

Report from OA Region 2 Fall Assembly 2018

Cathy L and Michelle VS attended the Region 2 Assembly on November 2-4, 2018 at the Sheraton Fairplex in Pomona—the location of our Region 2 Convention June 28-30, 2019.

At Roll Call, we had 23 Intergroups represented by 32 Region Reps. A quorum was established.

We were fortunate to have six of the Region Chairs Committee present and heard each of them deliver their inspiring shares during the Speaker portions of the Assembly. The RCC holds one meeting each year at a Region Assembly, and it was R2's turn. We were very fortunate to hear their individual stories of recovery and amazing experience, strength, and hope. World Service has a fund for the Region Chairs' travel, so no expense was required from R2.

Our 7th Tradition contribution totaled \$304.95 for the weekend.

The kick-off for the morning work was an icebreaker on character defects. In small groups, we responded to a set of questions: How aware were you, before OA, of your character defects? How did you discover them and what actions helped to get rid of them? Please identify one defect and share it. What did you learn from this?

Board Reports

Chair: Anne O attended WSBC and noted that literature sales are down and donations are not making up the lost revenue. To reduce expenses, WSBC may be shortened by 2 days in 2020. As Region Chair, she is working with the RCC and Board of Trustees to re-structure the BOT. Another of her projects is to create a video on Sponsorship. More information about this will come at a later date. She facilitated several STC workshops, attended the Congreso Mexico and did workshops on the 7th Tradition. Anne was re-elected to a second term as Region Chair during our elections on Sunday, November 4.

Vice-Chair: Carolina participated in several STC workshops and 10th Tradition workshops. She translated the Region 2 newsletter and the 7th Tradition skit for the Mexico Congress, which she attended in August. She translated all the applications for the officers standing for service in the Mexican Intergroups and answered numerous emails.

Secretary: Jeremiah thanked members for their commitment to service and recovery and reported how his own service has benefitted him. It has kept him thinking of others and relieved him from the isolation compulsive eaters often suffer. He reported minutes from all R2 Board meetings and Spring Assembly; he assembled vote results and evaluations from Spring Assembly, served on the R2 Young Persons' Committee and chaired the Ad-hoc Convention Committee.

Treasurer: Sherri kept detailed spreadsheets on all Region expenditures and receipts. She created and presented financial statements throughout the year and an itemized budget for 2019, which was approved by the Reps during our period of elections. The Board will appoint a treasurer, as Sherri has termed out, and no one stood up for this service.

Events Coordinator: Marjorie gave tribute to all participants and members who gave service during the R2 Convention in Sacramento in June, 2018! She helped establish a new tiered registration process for Assemblies to encourage attendees to make timely commitments for attendance. This will help R2 meet its contractual agreements with hotels. She is working to find ways to increase our revenue earned from Conventions, and is the Convention Committee Chair for R2 2019 Convention in Pomona.

Publications: Rick has been updating the R2 website in several ways—allowing members to request automatic emails from the Region; adding Spanish translations to the site, and organizing and loading to OAR2.org podcasts from 300 speakers from past conventions. He prepared the Fall Assembly packet and the biannual newsletter. He termed out, and Bonnie M was elected to serve as Publications Chair.

Trustee: Hanna requested that Intergroups begin working on the updates of their By-Laws and offered to be of any assistance required. She attended the Region Convention in Sacramento, Congreso Mexicano in August, and delivered STCs in Hawai'i. In addition, of course, she has responded to hundreds of emails! Her application for service as Trustee for another three-year term was approved by the Assembly, and she will stand for this service at WSBC in May of 2019.

Committee Work

Cathy serves on the Region 2 Twelfth Step Within Committee. There are 5 returning and 4 new members; all service positions are currently filled. A motion was made and carried for \$70 to allow the committee to purchase Welcome Back Kits, "Welcome Back" and "Members in Relapse" to be given out from the TSW booth at the June 2019 Convention. The projects set for committee work are to encourage Intergroups to participate in TSW Day, to increase awareness of TSW service, and to encourage the use of OA literature to facilitate recovery for members who continue to struggle. There will be a review of materials left from the booth at the 2018 Convention and a decision will be made at Spring 2019 Assembly as to whether more literature needs to be purchased.

Intergroup Concerns

- How to grow small meetings
- How to strengthen meetings
- How to encourage service to enhance their recovery from fellows who are struggling
- How to increase funds
- How to increase diversity in our meetings, to reach underserved populations

Convention Report

The Sacramento R2 Convention in June 2018 netted \$20,314, and was a great success! Our next Convention is June 28-30, 2019 at the Sheraton Fairplex in Pomona, CA. The theme is, "Come to the Fair—Freedom and Abstinence in Recovery." Marjorie is the Chair and thanked everyone for being willing to step up for service. It was again stressed that we need to utilize the special room rates to support OA—we must commit to a contract booking a certain number of rooms in order to secure special rates. Any unfulfilled part of the contract is paid for by the Region. It is part of being "self-supporting through our own contributions," that we support our Trusted Servants and OA as a whole, by utilizing the hotel. The Convention is R2's primary source of funding. Let's all attend and keep our Region strong!!

Interactive Workshop

This was eliminated due to a special report from our Chair, Anne, about the re-structuring of the Board of Trustees of OA World Service. There is a plan, based upon lengthy research done by Trustees and the Region Chairs Committee (RCC) to reduce our BOT from 17 to 12 over a four year period, beginning in 2020. Trustees will be elected "at large," and no one will be removed from office during the process. Two Trustee positions would default (if possible,) to candidates outside of North America. As Trustees term out, their positions will be phased out. Each region will be assigned a "liaison Trustee, (who lives within that region whenever possible;) regional service opportunities will provide broader training for possible future Board of Trustee membership. The over-riding rationale for this proposal is the unsustainable cost of maintaining a Board of this size. The Committee process will be presented *informally* at the World Service Business Conference (WSBC) in Spring 2019, and a draft of the proposal will be provided to Region Assemblies for feedback prior to WSBC. The Committee plans to have the motions for BOT re-structuring at WSBC in 2020.

Motions

All motions below were carried:

1. Public Information Committee requested \$200 for a pilot program to purchase OA posters in English and Spanish, to be placed in buses in Kern County.

The following motions update the Policies and Procedures manual to correctly reflect current practices.

2. Bylaws Committee—obtain a debit card for use by R2 Treasurer with a \$3500/day limit to pay expenses directly from the R2 bank account. (Limit reflects Treasurer's need to pay deposits, etc. related to Conventions.)
3. Bylaws Committee—wording to provide an "Early Bird" rate to encourage early registration and assist with meeting hotel contractual agreements.
4. Bylaws Committee—to add language to the Assembly packet requesting that Assembly meetings be "fragrance-free."

5. Bylaws Committee—to add a single sentence to clarify budget line item expenses for travel, meals, and lodging.
6. TSW Committee--\$70 to purchase TSW Handbooks for new committee members, Welcome Back packets, and pamphlets for use at 2019 Convention.
7. Young Persons' Committee--\$60.50 for items needed to start a new YP meeting in Maui.
8. YP Committee--\$40 for items needed to set up a YP booth at 2019 Convention.

As Cathy will be terming out of her position as UDDI Region Rep, she would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve. Says Cathy, "Participating at the Region level confirms my belief that our Fellowship is strong. The Twelve Traditions are alive and well. Even when difficulties arise and people's feelings get hurt, we come together in support of one another; we stumble, we brush ourselves off, we forgive, we keep going. The life lessons I learn from service at the Region level continue to help me 'play well with others.' And, believe me, behaving better has been a lifelong process for me! So, thank you OA, Higher Power, UDDI, my sponsor, my beloved friends, for again, allowing me the opportunity to serve."

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle VS and Cathy L, Region Reps for UDDI