

## **Region 6 Assembly - Albany, NY - October 3, 2015**

New Hampshire Intergroup represented by 4 members: Claire, Elaine, Jill and Dorothy

In total, there were 53 representatives and 6 board members present = total 59 voting members

By-Laws - Dorothy and Elaine participated in the By-Laws/Policies/Procedures committee. The committee reviewed Policy # 13 regarding the scholarship application which provides support for R6 Intergroup representatives to travel to Region 6 and/or the WSBC, thereby enabling representatives to attend from various regions who would otherwise, due to a lack of intergroup financial support, not be able to attend. There was a concern that some intergroups might be taking advantage of the scholarship. The goal is to submit a by-law amendment for policy #13 at the next assembly in the spring and to clarify the intent, and to collaborate with IGOR about the scholarship application. Dorothy was elected as Chair of the committee for the next year.

IGOR (Intergroup Outreach committee) – The goals of the group are to have a Region 6 Internet Handbook ready, and to form 2 Google groups: Region 6 IGOR and Region 6 IGOR.net, and to send out a survey to determine people's interest in attending training for Intergroup Officers, the purpose of which is to rejuvenate intergroups and give them clearer focus on their purpose which is to carry the message. A big part of this is to have the officers participate in creating a strategic plan with clear goals. (This is the survey that we received from R6 and which we are hoping to have as many officers as possible attend.) PIPO (Public Information/Professional Outreach) – The goal of the group is to put a link out on the website explaining to everyone how to apply for "PI blitz fund" monies. For this assembly, there were no requests for "PI blitz" funds.

Finance – They discussed the Region 6 budget, and donations, as well as the website and scholarships. Convention – Jill and Claire participated in this committee. They are looking for people to do service at the 2015 convention. They are considering on-line surveys for the evaluation of the 2015 convention – maybe survey monkey. The 2016 World Convention will be in Boston, MA and Toronto, Ontario will host the 2017 Region 6 Convention. The committee is looking for someone to host in 2018.

The convention committee is also in the process of revising the convention manual.

Web & Publication – It was voted to transfer the publication of the Region 6 newsletter from paper to a web version. There will be an educational component on how to navigate the site. In addition, it was highly recommended that translations into languages other than English are honored and understood by native speakers. The example given was the French translation which has many misinterpretations.

12<sup>th</sup> Step Within – Their goal is to update the IDEA Day flyer and to develop a timeline for the OA birthday and Unity Day. They will use the birthday flyer from Los Angeles.

Young Persons (30 years old and younger when joining OA) – The group discuss the future of the committee. There is a consideration to disband and become an Ad Hoc subcommittee of IGOR. They have limited success in connecting to Intergroups. At present, there is only 1 online young peoples' meeting.

A Region 6 Speakers List exists and was updated by the members present at the Assembly. People can register to be included on this list by signing up on the R6 website.

The WRITING TOPIC: At each assembly, there is a writing topic presented to encourage members to submit articles for publication. The topic they are targeting is this: *What experience, strength and hope can you share with newcomers and long-timers about working all 12 steps?* All submissions for the Spring Issue are due by November 14<sup>th</sup>. Send to [newsletter@region6.org](mailto:newsletter@region6.org)

The winners of the drawings: the paid convention registration, full set of convention recordings and Lifeline subscription were won by folks from Canada. The paid full convention was won by someone in northern New York.

R6 Business:

The following new R6 officers were elected:

- R6 Chair: Debbie H.
- R6 Coordinator: Mary T.
- Web Publications: George H.

General Service Trustee nomination: (This is a World Service position; the individual's nomination is confirmed by the R6 assembly, and her name will be put on a ballot with nominees from other Intergroups and voted on at the World Service Business Conference in the Spring.)

- Diana G.

Karen, our Region 6 Trustee gave a brief tradition "workshop" and made the following points:

1. If an "OA" group is not registered with WSBC, it can't call itself an OA group.
2. According to the by-laws, the definition of an OA group does not include having any type of requirements for membership such as a specific food plan.
3. "Virtual" groups can be registered OA groups if they are fully interactive and meet in "real" time.
4. It is NOT OK to give non-OA announcements in OA meetings. It is a Break of tradition.
5. Newcomers are the most important people in the room. It is thus important to keep ALL Outside Issues OUTSIDE the meetings.
6. Sharing at an OA meeting cannot be "tiered" or "restricted." Any meeting guidelines should clearly be stated as "suggestions" only.
7. AWOLS are not OA. AWOLS should not be talked about/mentioned in OA meetings.
8. If you don't have a qualified OA speaker – use an OA recording (not an AA speaker). AA is an outside issue.
9. World Service can deregister a meeting if they don't follow rules. Groups need to be in alignment with OA.
10. OA has lost 30 face-to-face meetings and gained 60 virtual meetings. Tradition 7 is decreasing because of virtual meetings.
11. AA wants us to read their literature as it is written without substituting OA for AA.

12. On the OA.org website, there is a list of AA books that are OA approved.
13. All OA wallet cards are available as free downloads on the OA website.