption of Ground Rules – Adoption of 2010 Assembly Minutes – Reports and Questions arising out of Reports

Readings

- 12 Steps – 12 Traditions – 12 Concepts
- For Today
- Region 9 Statement of Purpose

The total number of voting representatives present was 25. 17 Countries were represented: Greece, the Netherlands, Great Britain, Norway, Iceland, Slovakia, Hungary, Sweden, Poland, Belgium, Spain, Israel, Ireland, France, South Africa, Italy and Denmark. Therefore we had a quorum since more than 5 countries were represented. The credentials report was accepted as presented.

Adoption of Ground Rules

The Ground Rules were read and adopted as presented.

Adoption of 2010 Assembly Minutes

The 2010 Assembly Minutes were approved with no objections.

The Minutes Approval Committee for the 2011 Assembly Minutes were appointed and includes: Stella (Chair) and 2 representatives which are Jakki and Elena.

Reports and Questions arising out of Reports:

- Chair’s Report
Representatives shared that it had been interesting to read the Chairs Reports. Many were interested in the Daily Journal from Region 8. Meeting list accuracy was discussed. How do we address this in Region 9 and different countries? Suggestion that the EC Committee take on the meeting list accuracy. Every 10 year the RCC meeting is rotating outside of the US, this year it was held in Colombia.

- Treasurer’s Report
Splitting the role between a banker and the treasurer has been successful and the treasurer felt that it has worked out well. Suggestion was made to make changes in the Bylaws regarding banker and treasurer. Bank account details will not be posted on the website but circulated among Region 9 regularly. Delegate Assistance to visitor with a new group in a country will be brought up in the Finance Committee.

- Secretary’s Report
No questions.
Translations Committee
The committee received information during the year from a few countries about which OA literature was translated in that country. The list is now updated and very appreciated and a useful tool. Translated literature into a language for example Canada and France can use the same literature even if there is some differences in the way the literature is translated into French. The point was brought up that it is important that the Region 9 representative in a country who are leaving the position will be handed over to the next representative to continue communication with the Translations Committee.

Bylaws Committee
No questions.

Public Informations Committee
A suggestion was made to put the information regarding newspaper ads on the website under the page PI Committee. OA GB had an exhibition at a National Health Conference which was successful in regards to inform professionals about OA.

12th Step Within Committee
A question was raised about how long to continue emailing and talking to a country that has not been represented at Region 9 Assembly? The Secretary stressed that it is important to email the contact information to the Secretary. Reach out until you find someone who want’s to be in contact with you. Suggestion; if we go to other 12 step groups in other countries, we can ask if there is any oa friends there. Feedback from a representative that it is a gift to get a reply from a country that has not been represented before.

Trustee’s Courtesy Report
It would be interesting to know how many emails the Trustee receive and send during a year? People don’t contact Esti with what is going on in their country. Esti is travelling to different countries and that has also an impact in these countries regarding working the steps.

Electronic Communications Committee Report
Question regarding the Report was if it should include information about other countries websites.

2. Translations Workshop
Esti, our Trustee, held this Workshop on translations.

- Esti is the Chair of the Translation Committee at the Board of Trustees.
- Translation of literature is an important way of spreading the message and to raise money for the SB.
- Have the courage to start!
- You can start with a glossary – to capture the oa words in your language. The first things to translate could be 12 and 12 into your language and the pamphlet “15 questions”.
- The 3 licenses were reviewed and explained and also the 4th license – the assignment agreement.

To the SB’S:
Contact the WSO to see if there already is literature translated into your language. Contact the WSO to check if there will be changes to this piece of literature in the near future? Look at AA approved literature to see if they have literature that you can use in your language. Literature that is on the oa.org website can be translated without having to get permission or licensing.

Application for Funds:
- WSO have a fund to apply for funding to translate literature.
- Region 9 translations fund is to be considered as a loan and needs to be paid back in time when literature has been sold.
• If you need to use a professional translator and apply for funds to cover the costs – do that and check if the translator has made an accurate job so the oa language talks to the heart.
• Create a Translation Committee in your country to focus on what to translate. A goal for each country could be to translate one piece of literature each year.
• Suggestions on how to start and what to start to translate will be found in the guidelines on www.oa.org.
• Questions and experiences were shared.
  Permission to translate Lifeline is not needed.
  Drafts are not for sale and should be destroyed after circulation. How to distribute drafts and new editions is suggested in the Guidelines.
  Electronic copies of literature can be sold.
  Awareness regarding copying and spreading literature to oa friends without them buying it themselves – is not helping OA as a whole. Detailed discussion took place on this topic and it was established that some countries were unaware of the implications. This information would now be taken back home by these representatives.

3. **Deadline for Ask-it Basket Questions**

4. **2011-2012 Suggested Draft Budget – Presentation and Discussion**

Our Treasurer, Isabella, presented the Suggested budget for 2011-2012.

Discussion regarding:
The Prudent Reserve. A question was raised - Why are we not self supporting when we have a prudent reserve?
It was explained that, the prudent reserve is a financial buffer that should cover one year of expenses in hard times. If the prudent reserve should not be sufficient, we can transfer money from our general reserve into the prudent reserve. According to our bylaws, (Art X Section 1 h) the prudent reserve should be equal to one year’s standard costs. The Assembly may decide upon the amount of the annual standard costs.
However, the prudent reserve is not intended to be the source from which we take money in order to be self supporting, we ought to be self supporting through our contributions. It was explained that even though we had a Region 9 draft budget that ‘balanced’ - that we in Region 9 were not fully self supporting since our contribution to WSO are minimal and do not reflect the service that Region 9 receives from the WSO.
The Region 9 Trustee is totally funded by the WSO. R9 also receive contributions directly towards delegate assistance and translation. WSO also service our region by being our World Service Office and providing such things as the Meetings data base, the web site, WSBC, trustees in general and related costs.
Finding a Parliamentarian preferably in the country where we are having the Assembly is something to think about in future years.

5. **Reports from Committee Sessions and discussion of any proposals of emergency new business motions**

Finance committee
Report appendix B
Various suggestions for the budget were presented and entered into the suggested budget.

Bylaws committee
Report appendix C

Translations Committee
Report appendix D
6. **How to abstain from compulsive eating one day at a time – Workshop (Appendix H)**
   - Stella took the assembly through a workshop and Isabella and Karolina shared about their experiences of how they became abstinent and how they stay abstinent.
   - We split into groups and discussed very interesting questions and then came back and shared our answers.

7. **Deadline for submitting Emergency New Business Motions**

8. **Endorsement of Trustee for election at WSBC 2012**
   The procedure of nomination and selection and the qualifications for Trustee were read by the Parliamentarian.
   There was one applicant for this service position: our current Trustee, Esti. Esti addressed the Assembly.
   Voting was by ballot. 25 votes cast and 24 yes votes. The nomination has been affirmed.

9. **Election of Service Positions – Discussion and Election of Assembly/Convention Venues for 2012 and 2013**

   **Election of Service Positions:**

   **Chair**
   Reading of our Bylaws Art VII regarding Elections and Duties.
   There were two applications for Chair.
   Olafur addressed the Assembly and due to personal reasons withdrew his application.
   Susan addressed the Assembly and answered questions.
   Voting was by ballot.
   25 Votes cast. 25 ‘yes’ votes and Susan was elected as Chair.
   The Chair declared Susan as Chair.

   **Secretary**
   Reading of our Bylaws Art VII regarding Duties.
   Patrick was nominated and accepted the nomination.
   Chadia was nominated and did not accept the nomination.
   Loes was nominated and did not accept the nomination.
   Serena was nominated and did not accept the nomination.
   Mette was nominated and accepted the nomination.

   Patrick and Mette addressed the Assembly in turn.
   Voting was by ballot. 25 votes cast. Patrick received 17 ‘yes’ votes and Mette received 8 ‘yes’ votes and Patrick was elected as Secretary.
   The Chair declared Patrick as Secretary.
Treasurer
Reading of our Bylaws Art VII regarding Duties.
One application from our Treasurer, Isabella. Isabella addressed the Assembly.
Voting was by ballot. 26 votes cast and 26 `yes´ votes and Isabella was elected.
The Chair declared Isabella as Treasurer.

Committee Chairs
Reading of our Bylaws Art IX Section 1, 2 and 3.
Each Committee Chair addressed the Assembly. Voting was by ballot.

Chair of 12th Step Within Committee
Mette was nominated and accepted.
Jakki was nominated and accepted.
24 votes cast. Mette received 19 `yes´ votes and Jakki received 5 `yes´ votes.
Mette was elected.

Chair of Translations Committee
Irenne was nominated and accepted. 26 votes cast. 26 `yes´ votes. Irenne was elected.

Chair of Bylaws Chair
Joanna is willing to apply. 26 votes cast. 26 `yes´ votes. Joanna was elected.

Chair of Public Information Committee
Siobhan (a visitor from Ireland) was nominated and accepted
Serena was nominated and accepted but withdrew her nomination.
26 votes cast. 24 `yes´ votes. Siobhan was elected.

Chair of Electronic Communications Committee
Francoise was nominated and accepted but withdrew her nomination.
Karolina was nominated and accepted. 26 votes cast. 26 `yes´ votes. Karolina was elected.

The Chair declared:
Mette as Chair of 12th Step Within Committee
Irenne as Chair of Translations Committee
Joanna as Chair of Bylaws Committee
Siobhan as Chair of Public Information Committee
Karolina as Chair of Electronic Communications Committee

Discussion and Election of Assembly/Convention Venues for 2012 and 2013

- **Proposals for 2012:**
  Poland and South Africa invited us to hold the Assembly and Convention 2012 in their countries.
The representatives from Poland and South Africa addressed the Assembly.
Voting was by ballot. 26 votes cast. Poland received 20 `yes´ votes and South Africa received 6 'yes' votes. Poland was elected.

- **Proposals for 2013:**
  Israel and South Africa invited us to hold the Assembly and Convention 2013 in their countries.
The representative from Israel addressed the Assembly.
Voting was by ballot. 26 votes cast. Israel received 14 `yes` votes and South Africa received 12 `yes` votes. Israel was elected.
FRIDAY 25th of November 2011

1. Openings and Readings

- Serenity Prayer
- 12 Steps - 12 Traditions – 12 Concepts
- Preamble
- For Today
- Statement of Purpose

The total number of voting representatives present was 25. 17 Countries were represented: Greece, the Netherlands, Great Britain, Norway, Iceland, Slovakia, Hungary, Sweden, Poland, Belgium, Spain, Israel, Ireland, France, South Africa, Italy and Denmark. Therefore we have a quorum as more than 5 countries were represented. The credentials report was accepted as presented.

2. Formal discussion and vote on:
   - Consent Agenda
   - Bylaws amendment Motions
   - New Business Motions

Chart 1: Consent agenda

The Parliamentarian explained the Consent Agenda and the procedure.

Bylaws Amendment Motion 3 was pulled from the Consent Agenda.
Business Motion 4 was pulled from the Consent Agenda.
BL 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9 and BM 1, 2, 5 required a majority to adopt. They were voted upon and adopted.

BL 1
Bylaws Article XII Section 1.
To clarify that we are talking about the Region 9 Assembly.
"Proposed amendments should be submitted to the Region 9 Bylaws Committee at least ninety days before the Region 9 Assembly, and are to be submitted in writing, by this committee to the Region 9 Chair at least seventy five days before The Region 9 Assembly."

BL 2
Bylaws Article VII, Section 3b
To comply with wording used in OA.
"...In addition each candidate for the Region Board shall have where possible at least one year of current abstinence and at least two years of service beyond group level at the time of election."...

BL 4
Bylaws Article XI Section 1
To clarify wording.
"Matters which relate to major policy affecting Overeaters Anonymous as a whole shall be referred to the Region 9 Trustee or another member of Overeaters Anonymous Inc. World Service Board of Trustees."
BL 5
Bylaws Article IV, Section 2b
To clarify wording and include Virtual Service Board.
"Representatives from National/Language/Virtual Service Boards, who are registered with the World Service Office and who are within the geographical boundaries of Region 9. National/Language/Virtual Service Boards shall not represent Intergroups which have sent representatives to the Assembly, however if all Intergroups are represented, the National/Language/Virtual Service Board will still be entitled to one representative."

BL 8
Bylaws Article IV, Section 2
To clarify wording regarding OA visitors attending the Region 9 Assembly.
"a  OA Visitors from Region 9 who already have a representative attending the Assembly from their service body will not be given a voice or a vote."
"b  The Region 9 Assembly is open to OA visitors from inside and outside Region 9."...

BL 9
Bylaws Article XII, Section 2
"Bylaw amendments, including items raised during the Assembly by a Committee, which have not been submitted to the Region Chair seventy-five days before the Assembly and which are considered to be of an emergency nature by the Region 9 Board and the Bylaws Committee Chair may be voted on at the Assembly."

BM 1
Policies and Procedures
To adopt into the Region 9 Policies and Procedures Manual the document circulated at 2010 Region 9 Assembly entitled “Overeaters Anonymous Region 9 – Assembly Procedures and Suggestions.”

BM 2
Policies and Procedures IV Region 9 Translations
To strike and insert:
“TRANSLATION GUIDELINES
The Translation guidelines submitted by the R9 Translations committee in 1999 and updated in 2002 and approved in 2005 have now been rescinded and R9 will now refer to the document “OA GUIDELINES – TRANSLATION GUIDELINES FOR OA LITERATURE” which is available on the www.oa.org website for the worldwide fellowship of OA.”

BM 5
Policies and Procedures Article V Finance and Budget
To insert:
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DELEGATES TO REGION 9 ASSEMBLY
Financial assistance be granted to delegates travelling to Region 9 Assemblies. Draft claim forms approved. (1985b)
That the mailings to all member groups and Intergroups as in article 5(ii) of the Bylaws, shall include applications for assistance. This application form will also be posted on the R9 website. Completed application forms will be submitted to the R9 Treasurer at least 4 months prior to the date of the Assembly.
It is requested that the service bodies attach to the application form for assistance – the latest financial summary of the service body and that they give details of any funding for attendance at Region 9 Assembly from elsewhere. The Region 9 Board are authorized to consider (by email) those applications (2008e)
The Assembly resolves that priority for financial assistance for Regional representatives travelling to the R9 Assembly will be given to those IGs and NSBs with the greatest distance to travel and secondly to those attending their first Assembly. (1996h)
The Board is authorized to make a decision on transferring up to EUR 2400.00 (GBP 1700.00) from Service to Delegate Assistance, 3 months before the next Assembly, whenever that takes place. (2007a)
Payment of this assistance will be at the Assembly itself.
Chart 2: Bylaws Amendments Motions (BL) and New Business Motions (BM)

BL 6
The Board moved that:
Region 9 OA Bylaws, Article IV,– MEMBERSHIP OF REGION 9 ASSEMBLY, Section 3 Qualifications.
Region 9 OA Bylaws, Article VII – COMPOSITION OF REGION 9 BOARD, Section 3 Qualifications.
Requires that the representatives to R9 have 6 months consecutive abstinence. To introduce abstinence requirements for the R9 Representatives and in turn strengthen the abstinence requirement for the R9 Board.
Amended – 1 year instead of 6 months. Majority needed. Voting: the motion for the amendment was lost.
Motion required two-thirds vote to adopt. Motion BL6 as originally stated was adopted.

BL 7
The Bylaws Committee moved that:
Region 9 OA Bylaws, Article VII, Section 3d – Composition of Region 9 Board
Amend bylaws to the effect that no member will be disqualified to serve on Region 9 Board because they have already served for eight years. To allow qualified members to serve additional terms on the Region 9 Board if they wish to.
Amendment – move to strike four (4) and to insert eight (8). Voting by majority. The amendment was carried.
Discussion took place regarding the true meaning of the existing wording of the Bylaw. Clarification that the original meaning did not require that members be disqualified from serving after eight year’s service – therefore the motion was withdrawn.

3. Approval and Adoption of 2011-2012 Budget

The Budget (the original suggested version with alterations included that had been suggested by the finance committee and assembly) was presented by the finance committee.
Motion required majority to adopt. The Budget as presented was adopted (Approved budget appendix I).

4. Formal discussion and vote on:

BM 3
The Region 9 Treasurer moved that:
Region 9 Policies and Procedures Article V Finance and Budget
Title of the Section – Financial Assistance for Delegates to Region 9 Assembly.
Proposed New Wording:
“The Assembly resolves that priority for financial assistance for Regional representatives travelling to the R) Assembly will be given to those IGs and NSBs that cannot afford to fund a delegate on their own, to those with the greatest distance to travel and secondly to those attending their first Assembly. (1996h).”

Motion required a majority to adopt. BM 3 was adopted

BM 4
The Secretary moved that:
Policies and Procedures VI Website Maintaining Anonymity
Move to Amend the P & P regarding anonymity on the website, if personal information is on Region 9 material or on an events flyer it is up to the service body to change the contact information before sending it to the EC Committee Chair for uploading.

Motion required majority to adopt. BM4 was lost.
5. **Liaison with Service Bodies not presented at the Assembly – allocation and adoption of service bodies**

The result of the Liaison with Service Bodies not represented last year was addressed by Susan – the 12th Step Within Chair. Four representatives were present this year that would not have attended if we would not have done this liaison last year. Each representative and Board Member picked one or more countries which they will try to contact during the year. The representatives will contact the country/countries they chose and report to the 12th step within Committee.

6. **Ask-it-basket Questions and Answers**

Has somebody experience of youth groups (oa teen groups)? If so, how does it work?
- Youth in OA at WSO, Susan explained different legalities depending on the age of the youth. The “teen” and “young adult” meeting format is different than for the younger children. In the US there is also “College age” meetings. Any specific questions could be asked to Susan from Israel.

Do people who do service at a convention which is a spiritual recovery convention receive a reimbursement for journey and hotel in your country? Which service position?
- In Israel they don’t reimburse anyone for their travel and stay.
- In some countries they do pay for travel and accommodation for the speaker.
- One country pays for travel and 2 nights to the Assembly and if they stay for the Convention they pay for it themselves.
- In one country they pay for the organizing committee half of their travel and accommodation cost.
- Generally considered that if a SB invites the speaker – the SB pays the costs.
- Suggestion to SB’s is to be clear from the beginning what will be paid or not.

7. **Formal discussion and vote on BL 3 Substitute Business Motion**

Substitute motion of Bylaw Amendment BL 3.
The Bylaw Chair moved to amend:
Article III, Section 1 as follows:
“The Definition of a Group
The points that define an Overeaters Anonymous Group are listed in OA Inc Bylaws, Subpart B Article V, Section I Overeaters Anonymous Groups.

a These points shall define an Overeaters Anonymous group:
1 As a Group, they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.
2 All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the group.
3 No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice (share at a meeting)
4 As a Group they have no affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous
5 It has affiliated as an Overeaters Anonymous group by registering with the World Service Office.

b Virtual Groups (groups which replicate face-to-face meetings through electronic media) may be an Overeaters Anonymous group if they:
1) Otherwise meet the definition of Overeaters Anonymous groups
2) Are fully interactive, and
3) Meet in real time.

Required two thirds majority, the motion was **adopted**.
8. **Committee Sessions**

9. **Wrap up session**

- Serenity Prayer
- **New Emergency Business Motion**
  Submitted by the Finance Committee
  To strike and amend the Policies and Procedures V Finance and Budget,
  **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR TRANSLATION/PRINTING**
  To strike part b and amend c into b.

  Required two thirds majority. The substitute motion was carried.

- Serenity Prayer
- 2 min Meditation ‘11th Step Sandwich’
- 3rd Step Prayer
- Personal Sharing
- The Green dots were welcomed onto the R9 ‘fully qualified’ R9 rep ‘fold’ and thus removed their green dots!
- Announcement of 7th Tradition collected from Assembly. Euro 385,82
- Closing
- Closing ‘ceremony’ with lights out and remembrance of OA members throughout R9 and consideration of our common bond / link and then linking of our illuminous bracelets into each other.
- Responsibility Pledge.
- Serenity Prayer

The meeting was adjourned at 16.41. To re-convene in Poland in 2012. Date and final location to be notified to the Region as soon as they are known.

Submitted by: Karolina OA Region 9 Secretary
Approved Committee:

Stella (Chair)
Jakki
Elena