

## **Region 6 Assembly - Albany, NY – September 24, 2016**

New Hampshire Intergroup represented by 4 members: Claire, Elaine, Pat S and Dorothy  
In total, there were 50 representatives and 5 board members present = total 55 voting members  
We were informed at the meeting that effective immediately, the address for mailing meeting donations to r6 has changed. The new address is:

*Region 6 Treasurer*

**PO Box 1792**

**Westfield, MA 01086**

Please let your meeting Treasurers know this!

By-Laws - Dorothy and Elaine participated in the By-Laws/Policies/Procedures committee - In lieu of the bylaw amendment to create a Unity with Diversity committee (withdrawn at the last minute), an Ad Hoc Unity with Diversity committee was established. This Ad Hoc committee will remain under the umbrella of the Twelfth Step Within committee. Dorothy was re-elected as Chair of the committee for the next year.

Public Information/Outreach – The goal of the group is to put a link out on the website explaining to everyone how to apply for PI Blitz monies. There is \$4000 available annually (\$2000 per assembly). Cape Cod was awarded \$300, Central Maine \$475, and NY \$1225.

Here are Claire's notes from that Committee:

*The committee opened with members briefly sharing their own group's PI/PO initiatives. Some of these included:*

- *Leaving display racks with 15 questions and business cards at Doctor's offices, gyms, etc.*
- *Advertisements in local newspapers*
- *Health fairs; medical convention booths; other medical conferences*
- *Flyers*
- *Phone hotlines*
- *Donating OA literature to local libraries*

*Review of Current PI Blitz applications with the awards going to Central Maine IG \$475; Cape Cod \$300; and NYS Capital \$1225 - \$4000 per year, broken down to fall and spring conventions.*

*Objectives for this committee:*

- *Develop content for new PI/PO tab on R6 website*
- *New form for evaluation of current Blitz activity – funds are awarded in US dollars*
- *Procedure to track success indicators of current Blitz programs*

*New PI/PO initiatives: Individual, Group and Intergroup*

*Blitz form needs to be simplified for application and process; development of follow-up forms for measuring effect of Blitz activity; website updates to be completed.*

Finance – Pat G attended this meeting. The budget was reviewed and the “1-page fact sheet” about how contributions received by Region 6 are utilized was approved. This “fact sheet” will be out to Intergroups and meetings soon. A new finance chairperson was elected and she is planning a meeting with her committee in Oct to review policies/procedures.

Convention –2017 Region 6 Convention will be October 20-22, 2017 in Toronto, Canada. Passports are needed to attend. See the flyer for the “Super Saver” registration cost of only \$35 (Canadian) until October 16. The committee is looking for someone to host in 2018.

Web & Publication –

12<sup>th</sup> Step Within – The 12<sup>th</sup> Step Within Committee formed an Ad Hoc Unity with Diversity committee. They also mentioned that they’re working on a variety of things to help groups retain members. They’ll be putting a list of ideas together which will be posted on the R6 site, and something about a phone call script which would also be on the site, for following up with new members.

Ad Hoc Unity with Diversity Committee – This new committee was very impressive! One of the first things they noted was the WSO Unity with Diversity Policy which has some language that they suggest be added to all meeting formats. The second to last sentence See below.

“As we extend the heart and hand of the OA Fellowship to those who still suffer, let us be mindful of OA’s Unity With Diversity Policy, which respects our differences, yet unites us in the solution to our common problem. Whatever problem you may have with food, you are welcome at this meeting, regardless of race, creed, nationality, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, or any other trait. Are there any compulsive eaters here besides myself?

Something else they’re going to work on is increasing the committee’s own awareness of the diversity of the fellowship as it relates to our problems with eating, not just protected characteristics. Overeaters, Undereaters, 90-Day, Bulemics, etc.

A Region 6 Speakers List exists and was updated by the members present at the Assembly. The WRITING TOPIC: How does doing service beyond the group level help my recovery? All submissions are due by November 23rd. Send to [newsletter@region6.org](mailto:newsletter@region6.org) (add “DOING SERVICE” in the subject line)

The PIPO committee did a skit followed by a workshop on Carrying the Message to Health Professionals. It was excellent and got us all thinking about how we can do a better job carrying the message to this group. I was thrilled to be able to tell the group I worked with about the Lifeline Subscription project. There were lots of good ideas and they gave us packets of information that we could consider using as part of a program to do just that.

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

1. 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.
2. It is NOT OK to give non-OA announcements in OA meetings. It is a Break of tradition.
3. Newcomers are the most important people in the room. It is thus important to keep ALL Outside Issues OUTSIDE the meetings.
4. AWOLS are not OA. AWOLS should not be talked about/mentioned in OA meetings.
5. If you don’t have a qualified OA speaker – use an OA recording (not an AA speaker). AA is an outside issue.
6. AA wants us to read their literature as it is written without substituting OA for AA.
7. The vacant General Trustee position was filled.
8. OA groups must register with World Service.
9. The OA program has a service structure as demonstrated by an inverted pyramid.
10. The 12 X 12 has been revised by a committee of 9 people and will be put together by February.
11. The World Service Office has 14 paid staff. OA has 6500 registered groups with 60,000 members in 80 countries.

12. The 2017 focus is Unity. It's a matter of life or death. One of its strongest assets is that there is no one right way – there are many meeting formats.

The body elected a new Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. We also nominated Dorothy to serve on the Reference Committee at WSBC along with several other R6 representatives.

We also learned that we need to check our own ByLaws and change the definition of an OA group if we have specified it in them. The definition was changed at the last WSBC. Karin has offered to check our by-laws to let us know if we need to make the change; I'll send those to her to verify.

R6 will be publishing "Assembly Bytes" a summary of the goings on at the Assembly. It will be available soon on the R6 Website.

<http://oaregion6.org/en/>

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy M., Elaine T., Claire M., and Pat G.