

Chair's Report to the 2015 Assembly

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

August, 2015

Thank you to the French National Service Board

Our hosts this year are the French 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.

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: Literature & Translations, Electronic Communications, Bylaws, Public Information, Finance & Budget, & 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 bylaw amendments & new business motions. 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

At R9 Assembly, we arrange 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 found 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 & Translations 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 60 service bodies registered with WSO – of that number we had 25 representatives at the Region 9 Assembly last year, not including the R9 Board members. This year we had 20 delegates attend WSBC 2015 – an outstanding number, more than in previous years.

Our numbers of representation at Region 9 A&C and WSBC are increasing, but we want more to attend and participate. Our goal is to increase our number of representatives at R9 A&C, and also to increase our number of delegates at WSBC. 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.

OA Website & Region 9 Website

There is a wealth of information found on both OA and Region 9 Websites. As an example, the Strong Abstinence Checklist was created, and translated into many Region 9 languages!

Region 9 Newsletter

Our newsletter has been filled with exciting articles this year. We can read shares about Region 9 A&C, Service in OA, Working All Twelve Steps, Sponsorship, WSBC, and Going to Any Length...Not to Break My Abstinence. Anyone interested in contributing articles, contact the Newsletter Coordinator.

Region 9 Tradition 7 Items

At the Region 9 A&C, you will be able to buy the Luggage Tags and the Card Cases. These were created as R9 Fundraisers, so please support R9 by purchasing these items, and taking them back to your SB to sell.

Region Chairs Committee (RCC)

As you may be aware – one of the tasks as R9 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. We also brainstorm (Region Chairs & Trustees) on the SOP, and I am thrilled to tell you that a project which R9's PI Committee was creating will become part of "Carrying the Message". My report was sent out through email and posted on the Region 9 website. Also, a shorter report was found in the R9 May Newsletter.

The 2nd RCC Meeting will be held towards the end of August in Albuquerque. This is with the RCC and the Board of Trustees (BOT). The main focus of these meetings is to work on the Strategic Plan (SOP). You will receive a report of the 2nd RCC meeting in another mailing of the R9 Assembly material.

The 3rd RCC Meeting will be held in October in Region 10 – in Brisbane, Australia. This is held in a different region every year. The purpose here is to observe the assembly & convention of another region, to give our experience, strength and hope at their A&C, and to bring back valuable information to our own regions. I will also send out a report after this 3rd RCC Meeting will be held.

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 to help and support each other.

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 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. Our 3 year plan (2014 – 2016) has been divided into three goals :

Increase focus on actions required for Abstinence; the necessity of Working all Twelve Steps; and individual's responsibility to Carry the Message

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 and public information), 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, once again, 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 almost 500 emails per month.



Thanks for allowing me to serve

I would like to take a moment to thank everyone – the R9 Secretary, Treasurer, Trustee, Banker, all the Committee Chairs, Newsletter Coordinator, and each one of you, for helping to make my service as Region 9 Chair easier. The amazing work that we have done this last year touches me deeply. I am so grateful for being able to serve you all in this service position for the past 4 years.

Thank you, again.
Susan, Region 9 Chair



**Board of Trustees
2014 – 2016 STRATEGIC PLAN THREE--
-YEAR FOCUS: OUR PRIMARY PURPOSE**

Our primary purpose is to abstain from compulsive eating and to carry the message of recovery through the Twelve Steps of OA to those who still suffer.

Getting and staying abstinent • Carrying OA's message to those who still suffer within and outside the Fellowship • Working the Steps to stay abstinent and recover • Personal responsibility: I am the message • The message: We abstain from compulsive eating and work OA's 12 Steps to stay abstinent and recover physically, emotionally, and spiritually. • We practice the principles in all our affairs • We are happy, joyous, free, whole, and well, and we are abstinent under ALL circumstances

----- **ACTION PLAN** -----

	GOALS	TASKS	ASSIGNED PARTY	SCHEDULED COMPLETION	STATUS
2014	Increase focus on actions required for Abstinence	Create an ABSTINENCE MADE SIMPLE Program			
		1) Workshop formats – Abstinence Power Point	RCC	Mar--14	Complete
		– The Difference Between Abstinence and a Plan of Eating	BOT Subcommittee	Nov--14	Complete
		2) Strong Abstinence Checklist	BOT Subcommittee	May--14	Complete
		3) Abstinence literature resource guide	BOT Subcommittee	Aug--14	Complete
2015	Increase focus on the necessity of working ALL 12 Steps	Create a STEPS MADE SIMPLE Program			
		1) Lifeline/ASA Column featuring trustee/RC articles on topic	Teresa	9/15/2014	Complete
			Margie	10/15/14	Complete
			Karen	11/15/14	Complete
			Tina	12/15/14	Complete
			Amy	1/15/15	Complete
			Gloria	3/15/15	Complete
			Linda J	4/15/15	Complete
			Nancy	5/15/15	Complete
	Vicki	6/15/15	Complete		
	Diana	7/15/15	Complete		

Board of Trustees
2014 – 2016 STRATEGIC PLAN THREE--
-YEAR FOCUS: OUR PRIMARY PURPOSE

----- *ACTION PLAN* -----

	GOALS	TASKS	ASSIGNED PARTY	SCHEDULED COMPLETION	STATUS
2 0 1 5	Increase focus on the necessity of working ALL 12 Steps	Create a STEPS MADE SIMPLE Program (cont.)			
		2) Virtual Workshop/Podcast--One Step per Month	STEPHANIE , Tina, Gerri., Linda., Cyndy, Karin, Gloria, Nancy, Roni, Merri	Dec--15	
		3) Newcomer Quick Step Study	MEG M. , Margie, Linda J., Janice, Bob, Amy, Denise., Letitia, Susan	Nov--15	
		4) Twelve--Stepping a Problem			Complete
		5) The Importance of Working the Steps workshop format	FAITH , Karen, Barb , Vicki, Tina, Cyndy	Aug--15	
2 0 1 6	Increase focus on individual's responsibility to carry the message	Create a CARRYING THE MESSAGE MADE SIMPLE Program			
		1) Sponsorship Training Workshop	RONI , Gloria, Gerri, Tina, Nancy		
		2) Promote Responsibility Pledge	FAITH , Karen, Vicki, Diana,		
		3) "Tips for Carrying the Message"	SUSAN , Bob, Barb, Karin,		
		4) Service in My Recovery	CYNDY , Stephanie, Linda H., Letitia		
		5) Service Body Building	Region Chairs Committee		