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A Step Ahead

Third Quarter 2021

Volume 25, Number 3

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What's New from WSO

WSBC 2021: A+ for Attendance and Finishing the Agenda

Our first-ever fully virtual Conference was a success! At final count, 248 delegates from around the world gathered online from April 18–24 for OA's 60th annual World Service Business Conference (WSBC). Twenty-one countries were represented: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Iran, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Mexico, New Zealand, Poland, Russia, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom (represented by England and Scotland), and the United States.

Trustee Rotations

Trustees were elected to the following positions:

- Region Three (three-year term): Neva S.
- Region Six (three-year term): Beth B.
- Virtual Region (three-year term): Dora P.
- General Service (three-year term): Judy H.
- General Service (three-year term): CJ M.

The three-year Region Nine trustee position was declared vacant, and Vasiliki T. was appointed by the board in April as Region Nine trustee to serve through WSBC 2022.

In addition, a one-year general service trustee position was declared vacant, and the board saw one general service trustee and the Region Two trustee resign from



the board effective May 1, 2021. As a result, the board requested applications for the Region Two position and two general service trustee positions. Anne O. was appointed to the Region Two trustee position. Bob L. and Sandra M. were appointed to the two general service trustee positions. All appointments will serve through WSBC 2022.

Board Officers and Chairs

On April 25, 2021, board officers were elected by the Board of Trustees and trustee committee chairs were appointed by the board officers.

Officers

- Chair: Judy H.
- First Vice Chair: Karen B.
- Second Vice Chair: CJ M.
- Treasurer: Meg M.

(WSBC 2021 continued on p. 6)

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
August 26–28, 2021
World Service Convention

2021 World Service Convention: Register by July 30 for the Best Price

Are you ready for a face-to-face celebration like we haven't seen in years? We're on a countdown!—just ten short weeks until we're "Walking in the Sunlight: One Day at a Time" at the 2021 World Service Convention, happening August 26–28 in Orlando, Florida USA!

If you're thinking of going, act soon! Our full registration rate of US\$150 ends July 30 at 11:59 p.m. MDT. After that date, you'll have to wait in line to register and pay at the door at the late rate of US\$170. There is no daily rate available at this Convention, so your best bet is to register now.

Check out the Convention web page at oa.org/world-service-convention for information on the hotel and venue, roommates, parking, the banquet menu, and the tentative schedule of events, which includes all workshop topics, OA meetings, general sessions, and the Saturday banquet. We've even included the most relevant public health and safety links to help you plan your travel.

We can't wait to see you! Walking in the Sunlight: One Day at a Time!



WSBC 2021 Policy Changes Affect OA as a Whole

Delegates to WSBC 2021 approved a number of policy changes that affect OA as a whole. Here is a summary of these changes.

Abstinence and Recovery Policy

OA's Abstinence and Recovery Policy, which defines the meaning of abstinence and the means of recovery in OA, was revised. The new policy is:

"Abstinence is the action of refraining from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors while working towards or maintaining a healthy body weight.

"Spiritual, emotional, and physical recovery is the result of living and working the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve Step program on a daily basis."

"Unity with Diversity" Policy

The "Unity with Diversity" Policy was revised with grammar corrections and changes in wording to more correctly reflect how it applies to the Fellowship. You can read the new policy by going to oa.org/sitemap and clicking the "Unity with Diversity Policy Statements" link.

Diverse Voices Policy

OA has adopted a Diverse Voices Policy to make our literature more inclusive of all OA members. The policy states, "When developing new and updating existing literature published by Overeaters Anonymous World Service, the Literature Committees will make a concerted effort to include stories and/or quotes from members of diverse populations that are under-represented in OA (i.e., reflect a variety of compulsive food behaviors, belief systems, nationalities, genders, sexual orientations, indigenous peoples, and peoples of color, etc.)."

Special Focus Service Boards

OA has adopted a new category of service body, which is the special focus service board. Special focus service boards are composed of two or more groups or intergroups to serve the common needs of groups/intergroups with the same special focus, regardless of geographic proximity.

Among registered groups, OA recognizes the following special focuses:

- 100-pounders
- Anorexia/Bulimia
- Asian Pacific Islanders (new in 2021)
- Bariatric Surgery
- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (new in 2021)
- Health Issues
- LGBT
- Men
- Women
- Young Persons

Hybrid Meetings

Hybrid meetings are a blend of virtual and face-to-face meetings, where some members attend in person and others attend by telephone or videoconference. As the pandemic events of 2020 developed, many face-to-face groups that had gone virtual registered their virtual meetings as a new group. To fix the confusion this has caused, the existing hybrid meeting policy was amended to allow a face-to-face or virtual group (telephone or online) to become a hybrid group. Going forward, hybrid groups and all other groups will be registered only once with the World Service Office and will be assigned only one group number. Hybrid groups, however, will appear in both face-to-face and virtual meeting results in Find a Meeting on

oa.org. This change to Find a Meeting will take effect once the World Service Office has made the necessary upgrades to Find a Meeting. Stay tuned for that announcement!

Annual Events Policy

OA's annual events policy has established four annual events: OA Birthday, Unity Day, Sponsorship Day, and International Day Experiencing Abstinence. (A fifth event, International Twelfth Step Within Day, was established under a separate policy.) To accommodate countries that customarily include Fridays in national holiday weekends, OA has revised its policy to expand the definitions of weekend events to include Fridays. This year, for example, Sponsorship Day will be celebrated the third full weekend (Friday included) in August, which is August 20–22, 2021, a Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Going forward, IDEA will be celebrated the third full weekend (Friday included) in November, which is November 19–21, 2021. Our OA Birthday will be observed the third full weekend (Friday included) in January, which is January 21–23, 2022.

Young People's Committee

Formerly the Young Persons' Committee, this committee's name has changed. The Young People's Committee is a WSBC committee whose purpose is to serve OA members, groups, and service bodies in carrying the message to young people ages 18–30.

OA EVENT DAYS

Sponsorship Day

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
August 20–22, 2021

Join OA members in your area to acknowledge the importance of sponsoring in our Fellowship.

World Service Convention

August 26–28, 2021
Orlando, Florida USA

Make a plan to attend the largest face-to-face celebration of recovery we've seen in years! Visit oa.org/world-service-convention to register.

New Service Bodies

Congratulations and welcome to our newest OA service bodies registered with the WSO:

A Design for Living Virtual Intergroup
Registered May 27, 2021

Young People's Virtual Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous
Registered May 11, 2021

OA Virtual Intergroup UK, Europe, and Beyond of Overeaters Anonymous (OAUKEB)
Registered April 13, 2021

A Message from Our Chair

—Judy H., Chair of the Board, General Service Trustee

As I write this, I've been on this job less than three weeks. I am learning much, which makes it pretty exciting, but I'm also learning how much I do not know, which is invigorating. What I do know is that we have a lot on our plates. The lessons of the past fifteen months have fostered our learning and growing in new directions! For example, our all-virtual-format World Service Business Conference 2021 was a rousing success! It was especially energizing seeing more international delegates than ever before. I love it!

A Parsing of Pronouns

We saw a particular passion—and a swirling of misinformation—among the delegates about one issue when the literature proposal for *Voices of Recovery, Second Edition* came up on this year's WSBC agenda. The issue that took hold of us was about how pronouns referring to God and Higher Power were made lowercase in the manuscript, instead of capitalized.

OA has long maintained a style guide to help our editors maintain consistency in our literature and evolve the literature in a methodical way over time to keep up with the changes in usage in the English language. Since the words "God" and "Higher Power" and many other names that refer to a Higher Power are central to our many stories of recovery, much thought and care has gone into the OA Style Guide to create a consistent grammar rule that is respectful of the diverse definitions of a personal Higher Power that exist in our Fellowship and that does not endorse one Higher Power over another.

This is the rule:

- "God," "Power," "Him," "His," and "Himself" are capitalized when quoting the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of OA Service.
- "God," "Higher Power," and other ways by which members refer to their personal Higher Power are capitalized, unless otherwise written by the member, such as "god," "nature," or "the universe."
- Pronouns (she, he, it, and they) that refer to a personal Higher Power in a member share and OA literature and are not a quotation of the Steps, Traditions, or Concepts are set in lowercase.

"Much thought and care has gone into . . . a consistent grammar rule that is respectful of the diverse definitions of a personal Higher Power . . . and that does not endorse one Higher Power over another."

Despite some talk that seems to be circulating among our membership, OA has never had a grammar or style rule that the words "God," "Higher Power," or any other names for personal deities should be lowercase. This rule has only applied to the pronouns, such as she, he, it, and they.

Capitalizing religious words, including pronouns, that refer to deities or divine beings is also called *reverential capitalization*. OA does not use reverential capitalization for pronouns referring to deities or divine beings. In fact, reverential capitalization is not a universally accepted standard. *The Chicago Manual of Style, Seventeenth Edition*, which is the basis of the OA Style Guide, says on page 504, "Pronouns referring to God or Jesus are not capitalized

unless a particular author or publisher prefers otherwise. (Note that they are lowercased in most English translations of the Bible.)" This quote is in agreement with my personal copy of the foundational text in my religious tradition that my mother gave me back in 1978.

Our Board of Trustees reviewed this very issue in 2015 and endorsed OA's style, finding that the practice of not capitalizing pronouns referring to a Higher Power: 1) allows for consistency of expression and 2) avoids favoring a Higher Power ascribed to a male gender.

Our Third Step recognizes that each member finds a Higher Power of their understanding. Additionally—as we heard loud and clear at WSBC—there have been even greater shifts in cultural norms toward inclusivity. Endorsing one gendered pronoun over another when referring to a Higher Power would run counter to inclusivity.

Trustee Appointments

By the time this is published, we will have interviewed candidates and selected three new trustees for the vacant positions (two general service trustee positions and the trustee position for Region Two). We want—and need—they up and running quickly.

P.S. I love giving service in OA and hope that you find it as rewarding as I do!

Ask-It Basket — Finding Support for Teens

Q. I'm living in Barbados, and my 15-year-old daughter is withholding food. I'm looking for support and meetings for teens.

A. Thank you for your inquiry. A young person under eighteen needs to be accompanied by an adult to attend an OA meeting. Meeting information can be found at oa.org/find-a-meeting. Once you locate a meeting at a place and a time that will work for you, look for the contact person and telephone number for that meeting. You can call to ask what the child policy is for that particular meeting. There is also an OA Young People's page at facebook.com/OAinfo. In addition, here are two links to stories by

young people who are in recovery through the Twelve Steps of Overeaters Anonymous: oa.org/young-people/ and oa.org/young-persons-podcasts.

Finally, here is a link to some helpful information for concerned family and friends: oa.org/family-friends/.

Do you have a question about following the Twelve Traditions? Send it to info@oa.org, and an OA trustee will send you a response via the WSO.

A Message from Our Treasurer

— Meg M., Treasurer, Region Four Trustee

Hello, recovery friends! I'm your new treasurer and current Region Four Trustee residing in Minneapolis, Minnesota USA. I've been a blessed member of this recovery community for over twenty years, and even amidst the kinks and wrinkles, I think OA rocks! Thank you for your continued financial support of OA through contributions and literature purchases. Through your ongoing funding, we can continue to carry the message of recovery.

I take a straightforward view to the financial side of OA: We have money coming in and money going out. We have creative ideas coming in and we want to continue funding these creations going out.

Welcome to Our Many Green Dots

Our first ever virtual World Service Business Conference brought fifty to sixty more delegates than usual, which meant a larger number of Green Dots (first-time delegates to WSBC) as well. Welcome! Because we have seen so many new faces, it would probably be helpful to look at the business side of OA as a whole.

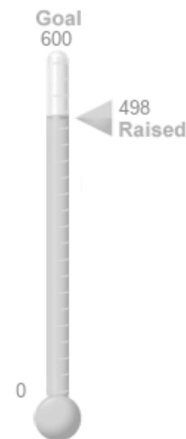
As we know, OA, Inc. is a nonprofit organization, which means we are a group organized for reasons other than generating a profit. Therefore, none of OA's funds are distributed to its members, chairs, or trustees as a form of payment. OA is designated through New Mexico state law as a volunteer services organization.

What's so cool about this is that we can have many more committee members, which allows us to generate more ideas and create new and exciting documents, literature, and ways to get the word out about OA.

Tradition Eight Is Great

Through Tradition Eight, we can employ special workers, who currently number fourteen awesome professionals who staff the World Service Office. These paid employees manage the daily responsibilities of the business side of OA. To begin, our managing director works with her team to ensure that our finances are in good order, our public relations are effective while protecting individual anonymity, our literature is produced and distributed, and our Conferences and Conventions are well-organized and staffed. The staff answers all types of inquiries; manages all correspondence, licensing, and

"If we get eight new Automatic Recurring Contributions every month, that would . . . reach our goal of 600 ARCs . . . by WSBC 2022! . . . I look at it this way 'Set and forget. Review each year.' When you sign up for your ARC, that's exactly what you get to do."



insurance needs; updates our meeting database and website; and cares for our building. Most of all, they are able to handle ongoing changes, such as the rotation of service among board trustees and the effects of the pandemic, for which they've had to swiftly navigate from face-to-face events to virtual, such as with WSBC 2021. What I've listed here is only a glimpse of their duties and responsibilities.

In the decade that I've given service beyond the group level, I've experienced continuous proficiency and effectiveness from the WSO staff. I am bringing up this topic because only our contributions enable us to employ these highly skilled and dedicated people. Did you know that 50 percent of our WSO special workers have been at the WSO for seventeen years or more? (That takes us back to 2004, which, coincidentally, was the year we paid off the mortgage on our World Service Office.) As our contributions continue to increase, and our committees continue to create literature, surveys, workshops, podcasts, and guidelines, we need our talented and experienced staff to manage this ongoing information and communication. They are the engine that creates the final product with OA's branding and makes it available to the Fellowship and the still-suffering compulsive eater. As an organization, we are extremely fortunate to have them working on our behalf.

"Set and Forget" Your Contribution with ARC

Speaking of contributions, if we get ten new Automatic Recurring Contributions over the next ten months, that would be great! What does this mean? It would be so awesome to reach our goal of 600 ARCs. We are close. Right now, we have 498—only 102 more to add by WSBC 2022! If ten of you submit an ARC each month over the next ten months, we'll hit one hundred. Then just add "two to grow on," and we'll be there before you know it.

I look at it this way: "Set and forget. Review each year." When you sign up for your ARC, that's exactly what you get to do. Set your amount, choose a monthly or quarterly contribution, and it will be automatically transferred. Then once a year—for example, on your OA birthday—you can review and make an adjustment.

An ARC can start out with a contribution in relation to:

- the amount of weight lost,
- years in program, or
- a percentage of raises you received at work as a result of your recovery.

We've found that consistent contributions made through ARC better enables OA world service to budget and plan for literature, outreach, and other special projects that carry OA's message of hope, marvels, and miracles to the compulsive eater.

Making an ARC is easy:

- Go to oa.org/contribute
- Fill out the information
- Check the box that says "Make this a recurring gift"
- Choose if you want to make your ARC monthly or quarterly
- Choose your dollar amount and day of the month

I can't wait to see where we'll be next month!

Delegate Support Fund Applications Are Now Being Accepted

Delegates and their service bodies may now apply to the Delegate Support Fund to receive monetary assistance to send delegates to WSBC 2022. The first deadline to apply is October 1, 2021, to your OA region. Once your region has processed your application and provided region funds, the application must be received by the World Service Office by November 1, 2021, where a board committee will evaluate the application and award further funding.

Decisions affecting OA for years to come are made each year at WSBC, we need input from all service bodies to represent OA as a whole.

To apply, go to oa.org/document-library and look for the "2022 Delegate Support Fund Application" under category "WSBC: Frequently Used Documents."

Fresh Literature Moves Forward at WSBC 2021

During WSBC 2021, your delegates and elected trustees made great strides toward creating more contemporary and inclusive literature for the Fellowship. Three manuscripts were adopted and given the Conference Seal of Approval:

- the thoughtfully updated *The Tools of Recovery* pamphlet (#160);
- *A New Plan of Eating: A Physical, Emotional, and Spiritual Journey* (#144), which combines into a single pamphlet the information and inspiration found in *Dignity of Choice* (#140) and *A Plan of Eating* (#145) and which will replace these two pamphlets; and
- the much-anticipated second edition of *Voices of Recovery*.

Look for the new pamphlets to be in stock later this summer and for *Voices of Recovery, Second Edition* to be released early in 2022.

Seal of Approval Changes

The first edition of *Voices of Recovery* (#986) was published in 2002 and continues to be a uniquely valuable recovery resource. It will retain its Conference Seal of Approval even after the second edition is published.

The revised *The Tools of Recovery* expresses the current language of our Twelve Step recovery program, so it is suggested that members and groups use the updated pamphlet when it becomes available. *Dignity of Choice* and *A Plan of Eating*, however, will lose the Conference Seal of Approval once *A New Plan of Eating* is published.

Any literature that loses its Conference Seal of Approval is no longer OA-approved literature. The best resource to ensure your group is using approved literature is the *OA-Approved Literature List* found at oa.org/document-library under category “Literature.”)

An important note to our diligent translation communities: any service bodies currently licensed to translate *Voices of Recovery*, *The Tools of Recovery*, *Dignity of Choice*, or *A Plan of Eating* are permitted to continue their publication and sales until that service body publishes the new publication in their language.

More in the Pipeline

Without breaking stride, the Conference-approved Literature Committee has already begun to dive into the next literature projects for WSBC. The *OA Handbook*, which offers suggestions on how to create and maintain OA groups as well as answers to frequently asked questions about service and the structure of OA, is in the process of revision. In the interest of streamlining and increasing the quality of our

literature, the CLC is also taking on two “revise and combine” projects. One combination will focus on sponsorship and reflect the combined wisdom of *A Guide for Sponsors* (#200), *Sponsoring Through the Twelve Steps* (#220), and the *Sponsorship Kit* (#210). The other project will seek to foreground our commitment to unity with diversity and include *A Common Solution* (#254), *Black OA Members Share Their Experience, Strength, and Hope* (#285), and *To the Man Who Wants to Stop Compulsive Overeating, Welcome* (#290).

Joining the CLC in their enterprise of achieving clarity and simplicity in our literature is the Public Information/Professional Outreach Committee, a Conference committee, which is taking on the task of revising and combining the Board-approved *Public Information Service Manual* (#762) and *Professional Outreach Manual* (#772). Both resources contain a wealth of information on a similar theme: how to carry the message to our communities with tact, clarity of purpose, and professionalism.

Translations Are Carrying the Message

Get Funding to Translate

If hearing about the exciting new literature resources approved at Conference fired you up to translate the OA message into your native language, you’re not alone! OA has created two translation funds to help OA members translate OA literature into languages other than English, and is currently receiving applications from OA members and service bodies. Most recently, designated translation funds helped our Latvian fellows license, translate, and distribute such vital OA texts as the *Twelve and Twelve, Second Edition* and *For Today*, and money is available to help your group too! Find the application and other information on our Translation web page. Once you complete the application, email, fax, or mail it to the World Service Office. Funds will be allocated to eligible groups in the ensuing weeks. For more information about funding, contact your region trustee or the WSO.

If you would like to contribute to the Translation Assistance Fund, visit oa.org/contribute and select “Translation Assistance Fund” in the “Designation” drop-down menu.

Royalties Report 2020

Our final numbers are in for 2020, and we are pleased to announce that the combined royalties paid to the WSO’s general fund from the sale of OA literature translated by international service bodies was US\$4,105. Literature is both a vital way to carry the message and a key source of income for OA to keep our World Service Office and Fellowship running smoothly. These groups and service bodies that not only translate but also distribute our literature in their native language truly go above and beyond with their generous service.

Older Literature Still Approved

It is OA’s practice that when new versions of OA literature are published in English, any service bodies that are currently licensed to translate and publish the previous versions may continue to do so until the new versions are translated and published. If you have any questions about which literature items have been recently updated or are currently in the process of being revised, please contact the WSO.

Committee to Look into Live Translation for a Future WSBC

In order to attract more delegates and non-English-speaking voices from the Fellowship, an ad hoc Conference committee will be assessing the feasibility of bringing live translation services to a future World Service Business Conference. Keep an eye (and ear) out for more news on this exciting idea!

Apply for Professional Exhibits Funds

The Professional Exhibits Fund has over US\$13,000 available to help your service body participate in a trade conference or a convention for professionals who may refer patients and clients to OA. Take a look at the application to see what expenses OA can help cover. Applications are reviewed monthly, so talk to your service body about local opportunities and apply! Find the application in the Document Library at oa.org under category “Public Information.”

What's New from WSO

OA Handbook Moved to Third-Party Platforms

Do you have questions about service bodies, meetings, or the history of OA? Are you wondering what a “designated downloader” does, or what constitutes a break in anonymity? The *OA Handbook* is an easy-to-use, invaluable resource on the organization of OA, with many useful suggestions on how to help members and service bodies stay in the solution. This pamphlet has been revised to reflect recent WSBC policy changes, such as the revised definitions of abstinence and recovery. The *OA Handbook* is now available as an e-book from Amazon Kindle, Barnes & Noble Nook, and Apple Books for US\$1, and will no longer be available as a downloadable PDF in the OA bookstore.



Wallet Card Price Increase

To reflect increases in supply costs, some wallet cards available on bookstore.oa.org have had their prices increased from US\$.40 to US\$.55. This price increase only applies to the larger, foldable wallet cards, such as *Pocket Reference for OA Members* (#435) and *Just for Today* (#410).

New Special-Focus Categories Added to Find a Meeting

In keeping with our efforts in Overeaters Anonymous to amplify and unite diverse voices in our Fellowship, two new special-focus categories have been added to Find a Meeting on oa.org:

- Asian Pacific Islanders
- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color

To find these special focus meetings, click or tap “Additional search options” in Find a Meeting and see the special-focus drop-down menu. We look forward to hearing about the greater connection and support that arises from these groups.

“Unity with Diversity” Policy Revised

A subtly revised “Unity with Diversity” Policy was adopted at World Service Business Conference 2021. You can read the new policy by going to oa.org/sitemap and clicking the “Unity with Diversity Policy Statements” link.

Ask-It Basket Archive Updated

Do you have burning questions for our OA trustees? Before dashing off that email, do a quick search in our Ask-It Basket Archive document, which gathers together assorted member queries answered by our trustees over the past decade. The Ask-It Basket Archive reflects questions submitted by WSBC delegates at Conference and covers everything from anonymity and member-to-member issues to literature and questions of world service. Most recently, the Ask-It Basket Archive has been revised to reflect important WSBC 2021 changes, such as our Abstinence and Recovery Policy and OA holiday updates. The Archive can be found in the Document Library at oa.org under category “Ask-it Basket.”

WSBC 2021 (Continued from p. 1)

Board Committee Chairs

- Board-approved Literature: Andi S.
- BRM Review: CJ M.
- Conference Planning: Margie G.
- Convention 2021: Andi S.
- Delegate Support Fund: Meg M.
- Internal Information: Tina C.
- International Publications/Translations: Vasiliki T.
- Literature Review: Neva S.
- Professional Tradeshows/Public Awareness: Meg M.
- Strategic Planning: Karen B.
- Website Review: Letitia M.
- Ad Hoc WSBC Translations: Dora P.
- Ad Hoc Liaison to Unaffiliated Language Service Boards and Special Focus Service Boards: Andi S.
- Ad Hoc Restructuring: Letitia M.

Conference Committee Board Cochairs

- Bylaws: Karen B.
- Conference-approved Literature: Neva S.
- Public Information/Professional Outreach: Meg M.
- Region Chairs: CJ M.
- Twelfth Step Within: Barb K.
- Unity with Diversity: Beth B.
- Young People's: BJ J.

New Literature

The delegates adopted the following literature motions:

Conference Seal of Approval for *The Tools of Recovery*

Conference Seal of Approval for *A New Plan of Eating: A Physical, Emotional, and Spiritual Journey*

Conference Seal of Approval for *Voices of Recovery, Second Edition*

Read more about these literature proposals on page five of this issue of *A Step Ahead*.

New Business

WSBC sailed through the business agenda thanks to the diligent work and cooperation among delegates, the WSBC Planning Committee, and WSO staff. As a result, all agenda items were addressed, and the delegates adopted the following policy motions and bylaw amendments:

- Amended OA's Abstinence and Recovery Policy
- Revised OA event dates to expand event weekends to include Fridays
- Created a Diverse Voices Policy
- Renamed the Young Persons' Committee to Young People's Committee
- Amended the “Unity with Diversity” Policy

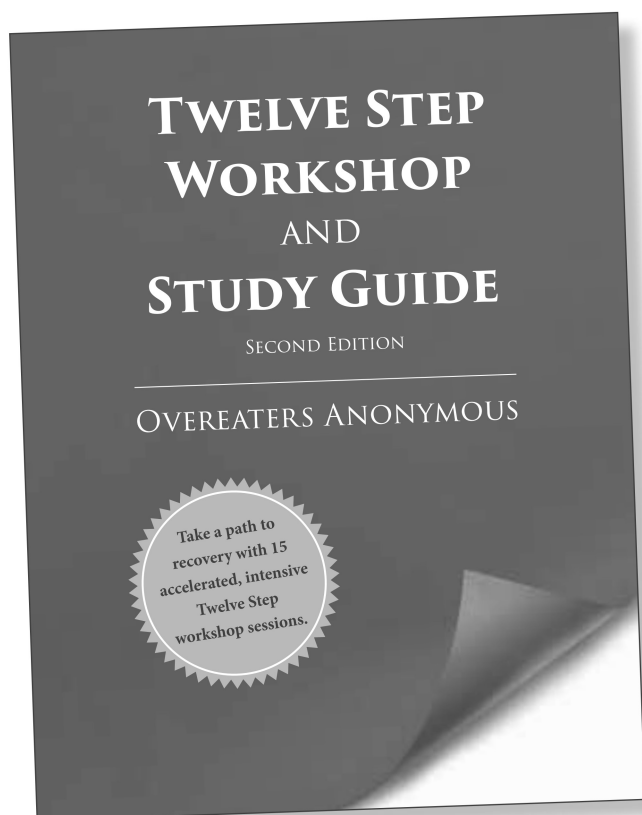
- Amended the hybrid meeting definition
- Amended Article VII, Section 2 (housekeeping revision)
- Amended Article X, Section 1 to allow for a virtual Conference option during an emergency
- Amended Article X, Section 3 (housekeeping revision)
- Amended Article V, Section 2 to include “hybrid” in the group composition
- Amended Article X, Section 3 to define delegate qualifications and selection for language service boards
- Amended Articles VI, VII, VIII to combine intergroups, service boards, and regions under one section titled “Service Bodies”

That's a Wrap!

The WSBC 2021 Final Conference Report will be posted to oa.org in June. Delegates and service bodies will be notified via email. A list of delegate names and contact information will be emailed directly to delegates.

For information on Conference voting results, read the 2021 Wrap Up Report, available on oa.org in the Document Library under category “WSBC: Frequently Used Documents.”

In the OA Bookstore



Twelve Step Workshop and Study Guide, Second Edition

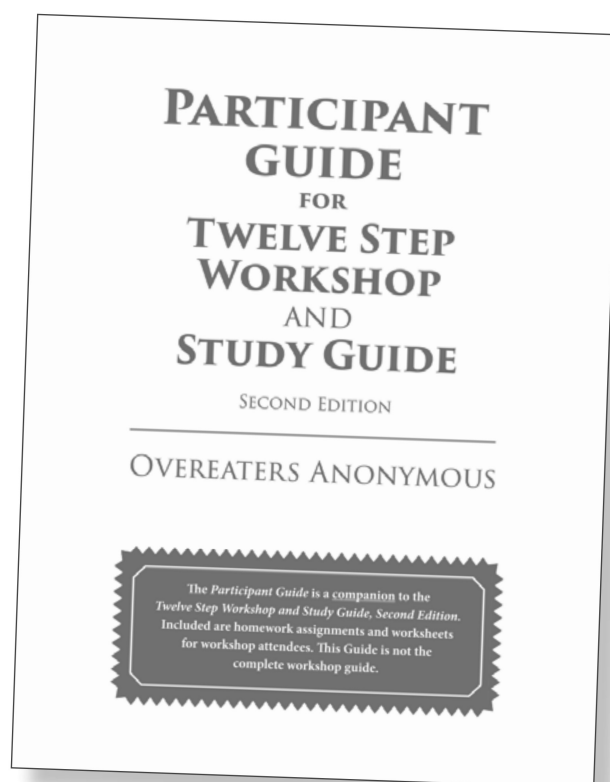
NEWLY UPDATED with references to the OA *Twelve and Twelve, Second Edition*, this *Workshop and Study Guide* is our most in-depth resource for leading groups or individual sponsees on a journey through OA's Twelve Steps to a life of recovery. This guide has leader scripts, working-the-Steps Worksheets, and selected readings from OA-approved literature.

162 pages. Softcover print edition available at oa.org. Search item #960-2 (US\$13.50 each). Shipping not included. E-books available for US\$9.99 each from Amazon, Apple, and Barnes and Noble.

Participant Guide for Twelve Step Workshop and Study Guide

NEWLY AVAILABLE, this *Participant Guide* has the important pages attendees and sponsees need in order to participate in the *Twelve Step Workshop* and follow along with the leader. The *Participant Guide* includes Step Homework and Readings, working-the-Steps Worksheets, and a helpful Step Four Glossary. **NOTE:** *The Participant Guide is not the complete Workshop and Study Guide; it is a companion volume for attendees and sponsees.*

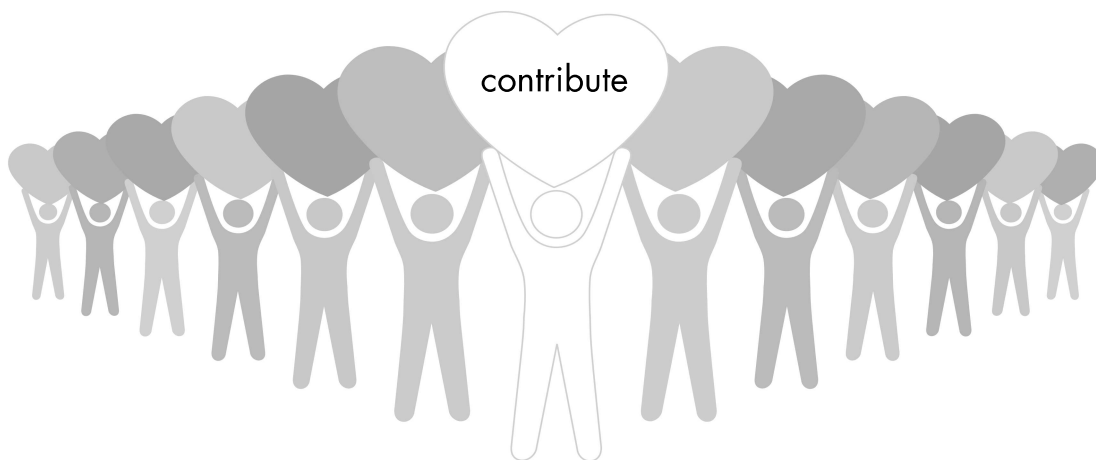
60 pages. Softcover print edition available at oa.org. Search item #965 (US\$7 each) or #966 (US\$157.50, case of 25). Shipping not included.



To order: bookstore.oa.org

Why Become an Automatic Recurring Contributor? For Twelve Really Great Reasons.

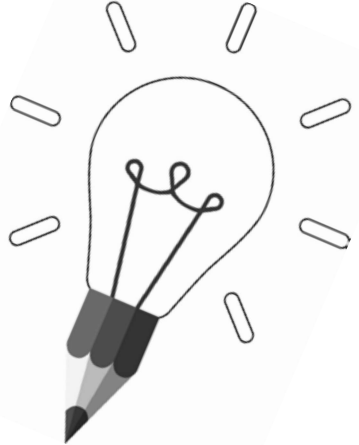
1. Your contributions support OA's primary purpose: to carry the message of recovery to the still-suffering compulsive overeater.
2. Your contributions help produce OA-approved literature, such as *Overeaters Anonymous, Third Edition* and *Taste of Lifeline*.
3. Your contributions support OA's website, oa.org, where many newcomers first learn about OA and the promise of recovery.
4. Your contributions support freely available, downloadable resources on oa.org, such as podcasts and meeting formats.
5. Your contributions support carrying the message around the world through translations of OA-approved literature.
6. Your contributions help you work your program, with many OA members discovering that making regular financial contributions supports their recovery.
7. Your automatic, recurring contributions are easy to set up and can be scheduled monthly or quarterly.
8. Your contributions are tax deductible in the USA.



9. Your contributions support worldwide and virtual meeting information, and outreach to professionals.
10. Your automatic, recurring contributions for virtual meetings means you never have to ask, "Did I remember my Seventh Tradition this week?"
11. Your contributions are a meaningful way to honor your abstinence anniversary, acknowledge a sponsor or sponsee, or remember the costs of your last binge.
12. Your contributions make a difference, and no contribution is too small to help carry the message of recovery.

Help OA grow. Go to oa.org/contribute and sign up to become an Automatic Recurring Contributor.

IN YOUR LANGUAGE, What is the Best Translation for “Abstinence,” “Recovery,” and “Higher Power”?



***If You Know the Answers, We Need Your Service.
Become a Glossary Volunteer!***

Compulsive eaters worldwide are struggling to access our Overeaters Anonymous program because of language barriers. Can you help them?

- Are you an active member of Overeaters Anonymous?
- Is English a second (or third) language for you?
- Are you willing to give service beyond the group level?

The OA Glossary is a compilation of hundreds of the most common English words and phrases used in our OA meetings and literature. These words, such as *abstinence*, *recovery*, *sponsor*, *plan of eating*, *food plan*, *Higher Power*, and *World Service Business Conference*, often have a special meaning in OA. As an OA Glossary Volunteer, you can consider the special meaning of each English word and phrase and suggest the best translation for your language.

Being a Glossary Volunteer is a great opportunity for service and recovery! Your service can accelerate the translation of all OA literature into your language and help carry the message of Overeaters Anonymous worldwide!

To become a Glossary Volunteer, contact your local or national language translation committee or your region chair or trustee and ask to join a translation or validation team. It is also helpful to read *Guidelines for Translation of OA Literature and Materials* found at oa.org/document-library under category “Translation.”

