

4/24-4/29

As a region 8 delegate I had the opportunity Of spending five days in Albuquerque N Mexico.

I represented region 8 along with many other delegates from that region. This trip was very informative.

I learned about the nuts and bolts of how the World Service Organization operated.

I saw the board make the process as easy as possible. With the use of Robert's Rules, decisions were made. It was a timely yet efficient process.

The WSO is at the bottom of the triangle. Above are the regions throughout the world. Each region has a trustee who sits on the board. Many of them speak many languages.

Each region has representatives who act as liaisons to all the Intergroup's in their particular region. There are also trustees that represent virtual meetings and technology.

It was decided that the web tech committee will remain as a resource. They were almost phased out due to lack of funding.

I learned that OA is operating at a deficit and is exploring ways to increase our budget. A 7th tradition was collected and over 15,000 dollars was donated. One Intergroup had 10,000 dollars because they had surplus and they donated it to World Service.

The new 12 and 12's had a great start selling 5,000 copies. They are also available on e-books and Barnes and Noble online.

This year there were many green dots like me who came for the first time. We each had a mentor who shared the experience and guided us throughout the process.

Going as a delegate was an eye-opener because I didn't realize all the time and effort that had to be put in. For the entire time I sat in business meetings.

I am a member of the Young Person's committee. We met for hours planning how we can attract young people from the ages 18-30 into OA.

We are not able to offer this to younger people due to parental involvement and possible liability. I found this disturbing because obesity is running rampant from early childhood. However, the committee established that we must stay within the required guidelines.

We will be revising the young persons meeting format, exploring virtual meetings for young people and editing literature specifically for that age group.

In addition many motions were made and passed in reference to creating virtual service boards and intergroups. The greatest accomplishment was voting and passing on an international virtual service board.

The WSO will be exploring social media and integration.

Phone meetings, podcasts and online meetings will now have opportunity to affiliate and become a part of a virtual Intergroup aka service board. The virtual intergroups can be affiliated with land intergroups.

Carrying the message was emphasized. There are PowerPoints and workshop materials available which can be borrowed as resources.

Some other accomplishments were to have Unity Day on alternate weekend days giving all diversities the opportunity to participate. This is also at the discretion of each Intergroup depending on their diverse populations.

Another motion that was passed was to accept all members without bias if they have had gastric bypass surgery. In the past they felt unwelcome and ostracized by many meetings. Anorexics and bulimics are also welcomed.

The highlight of my experience was dining with members from all over the globe. All of us sharing the same problem and same solution. I networked with many visionaries and exchanged ideas for the betterment of program.

The countries represented were:

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, England/UK, Germany, Greece,Ireland, Israel, N Zealand, S Africa, Spain,Sweden, USA and Venezuela.

I am proud to be your delegate and thank you for this opportunity.

Respectfully Submitted
Linda R Region 8 Delegate