

**Delegates Report**  
**Overeaters Anonymous**  
**2005 World Service Business Conference**  
**April 26-30, 2005**

It was our honor to serve New Hampshire Intergroup as delegates to the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual World Service Business Conference (WSBC) in Albuquerque, NM. We were two of the 190 to 194 voting delegates (fluctuates daily) to attend this year's Conference, in comparison to the 205 to 215 delegates last year. A brief overview of the status of OA, significant motions/proposals and Conference outcomes are provided below.

**STATUS**

*Worldwide meeting registration* decreased 2% to 6460.

*Intergroups and Service Boards* decreased to 345 from 357 in 2004

*Financial stability*: OA finished the fiscal year in the black. Revenues decreased 5%, principally due to no new books being released (as opposed to *Voices of Recovery* the previous year). Expenses increased 0.1%. Contributions remained steady at roughly \$350K.

*Literature*: *Dignity of Choice* has become OA's top-selling pamphlet. Work continues on a pamphlet aimed at black/African-Americans. New Recovery Tokens were released. New literature includes a "Welcome Back, We Care" packet, Membership Survey report, Poster kit, revised "Young People's Starter Kit", and revised Suggested Meeting Format.

*Lifeline* subscriptions remain at approximately 10K in paper format, 750 for *e-Lifeline*. The 2-month trial subscription to *Lifeline* was noted.

*2007 Convention*: Will be held at the Lowe's Philadelphia Hotel, Aug 29 – Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. The theme will be "Ring in Recovery: Declare Your Freedom from Compulsion". Intergroups, Regions, and Groups are requested to refrain from scheduling events in and around this time frame, so members can concentrate on attending the Convention.

*Media & Outreach*: Following a June 24, 2004 *Dear Abby* column, the World Service Office (WSO) received 700 inquiries, and visits to the OA website increased by almost 11,000 from under 4,000 normal daily to 14,500+! WSO has purchased a new display booth and plans to display at 4 select national conventions in 2005. The Trustees have made PI contacts with 15 national magazines, 14 major newspapers, and 16 TV stations in major markets.

*Group Registration*: Work continues to register meetings with a full street address, zip/postal code, and counties. This will enable a web-site search for meetings by zip/postal code or county for OA meetings.

## Conference Business Results

The “business” aspect of the WSBC was conducted in six three-hour Business Meetings held Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. During these meetings the almost two-hundred delegates formed the OA world-wide group conscience on a variety of topics. Officer, Region, and Committee reports were accepted. Six Trustees were elected to the OA Board of Trustees. Region Trustees elected were:

Region	Trustee
1	Louise B.
2	Angela J.
4	Connie H.
7	Donna A.

Two General Service Trustees (GSTs) were elected: Bob F. and Kayla W.

Major Policy motions or Bylaw Amendments adopted include: (1) two pieces of literature received the Conference Seal of Approval, (2) telephone meetings, like internet meetings, will be formally registered, (3) a matching-grant, PI Blitz-like policy was approved, (4) national/language service boards and regions must now be registered with conforming Bylaws, and (5) a “sunset” procedure for dealing with accomplished policy directives was adopted. Proposals to route motions through Regions in lieu of the Agenda Questionnaire, to require groups to read the Steps & Traditions, to add “healthy body weight” to the definition of abstinence, and to investigate the cost of gender-neutralizing OA literature were all defeated. A Summary of Motions is attached documenting the disposition of all policy motions and proposed amendments to the Bylaws.

Howard was pleased to serve on the Conference Bylaws Committee and the Reference Subcommittee, having been elected by Region 6 for those duties. The Reference Subcommittee reviewed selected motions, screened motions with the makers, and considered motions referred to it by the Conference, making recommendations to the Conference. The Bylaws Committee considered potential clarifications to Subpart B of the OA Bylaws, prioritizing areas that will be worked over the coming year in preparation for WSBC 2006.

In closing, let us both thank you again for the honor of representing NHI.

Your trusted servants,

*Dorothy M.*

*Howard B.*

## Summary of Motions

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>Policy Motions</b>		
A-a	Approve “ <i>OA Handbook for Members, Groups and Intergroups</i> ”	Received Conference Seal of Approval
A-b	Approve “ <i>OA Members Come in All Sizes: Welcome, Whatever Your Problem with Food</i> ” pamphlet	Received Conference Seal of Approval
A	Matching grant program	Adopted as amended
B	Proposal to use volunteers at WSBC	Withdrawn
C	Housekeeping: remove unneeded statement allowing more than one region assembly per year	Adopted on Consent Agenda
D-1	Clarify procedure used to select Conference Committee members	Adopted as amended
E	Remove instructions to develop “Dignity of Choice” pamphlet. Amended to retain food plan policy	Adopted as amended
F	Housekeeping: remove instructions for completed Service Structure committee	Adopted on Consent Agenda
G	Housekeeping: remove instructions to investigate toll free line	Adopted on Consent Agenda
H	Procedure for sunset/completed business policies	Adopted as amended
I	Require submission of Conference motions through Regions	Withdrawn
J	Register telephone Groups	Adopted
K	Housekeeping: combining requirements for making motions/amendments	Adopted
L	Add “healthy body wait” as part of abstinence definition	Defeated (88 – yes, 99 –no)
M	Investigate cost of gender-neutralizing OA literature	Defeated
<b>Bylaws Amendments</b>		
1	Require reading of Steps & Traditions at meetings	Defeated
2	Added requirements for registration of Regions	Adopted
3	Make requirements for registration of national/language service boards the same as those for intergroups wrt conforming bylaws	Adopted
4	Require motions and bylaws amendments to be approved by Regions	Defeated, as amended
5	Require new business motions to come through regions or Board of Trustees	Withdrawn
6	Restricted parliamentarian’s theoretical ability to make editorial changes to bylaws	Adopted
7	Change gender in Steps & Traditions	Did not receive 40% on Agenda Questionnaire
<b>Emergency New Business</b>		
	none	

