

2018 World Service Business Conference Delegate Report “Growing OA Recovery Worldwide”

The Foothill Intergroup every spring, sends 1 or 2 Delegates to the WSBC in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This year I was chosen to represent our intergroup at the World Business Conference. I had never been involved in service in OA higher than the Intergroup level. So this was a new adventure for me.

The WSBC (World Service Business Conference) was held on the week of April 23 – 29th 2018.

There were a Total of 188 voting delegates and 17 Countries represented.

There was so much OA fellowship during that week, that help me as a **Green Dot** (1st time as WSBC Delegate) to get through the conference.

At the conference, they had scheduled a total of 23 regular OA Meetings, which were going on during the conference. They even had special OA Meeting for Men and other groups in OA. Included at the conference was 6 Workshops that were scheduled through out the week.

The Themes of the Workshop were:

- 1- Combining the Strengths of Virtual & Face-To-Face Meetings.
- 2- Building a Foundation of Strong Abstinence & Sponsorship.
- 3- Building Healthy Service Bodies.
- 4- Sharing “Carrying the Message” Successes & Challenges.
- 5- All about the Conference.
- 6- The glue the holds us together: Service, Traditions & Concepts.

All of the workshops at the conference were extremely informative and inspiring. I will write summaries from these workshops in future Footnotes during the year.

The Conference on Wednesday separated all the delegates into Committees. Each Committee had Meetings during that day to discuss their topics of their committee. The Committees also will have meetings throughout the year (phone or Virtual) to work on their Topics for World Service.

11 Committees:

Bylaws, Conference Literature, Finance, Professional Outreach, Public Information, Region Chairs, Twelfth Step within, Unity with Diversity, Virtual Services, Web/Technology, and Young Persons.

I was assigned and wanted to be on the **Unity with Diversity Committee**.

Each committee would be divide into Sub Committees regarding topics of their primary committee. My Committee, Unity with Diversity, was divided into three Sub Committees. I chose to be on the Translations sub committee.

Unity with Diversity Sub Committees:

- 1- Inreach with Inclusivity.
- 2- Outreach with Inclusivity.
- 3- Translations

Each subcommittee would discover new ideas on their Topics to help OA as a whole.

For example: The Translations Subcommittee wanted to see how we could have OA official Literature, which had been written in English, be written in a way that could be translated easily in other languages. This would be help OA be more Inclusive.

World Service Business Meetings

The main portion of the Conference was set for 5 Business Meetings during the week. Each Business Meeting were regarding major topics and were voted on by all the Delegates.

- 1- Election of World Service Officers & Trustees
- 2- Conference Rules
- 3- Bylaw Motions
- 4- New Motions.

These Business Meetings were very organized and were very controlled by the OA Traditions so they could run smoothly as possible.

To see a copy of the final Wrap-Up Report go to:

<https://oa.org/members/events/world-service-business-conference/>

Subjects that also were brought up & discussed at the Conference.

Virtual & Hybrid Meetings.

New Technology in OA.

Acceptance of Members of Bariatric Surgery.

Men in OA (How to encourage Men to join)

Making Diversity a Major part OA.

Helping our Meetings to increase membership.

Anonymity in Virtual & Social Media Meetings.

Professional Outreach

7th Tradition for World Service (Encouraging Virtual meeting & membership Contributions)

New Virtual Region

On Saturday Evening we had Dinner and Dance. I was happy to sit at the Region 2 Table. I sat next to our Region 2 Trustee: Hannah and Region 2 Chair: Anne. I learned how their Service with OA changed their Lives. It was very inspiring.

I am so grateful and Thankful to the OAFIG, that I was chosen to represent the Foothill Intergroup at the WSBC. It was a fantastic experience and I learned a lot about OA outside the Intergroup. I also met a lot of great OA Members from all parts of the US and the World. This is a great Organization and I am so grateful I am doing service,

Thank you for letting me do service,

George
(World Service Chair)