



Report to the R9 Assembly from R9 Trustee

- As you are no doubt aware, these are my first few months as R9 Trustee. I am still learning and feel that I will be for a while ☺. My grateful, grateful thanks must go to everyone on the Board of Trustees and our own R9 Board for their support over the last few months and also, of course to Esti, who gave 7 years (!) of wonderful service as our trustee.
- During this time I have:-
 - a) Answered questions about traditions etc. that have arisen in our region via email and reviewed service body bylaws sent to me.
 - b) Answered questions from other trustees as they have arisen.
 - c) Responded to queries raised regarding the 'Google add' campaign which will this year include France, Germany, Italy, Greece, Spain, Portugal, the UK & Ireland within R9. Many thanks go to our R9 PI Committee Chair for pursuing this. I understand the advertisements in these countries and their languages will take place towards the end of this autumn.
 - d) Attended the R9 Board meetings via skype.
 - e) Handed over the banking position to the acting banker and gave support to her and the acting treasurer when time permitted.
 - f) Acted as an active trustee co - chair of the 'International Publications / Translations Committee' & the 'Unity with Diversity Committee' (I was newly appointed to these as incoming R9 Trustee).
 - g) Spent time 'browsing' around where R9 meetings are centred and in which languages they are conducted so that I can use the budget for workshop visits with the most efficiency.

We have as I write this 871 meetings across 53 countries and conducted in 21 languages.
 - h) I am in the midst of preparing a spreadsheet which encompasses a '*Summary of the R9 meetings, languages, and OA literature & materials translated into those languages*'.

This is a combination of what we as R9 prepare as a list of literature translated, and the information the WSO has on translated literature. In addition it incorporates information from work I have done in looking at meeting lists and websites and in corresponding with the WSO staff. This is work in progress at this stage and I hope to have more done before the assembly for discussion during our translation workshop. I feel it can be used it for all sorts of things. One of the goals of the 'Unity with Diversity' Committee at World Service Business Conference level (of which I am trustee co - chair) is to create a speaker buddy or outreach list with language focus. I see this as very much a goal that affects the countries in R9 with connections elsewhere in the region where there is a common language and also with parts of R8 (Spanish & Portuguese) & R6 (French) and a in R2 (Spanish).

The WSO have also let me have their list of member contacts that have done translation work. Can we increase that list? Would you be willing do some work on translation of OA Literature or other OA Materials such as the workshops or presentations? Let me know if you would like to help us.
 - i) I have summarized the Accounts of OA. Inc. to 31 December 2014 & the Contributions to 30 June 2015 and prepared a report to the region, which went in the R9 newsletter month. My reporting of the finances is a means to an end; that of R9 being more self-supporting.

The report showed that:-
The overall net costs of OA Inc. for the Year Ended 31 December 2014 was \$962,620.
If every one of the 6,433 groups in OA contributed \$150 per year, then the costs would be fully covered. That works out at \$2.88 for each week of the year for every group.
The figure of \$2.88 per week is an average across all groups, although we know that every group is not the same.



In the six months to 30 June 2015 Region 9 groups contributed \$2,513 in total to WSO. That is \$2.84 in total for each of the 887 groups – for six months.

On average this works out at just \$ 00.11 – that is eleven cents per group per week to the WSO.

Our World Service Office does a splendid job of supporting our fellowship and the budget for OA Inc. pays for:-

Maintenance of the WSO website, the WSBC, the Trustee's budgets, holding of OA literature stocks, staff salaries, production of 'lifeline' & 'a step ahead', maintenance of the office building, to name but a few.

Our 7th Tradition is:-

'Every OA group ought to be fully self – supporting, declining outside contributions'.

The principle behind this tradition is 'Responsibility'.

Are we being responsible in what is being contributed from us as a region to OA Inc.?

- We (R9) have newly registered Intergroups of :-
 - Toscana – Italy Reg.n No 9638
 - Adriatico – Italy Reg.n No 9641
 - Oriente – Italy Reg.n No 9640
 - Alba – Scotland Reg.n No 9639
- We de-registered IG Kent & Essex in England. As far as I am aware, the groups affiliated to that IG will affiliate with South & East England IG and some of the officers have offered their services on the National Service Board (elections will take place later this year).
- I will attend the Spanish National Convention in October and the Greek National Convention in November. Both of these service boards have asked me to speak on traditions and service.
- You will be aware that I am very interested in having as much OA material translated as possible. Myself and a fellow trustee have experimented with using translation software to assist in translating some OA literature and materials. These experiments look very promising and there will be discussion at the August BOT meeting. As I see it, this will never take the place of good linguists with an understanding of our program, but it could be a very useful tool and a much better starting point than a blank page. I will report more on this at the assembly.
- I look forward very much to continuing to learn more about being R9 Trustee and hopefully doing my part in carrying the OA message of recovery. I am excited by and appreciating this new service position. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Respectfully submitted,
Stella Cooke



Report to the R9 Assembly 2015 from R9 Trustee - addendum

Just a few additional items to add to my report:-

OA Region 9 Activities

Please let me know what is happening in the OA world in your area. Things like OA workshops, step studies, PI events etc. are all good to share with the outside of OA R9 fellowship. Please ask your service body to register the trustees email address and to update me with details of these events.

Translation of OA materials and literature

The trustees for Regions 2, 8, 9 & 10 all sit on a committee at the trustee level entitled 'International Publications & Translations'. This very much involves our region.

As a trustee of R9 I am required to sit on this committee and this year I will chair it.

I will lead a workshop at the forthcoming R9 Assembly and will update you all then. In the meantime though I would be very grateful if you would either:-

- Bring a complete list of OA materials and literature that has been translated into your language, or
- Send me that list electronically if you prefer that.

I will sit in with the R9 translations committee and try to ensure that what both committees are doing will complement each other. I look forward very much to working with the OA R9 Translations Committee.

Buddy / Outreach with language focus

The Unity with Diversity Committee at World Service Business Conference are seeking to create a buddy or outreach system with language focus. I hope to have more details on this by the assembly.

Trustee Workshops & using the trustee

Part of the role of R9 trustee is to lead workshops around the region.

These can be on any topic that includes:-

- a) Service, Traditions & Concepts as well as the topics covered on the strategic plan i.e.
- b) Abstinence,
- c) Working all Twelve Steps &
- d) Individual's responsibility of Carrying the OA message of recovery.

In 2016 as one of my trips I am considering the use of a caravan so that I can make one trip and visit multiple service bodies / countries to save on funds. I would need some commitments from several service bodies before I can arrange that trip so that we can maximize the traveling and number of workshops within a given period. This is just one trip – if you prefer me to fly to your country – I am happy to do that.

It's up to your service body to 'use' the trustee as much as possible. Together we recover.

Please ask your Intergroup / Service Board to consider whether you would like a visit and can arrange a workshop with one or more of these topics.

Personally, I think it's good to do a combination of the Service, Traditions & Concepts with a 'recovery' topic from the other three listed.

Also if you can accommodate a workshop within a given time period – what would that be? Which month?

Which days of the week work best for you?

You can contact me direct on the trustee email address.

Respectfully submitted,

Stella Cooke

OA Region 9 Trustee

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