
2023 World Service Business Conference

April 24 - April 29, 2023

Connecticut Intergroup Delegate Report

Wayne R.

The theme of this year's World Service Business Conference was **Concepts of Service: The Heart of Fellowship**. The 163 delegates and 13 trustees (176 total voting members) came from 14 countries. Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Greece, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Greece, Iran, Israel, Italy, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States.

Responsibility Pledge: "Always to extend the hand and heart of OA to all who share my compulsion; for this, I am responsible."

A. The 2023 WSBC consisted of:

- Five business meetings
- Three-90-minute workshops:
 - All about Conference
 - Literature Q&A
 - Meet the maker of the motion
- Three-one Hour and 15-minute workshops
 - The Sprit of Service
 - Encouraging Service
 - Concepts of Service (How the Steps, Traditions and Concepts come together)
- One Hour and-45-minute forum for all attendees by the region chairs. Service: The Heart of Fellowship.
- Two Committee Meetings for a total of 5 hours
- There were 19 OA Meetings during the week. I attended 14 meetings.
- The opportunity to meet trustees and delegates from all over the world to exchange ideas.

B. Worldwide Group Conscience

1. Consent Agenda

As per the WSBC Standing Rules. "There will be a Consent Agenda consisting of routine or noncontroversial matters. The chair will determine the matters that will be placed on the consent agenda. Any voting member may go to the center microphone to request that an item from the consent agenda be considered separately. The consent agenda shall require

two-thirds vote for adoption The chair placed New Business Motions A, D, G, H, J, K L, N, O, P, Q, R and Bylaw Amendments 2, 3, 8, 18 on the Consent Agenda. Letters A, K, P, and Bylaws Numbers 8 and 18 were pulled from the Consent Agenda and the others were - **Adopted.**

2. **New Literature Motions**

- Diverse Voices: A Common Solution - **Adopted**
- Sponsorship in OA: Guiding Others into Recovery – **Failed**

3. **New Business Motions**

- A, B, C, E, F, I, K, M, P, S, T, V. - **Adopted**
- U c **Failed**
- 1, 5, 14, 15, 18, **Were Withdrawn**

4. **Bylaw Amendments**

- 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 ,12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 16, 176 18. **All were Adopted.**
- 1, 5, 14, 15, 18, **Were Withdrawn**
- 10, 11, 12, 16, 17. **Numbers Fell Away (We ran out of time.)**

C. **By the Numbers**

1. **Meetings and Membership:** In 2022, the number of OA meetings worldwide, including virtual meetings, averaged 6,467 in over seventy-five countries, with 339 service bodies (including region offices). Below is a five-year average.

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2012	2011
Groups	6,467	6,566	6,199	6,131	6,209	7,005	7,054
Service Bodies	339	337	334	336	338		

2. **Financial:** We ended 2022 with an unaudited net loss of US \$251,532.52. This pretty well balances our net gain in 2021.
 There are two main reasons for the loss: there was a penalty of US \$101,168 resulting from cancelling our contract with the hotel for our planned face-to-face WSBC 2022, and there was a loss on our investments of US \$185,024.02.
 These are both unusual items and do not indicate any long-term financial concerns for Overeaters Anonymous, World Service.
 There are two main revenue streams for OA: contributions and literature sales. For 2022, contributions were Us \$970,001, literature was US \$461,456, and digital and audiobooks were US \$142,842. Thank you for supporting your

recovery and the World Service Office and for providing funds to carry our message.

We have two general buckets in which our contributions are categorized. One is the general fund, and the other is restricted funds.

- General Fund: Contributions are used to fund items such as public information, oa.org and Find a Meeting, translations, literature, video advertisements, staffing, equipment, and administrative needs.
- Restricted Funds: Once a contribution is entered into one of these funds, it is used for that specific purpose only. The current balance as of the writing of this report is as follows.
 - Translation Assistance: US \$34,520.10
 - Professional Exhibits: US \$10,724.34
 - Delegate Support Fund: US \$35,911.84

D. Other

1. Conference-Approved Literature:

Two manuscripts adopted at WSBC 2021 and 2022 are now available for purchase.

- The Twelve Traditions Workbook of Overeaters Anonymous is available in print and as a download from the OA bookstore.
- Voices of Recovery, Second Edition is available in print from the OA bookstore and as an e-book from third-party vendors.

● Board-Approved literature:

These resources were board-approved for distribution. All are available at oa.org, except as indicated.

- Where Do I Start? (revised)
- Fifteen Questions for the Young Person (revised), at bookstore.oa.org
- The Twelve Concepts of OA Service (revised)
- Service, Traditions, and Concepts Workshop Manual and presentation, including OA Group Inventory, OA Intergroup or Service Board Inventory, OA Region Inventory, and Strong Meeting Checklist (all revised)
- Young People's Letter to Intergroups/Service Boards and Regions (revised)
- Suggested Lifeline Meeting Format (revised)
- Videoconference Meeting Training and Security/Preventive Measures (new)
- Embracing Our Differences (new)
- OA Region Map (revised)

Literature Pricing and Availability:

Effective January 1st this year, OA increased the prices of our print and digital literature. Shipping prices also increased. The increases are necessary to respond to the higher costs for goods and services that OA, like much of the world, is experiencing. For prices, see the 2023 Literature Catalog and Order Form in the Document Library at oa.org.

OA literature is available in multiple formats: print, PDF download, audiobook, e-book, and print-on-demand.

No literature is available in all formats. Some formats, such as e-workbooks and e-books, do not have a shipping cost.

To purchase OA literature, go to bookstore.oa.org. Product pages include links to third-party vendors authorized to sell our literature: Audible, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Apple Books. OA receives a royalty share for purchases made from these vendors.

Audiobooks:

OA distributes two audiobooks via Audible, Amazon, and Apple Books:

- Overeaters Anonymous, Third Edition
- The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, Second Edition

E-books:

OA distributes e-books via Amazon (Kindle), Barnes & Noble (Nook), and Apple Books. All OA books, except workbooks, are available as e-books. Our four e-workbooks are available as downloadable PDFs from the OA bookstore. Nine OA pamphlets are now available as e-books. Two e-pamphlets were released in 2022:

- To the Man Who Wants to Stop Compulsive Overeating, Welcome
- The Twelve Concepts of OA Service

As new and revised OA pamphlets are developed, publishing them in e-book format is considered.

Print on Demand:

OA distributes three books in print solely via Amazon's print-on-demand format (Paperback):

- A New Beginning: Stories of Recovery from Relapse

- OA Twelve and Twelve, Second Edition, Large Print
- Lifeline Sampler

Periodicals

The WSO News Bulletin continues to be a useful way for members to receive monthly OA news, and sign-ups continue to grow. At the close of 2022, the e-newsletter had 12,450 subscribers, a 31 percent increase over December 2021. The average trackable open rate for the Bulletin in 2022 was 25.8 percent, and the average click rate was 3.4 percent. (The respective averages for health and fitness organizations are 21.5percent and 2.7 percent.) To subscribe to the Bulletin, go to oa.org and look for “Let’s keep in touch.”

A Step Ahead newsletter was published quarterly in 2022 and first quarter 2023. As of April, this year, A Step Ahead is no longer published as a downloadable PDF and has been merged with the existing News & Events blog at oa.org/news-events. The Professional Community Courier newsletter, Issue II is available in the Document Library at oa.org. This is the second edition of four Couriers posted on a rotating basis.

2. **Elections:** Six Trustees were elected. Leaving four open positions. New trustees are: Gary D., Betty J. (BJ), Michael K., Meg M., Beverly M., Lee R.
3. **Seventh Tradition:** The basket was passed 1 time at WSBC. Total: \$2,475.75. This was designated for OA’s general fund.
4. **Automatic Recurring Contributions (ARC):** This program was established in 2012 to provide members with a method for regular, ongoing contributions toward OA’s Seventh Tradition. Give it a thought if you haven’t already. This is a “set and forget” contribution method. When you get paid, you can pay your recovery. There are \$11,000+ in recurring contributions, which makes budgeting easier for all involved.
5. I attended Three Board of Trustee meetings and three Reference Subcommittee meetings.
6. I attended Fourteen of the nineteen OA meetings during the week.

7. Every delegate is assigned to a committee to carry on the work of OA during the year. I am on the Twelve Step Within committee.
8. The Board of Trustees had elections of Officers for 2022-2023: Chair – Meg M, 1st Vice Chair –Judy H, 2nd Vice-Barb K, Treasurer – Bob L.

Thank you, Connecticut Intergroup, for sending me to represent you at WSBC. It is an exciting and rewarding experience to spend so much time interacting with people in recovery from all over the world. I would be happy to visit any of our meetings for a review of the report and to answer any questions.

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