

**REGION 9 CHAIR'S REPORT - 2ND REGION CHAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING & 2013
WORLD SERVICE CONVENTION**

The 2nd Region Chairs Committee meeting (RCC) took place from Tuesday, August 27 till Thursday, August 29. There were 5 meetings in total - 2 meetings with the Region Chairs and 3 with the Chairs & Trustees.

The Region Chairs' meetings consisted of :

- Motion from RCC to present at World Service Business Conference 2014 (WSBC)
- Updating the RCC Reference Manual
- RCC Inventory
- RCC Service Opportunities
- Abstinence Power Point
- Skype conference calls between the Region Chairs
- Brainstorming for the WSBC 2014 Forum

The Region Chairs & Trustees' meetings consisted of :

- Survey from WSBC 2013 Forum - will be put on the OA Website
- 7th Tradition / Regions helping other Regions financially - this is not an outside issue and is acceptable (not against 7th Tradition)
- Bulletin sign up - this is on the front page of the OA Website
- Strategic Operations Plan (SOP) - coming to the end of this 5 year plan
- 2014 - 2016 SOP

Brainstorming for the new 2014 - 2016 SOP took place with the Region Chairs & Trustees. Each goal for the year 2014 was given 1 - 3 tasks to be completed by the end of 2014.

- **Goal # 1 - Increase focus on actions required for Abstinence**
 1. Abstinence 101 (how to start & keep Abstinence; Strong Abstinence Checklist; Abstinence workshop)
- **Goal # 2 - Increase focus on the necessity of working all 12 Steps**
 1. Steps 101 (how to work the steps differently; to work/use/live the Steps)
 2. Workshop utilizing OA 12 & 12 and its workbook
- **Goal # 3 - Increase focus on individual's responsibilities to carry message**
 1. Sponsorship 101 (how to be a sponsor/sponsee)
 2. Tips for Passing the Message

3. Responsibility Pledge to promote

Region 9's Report :

I, once again, stressed the importance of communication within Region 9 - the Region 9's monthly messages, R9 newsletters, emails, OA Bulletin, skype meetings, ...

The work that has been done within the R9 committees - new Tradition 7 Item (wristband), the continuous updating of the R9 Website, the ongoing R9 Sponsor List, an OA Glossary, Motions & Amendments to be brought forth at our R9 Assembly & Convention, and our new Public Information Postcard.

I especially spoke about this year's R9 Assembly and that our Delegate Assistance Fund is helping 7 countries/Service Bodies attend the 2013 R9 Assembly & Convention. I also pointed out that this was only possible because of the generous financial assistance received by Region's 5 & 7.

World Service Convention 2013 :

This year the World Service Convention also took place (this is a convention which takes place once every 3 years). This started on Thursday, August 29 till Sunday, September 1, entitled "Recovery To Rock Our World". Over 900 OA members from all 10 Regions attended. From R9, we came from Israel, Denmark, Belgium, and Russia. The first R9 Trustee (from the USA) was there!

There were 79 different sessions to choose from, including : "That's What Friends Are For" (Fellowship); "Pledging My Love" (Commitment); "Amazing Grace" (Conscious Contact with God); "Always On My Mind" (Abstinence); "Suspicious Minds" (Resentments - a writing workshop); "Through the Years" (Longtimers Panel); plus sessions devoted to the Steps and to the Principles. All the titles of the sessions were named after songs, which also came up a lot during the entertainment on Saturday night.

There were also Audio Sales; OA Bookstore; Boutique (where we sold our R9 magnets and wristbands); International lounge (where R9 had an informal gathering); Meditation room; OA meetings' room; Special Focus meetings' room; Virtual Services lounge; and Virtual Services meetings' room. Of course there was a location for Registration and a Hospitality room.

We had a Grand Opening Friday evening - there was a lot of focus on the countries which make up R9, and the translations which have already been done from the OA Literature. On Saturday night we had the Dinner/Entertainment/Dance. It was amazing to hear the keynote speaker, and this is where the "Rock & Roll" was heard - during the entertainment & dance. At the Grand Closing, we heard a very touching share from the speaker.

I must say that it was an honor to represent R9 at the 2nd RCC meeting and at the WSC 2013. To pass on information about our region, and to bring back so much. On a personal level, giving service is so good for my recovery, and seeing members I know, or got to meet for the first time is always exciting for me. I thank you all for giving me this opportunity as Region 9 Chair to take part in the meetings and convention.

Susan

Region 9 Chair