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can do what we could never do alone.

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What's New

WSBC 2011 Delegates Make Key Decisions

More than 180 delegates from around the world gathered in Albuquerque, New Mexico USA on April 25-30 for the 2011 World Service Business Conference (WSBC). Below are a few of the major business and policy motions approved by the delegates.

Action Plan Defined: WSBC delegates have approved a definition of the Action Plan tool. The definition will be added to *The Tools of Recovery* pamphlet when current stock is depleted. In the meantime, OA members can find the definition on the OA Web site: <http://www.oa.org/new-to-oa/tools-of-recovery.php>

Definition of Abstinence Expanded: The Statement on Abstinence and Recovery (WSBC Policy 1988b, Amended 2002, 2009 and 2011) has been revised to include the italicized words at the end of the first sentence: "Abstinence in Overeaters Anonymous 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 the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve-Step program."

PLEASE NOTE: Both of the above changes are included in *The Tools of Recovery* pamphlet, which is part of the newcomer packet. If your group or service body has a large stock of newcomer packets, click [here](#) to download an addendum page that you can insert in the packets.

New and Revised Literature: Delegates gave the Conference seal of approval to a new pamphlet, *A*

Common Solution: Diversity and Recovery. The pamphlet features OA members' stories that explore the topics of Program Diversity, Cultural Diversity, Sexuality and Gender Diversity, and Life Diversity. The pamphlet will be printed and available in 3-4 months. Delegates also approved revisions to *Recovery Checklist*, which will be reprinted when current stock is depleted.

Group Definition Revised: Delegates approved a motion to expand the definition of Overeaters Anonymous groups. OA Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V, Section 1 will be changed as follows:

a) These points shall define an Overeaters Anonymous group:

1. As a group, they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.
2. All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the group.
3. No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice (share at a meeting).
4. As a group they have no affiliation other than Overeaters Anonymous.
5. It has affiliated as an Overeaters Anonymous group by registering with the World Service Office.

Rozanne S. Recognized as Founder: WSBC delegates approved a motion for the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous to bestow the title of founder to Rozanne S.

OA-Approved Literature Still Includes AA Conference-Approved Literature:

Delegates defeated a motion that would have made *Alcoholics Anonymous* (the Big Book) and *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* the only AA Conference-approved literature to also be considered as OA-approved literature. This means that OA members can continue to use all AA Conference-approved literature in their meetings.

OA members can find detailed information on WSBC decisions in the Conference Wrap-Up, which will be posted on the OA Web site by May 23, and the Final Conference Report to be posted on August 29.

NEW PI TOOLS AVAILABLE

2010 Membership Survey Report

Summarizes the results of the 2010 demographic survey of the Fellowship. The survey respondents answered questions such as the types of problems they have with food; whether they have lost weight, gained weight or neither; and how OA has helped them recover emotionally, physically and spiritually. Professionally printed color pamphlet for distribution to professionals, the media, OA members and anyone interested in the OA program. #102/\$.20 plus shipping* Also available for [free download](#) from the OA Web site.

PI Posters on OA Web Site

Catch the attention of still-suffering compulsive eaters with two colorful PI posters available for

download from the OA Web site. The “fork” poster asks the question: “Is your eating overwhelming you?”. The “pizza” poster is headlined: “Sometimes the more you eat, the more empty you feel.” Both posters then say, “We stopped eating compulsively and so can you,” and list oa.org and the phone number for the WSO. The posters are professionally designed, full color, and 8.5x11 inches. To find the posters, go to the [PI Suggestions page](#), and scroll down to “PI Posters.”

*US Shipping: \$5 for orders up to \$24.99, 20% of orders \$25 to \$59.99, 17% of orders \$60 to \$99.99, 12% of orders \$100 and up. Expedited orders can only be placed by phone. Email info@oa.org for shipping charges outside the US.

Twelfth-Step-Within Ideas

The TSW Web page has been updated with new ideas. Check out the newly added categories: Recovery/Carrying the Message, Twelfth-Step-Within Day, and Membership Retention.

Ask-It Basket

Please explain the practice of the OA Board of Trustees (BOT) for affirming incumbent candidates for reelection. What grounds does the BOT consider to affirm or not affirm?

OA Spanish Web Site Goes Live

Spanish-speaking OA members and others around the world now have access to OA’s Web site in their native language. The site, <http://espanol.oa.org>, features much of the same content as OA’s English site, including sections for Newcomers (Recién Llegados), Members/Groups (Miembros/Grupos), Media/Professionals (Medios de Comunicación Pública/Profesionales) and World Service Events (Eventos del Servicio Mundial).

A link to “Literatura en Español” takes users directly to the Spanish literature that can be purchased from the World Service Office. If users click on “Encuentra una Reunión,” they will find links to OA intergroups with Spanish Web sites listing meetings in many Spanish-speaking countries around the world. The new site also includes links to three Spanish podcasts interviewing OA members from Mexico, Spain and Costa Rica who share their experiences in the program.

With the launch of the Spanish Web site, a key goal on the Board of Trustees’ Strategic Plan has been achieved, and Overeaters Anonymous is broadening its outreach to compulsive eaters who still suffer.

Many Symptoms, the OA Solution Now Available!

Carry the OA message that there is a solution to compulsive eating. Order this television Public Service Announcement in 60-, 30-, and 15-second spots. Betacam SP comes in eye-catching packaging with color storyboard and cover letter.

PDF Books Now Available!

Three popular OA publications are now available electronically: The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, The Twelve-Step Workbook of Overeaters Anonymous, and The Fourth-Step Inventory Guide. Check them out by going to bookstore.oa.org and selecting the category "PDF Books."

Website Hosting Now Available

Check out oagroups.org. The Board of Trustees has established this site to ensure all of our Intergroups have the option of a Website. Managed by the Techweb Committee, the site offers information, demonstrations, and a team of volunteers ready to answer your questions. You can also have your site hosted on oagroups.org as a subdomain.
