

The Footnotes

OA Spiritual Principles:

Integrity & Willingness

Since May and June are the fifth and sixth months of the year, our topics for this issue are the OA principles of INTEGRITY and WILLINGNESS.

Integrity

By Anonymous

"What you do when no one is watching." A shorthand definition I've heard for integrity. But in way, the OA step associated with integrity is kind like the opposite. In Step 5, we read aloud a complete list of our biggest fears and resentments while another human being is not just watching but listening as well! I've heard it said that many overeaters "go out" or leave the program when they get to this step, which makes sense. It's terrifying to lay our lives out in front of another person. In order to effectively work Step 5, we must ask our Higher Power for a new level of trust.

But I have to admit, there's something magic about the act of giving a 4th step away to another OA fellow. Saying all of the things out loud. Private, personal things, most of which I never dreamed of telling another soul. The last time I read my fourth step to a sponsor, both of us sitting in the privacy of her lovely Pasadena living room, she listened patiently for a the better part of an hour. When I was done, she looked at me and simply said "Okay, then." And that was it. There was no judgement. No incredulous looks in response to anything I had written. Just a calm, quiet acknowledgement and acceptance, which was truly a gift.

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12 STEP W/IN	OPEN
PROF.OUTREACH	OPEN

Willingness

Written by S.



Thank you, God for this topic of Willingness! Willingness for me isn't a word I use very often. I was surprised to hear it mentioned so frequently in my early OA meetings. Why is there all this talk about willingness at meetings? I thought "yes, I'm willing to join the meeting, can't you see I'm sitting in my seat? Why all this talk about willingness? We are all sitting here aren't we?"

Because of my inexperience with 12 Step formats, I

thought we were assembled and someone would lead, teach, speak, lecture and we would all take notes.

I quickly found out how interactive OA is! Lots of people spoke, read, jointly recited and individually shared. And, everyone was constantly greeting anyone who spoke by reciting their name out loud "Hi Elizabeth or Hi Philip."

I soon joined in the chorus of greetings. Then I became willing to say "I'm S… a compulsive overeater"! Wow, what a miracle, I finally knew who I was and was willing to share out loud my new last name "Compulsive Overeater!"

At that time I did not fully understand what Compulsive Overeating meant, but I knew intuitively I was a COE as people in the rooms shared their stories of things they did with food so similar to what I had done. They also shared they had found a solution for compulsive eating through OA! I was willing to listen to HOW (Honesty, Open mindedness, Willingness) they were achieving this great miracle in their lives.

I continued listening at meetings, began reading our literature and working with a Sponsor. I soon became willing to believe God, HP could help me turn my willingness to work the Steps, use our Tools of Recovery to remain Abstinent each day. This was a miracle after years of dieting with no lasting success of keeping weight off and living in sanity.

Today, when the TV commercials try to persuade me to eat, drink or try 'This Product" I'm willing to say NO, turn the channel or say "Help HP, I don't want to



think about that sugary or salty food. I am willing to say NO but I need your help God to take the necessary Action to avoid these foods." God has helped me every time I have prayed that prayer. TY God!

In OA, I also found out I'm not alone anymore surrounded by fellow OA'ers and my power-pac God which I also call HP or Higher Power. HP will give me the strength I need. Willingness + HP's Power = lifesaving ACTION, 1 day, 1 meal at a time! Forever Grateful! ©

Topics for next July/August issue:

Humility (Step 7) and Self-Discipline (Step 8)



We want your stories of experience, strength and hope for our next newsletter! Please write about how the spiritual principle of **HUMILITY** or **SELF-DISCIPLINE** applies to you and your recovery. Use 200-400 words as a guideline. **Submit writing to <u>oafoothillfootnotes@gmail.com</u>**. **Deadline is July 4th**.



Intergroup News

Walk Around the Rose Bowl to be Re-scheduled Our sponsorship-themed *Walk Around the Rose Bowl* was sadly rained-out in March, but don't worry— we're re-scheduling! Keep an eye out for a new flier with details. An extra big "thank you" to Marilyn, our Special Events chair for weathering the literal storm with grace and soldiering on to make this event happen, twice.

Fourth Step Workshop Coming in September We're looking for a tech savvy person to help out. To volunteer for this fantastic service opportunity, contact Marilyn at <u>oafoothillspecialevents@gmail.com</u>.

Policy and Procedures Manual Complete We have published our first Policy and Procedures manual, thanks in large part to Diane, our former Professional Outreach Chair. It's a comprehensive document outlining the purpose of our intergroup, how it functions and details board and committee positions and responsibilities. For access email <u>oafoothillintergroup@gmail.com</u>

Want to be part of the Foothill Intergroup? The positions of <u>Professional Outreach</u> and <u>Twelve Step Within</u> are open! For a description of duties, contact <u>oafoothillintergroup@gmail.com</u>

Upcoming Events

OA Face-to-Face Meeting Fridays@ 6:30 pm Gratitude Meeting



Westiminster Presbiterian Church

1757 North Lake Ave. Pasadena, CA 91104

(Entrance in the parking lot behind the church.) If you have any questions, please call or text Sylmara (818) 468-8460

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Experience a weekend of fun, fellowship, and recovery!

Participate in-person or via zoom.

Questions? convention@oar2.org

Register Now!

2023 Overeaters Anonymous Region 2 Convention Orange County / Costa Mesa California, July 7-9, 2023

Register Online

In Person \$75 • Zoom \$35 • Book Hotel oar2.org/upcoming-convention

Marathon meetings / OA speakers / panels / workshops

Spanish simultaneous Zoom translation

In-person: entertainment, dining, and surprise activities!



Oficina Nacional México. Odesa 101 col.Portales Nte, Benito Juárez, 03300 CDMX



BEFORE YOU TAKE THAT FIRST COMPULSIVE BITE, PHONE AN OA MEMBER!

Elliott M.	626-398-9928	anytime	
Lynn P.	626-792-4686	before 9pm	
Marilyn D.	818-679-7511	anytime	
Tammy	818-353-9606	days	
Stacey	818-319-3286	anytime	
Ava	323-573-4475	6am-6pm	
To add your name to this list, email oafoothillfootnotes@gmail.com			

OA ONLINE RESOURCES:

<u>oafoothill.org</u> - Foothill Intergroup <u>oa.org</u> - National OA website <u>oasfvalley.org</u> - San Fernando Valley Intergroup <u>oasgvie.org</u> - San Gabriel Valley Intergroup <u>oala.org</u> - Los Angeles Intergroup <u>go2oa.org</u> - Inland Empire Intergroup <u>oaoci.org</u> - Orange County Intergroup <u>oasouthbay.org</u> - South Bay Intergroup <u>oasandiego.org</u> - San Diego Intergroup

7TH TRADITION – TREASURER'S CORNER

Every OA Group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. OA relies exclusively on the contributions of members to maintain OA services and continue to help those who suffer. According to World Service, donations are down dramatically, worldwide. Please give as much as you can to keep OA alive!

<u>Treasurer's Note:</u> Excess meeting funds, over and above expenses and prudent reserve should be distributed monthly in accordance with the 60/30/10 formula. [Foothill Intergroup /World Service/Region 2] Please send checks only with your group ID#. Email <u>oafoothilltreasurer@gmail.com</u> for addresses and more information.

OA INTERGROUP 7TH TRADITION CONTRIBUTIONS & OTHER INCOME

Individual Donations	\$697.00	
Pasadena Tue 6:30pm	\$ 60.00	
Pasadena Wed 7:00pm	\$124.00	
Total 7th Tradition Income	\$881.00	
Other Income:		
Other income.		
No events	\$0.00	

Completed 4/30/23

We want to hear from you! Help *The Footnotes* expand its usefulness by contributing your OA birthdays, writing, graphics, humor, et al. Send submissions to <u>oafoothillfootnotes@gmail.com</u>.

FOOTHILL INTERGROUP MEETINGS

All Intergroup meetings are held at the last Monday of each month from 7:00-8:30pm via Zoom. The next Intergroup meeting will be **June 26th**. Meeting delegates and all OA members are welcome. Link is located in local meetings section at oafoothill.org. <u>https://www.oafoothill.org/local-meetings.html</u>.