Central Colorado Intergroup Meeting of Overeaters Anonymous
Final Meeting Minutes for February 7, 2017

Attendees: Jan B., Carrie S., Kelli J., Maureen J., Rita C., Foster, Mike K., Annie H., Gina C., Amy K., Marcia V., Carolyn C., Mark M., Steven K., Francesca

1. **Call to Order** – meeting called to order at 7:01 by Jan B. with the Serenity Prayer
2. **Meditation Reading on Service** – read by: Carrie S.
3. **Tradition of the Month** – Tradition 2 – read by: Foster
4. **OA Concept 12 Reading –** Concept 2 – read by: Rita C.
5. **Introductions:** Mark M. is a newcomer this month.
6. **Welcome and Reminder**
7. **7th Tradition and Review, amend and approve DRAFT minutes –** Date was corrected to reflect 2017; 9c. time corrected to 11:30 a.m.; 9d. corrected to say WSO; 10b. corrected to read: …ad hoc committee will come up with ideas and implementation for new website development including fundraising ideas; 9b. to read: Steven is not here and the chair was not informed, he has been marked as an unexcused absence. Mike moved and Rita seconded amended minutes.
8. **Officer Reports**
   - **a. Chair –** Jan provided her report, here are a few of the highlights:
     i. We have a busy agenda tonight, so please keep comments short
   - **b. Vice Chair** – Carrie reported that she gave Annie her written report. Annie will copy her report into the minutes.
     i. Connected with WSO regarding the official rules around us of the OA logo. Found that we have been out of compliance, and submitted a formal request form which was later approved by WSO. Sent an email to Jim and Jan with the official layout of the new logos that represent Central Colorado Intergroup
     ii. As a service to the meetings I reached out to 18 of our 36 local CCI meeting contacts individuals to 1.) be sure they are still the contact person 2.) be a link to CCI 3.) offer to relay any changes in the meeting times, etc. Out of 18 reach out's I heard back from 10 meetings, and sent Annie H the couple corrections I was given. Carbondale meeting would be grateful to get flyers mailed monthly, and if CCI approves this monthly mailing fee, I would be willing to take on that service.
     iii. The two face to face meeting that I attend, have seen use of remote dialing in with the simple use of my cell phone and a Bluetooth speaker (with a new member in Granby and Breckinridge & one member unable to drive per her Dr. orders). This lead me to inquire with Jan B. if we could consider Freeconferancecall.com for the CCI meeting, which she too felt could open up this late night time slot to more whom are unwilling to drive after dark, etc.
     iv. After attending the OA birthday in LA, I am a huge proponent to getting a workshop I experienced, titled "Food Sobriety" to a retreat I'm willing to put together.
     v. Also, I attended our "Surrender to Serenity- The War is Over" convention meeting, and have volunteered to help be hospitality & organize our state conventions schedule of events/itinerary, as I got great ideas from the flow of the LA birthday's panels, workshops, marathon meetings and speakers.
   - **c. Corresponding Secretary –** Gina reported we received eight 7th tradition checks, and a 2017 census, as well as the WSO updates in the mail this month. Two Lifelines were given out, one to Mark M. and one to Carolyn C.
   - **d. Treasurer** – Kelli gave the Treasurer's report for January. 7th tradition was $526.97; at the end of January, there was $9442.28 in the bank. Discussion about the length of time documents need to be maintained was held. A decision was made that any report more than 3 years old will be scanned and kept as an electronic record, and the paper document shredded. Discussion about moving the P.O. Box

closer to the Treasurer. Rita moved and Carrie seconded, one vote not in favor of changing the Post Office location where it will be located. It was mentioned that once the new box is acquired volunteers will be needed to inform groups of the new P.O. Box number and post office.

9. Standing & Ad-hoc Committee Reports

a. Pub/Tech Committee – Jim C. and Heidi are not here to report.

b. Region III Rep/WSBC Delegates – Mike K's report is attached. Registration deadline for WSBC is February 20th Steven is representing CCI in Dallas in March. See New Business for WSBC agenda.

c. Twelfth Step Within – Rita C. reported flyers for Unity Day are ready, they have a new committee member, and she is here tonight, Francesca. Survey for events for TSW ready to go out to meetings.

d. PI/PO – Mark P. not here, but Amy reported on his behalf. One more Natural Grocer's visit coming up at Mission Trace. It is almost time for 9HealthFair planning to begin.

e. Region III Fall 2017 Assembly/Convention planning committee – Annie reported the committee has met twice since the last CCI meeting. In January, the committee was informed we have a signed contract with the hotel and our own website for hotel reservations. We decided on the theme: Surrender to Serenity: The War is Over! Some of the initial sub-committee leads were identified. In February, the committee voted on covering Jim and Gina C.'s hotel room and to provide scholarships for their attendance at the assembly, we determined the registration prices for the weekend, and made a decision not to change the dates of the assembly due to another OA conference that is scheduled for the same weekend in September.

f. 2017 New Year's Luncheon planning committee – Gina provided a wrap up report on the New Year's Day Event. Gina moved and Mike seconded that $400 scholarship money be moved to the Fall 2017 Region III Assembly event. Motion carried unanimously.

g. Update Website Committee – a formal report from the committee was submitted at the meeting. It will be a significant endeavor to update the website in the neighborhood of $3500-$4000. A separate fund will be set up in the budget, with the possibility to have a matching fund set up. Prudent reserve was also discussed. Fundraising was next in the report. Ambassadors were mentioned as an option. A first draft paragraph was drafted to market the updated website to meetings and for the website. Gina made a motion that CCI approves to match contributions set aside $2000 of the past convention fund, for matching funds for the updated website, Mike seconds. Rita would rather say "half, not to exceed $2000". Motion amended to read: *the motion was made to approve CCI to match funds of monies raised for the new website development, up to half of the cost of said development, not to exceed $2000. These matching funds will come from monies currently identified in the financials as "convention."* Motion carried. Rita moved to proceed with fundraising of planning and implementation of fundraising of the website. Mike seconded. Motion carried.

10. New Business

a. WSBC 2017 Agenda Items

i. Proposal Item A – yes
ii. Proposal Item B – yes
iii. Proposal Item D – yes
iv. Proposal Item E – yes
v. Proposal Item F – yes
vi. Proposal Item G – yes
vii. Proposal Item H – yes
viii. Proposal Item J – no
ix. Proposal Item K – no
x. Proposal Item L – yes
xi. Proposal Item M – yes
xii. Proposal Item N – no
xiii. Proposal Item No. 1 – yes
xiv. Proposal Item No. 2 – yes
xv. Proposal Item No. 3 – yes
xvi. Proposal Item No. 4 – no
xvii. Proposal Item No. 5 – yes
xviii. Proposal Item No. 6 – yes
xix. Proposal Item No. 7 – yes
xx. Proposal Item No. 8 – no

b. Bylaws – we received a notice from our Trustee that our Bylaws have a typo in them. We referred to the incorrect section on the OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B in the definition of an OA group. Mike and Annie will correct the Bylaws and Annie will resubmit them to Region III.

11. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m. with *I Put My Hand in Yours.*

Region Representative/World Service Business Conference Delegate Report
Central Colorado Intergroup
February 7, 2017

Region III

The Spring 2017 Region III Assembly/Convention will be held in Dallas, TX on March 24-26, 2017. Steven K will be representing CCI at this Assembly/Convention. Region III bylaws and policy revisions will be discussed at this assembly. The Fall 2017 Region III Assembly/Convention will be hosted by the Central Colorado Integroup this fall…details to follow!

World Service

Registration deadline for WSBC Delegates is February 20, 2017.

CCI will decide which new business motions and proposed bylaw amendments we would like to see on the 2017 WSBC Agenda at the February 2017 intergroup meeting. The Agenda Questionnaire must be postmarked by March 2, 2017. Annie has sent out a copy of the Agenda Questionnaire Summary so that those attending the February CCI meeting may bring it along with them.

Attached is a copy of the First Quarter 2017 edition of ***A Step Ahead***. This publication can be downloaded from the World Service website at no charge.

World Service is holding a Public Information Poster Contest. Entries are due at WSO by 11:59 p.m. MDT on March 31, 2017. Members will be able to go online and choose their favorite of (hopefully) 12 posters beginning on April 15, 2017. Voting ends on at 11:59 p.m. MDT on May 15, 2017.

Thank you for allowing me to be your trusted servant.

In loving service,

Mike

Mike Koechner

We're looking for great ideas.

(OA's FIRST POSTER CONTEST NEEDS YOURS.)

THINK BACK . . .
before you ever heard of OA,
before you'd made the decision to attend your first meeting—
WHAT KIND OF MESSAGE WOULD MAKE YOU TAKE A SECOND LOOK?

Get together with your OA friends or service body and start designing!

Contest Rules and Guidelines

- Designs do not need to be professional-quality. What matters most is the idea and intended message. You may include an explanation, if necessary.
- Your submission can be drawn on anything from a napkin to a computer. Hand-drawn entries must be clearly legible.
- Submissions can be in any language; please include an English translation.
- Posters will be printed in English on US letter-size paper (8.5" x 11" or 215.9 mm x 279.4 mm), however, other dimensions will be accepted.
- One entry per member, please; select your best idea.
- All submitted designs must be original and accompanied by a contest release form (see reverse or find the release form at oa.org/files/pdf/release-form.pdf).
- If duplicate designs are submitted, only the first one received will be accepted.
- Submissions must be received by the WSO by March 31, 2017 at 11:59 p.m. MDT.

POSTER SELECTION PROCESS

After the March 31, 2017, submission deadline, about twelve designs will be chosen by the OA Board of Trustees. An online vote, open to the Fellowship from April 15–May 15, 2017, will determine the winning design.

The winning design will be used to create OA's next public information poster. The World Service Office will produce the poster and may edit the design for clarity, compliance with US copyright law, and adherence to the OA Twelve Traditions.

The new poster will be professionally printed and made available for purchase at bookstore.oa.org. Twenty complimentary copies will be awarded to the winning designer or service body. Good luck!

If filling meetings with more members is on your wish list, help make it happen. YOUR idea could become the next Public Information Poster for OA worldwide!

Send your submission plus a completed release form to the World Service Office.
Mail to PO Box 44020, Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87174-4020 USA,
or email info@oa.org with the subject line "PI Poster."

All entries must be received by the WSO before March 31, 2017, at 11:59 P.M. MDT.
Online voting will start April 15, 2017. Voting will close May 15, 2017, at 11:59 P.M. MDT.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS®

Public Information Poster Contest
RELEASE FORM

(must be included with all submissions)
Entries must be received by the World Service Office before March 31, 2017, at 11:59 P.M. MDT.

AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE FOR CONCEPT/DESIGN

I warrant that I am the sole owner and original author of the Public Information Poster Contest Concept/Design ("Concept/Design") and that I have the full right and authorization to submit the Concept/Design to Overeaters Anonymous ("OA"). I understand and authorize OA to edit, copy, distribute, publish, repoduce, or copyright the Concept/Design for any lawful purpose. By submitting my Concept/Design to OA, I agree that it becomes the property of OA and may be used in any type of distribution media. I agree that I will make no monetary or other claim against OA for the use of the Concept/Design. I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product wherein my Concept/Design appears. I hereby hold harmless and release OA from all claims, demands, and causes of action which I, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, or any other persons acting on my behalf (or on behalf of my estate) have or may have by reason of this authorization.

I have read the authorization and release information and give my consent for the use as indicated above.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Designer's Contact Information:
(Name; address; email; phone; Group/Service Body name/#)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

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A Step Ahead

First Quarter 2017 Volume 21, Number 1

INSIDE

New, translatable website for Lifeline *magazine*

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Translation Funds Awarded

Translation Fund Deadline

New OA Service Bodies

Professional Exhibits Fund

Ask-It Basket

Update Your Literature

Send Us Your Stories!

And more!

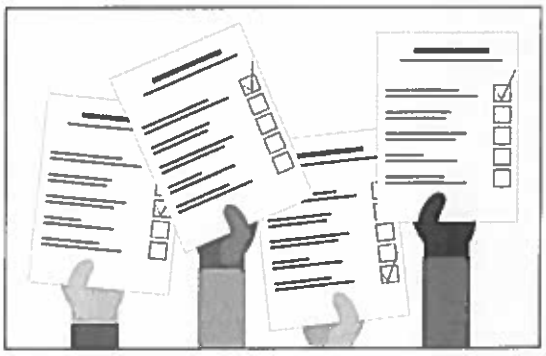
Attention Intergroups and Service Boards:
Please inform the WSO whenever you have meeting changes to your directory by going to Edit a Meeting at oa.org.

Attention Group Secretaries:
Please make copies of this newsletter to share with your group members.

DATEMINDER

May 1–6, 2017
World Service Business Conference

Ten Motions and Bylaws Amendments Up for Vote at WSBC



World Service Business Conference 2017 will be held May 1–6 at Embassy Suites Albuquerque Hotel and Spa. This year's Conference theme is "Growing OA Unity Worldwide." The theme focuses on our Strategic Plan for 2017, and Conference workshops will focus on OA unity.

Training for New and Returning Delegates

Again this year, WSBC will offer the workshop "All about Conference" to educate delegates about the parliamentary procedure used to conduct the business of WSBC. First-time delegates (also known as "green dots") will receive additional support via the Mentor Program, which offers several opportunities for green dots to meet with seasoned mentors to discuss Conference procedures and have their questions answered.

New Conference Documents

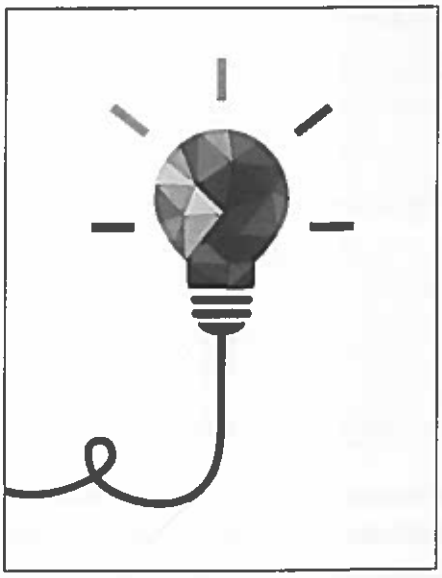
The second Conference e-mailing was posted to the WSBC page on oa.org on January 10, 2017, and includes both the agenda questionnaire and the motions and bylaw amendments listed below, which were submitted by the December 10, 2016, postmark deadline:

- Revise or rescind the email loop policy
- Create a statement on copyright and ownership of creative works
- Create a tenth Tool: mindfulness
- Revise the Unity with Diversity policy to recognize the importance of using a meeting format that includes the OA Preamble, the Twelve Steps, and the Twelve Traditions
- Revise the motions submission requirements to include an explanation of how the motion will help carry the message of recovery
- Create a special fund for translations

Continued on page 3

Send by March 31, 2017 to qualify

OA Contest: Submit a Public Information Poster Idea



The board Public Awareness Committee is hosting a contest to design OA's next public information poster. The winning design will be professionally printed and sold in the OA bookstore later this year.

OA members and registered groups and service bodies are eligible to participate. The winner will receive twenty complimentary copies of the new poster.

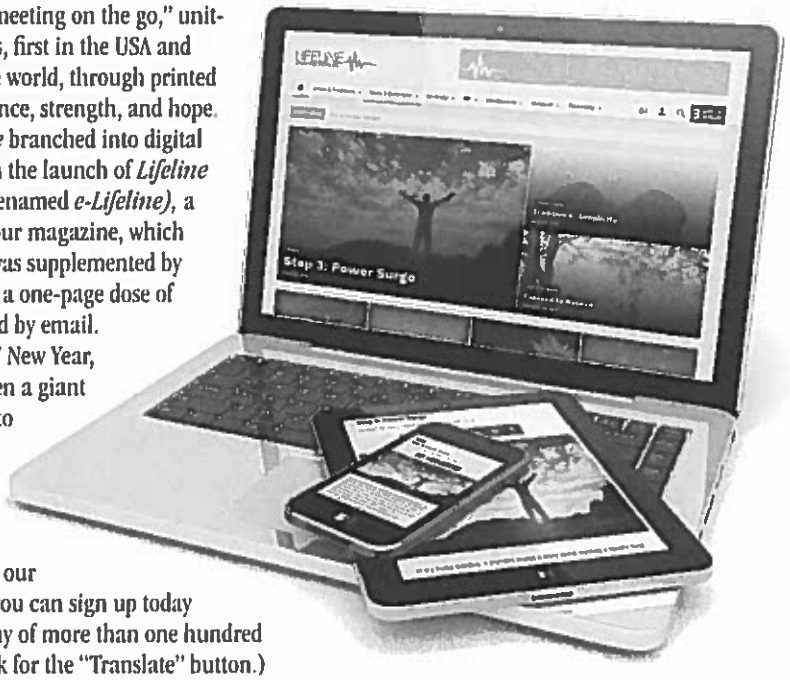
The submission deadline is March 31, 2017, and the committee will accept anything from ideas drawn on a napkin to those laid out with professional software. Ideas can be submitted in any language, but should include an English translation. What matters most is the idea is clear and legible.

Submissions must be accompanied by a release form. To read more about the contest rules and obtain a release form, see the flyer in this issue of *A Step Ahead* or go to oa.org/files/pdf/release-form.pdf.

Read in Any of More Than One Hundred Languages

OAlifeline.org is Lifeline *Magazine's New Website*

For fifty-one years, *Lifeline* magazine has been OA's "meeting on the go," uniting OA members, first in the USA and then around the world, through printed pages of experience, strength, and hope. In 1999, *Lifeline* branched into digital publication with the launch of *Lifeline On-line* (later renamed *e-Lifeline)*, a PDF version of our magazine, which from 2010–15 was supplemented by *Lifeline Weekly*, a one-page dose of *Lifeline* delivered by email.



With the 2017 New Year, *Lifeline* has taken a giant leap forward onto a new online platform: OAlifeline.org is the new online home for our magazine, and you can sign up today and read it in any of more than one hundred languages. (Look for the "Translate" button.)

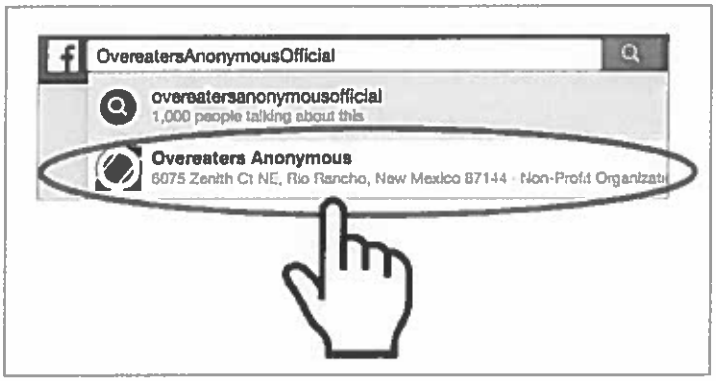
Currently, OAlifeline.org includes every *Lifeline* magazine story published since January 2016—more than two hundred stories. New stories will be added with the publication of each print issue of *Lifeline*. A one-year subscription to OAlifeline.org is US$23.

"OAlifeline.org is the new online home for Lifeline *magazine, and you can sign up today and read it in any of more than one hundred languages."*

Print subscriptions for one, two, or three years continue to be available for purchase starting at US$23.

Visit oa.org/members/lifeline-magazine to subscribe either to the print version of *Lifeline* or to OAlifeline.org.

OA's Official Social Media Page: More Likes = More Attraction



Spread the word: OA's official social media page needs your "likes" to help reach out to the still-suffering compulsive eater.

The approval of OA's Statement on Public Media Policy (see right) by the delegates of WSBC 2016 paved the way for OA groups and service bodies to carry the message of recovery through social media. In January 2017, Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. launched its official page on Facebook. The new page will be used to attract still-suffering compulsive eaters to OA and give our Fellowship another resource to learn about program news and recovery.

Find our page by going to facebook.com and searching **OvereatersAnonymousOfficial** in the Facebook search bar.

One small service that anyone with a Facebook account can give is to "like" OA's official page. (When you like the page, your name will not show up on the OA page.) More likes will raise the profile of our official page, making it easier to find when compulsive overeaters search for a solution.

To preserve our Twelfth Tradition of personal anonymity, please do not like or comment on individual posts. OA only accepts comments from registered groups and service bodies.

Overeaters Anonymous Statement on Public Media Policy

While Overeaters Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues, including social media, the delegates of the 2016 World Service Business Conference recommend that any OA member, group, or service body using social media for OA public information and public awareness maintain the personal anonymity of OA members.

Members of Overeaters Anonymous are anonymous. The Fellowship is not. Members of Overeaters Anonymous using social media are responsible for maintaining their own personal anonymity and respecting the anonymity of other OA members.

A New Strategic Focus on Worldwide Unity

— Karen C., Chair of the Board of Trustees

We are an international organization, embracing all the world of compulsive overeating. We have language, cultural, religious, spiritual, and economic differences, but what we share is the disease of compulsive eating however it may manifest itself.

In September 2016, the Board of Trustees and region chairs met at the World Service Convention to begin creating a new OA Strategic Plan for 2017–2019 and determined that the focus for 2017 is actions required to grow OA unity worldwide.

The board met again in November to brainstorm what actions could be taken to achieve greater OA unity by creating a "growing unity" program. As a result, the board and region chairs will be working in subcommittees on three tasks this coming year: The first committee will focus on writing *Lifeline* articles on the theme "Being a Piece of the OA Puzzle." The second committee will concentrate on creating downloadable workshops to support growing OA unity, and post these workshops on the OA website as a resource for service bodies and groups. The third committee will concentrate on writing a second series of *Lifeline* articles co-written by pairs of members who have different symptoms but share our unifying disease.

In 2017, our worldwide theme is unity. Our differences are not what bring us together; instead it is our collective desire to reach out to the still-suffering compulsive overeater inside and outside the rooms of OA. It is important to acknowledge that we are all rooted in the OA Twelve Steps, honor the OA Twelve Traditions, practice the Twelve Concepts of OA Service, and live by the OA Principles.

Grow OA Unity

Download our *Unity with Diversity Checklist* and discuss it at your next group conscience.

WSBC 2017

Continued from page 1

- Establish an ad-hoc committee to consider how to implement a Spanish language service board and have it registered with the World Service Office
- Create a Sponsorship Day
- Revise how intergroups and service boards function by allowing the region or virtual services trustee to remove a disbanded intergroup or service board from the WSO database
- Change WSBC from an annual to a biennial event

Intergroups and service boards should review and vote on the agenda questionnaire and return it to the World Service Office by the postmarked deadline of March 2, 2017.

The second Conference e-mailing also includes delegate registration forms and general information. All documents in this e-mailing are available on the WSBC page at oa.org.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS POLICY STATEMENTS RELATED TO UNITY WITH DIVERSITY

1992a (amended 2013) The following policy statement was adopted:

"Unity with Diversity" Policy

THE FELLOWSHIP encourages and promotes acceptance and inclusivity. All are welcome to join OA and are not excluded because of race, creed, nationality, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation or any other trait. We welcome all who share our compulsion.

THE FELLOWSHIP of Overeaters Anonymous recognizes the existence of individual approaches and different structured concepts to working our Twelve-Step program of recovery; that the Fellowship is united by our disease and our common purpose; and that individual differences in approach to recovery within our Fellowship need not divide us.

THE FELLOWSHIP respects the rights of individuals, groups and service bodies to follow a particular concept of recovery within Overeaters Anonymous and encourages each member, group and service body to also respect those rights as they extend the embracing hand of Fellowship to those who still suffer.

THE FELLOWSHIP encourages each duly registered group and service body to affirm and maintain the Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous by allowing any member to share his or her experience, strength and hope in meetings regardless of the individual approach or specific concept that member may follow. Duly registered is defined as being in full compliance with Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V.

— OA Business Conference Policy Manual

1994b (Amended 2008) The following policy statement was adopted:

The Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous recognizes the existence of special focus meetings (i.e., gay and lesbian meetings, women's meetings, men's meetings, 100-pounders, maintainers, old timers, and people of various cultural backgrounds, etc.), which have been formed of persons who can more readily identify with fellow OAers with similar attributes. According to the Traditions, bylaws and policies of OA, the only requirement for membership is the desire to stop eating compulsively. We ask each person attending a meeting to respect and consider the group conscience. All registered meetings shall welcome and give a voice to any person who has the desire to stop eating compulsively.

— OA Business Conference Policy Manual

Delegate Support Funds Have Already Improved WSBC 2017

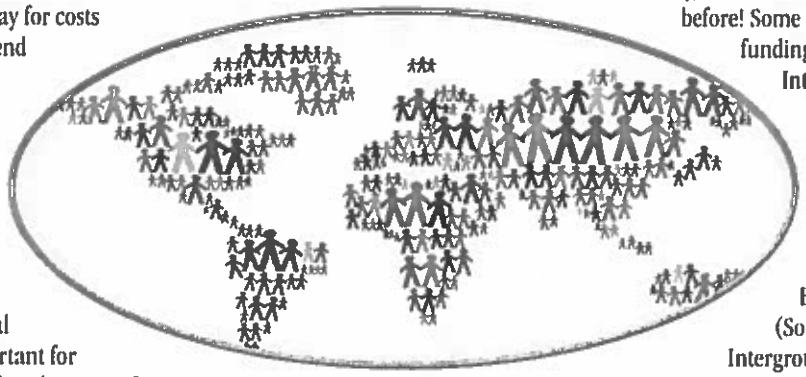
— Tina C., General Service Trustee, Treasurer

The 2017 World Service Business Conference will be held May 1–6, 2017 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA. Intergroups and service boards from all regions are able to apply for assistance to send delegates to WSBC through the Delegate Support Fund.

The Delegate Support Fund Committee was formed to administer the funds that, as per WSBC Policy 1993c (revised 1994, 2001, 2002, 2012, and 2014), help pay for costs incurred by delegates who attend WSBC. The policy states that delegates selected to receive financial support will be from OA intergroups and service boards in all regions and virtual services.

In the spirit of unity, service bodies are encouraged to send delegates to our annual WSBC, and it is critically important for the strength of OA worldwide that the voice of OA's entire Fellowship is heard at Conference. Decisions affecting OA for years to come are made each year, and input is needed from all intergroups and service boards so that these decisions truly represent OA as a whole.

"Eighteen intergroups and service boards received full or partial funding to attend WSBC 2017."



Intergroups and service boards had until November 1, 2016 to apply for funds to attend WSBC 2017. Applications were reviewed and the decisions were made at the November Delegate Support Fund Allocation Committee Meeting. Participating in the meeting were the trustees of virtual services and each region that requested funds, as well as the board treasurer, who serves as chair.

This year, $22,351.85 was available in funding. Priority was given to those intergroups and service boards that had not been able to send delegates to previous Conferences. Eighteen intergroups and service boards received full or partial funding to attend WSBC 2017.

OA Thessaloniki, Greece, received first priority, since it had never sent a delegate to WSBC before! Some of the other groups awarded funding include Anchorage, Alaska Intergroup (USA); BSNOA (France); Israel National Service Board; Nova Scotia Intergroup (Canada); Tidewater Intergroup (Virginia USA); Intergroupe OA Français de L'Outaouais (Canada); 712 Virtual Service Board of OA; Gauteng Intergroup (South Africa); NYS Capital District Intergroup (New York USA); and Austria Intergroup (Austria).

Our Seventh Tradition support of these eighteen delegates from six different regions and virtual service boards fulfills the purpose of the Delegate Support Fund: to bring as many delegates to Conference as possible. In this way, WSBC 2017 will have a truer group conscience when considering the business and future of OA.

OA Literature Grew in Four Languages in 2016

—Stella C., International Publications and Translations Committee Chair

OA members who speak Spanish, Greek, Norwegian, and a "newcomer" language, Korean, all benefited from International Publications and Translations Committee funding in 2016. US$9,800 was awarded in total to help complete translations of a wide range of OA books, pamphlets, and other resources. Service board recipients were IG Esperanza Venezuela, IG Oslo, National Service Board OA of Greece, and South Korea Intergroup.

Awarded funds can create momentum to translate even more literature into a given language, since language boards and smaller service bodies offering a decent supply of OA literature give local members a vision that all OA literature should be translated and available. Many thanks to OA members who continue to give service in support of these visions for OA worldwide.

Translation Funds: Apply by February 1

Did you know that translation of OA literature has a direct effect on the number of meetings available in a given language? More translations equals more meetings, and more meetings mean more recovery and hope for still-suffering compulsive eaters around the globe. To help, OA makes funds available to intergroups and service boards who translate OA literature.

Download the application for funds from the Literature Translations page on the OA website and send your completed application to the World Service Office before February 1, 2017, by email, fax, or mail. Applications will be reviewed and funds allocated at the Board of Trustees meeting in late February. Recipients will need to create and use the online payment system specified in the application to receive funds.

To learn more about OA's translation policies, see *Translation Guidelines for OA Literature* or go to Literature Translations on the Groups/Services Bodies Guidelines page.

New Service Bodies

Congratulations and welcome to four new OA service bodies registered with the World Service Office:

Seaway Intergroup
Brockville, Ontario, Canada
Registered October 16, 2016

South Korea Intergroup
Seoul, South Korea
Registered November 3, 2016

Alaska Intergroup
Palmer, Alaska USA
Registered November 11, 2016

Intergroup Vale Do Paraiba
Taubate, Brazil
Registered November 14, 2016

Carry the Message to Health Professionals: Apply for Professional Exhibit Funds

—Barbara B., Professional Tradeshows Committee Chair

The Professional Exhibits Fund was created in 2005 to help service bodies exhibit at health-related professional conferences and conventions that might otherwise be too costly. Professionals who may refer their patients and clients to OA, such as doctors, nurses, and nutritionists, attend these events.

The fund is supported by designated contributions from OA members and service bodies. In 2016, the Professional Tradeshows Committee approved a total allocation of US$3,876.75 to four service bodies that applied for assistance to carry the message at the following events:

- National Psychopharmacology Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada USA
- Pre-Med Canada Conference in Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Primary Care Conference in Birmingham, United Kingdom
- New Mexico Academy of Family Physicians in Taos, New Mexico USA

Currently $4,939 is available in the Professional Exhibits Fund, so watch for conferences, tradeshows, and similar events in your area where OA could exhibit. Discuss these opportunities with your intergroup, service board, or region, and if your service body needs funds to help with exhibit expenses, download the Professional Exhibits Fund application found under "Service Body Support" on the Documents page at oa.org. Applications are reviewed monthly.

Participating in a conference or convention also strengthens individual recovery by providing new service opportunities, such as creating attractive display booths and talking to as many referring professionals as possible. Overall, service body feedback has been very positive.

The Professional Exhibits Fund needs your contributions to continue carrying the message. Please consider donating by selecting the Professional Exhibits Fund from the designation menu at oa.org/contribute.

Ask-It Basket

Q Regarding anonymity, a question was raised at my home meeting about using email addresses that contain last names. Are these types of emails okay, especially when doing public information or professional outreach work?

A Each member of OA has a right to make his or her membership known. This should be done with members' full knowledge, of course, so it is best to make sure members are aware that their names are revealed by the email address.

It is often necessary to use full names when doing service work. If an email address is being used in a public forum, such as on an event flyer, it is wise to use an email address that does not disclose the owner's full name.

Send your questions about the Traditions or other OA business to info@oa.org and get a response from members of the OA Board of Trustees. Or, see the Ask-It Basket archive or the 2016 WSBC Ask-It Basket Q&A on oa.org.

Is Your Group's Literature Up-to-Date?

OA literature changes over time to reflect the group conscience of OA. In fact, literature changes are subject to the vote of more than two hundred service body delegates at each World Service Business Conference. Stocking your literature table with the most current, OA-approved literature gives newcomers and other OA members the best information about OA and the best opportunities for recovery.

How do you know if your books and pamphlets are current? Look for the OA Literature List by Copyright Date/Revision Date on oa.org (look on the Documents page under "Literature") to check for newly available publications and find the latest revision dates of popular items. (This list is updated when each revision is published, so check back periodically as part of your service.) Some new and newly revised titles include: *Twelve Step Workshop and Study Guide* (#960), *What If I Don't Believe in "God?"* (#195), *Twelve Traditions Pocket Guide* (#445), and *Is Food a Problem for You?* (#750).

Send Us Your Stories! *The next deadlines for* Lifeline *are:*

March 15
Generally Speaking
Write on any topic that is meaningful to you.

April 15
Let's Share a Laugh
What's your funniest OA story? Was there a time in recovery when you had to laugh at yourself? Was there a time when you chose to laugh instead of cry? What role does laughter play in recovery?

Pets and Recovery
How can a pet be a compulsive eater's best friend in abstinence and recovery? How does your pet help you work the Steps, Traditions, or Tools or keep you from isolating? Pet photos welcome!

Why I Keep Coming Back
What do you find in OA that you can't find anywhere else? What thoughts and feelings keep you coming back? Has the decision to come back ever saved you from replase or a slip or even saved your life? Is coming back habitual or do you have to commit every time? How do you come back when you don't feel like it?

For more information about sending stories on these topics or other submissions, refer to the July 2016 Lifeline *or click the "Lifeline Magazine" button on* oa.org.

2016 Virtual Workshop Series a Success

—Stephanie D., Virtual Services Trustee

OA Virtual Services recently completed its 2016 series of Second Sunday virtual workshops on "Service and My Recovery." Twelve podcasts created from this series are now posted at oa.org/podcasts.

Each month, a live, phone-in workshop featured two speakers who shared their OA stories and discussed how they used two spiritual Principles in both service and life. For example, in the third month (March), speakers discussed "identity" and "truth," which are the respective spiritual Principles of the Third Tradition and the Third Concept of OA Service. After the speakers shared, members were encouraged to share, and the speakers offered thought-provoking questions to get the sharing started.

For the past four years, Second Sunday workshops have been recorded and made into OA podcasts. Collectively, podcasts resulting from the workshops were viewed and clicked on more than 12,000 times in one month alone! That's a big bang for our workshop buck. Many thanks to OA members, region chairs, and trustees who took the time to share their experience, strength, and hope in these virtual workshops.

The Second Sunday workshops also created big benefits on a smaller scale. Participating in the "step zero" workshop of the 2015 "The Importance of Working All Twelve Steps" series allowed me to meet a young woman who became my sponsee. Since then, we have developed a relationship that nurtures and supports us both. Watching her work the Steps, get involved in service, stay abstinent through the death and mourning of her mother, and get to a healthy body size has been a great pleasure. She is someone I would never have met except through these workshops.

In 2017, OA Virtual Services is taking a break from producing Second Sunday virtual workshops. Notices will be sent when new virtual workshops are scheduled.

OA Podcast Series at oa.org/podcasts

"Service and My Recovery"
Twelve Podcasts
More Than Nine Hours

"The Importance of Working All Twelve Steps"
Thirteen Podcasts
Ten Hours

"OA Literature: the Heart and Soul of OA"
Twelve Podcasts
More Than Five Hours

"Our Primary Purpose"
Twelve Podcasts
More than Five Hours Total

OA EVENT DAYS

OA Birthday
60 Years!
Saturday
January 21, 2017

Unity Day
Saturday
February 25, 2017
11:30 a.m. PST

What's New from WSO

Professional Community Courier 2017 Issue

The *Professional Community Courier* is an annual OA publication written by health care professionals to encourage other health care providers to refer their patients and clients to OA. You can carry this message! Give your doctor, dentist, or therapist our newest issue of the *Courier* (#752) by purchasing professionally printed copies at bookstore.oa.org or downloading a copy from the OA website (search "Courier"). The 2017 *Courier* is also included in the *Professional Presentation Folder (#870).*

"Carry the Message" Workshop

What's the best way to explain OA? Practice your attraction skills and get ideas about when and how to share OA with colleagues, health professionals, and others who might be interested in our program using our new *"Carry the Message"* workshop, which was developed and tested by region chairs at WSBC. Go to the "Workshops and Skits" section of the Documents page on the OA website to download the workshop materials, including a slideshow, a Things to Consider worksheet, and more than three dozen practice scenarios and situations.

A Downloadable Action Plan: "From Slip or Relapse to Recovery"

Have you slipped or relapsed or know someone who has? Download our new action plan designed specifically to reclaim and retain abstinence. Find it under "Resources" on the Twelfth Step Within page or on the Documents page at oa.org.

Revised: Been Slipping and Sliding? Writing Exercise

Our downloadable writing exercise with thirty questions designed to help you recommit to your recovery has been updated with helpful references to OA's most current literature, including *Overeaters Anonymous, Third Edition* (#980). Download it from the Twelfth Step Within page or the Documents page at oa.org.

Check out the latest podcast, "Spirituality, Sponsorship, and Service Go Hand in Hand" at oa.org/podcasts

2018 *Lifeline* Call for Topics

What do you want to read in *Lifeline?*

Send us your ideas for *Lifeline* monthly topics in 2018.

Email suggestions to info@oa.org with subject "*Lifeline* Topics"

or fax your ideas to 1-505-891-4320

or mail them to *Lifeline*, P.O. Box 44020 Rio Rancho, NM 87174-4020 USA.

Deadline: April 27, 2017

WSBC 2017 Important Deadlines

January 10, 2017
Second set of Conference e-documents posted on website

January 31, 2017 (received)
Trustee Nominee Applications

February 20, 2017 (received)
Delegate Registration Forms

March 2, 2017 (postmarked)
Agenda Questionnaires

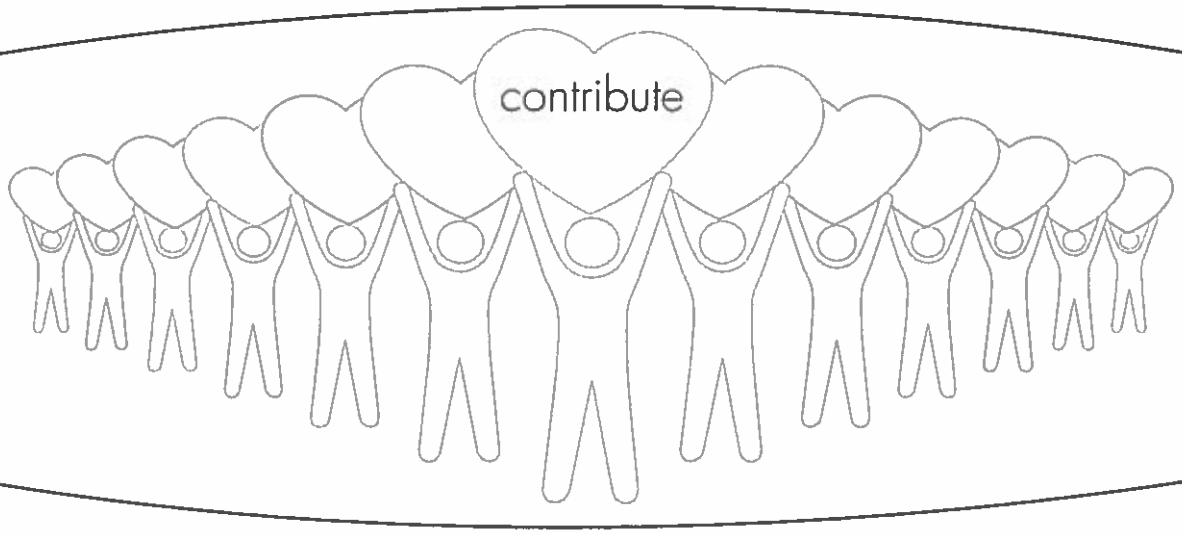
March 17, 2017
Third set of Conference e-documents posted on website

Group Secretaries: Update Your Group Info

Group secretaries are an important link between the World Service Office and OA groups. They are vital for both keeping meeting information up-to-date and distributing OA news, such as new resources and convention dates, to the Fellowship.

The WSO wants to hear from you! Update your group's meeting details and secretary contact information by going to Edit a Meeting at oa.org. First click on "Edit an Existing Meeting," then search for your meeting. Click "Edit Meeting" to update your group's information. The WSO uses the information you provide to keep Find a Meeting current so that members in recovery and still-suffering compulsive eaters can locate a meeting in their area.

237 OA Contributors Give About $4,700 Every Month Through Automatic Recurring Contributions.



Help OA grow. Go to oa.org/contribute and check "Make this a recurring gift" to start your Automatic Recurring Contribution.

We're looking for great ideas.

(OA's FIRST POSTER CONTEST NEEDS YOURS.)

THINK BACK . . .
before you ever heard of OA,
before you'd made the decision to attend your first meeting—
WHAT KIND OF MESSAGE WOULD MAKE YOU TAKE A SECOND LOOK?

Get together with your OA friends or service body and start designing!

Contest Rules and Guidelines

- Designs do not need to be professional-quality. What matters most is the idea and intended message. You may include an explanation, if necessary.
- Your submission can be drawn on anything from a napkin to a computer. Hand-drawn entries must be clearly legible.
- Submissions can be in any language; please include an English translation.
- Posters will be printed in English on US letter-size paper (8.5" x 11" or 215.9 mm x 279.4 mm), however, other dimensions will be accepted.
- One entry per member, please; select your best idea.
- All submitted designs must be original and accompanied by a contest release form (see reverse or find the release form at oa.org/files/pdf/release-form.pdf).
- If duplicate designs are submitted, only the first one received will be accepted.
- Submissions must be received by the WSO by March 31, 2017 at 11:59 p.m. MDT.

POSTER SELECTION PROCESS

After the March 31, 2017, submission deadline, about twelve designs will be chosen by the OA Board of Trustees. An online vote, open to the Fellowship from April 15–May 15, 2017, will determine the winning design.

The winning design will be used to create OA's next public information poster. The World Service Office will produce the poster and may edit the design for clarity, compliance with US copyright law, and adherence to the OA Twelve Traditions.

The new poster will be professionally printed and made available for purchase at bookstore.oa.org. Twenty complimentary copies will be awarded to the winning designer or service body. Good luck!

If filling meetings with more members is on your wish list, help make it happen. YOUR idea could become the next Public Information Poster for OA worldwide!

Send your submission plus a completed release form to the World Service Office.
Mail to PO Box 44020, Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87174-4020 USA,
or email info@oa.org with the subject line "PI Poster."

All entries must be received by the WSO before March 31, 2017, at 11:59 P.M. MDT.
Online voting will start April 15, 2017. Voting will close May 15, 2017, at 11:59 P.M. MDT.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS®

Public Information Poster Contest
RELEASE FORM

(must be included with all submissions)
Entries must be received by the World Service Office before March 31, 2017, at 11:59 P.M. MDT.

AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE FOR CONCEPT/DESIGN

I warrant that I am the sole owner and original author of the Public Information Poster Contest Concept/Design ("Concept/Design") and that I have the full right and authorization to submit the Concept/Design to Overeaters Anonymous ("OA"). I understand and authorize OA to edit, copy, distribute, publish, repoduce, or copyright the Concept/Design for any lawful purpose. By submitting my Concept/Design to OA, I agree that it becomes the property of OA and may be used in any type of distribution media. I agree that I will make no monetary or other claim against OA for the use of the Concept/Design. I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product wherein my Concept/Design appears. I hereby hold harmless and release OA from all claims, demands, and causes of action which I, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, or any other persons acting on my behalf (or on behalf of my estate) have or may have by reason of this authorization.

I have read the authorization and release information and give my consent for the use as indicated above.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

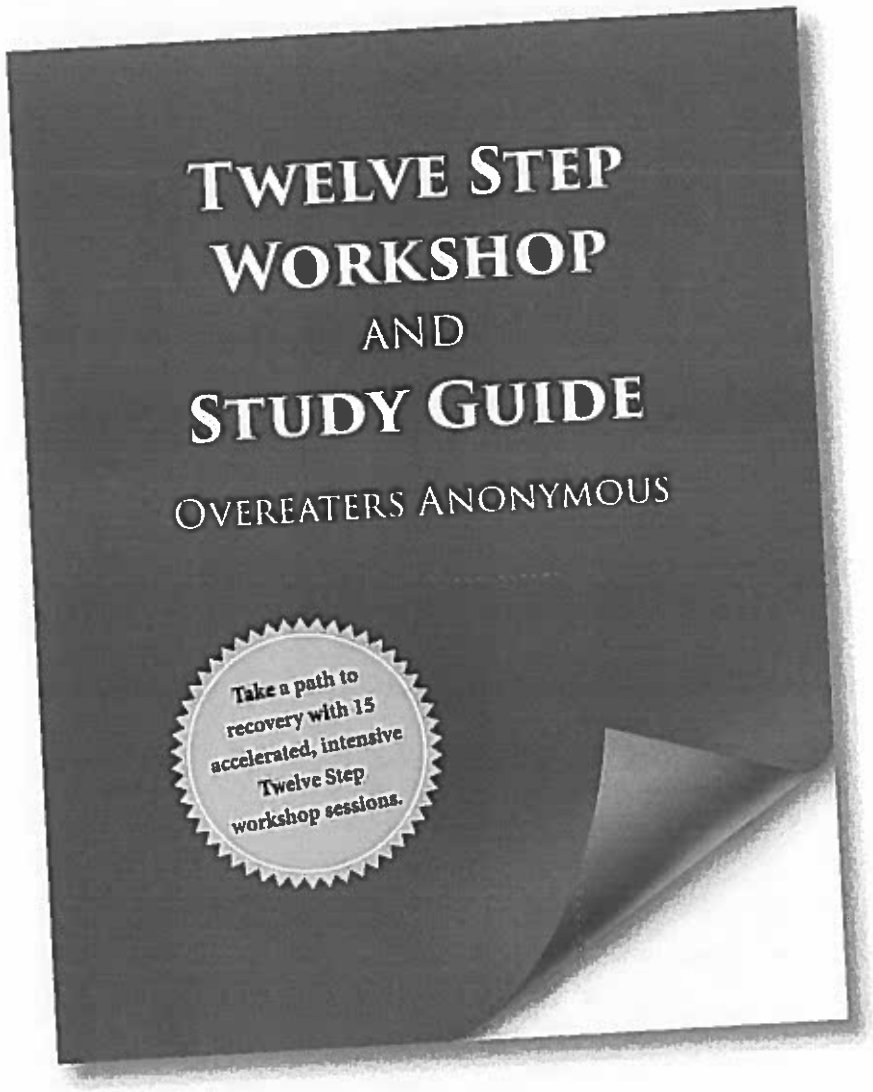
Date: _____

Designer's Contact Information:
(Name; address; email; phone; Group/Service Body name/#)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

World Service Office
PO Box 44020 Rio Rancho, NM 87174-4020 USA
Tel: 1-505-891-2664 • Fax: 1-505-891-4320 • Email: info@oa.org
Website: oa.org

STEP WORK. *ACCELERATED.*



Everything you need to lead a journey through the Steps, including leader scripts, Fourth Step inventory worksheets, and hand-selected references from OA-approved literature is here. Use it to lead a group of OA members or one-on-one with your sponsees. Together, you can discover proven ways to incorporate the Twelve Steps of Overeaters Anonymous into a way of living—and a life beyond our wildest dreams.

Now available at bookstore.oa.org (#960/$13.50).
Shipping not included.

Subscription Form *Lifeline*

Make *Lifeline* Self-Supporting

(Please Print) ❒ NEW ❒ RENEWAL

SEND TO:

Name _____

Street/P.O. Box _____

City _____ State _____

Prov/Country _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

BILLING ADDRESS: ❒ Same as above

Name _____

Street/P.O. Box _____

City _____ State _____

Prov/Country _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

GROUP INFORMATION

Group Number _____

Meeting Location _____

City _____ State _____

Prov/Country _____ Zip _____

Return form with payment to
Lifeline, P.O. Box 44020,
Rio Rancho, NM 87174-4020 USA
Phone 505-891-2664

To subscribe online, go to
oa.org/members/lifeline-magazine/

Enclosed is a ❒ check ❒ money order in the exact amount made out to World Service Office.
US funds ONLY
Non-US funds will be returned.
Please charge my
❒ VISA ❒ Mastercard ❒ Discover

Card # _____

Exp. Date (CSC#) _____ ( )

Signature _____

Please circle your order below:

Number of Years	US	Canada	Outside US/Canada
1 year	$23	$29	$38
2 years	$44	$56	$74
3 years	$63	$81	$108

EXACT AMOUNT IN US FUNDS ONLY

Lifeline is mailed in a plain unmarked envelope.
Please allow four to six weeks for delivery.

WANT TO ORDER MORE THAN ONE SUBSCRIPTION? USE THE FORM BELOW. THANK YOU!

Subscription Form *Lifeline*

Make *Lifeline* Self-Supporting

(Please Print) ❒ NEW ❒ RENEWAL

SEND TO:

Name _____

Street/P.O. Box _____

City _____ State _____

Prov/Country _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

BILLING ADDRESS: ❒ Same as above

Name _____

Street/P.O. Box _____

City _____ State _____

Prov/Country _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

GROUP INFORMATION

Group Number _____

Meeting Location _____

City _____ State _____

Prov/Country _____ Zip _____

Return form with payment to
Lifeline, P.O. Box 44020,
Rio Rancho, NM 87174-4020 USA
Phone 505-891-2664

To subscribe online, go to
oa.org/members/lifeline-magazine/

Enclosed is a ❒ check ❒ money order in the exact amount made out to World Service Office.
US funds ONLY
Non-US funds will be returned.
Please charge my
❒ VISA ❒ Mastercard ❒ Discover

Card # _____

Exp. Date (CSC#) _____ ( )

Signature _____

Please circle your order below:

Number of Years	US	Canada	Outside US/Canada
1 year	$23	$29	$38
2 years	$44	$56	$74
3 years	$63	$81	$108

EXACT AMOUNT IN US FUNDS ONLY

Lifeline is mailed in a plain unmarked envelope.
Please allow four to six weeks for delivery.

Agenda Questionnaire Summary
World Service Business Conference 2017

Please DO NOT return this summary. This summary is for tallying your members' responses. Your intergroup or service board should return the Agenda Questionnaire available on the OA website. Agenda Questionnaires should be postmarked by March 2, 2017. Questionnaires postmarked after this date will not be counted.

Proposal	Submitted By	Motion	Intent/Rationale	Bring to WSBC? Yes/No
A	Board of Trustees Cyndy L., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair *Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*	Move to rescind WSBC Policy 2014a. ~~It was adopted that:~~ ~~Overeaters Anonymous email groups, commonly called loops (groups that do not meet in real time), may list their group on www.oa.org as a courtesy with the following criteria:~~ ~~1)Email groups must comply with the definition of an Overeaters Anonymous group as per OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V – Overeaters Anonymous Groups, Section 1 – Definition a) 1-4.~~ ~~2) The topic and/or focus of the email group are consistent with those listed on oa.org for Overeaters Anonymous face-to-face and virtual groups.~~ ~~3) New members must be informed of the loop's policies, norms, and practices.~~ ~~4) Archives are to be deleted at least once a month unless the loop's policies dictate otherwise.~~ ~~5) Email groups are moderated to stay on topic.~~ ~~6) The format of the email groups is structured similarly to a registered OA group. Postings to email groups are limited to the topic, the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, or the Twelve Concepts of OA Service. Feedback, crosstalk, and advice-giving are discouraged.~~ ~~7) Each email group will have a coordinator who registers the loop with an email service provider and a secretary who will liaise with the OA World Service Office.~~	Intent: To remove the policy for a courtesy listing for an email loop. Rationale: This policy is not needed. A loop may now register as a meeting.	

Proposal	Submitted By	Motion	Intent/Rationale	Bring to WSBC? Yes/No
B	Board of Trustees Cyndy L., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair *Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*	Move to establish the following policy statement. **Statement on Copyright and Ownership of Creative Works** The copyright of all works of authorship, created in the course of volunteer service to Overeaters Anonymous, Inc., and submitted to the WSO or the WSBC shall be owned by Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Works of authorship include, but are not limited to, literary works, musical works, including any accompanying words, dramatic works, including any accompanying music, pantomimes, and choreographic works, pictorial, graphic, and sculptural works, motion pictures, and audio visual works, sound recordings, and architectural works. In the spirit of Tradition Seven, all contributions of writing, images, and other creative works are given freely, without expectation of compensation, either monetary or attribution. This policy is an acknowledgement that ownership of the final product created for OA belongs exclusively to OA.	Intent: To remind committee members that anything they work on becomes the property of the WSO. The person who did the work has no claim to the final product. Rationale: To have a policy about who owns the results of work contributed to the WSO.	
C	Western Mass IG, Region 6 Lyn C. *Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*	Move to add a tenth Tool: Mindfulness.	Intent: To add a tenth Tool: Mindfulness. Rationale Mindfulness is a way of slowing down and thinking about what we are doing at any moment. Mindfulness as a Tool will remind members to slow down, rely on Higher Power, and stop hurting themselves with food.	

Proposal	Submitted By	Motion	Intent/Rationale	Bring to WSBC? Yes/No
D	Board of Trustees Cyndy L., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair *Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*	Move to amend WSBC Policy 1991a by striking and inserting the following: It was adopted that: The following Conference and board committees be restructured as follows, to begin with the 1992 WSBC: 1) The Conference committees listed in Subpart B, Article XI of the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws should confer with the corresponding board committees. 2) Committee membership will be limited to a delegate cochair~~man~~, a trustee cochair~~man~~, and ~~two or more delegates from each region,~~ up to thirty ~~members~~ delegates at WSBC. Additionally, a combination of up to six former trustees, current trustees, and nondelegate members may be appointed to participate in the work of the committee during the year. 3) Cochair~~mens~~ consisting of a Conference delegate (elected by committee members at WSBC) and a trustee (appointed by the chair~~man~~ of the BOT) will coordinate the efforts of the committee. The Conference delegate cochair~~man~~ will preside over the committee meetings at WSBC. The trustee cochair~~man~~ will act as liaison between the committee and the BOT and will report to the Board of Trustees regarding committee activities. ~~The cochairmen will select the committee members from the delegates that have indicated interest on the committee preference form with input from the appropriate regional trustee based on involvement and experience in same/similar committee at local, regional, and past world service levels.~~ 4) Committee members not responding to two consecutive mailings of the committee which require answers will not receive future mailings unless the member has notified one of the cochair~~mens~~ of a reason for a temporary absence from committee work. 5) The committee meetings at WSBC will be open; however, only committee members will have a voice and vote. ~~The BOT may plan other Conference related~~	Intent: To bring the policy in line with current practice. Rationale: Remove gender specific language. In Item 3, the staff makes the committee assignments. In Item 5, all delegates are expected to serve on a committee. There is no need for the BOT to plan alternate activities. In Item 6, a reminder of the need for rotation of service.	

		~~activities during the committee meetings at WSBC for delegates not serving on committees.~~ 6) Delegates should be registered by March 1 and have submitted a committee preference form by April 1. Committee assignment is made on a first come, first served basis with the exception of the Conference-Approved Literature Committee and the Reference Subcommittee (OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article XI, Sections 1 and 2). Delegates will be notified of their committee assignment at or prior to WSBC ~~to which committee they have been assigned~~. Service on a committee is expected and the commitment is maintained until the following WSBC. It is recommended that those serving at the World Service level rotate committee assignments every two years.		
E	Board of Trustees Cyndy L., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair ***Contact WSO for maker's contact information.***	Move to amend WSBC Policy 2009b by striking and inserting the following: It was adopted that: December 12 (12/12) each year be designated as OA's International Twelfth Step Within Day, the purpose of which will be to encourage OA service ~~boards~~ bodies, meetings, and individual members to reach out to those within the Fellowship who are still suffering from compulsive eating behaviors.	Intent: To include intergroups, service boards, and regions in the policy. Rationale: To correct the wording to include all levels of service.	
F	Board of Trustees Cyndy L., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair ***Contact WSO for maker's contact information.***	Move to amend WSBC Policy 2010a by striking the following: **Statement on Approved Literature** 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	Intent: To remove the word booklets as this term is no longer used by AA on their website or catalog. Rationale: To update the wording to what is used for AA products.	

		discontinued when OA literature approved for general use is available to cover the topic.		
G	Board of Trustees Cyndy L., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair ***Contact WSO for maker's contact information.***	Move to amend WSBC Policy 1985 by striking and inserting the following: Prior to the Business Conference, pamphlets and books that are recommended for the Conference Seal of Approval will be posted online as downloadable files. ~~mailed to all registered Conference delegates in press-proof form. Recommended books will be mailed in manuscript form.~~ At the Business Conference, delegates will vote either to approve or reject, rather than to edit or refine the material.	Intent: Update the policy to current practice. Rationale: Literature drafts are not mailed in hard copy to save postage costs.	
H	Board of Trustees Stella C. ***Contact WSO for maker's contact information.***	Move to amend WSBC Policy 1992a by inserting the following: **"Unity with Diversity" Policy** THE FELLOWSHIP encourages and promotes acceptance and inclusivity. All are welcome to join OA and are not excluded because of race, creed, nationality, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, or any other trait. We welcome all who share our compulsion. THE FELLOWSHIP of Overeaters Anonymous recognizes the existence of individual approaches and different structured concepts to working our Twelve-Step program of recovery; that the Fellowship is united by our disease and our common purpose; and that individual differences in approach to recovery within our Fellowship need not divide us. THE FELLOWSHIP respects the rights of individuals, groups, and service bodies to follow a particular concept of recovery within Overeaters Anonymous and encourages each member, group, and service body to also respect those rights as they extend the embracing hand of Fellowship to those who still suffer. THE FELLOWSHIP encourages each duly registered group and service body to affirm and maintain the Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous by allowing any member to share his or her experience, strength, and hope	Intent: To remind us of our duty to honor the Traditions of our Fellowship. Rationale: These readings are specific to our Fellowship, Overeaters Anonymous, and keep our message clear of outside influences.	

		in meetings regardless of the individual approach or specific concept that member may follow. THE FELLOWSHIP recognizes the importance of using a meeting format that includes the OA Preamble, the Twelve Steps, and the Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, and mentioning the Seventh Tradition contribution. By doing so, we as a Fellowship collectively acknowledge we will safeguard Overeaters Anonymous today and in the future. Duly registered is defined as being in full compliance with Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V.		
I	Stephanie D., Virtual Services Trustee *Contact WSO for maker's contact information*	Move to amend WSBC Policy 2014a by striking, inserting, and renumbering the following: It was adopted that: Overeaters Anonymous email groups, commonly called loops ~~(groups that do not meet in real time),~~ may ~~list their group on www.oa.org as a courtesy with the following criteria:~~ register as a group per OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V. It is suggested that they also adopt the following practice: ~~1) Email groups must comply with the definition of an Overeaters Anonymous group as per OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V—Overeaters Anonymous Groups, Section 1—Definition a) 1-4.~~ ~~2) The topic and/or focus of the email group are consistent with those listed on oa.org for Overeaters Anonymous face-to-face and virtual groups.~~ ~~3) New members must be informed of the loop's policies, norms, and practices.~~ ~~4)~~ 1) Archives are to be deleted at least once a month unless the loop's policies dictate otherwise. ~~5)~~ 2) Email groups are moderated ~~to stay on topic~~. ~~6) The format of the email groups is structured similarly to a registered OA group. Postings to email groups are limited to the topic, the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, or the Twelve Concepts of OA Service. Feedback, crosstalk, and advice-giving are discouraged.~~ ~~7) Each email group will have a coordinator who registers~~	Intent: To change the policy to only the information that still applies to email loops. Rationale: Email loops may now register as meetings. The suggestion about archives and moderation is to make sure members are aware of these practices.	

		~~the loop with an email service provider and a secretary who will liaise with the OA World Service Office.~~		
J	Heart of Canada IG, Region 4 Lawrie C. ***Contact WSO for maker's contact information***	Move to amend WSBC Policy 2005c by striking and inserting the following: Combine WSBC Policies 1987d, 1988c, and 1999b to read: The World Service Business Conference (WSBC) adopts as policy the following procedures for the submission and consideration of all a) new business motions, b) policy motions, and c) bylaw amendments to Subpart B of the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws. 1) All submissions of proposed new business motions, policy motions, and/or amendments to Subpart B of the Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws shall include a) a statement of intent; b) a statement of the procedures necessary for the implementation of the proposal (if necessary); c) a statement of estimated cost associated with the proposal; d) a history of related new business items or bylaw amendments that were voted upon by the WSBC in the past five years and the results of those votes; ~~and~~ e) up to one page of arguments in favor of each new business item or bylaw amendment submitted by the maker of the motion at the time of submission; and f) an explanation of how this motion will help carry the message of recovery to those who still suffer.	Intent: To remind everyone of the primary purpose of OA when submitting business for the World Service Business Conference. Rationale: Discussing and voting on motions to change bylaws and to change or create new policies takes a great deal of time. This proposal would encourage these discussions and motions to center on our primary purpose	
K	Heart of Canada IG, Region 4 Lawrie C. ***Contact WSO for maker's contact information***	Move that: a) WSBC 2017 request the Board of Trustees to investigate and develop proposals for submission to WSBC no later than WSBC 2019 that would encourage WSBC to conduct its business in accordance with Concept Twelve (c – to reach decisions by substantial unanimity). b) In doing so, the board examine the ways in which other twelve-step fellowships reach their decisions at their business meetings. c) In doing so, the board examine alternatives to the use of *Robert's Rules of Order*, including consensus methods of decision making.	Intent: Asking the Board of Trustees to look at the way we do things now and see if there are better ways to make sure everyone is heard. Rationale: To find ways to discuss issues so that most people agree with decisions made at WSBC.	

Proposal	Submitted By	Amendment	Intent/Rationale	Bring to WSBC? Yes/No
L	Stella C. Region Nine Trustee *Contact WSO for maker's contact information*	Move that the World Service Business Conference 2017 adopt the following policy: Overeaters Anonymous will establish a special fund to assist in translating OA literature, forms, correspondence, website, and other materials to languages other than English. Money contributed to this fund is in addition to the International Publications/Translations Committee's budget. The BOT will establish guidelines to allocate the funds.	Intent: To create a dedicated fund for translations. Rationale: We need funds devoted to translation to serve our members who do not read English. We need funds beyond what the general OA budget allows.	
M	Stella C. Region Nine Trustee *Contact WSO for maker's contact information*	Move that the World Service Business Conference 2017 adopt the following policy: Overeaters Anonymous will establish an ad-hoc committee to consider the implementation/registration of a Spanish language service board (SLSB). The Spanish Fellowship will work with the BOT in order to establish how the SLSB will fit into the OA service structure.	Intent: To create a committee that will consider all aspects of how this service body will function. Rationale: The concept of a service board which spans regions as well as the virtual world is new. How they will operate within existing procedures, or if changes are to be made, needs to be considered.	
N	Junccab NSB, Region 8 Dora P. *Contact WSO for maker's contact information*	Move that the World Service Business Conference 2017 create a Sponsorship Day to be held annually on the third Saturday in August.	Intent: To set aside a day to focus on how important sponsorship is to recovery. Rationale: Sponsorship is very important to recovery. Creating this day will call members to work towards this.	

Proposal	Submitted By	Amendment	Intent/Rationale	Bring to WSBC? Yes/No
1	Board of Trustees Cyndy L., Bylaws Committee Trustee Cochair *Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*	Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 6 – Election of Trustees by striking, inserting, and re-lettering the following: a) To be eligible for election, each nominee must appear before the delegates at the World Service Business Conference and address the assembled delegates from three to five minutes and answer questions from the floor. No new nominations will be accepted from the floor. No candidate may run for more than one position. b) To be elected, each trustee nominee must receive a majority vote of the delegates present and voting at the time of the election. c) If more than one ballot is necessary for any position, any candidate having less than one-fifth of the total vote will be withdrawn automatically on subsequent ballots, except that the top two candidates must remain. If no candidate has less than one-fifth of the votes, the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be dropped from the ballot. d) Once there are only two candidates remaining for any trustee position and neither candidate receives a majority after two additional ballots are taken, a vacancy is declared. The Board of Trustees will fill this vacancy at the second regular board meeting after Conference. ~~e) The election at WSBC of the next category of trustee shall occur after the candidate(s) in the previous category have been elected or the position(s) have been declared vacant. The order of election shall be: regional trustee(s), virtual services trustee, general service trustee(s).~~ ~~f~~)e) The newly elected trustees shall take office immediately at the conclusion of the Conference.	Intent: Item a): To make it clear a candidate cannot run for both region trustee and general service trustee in the same year. Item e): Current practice is to have all nominations closed prior to the Conference. Nominations from the floor are not allowed. Delaying the election of the general service trustees until after the region trustees are elected is unnecessary. Rationale: In 2016, a new voting procedure was introduced. All votes were cast and collected with no interruption. The process was simple and well organized. This change will bring the bylaws and the procedure into agreement for future Conferences.	
2	Board of Trustees Stephanie D. *Contact WSO for maker's contact information.*	Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V – Overeaters Anonymous Groups, Section 1 – Definition by striking, inserting, and re-lettering the following: These points shall define an Overeaters Anonymous group:	Intent: To ensure groups use the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Preamble as part of their format, making it	

		a) As a group, they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service. b) Use of a meeting format that includes the OA Preamble, Twelve Steps, and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous. ~~b)~~ c) All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the group. ~~c)~~ d) No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice (share at a meeting). ~~d)~~ e) As a group they have no affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous. ~~e)~~ f) It has affiliated as an Overeaters Anonymous group by registering with the World Service Office.	clear that they are Overeaters Anonymous groups. Rationale: Requiring a group to include these readings as part of their format makes it clear they are Overeaters Anonymous groups and not another Twelve-Step fellowship. There are groups who use formats which do not make it clear they are OA groups. They have no format or use AA material. Some do not collect a Seventh Tradition. This creates disharmony and hurts OA as a whole. This change would encourage more unity within the Fellowship.	
3	Arizona Serenity in the Desert IG, Region 3 Tori W. ***Contact WSO for maker's contact information.***	Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart A, Article X – Dissolution by striking the following: Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Trustees shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation to an organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, education, ~~religious~~, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, as the Board of Trustees shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the District Court of the county in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.	Intent: To remove religious from the type of organization who could receive funds if OA were to close. Rationale: Per the OA Preamble, "OA is not affiliated with any public or private organization, political movement, ideology, or religious doctrine." In order to maintain the all-inclusive atmosphere of OA we remain open to all religious approaches. Selecting a specific religious	

			organization for receipt of funds upon closing would be in violation of this philosophy.	
4	Region One Beverly M. ***Contact WSO for maker's contact information.***	Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 4 – Qualifications by striking and inserting the following: a) Qualifications for trustee shall be: 1) Seven years in the Fellowship; 2) Five years of service beyond the group level; 3) Attendance as a delegate to at least two World Service Business Conferences; and 4) Five years of continuous recovery in Overeaters Anonymous as evidenced by: i) five years of current continuous abstinence; ii) current maintenance of a healthy body weight for at least two years; and iii) emotional and spiritual growth as a result of incorporating into their lives the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions as a new way of living. b) Qualifications for trustee must be met at the time ~~the application for trustee is submitted to the WSO~~ <u>of election</u>. Specifically, such trustee nominees must also have: 1) Worked through all Twelve Steps; 2) Declared themselves as practicing the Twelve Steps to the best of their ability; 3) Declared themselves as committed to the Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous; and 4) Affirmed these additional qualifications on their trustee application forms.	Intent: To change the date when the qualifications for trustee must be met. Rationale: Changing the requirement to when elected allows for more candidates to be considered. It is better for the Fellowship that nominees stand for election, instead of being appointed, just because they do not meet the requirement of the day the applications are due.	
5	Region Seven Trustee Barbara G. ***Contact WSO for maker's contact information.***	Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI – Intergroups, Section 4 – Functioning by inserting the following: a) Intergroups may conduct the business of their groups by any method they choose. b) With prior notice to all member groups, intergroups shall convene at least once a year for election of officers and	Intent: To let the region trustee cancel an inactive intergroup if they did not submit the written request before closing.	

		selection, when necessary, of delegate(s) to the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous. c) An intergroup must be formally registered, along with its delegate information, thirty days prior to Conference opening to send delegates to the current Conference. (See Article X, Section 3c for qualifications and selection of delegates.) d) In order to deregister, an intergroup must submit a written request to the World Service Office, region chair, and region trustee. 1) Should an intergroup fail to send such a request, but is determined to no longer be operational, the region trustee has the authority to notify the World Service Office that the intergroup has been dissolved and to remove it from the WSO records. 2) Determination that an intergroup is no longer operational will require: i) Documentation of attempts made to contact the intergroup officers or meetings that were affiliated with the intergroup; and ii) The intergroup no longer has more than one affiliated group.	Rationale: Intergroups sometimes close without notifying the WSO. Current bylaws require a written request be sent before the intergroup can be disbanded. This process allows the trustee to approve the removal of the intergroup without the written notice.	
6	Region Seven Trustee Barbara G. *Contact WSO for maker's contact information*	Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII – Service Boards, Section 4 – Functioning by inserting the following: a) Service boards shall conduct the business under the bylaws and policies established by their intergroups and groups. b) With prior notice to all member groups and intergroups, service boards shall convene at least once a year for election of officers and selection, when necessary, of delegate(s) to the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous. c) A service board must be formally registered, along with its delegate information, thirty days prior to Conference opening to send delegates to the current Conference. (See Article X, Section 3c for qualifications and selection of delegates.)	Intent: To let the region or virtual services trustee cancel an inactive service board if they did not submit the written request before closing. Rationale: Service boards sometimes close without notifying the WSO. Current bylaws require a written request be sent before the service board can be disbanded. This process allows the trustee to approve the removal of the service	

		d) In order to deregister, a service board must submit a written request to the World Service Office, and either the region chair and region trustee, or virtual services trustee, as applicable. 1) Should a service board fail to send such a request, but is determined to no longer be operational, the region or virtual services trustee has the authority to notify the World Service Office that the service board has been dissolved and to remove it from the WSO records. 2) Determination that a service board is no longer operational will require: i) Documentation of attempts made to contact the service board officers or intergroups/meetings that were affiliated with the service board; and ii) The service board no longer has more than one affiliated group.	board without the written notice.	
7	CCA Online VSB and Junccab NSB, Region Eight Dora P. ***Contact WSO for maker's contact information***	Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII – Service Boards, Section 2 – Composition by inserting the following: a) National service boards may be registered in countries outside the US and Canada in which the intergroup serves the entire country or the groups/intergroups within a country have formed a service board to serve the entire country. In cases in which there are common needs that exceed the boundaries of one country, the national service board may serve more than one country. In cases in which there are common needs from a virtual service board (about language) that exceed the boundaries of one country to the virtual world, the national service board may serve the groups from this virtual service board. b) Language service boards may be registered to serve common needs of a language group, regardless of geographic proximity. c) Virtual service boards may be registered to serve the needs of virtual groups. In countries with language needs, the groups from the virtual service board can affiliate with the national service board too.	Intent: To allow virtual groups and virtual service boards (outside the US and Canada) to affiliate with a national service board where there are common needs. Rationale: This association of the virtual groups and service boards allows for further strength in issues that affect countries outside of the US and Canada. The more members working together for unity can only be for the good of OA.	

Proposal	Submitted By	Amendment	Intent/Rationale	Bring to WSBC? Yes/No
8	Connecticut IG, Region Six Tom M. *Contact WSO for maker's contact information*	Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X – Meetings of Delegates, Section 1 – World Service Business Conference by striking and inserting the following: a) ~~Annual~~ Biennial Meeting The corporation shall sponsor ~~an annual~~ a meeting of the delegates of the members, which shall be known as the World Service Business Conference (hereafter may be referred to as the "Conference") occurring every other year. The Conference shall serve as the collective conscience of the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous as a whole. b) Time and Location The ~~annual~~ biennial Conference shall be held during the month of May or on such dates as the Board of Trustees may determine. The Conference shall be held in the Albuquerque, New Mexico area or at such place as the Board of Trustees may designate.	Intent: To change the annual World Service Business Conference from annual to every other year. This would make it more affordable for service bodies to send delegates and cut costs for the WSO. Rationale: a) The annual Conference keeps many service bodies from sending delegates due to cost. If it were held every other year, then service bodies would be able to save up and possibly send more delegates. b) An annual Conference is not needed. The Board of Trustees will still meet every quarter to ensure the day-to-day business of OA is done. c) Committees can meet virtually to conduct their work. Decisions which require the input of delegates can be made every other year. d) Having the Conference every other year would help the WSO to become stronger financially while cutting the need for literature sales. This should increase the WSO's reserves by about 5.5 percent,	

			given its current reserves of around $270,000.	

Please <u>DO NOT</u> return this summary. This summary is for tallying your members' responses. Your intergroup or service board should return the Agenda Questionnaire available on the OA website. Agenda Questionnaires should be postmarked by March 2, 2017. Questionnaires postmarked after this date will not be counted.