

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS REGION 2 / WINTER 2008



Region 2 Convention! You know the way to San Jose!

The Region 2 Annual Convention, Recovery Together We Can, takes place June 27 through June 29, 2008 in downtown San Jose. For details, go to the website at www.oar2.org/con2008/index.shtml. You will find the following descriptions of what to expect when you come to San Jose.

Event Program – Our final printed program for the weekend. You won't want to miss the workshops, marathons, and special focus meetings.

Registration – Allows you to download a registration form or register online with PayPal.

Entertainment – Friday night's show will have you laughing and crying over "Nirvana – A Glimpse of Survival and Triumph Over Chocolate."

Menu – Detailed menus for Saturday night's dinner (includes two speakers, dance and karaoke) and Sunday morning's buffet breakfast (includes 1 speaker).

Quilt – Pictures of the convention quilt and afghans. If you want to sell or purchase tickets, please send an email to Shirley at sstall-cop@yahoo.com.

Hotel Reservation – Instead of calling separately for hotel accommodations, you can reserve your room from the website and choose whether you want a king bed or two queens. Please mention OA Region 2 to get the reduced rate.

Promo Items – Includes photos and descriptions of items available for purchase and explains how to order the appropriate shirt size, especially for the Women's long-sleeved shirt.

Service Opportunities – A successful convention depends on lots of volunteers – sign up to help keep things running smoothly. One of the members of the convention committee will contact you early in June.

Items not on the website, but will be available at the Convention include:

If you are interested in sharing your talents at the Saturday Night OA Café, please contact Tom M. at (408) 375-5370 or livelove-laugh100@yahoo.com for a timeslot. Each performer will be given a designated timeslot to perform. We'll provide the room and the microphone; you'll need to bring any other equipment that you need.

The **Silent Auction** needs a variety of items to keep the bidding lively. Consider donating new, unique, handmade craft items, jewelry, or artwork; purchased gift cards or certificates from your favorite stores or services; OA weekend retreats; and gift-basket assortments

You can also clean out your closet and donate clean, gently used clothing and accessories to sell at the **Boutique**. The flyers for OA Café and/or Silent Auction-Boutique can also be printed from www.oasv.org or send an email to sstallcop@yahoo.com.

We hope to see you in San Jose at the end of June at **Recovery Together We Can**. All net proceeds from the convention will be used by Region 2 to help carry the message. **Recovery – Together We Can** is the best party in town this summer; don't miss it!

R2 Trusted Servants

Chairperson

Pamela W (323) 734-1873 chair@oar2.org

Vice Chair

Shari G. (650) 591-5634 vicechair@oar2.org

Secretary

Carole C. (530) 755-6123 secretary@oar2.org

Trustee

Angela J (505) 796-8034 <u>trustee@oar2.org</u>

Events Coordinator

Hanna S (760) 369-0010 events@oar2.org

Treasurer

Joyce F (714) 521-8972 treasurer@oar2.org

Publications Coordinator

Mary M (323) 255-0143 publications@oar2.org

To get information on doing service at the regional level or to run for a position on the R2 Board, service descriptions and position applications are available on the R2 website at www.oar2.org

Welcome to What's New, R2 Publication's Coordinator, Mary M.

How aware are you of what Region 2 does?

- Do members in your meetings know what Region 2 is?
- Does your Intergroup participate in Region 2 service?

You can do service by checking out our R2 newsletter, R2 What's New, and informing other OA members about Region 2 in your meetings and Intergroup. Our theme this issue comes from the upcoming 2008 R2 convention:

Together We Can. When we help each other work together as a united region of OA members, we can strengthen our program for ourselves and other compulsive overeaters.

Announce the R2 convention in your meetings, consider becoming an R2 delegate for your Intergroup, or talk to an R2 delegate or board member about how you can do Region 2 service. Together we can do what we never could alone!

12th Step Within Committee: What Can YOUR Intergroup Do?

Twelfth Step Within Day is officially held on December 12th, but **together we can** make the twelfth day of *every* month a great time for groups and individuals to consider how to reach the still suffering compulsive overeater who has been in the program for a while, or who has drifted away.

History of Relapse? Our committee has developed a Twelfth Step Within flyer and is compiling a Relapse/Recovery phone list. The list will include formerly re-

lapsing members willing to speak with or to sponsor people in need. Each intergroup is invited to compile a list for use in their own area, then to forward their data to our committee coordinator, Nancy N., at mswizard64@yahoo.com. If your intergroup does not have a 'Twelfth Step Within Committee, consider starting one!

Intergroup Success Stories:

Mid-Peninsula Intergroup hosted a Day in OA on January 12, 2008, with focus on Relapse/ Recovery. The San Mateo event included four speakers, and an ask-it-basket. Sixtyseven people attended.

The San Diego Intergroup offers 2-hour workshops every other month. Using the Twelfth Step Within handbook as a catalyst, they have achieved results.

Santa Cruz includes a focus on relapse during meetings when there is a fifth week in the month.

R2 Bylaws Committee

During the October R2 Assembly, three new people volunteered to be part of the Bylaws Committee (hurray!) and together we were able to cover most of the bylaws. Our goal is to simplify and make the bylaws flow better.

As there were multiple changes, the R2 Board approved the bylaws committee submitting a bylaws revision, rather than vote on each change separately. We've set Jan 1, 2008, as a goal to finish the revision.

Intergroup Outreach Committee:

The R2 Intergroup Outreach Committee is working on these current projects:

Send a letter to all Intergroups requesting updated R2 rep information and encouraging participation at R2 Assemblies.

 Find unaffiliated groups and how to contact them.

- Discuss Intergroup online meetings.
- Practice online Intergroup outreach committee meetings.



Diversity Committee:

These are just some of the goals and projects that the R2 Diversity Committee is currently working on:

Ebony OA will continue to respond to professional outreach requests within the African American Community.

Mexico OA will establish the (800) telephone number in Mex-

ico/United States.

San Francisco OA is working on the February Unity Day in OA.

A new Spanish Speaker liaison (English/Spanish), with contact information on the Region 2 OA website.

A potential OA event for the Spanish-speaking community.

A bookmark that may be translated into Spanish.

Young Person's Committee

--from the R2 Young People's Committee, written by Susan B.

Hi, this is Susan, from Beach Cities Intergroup, filling in for Kaitlin as Young Person's Committee Chair! We were blessed with a wonderful San Jose Assembly Meeting in October! Some awesome reps from many areas of Region Two attended, ready to throw around their ideas of how to better serve young people in OA. Many issues come to mind, about

accessibility, legal concerns and confidentiality, and how to make meetings easy for young people to absorb and use.

Our committee members shared strategies for successful young person's meetings within their intergroups, which included: holding concurrent meetings with regular OA meetings, or tagged directly before or after, or referring youth to online meetings. We look forward to devising more and better ideas over time. In this issue, we

are including lists of young people's meetings, so that your intergroup can access them for help in reaching out to young people in your area. The World Service Office also has a tremendous wealth of online information and Young People's meeting formats and other literature available on their webs it

There will be a Young People's Special Focus meeting at the 2008 OA Convention coming up in San Jose, and we are looking into creating a panel presentation for our event in 2009. Look on the convention website for dates and times.

Our committee welcomes any and all advice about how to better serve the young compulsive eater who still suffers. We look forward to working together with all of the R2 intergroups to create more meetings that welcome our next generation of recovering, happy, joyous and free youth!

A Balancing Act: Preserving Anonymity & Educating the Public, By Kevin C.

Assuming the role of Chair of the Public Information Committee gave me a new level of awareness. The work keeps me talking to others. In the process, I've learned that, as individual OA members, in order to increase public awareness of our program, we need to become comfortable with the distinctions between the spirit of anonymity, maintaining confidential-

ity, and personal disclosure of oneself as a CO.

So many of us are afraid to make the mistake of breaking confidentiality, that we steer clear of seizing a golden opportunity to educate and inform people when it really counts. There is much work to be done within our fellowship: educating individual members that it is OK to speak on a radio station, OK to speak publicly at a hospital staff meeting, OK to tell anyone about your personal success.

It is the spirit of anonymity that reminds us that we must not speak on behalf of OA as a whole. The spirit of anonymity says that we are all the same, regardless of profession, age, or social status. Understanding these principles will free us to act publicly.

Continued top of next page



Page 2 of 8

A Balancing Act: (continued)

Affording each member the confidence of what to say and how to say it will empower us all to act. Like many members of OA, I'm passionate about my recovery and my successes. Instead of holding the attitude belched out in the John Mayer tune, "Waiting on the World to Change," I need to focus on the principles in my own OA program, and focus on what needs to change within myself.

As the PI Committee chair, I also have pledged to extend those changes at the R2 level. Once we change from the inside out, letting the world know about OA and what our program offers will be effortless. The change will indeed come.

R2 Board reminder: Our traditions suggest that no last names or faces be used in print, film or video media.

Committee Reports

Do You Have a Question for Region 2?

We are starting an Ask-It-Basket section in *What's New*, and are looking for questions about Region 2 or OA Service and Traditions. We will select some questions to be answered by R2 Board members in upcoming issues. Send your questions to: publications@oar2.org.

A Scholarship Attendee's Experience at the "U.N. of OA", by Kevin C.

It requires courage to accept a gift of love. When first asked to attend a Region 2 Assembly, I got a nervous lump in my throat. The "big league" wanted me to be present at some scary meeting on the mainland (I live in Hawaii).

Why me? I wanted to "hide out" at meetings at the local level and avoid responsibility. I was afraid of being "found out" as an incompetent. But, with a little prodding from my buddy, Gerri, at Maui Friends IG, off I flew-a five hour flight to the mainland.

That was two years ago. At my second Assembly, I shed my "green dot" for a Chair position on the Public Information Committee. What an eye opener:

meeting the WSO Trustee, learning how R2 conducts business.

While at first somewhat "dry" (yeah, you gotta learn parliamentary procedure), it now feels more like I'm part of the United Nations of OA! How cool is it to sit next to the representative from Mexico? To meet people from Nevada, and all over California in one room? Or, to learn about OA's direction over the next five years?

My challenge was paying attention, working my food plan with the time zone difference, biting my tongue when I felt I wanted to manipulate the outcome of an issue put to vote, and trusting that my HP was exhibiting itself in our group conscious. It has

bolstered my recovery in many ways, namely by giving me the confidence that, as a member of OA, my opinion and abilities matter to someone. I highly recommend it.

I'm pleased that the spirit of anonymity is alive and well at the Assembly level. Be it the Chair of the Board, or a first time "green dot", we are all the same: compulsive eaters in recovery reaching out our hands so that we can do what we could never do alone. I'm grateful for the experience. I thank the R2 Board so much for their generosity and I hope for the opportunity to attend again next year.

Energíze your Intergroup!

Ask Region 2 to schedule a Service and Traditions Workshop in your area. Contact Sheri at: vicechair@oar2.org.

2008 Convention Committee's Saturday Night Program : March 1, 2008—San Jose Doubletree Hotel

Longtimers Share: Why We Keep Coming Back

- What we were like
- How we recovered
- · Why we stayed
- How we have dealt with life changes

Hear Region 2 speakers from the Bay Area

Time: 7:30 - 8:45 pm

Donation: 7th Tradition

Parking: Discounted OA Parking \$4

Contact: Shirley, (408) 257-5093 or sstallcop@uahoo.com

Plus:

- See the Convention Quilt
- Purchase Convention T-Shirts
- Sell/Purchase Drawing Tickets



Would Young People Feel Welcome at YOUR Meetings?

We know that many young people are experiencing the devastating effects of compulsive overeating—but are our meetings a welcome place for them? The following note comes from the World Service Youth in OA (YIOA) Committee's quarterly newsletter.*

Note From A Former Youth In OA at WSBC-- by Nikki S.

"I heard about OA when I was 13 years old from a member of AA whom I babysat for. He had his literature laying around and I read it after the kids went to sleep, when he came home he would talk program and share his experience strength and hope. He informed me of OA meetings and I attended a few.

The seed was planted for me at that time. I did not continue because everyone was "my parents" age and they treated me like their child. And not in a good way. They didn't take me seriously and treated me differently, I didn't belong to "their" group. But I did know I be-

longed to OA. I came back at age 16 and found the same issues. I left again. I returned at age 19 and 289 lbs. I stayed for 9 months and lost 90 lbs. Personalities in the group still pointed out my lack of life experiences, in school, no children, no boyfriend, living with my mother. I left because I felt I didn't belong.

Now I am 33 years old, I'm married, I have 2 children and when I came back 16 months ago I was 460 lbs. I am now 338 lbs. Things are different now. But how unfortunate I felt so unwelcome 20 years ago.

This is my story but maybe you can take my experience and apply it to your service work to get the word out to the youths. The good news is that Nikki continued to come back to OA. She says, "The seed was planted for me at that time." That may be the best we can do for youth who find their way to the OA rooms - plant a seed that may grow and flourish.

If you have questions, or experience with youth in OA, please forward it to Charles A. at: trustee@oaregion8.org.

Returning To Assembly After Scholarship Susan B.— Beach Cities Intergroup

Our tiny Intergroup of less than 20 persons was blessed to receive a scholarship to attend the Spring 2007 assembly. Since it was held close to our Intergroup location, both our representative and chair were able to attend, and to return some of the scholarship money to Region Two. Since that time, our Intergroup has been energized! We were fearful that we did not have enough money to

attend the Fall Assembly in San Jose, but two days prior to the event, two members stepped forward and donated all of the costs for airfare and hotel out of their own pockets. Our representative went, and submitted a report to our meeting, encouraging us to attend the OA Birthday Party in February!

We became so inspired, that the Intergroup held two garage sales,

as well as a three-speaker fundraiser. The focus of the night was "The Promises Realized". We were able to bring in speakers from neighboring Intergroups, and to raise funds to help send our representative to the March assembly. We also send around a second envelope at each meeting during the Seventh Tradition, to help collect money for the trip. It has been a true blessing, for an Intergroup that struggles each month to pay the rent! We had no idea what we could accomplish! I feel it has strengthened all of our recovery, and one member commented that it gives us a certain "legitimacy" to be active in our region.

We look forward to future activities, and hope that other struggling Intergroups can attend as well!

Facts About Successful Region 2 Intergroups, by R2 Trustee, Angela

The Ebony OA Bay Area Intergroup (EOABIG) is just one of the thirty-six service bodies within Region 2 but uniquely different, it is built upon OA's Special Focus Policy¹ that provides OAers the choice to form groups around a common attribute such as with the endowment of being a men, women, Gay and Lesbian or being of color. EOABIG became a registered Intergroup in September 2006

meeting every requirement criteria from OA World Service specified in OA Inc. Bylaws² and prior to becoming a registered IG, Ebony OA meetings also met group definition. Today EOABIG IG is led by La Verna G., a long time OA member who has experienced great success working the program. She, along with other faithful EOA members meet face to face (F2F) and also in OA Virtual

Media Meetings like the popular Saturday phone meeting³. Each Saturday up to fifty OAers from all around dial in by phone at 6:00 p.m. PST sharing their victories and struggles. Most recently, EOABIG held its annual retreat in August 2007 just 2 days prior to the World Service Convention in Philadelphia, PA with almost fifty black OA members participating in the retreat and almost a hundred black OA members celebrating

OA's Convention. Look for more facts about successful Intergroups in Region in the next issue of the Region Newsletter.

Footnotes:

¹1994b Special Focus Policy, 2006 OA Business Conference Policy Manual, page, 13 ²OA Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI,

Section 1, Compositions

3Saturday EOABIG Phone meeting, 1-605-990-0550, pin 1089532#

Calling All Intergroups: Is Your Voice Being Heard?

Do you want to strengthen OA in your area and throughout California and the West Coast? Make sure your voice is heard in full force at Region 2 Assemblies by sending as many delegates as you are entitled to

(contact Region 2 or World Service to find out how many reps you can send.)

Even if you can't afford to send your full quota of reps to *every* assembly, send 'em all when assemblies are held in your area.

(Financial assistance and special scholarships are also available from Region 2.) Send your delegates, give your members the opportunity to serve, and help all of us benefit from a strong and diverse OA organization.



Together We Can, R2 Více Chaír—Sharí G.

I don't think anyone wakes up one morning and says "I want to serve on the Region 2 Board, work hard, and I'll volunteer today." I think most of us are "talked into" running. So, why did I let myself be talked into

this? I thought about the others who have been in O.A. for many years and have great recovery in all areas. They have all served on the Board or in some comparable service position. Like many of us, I figured "they could do it...

I'm not ready for that!" Well, it's TOGETHER WE CAN. It was my turn to give back and to also ensure my continued recovery.

I'm so glad I did! I am thrilled to be on the board, and it is great fun to work with others who feel the same. So, when you're asked next time, step up and take your turn, and you'll be excited you did!

Events Coordinator, Hanna S.

If you attended the Region 2 Fall Assembly in San Jose you know that the following Spring Assembly will be at the same hotel, the site of our next convention – June 27th to June 29th, 2008. I hope you were able to take a look around the hotel and maybe venture out to lunch to explore the area so that you were able to get back to your Intergroup and IG member groups to let them

know what a great place this is for our next convention. The convention committee put on a great show on Saturday night and will do so again at the Spring Assembly. We hope to see many of you in San Jose. It will be a great convention. The room rates are \$95 per night, quite a bargain compared to what the regular rates are. Airport shuttle is free, parking \$6 per night or

\$4 during the day.

Tell you friends that it's not easy to explain the feeling at a Region 2 convention. It's like abstinence and spirituality is in the air - for us to absorb. I found conventions to be addictive, just like I was addicted to certain foods before Program. I haven't missed any these last few years and I hope you won't either.

I hope to see you in San Jose. But, if you can't make it, please remember there is always another convention coming up. And, please put the dates on your calendar and reserve time to attend the Region 2 Southern California convention at the Ontario Airport Doubletree Hotel. I hope to see you in San Jose next June.

Secretary, Carole C

I don't have much to report yet, since I've been secretary for a few months. I've gone through the Secretary's box and familiarized myself with the binders, folders and other supplies. I've read the Bylaws and Policy and Procedures manual and have a few questions regarding my duties. Above all, though, I'm excited to be working on the R2

Board, to work closely with the other board members, to experience this level of service in action, and to work together to further our primary purpose of carrying the message.



A Message from Region 2 Chair, Pamela

The power of the group is so much more than just adding up each member – the synergy is exponentially carried beyond our wildest dreams. Enough philosophy...let's look at what happened at the Region 2 Assembly October 24, 2007.

The R2 delegates voted to send \$3000 to the WSO Delegate Support Fund – because ALONE some intergroups could not afford to send a representative to World Service Business Conference.

But with the synergy of all Regions TOGETHER the board of WSO was able to fund all IG's requesting help for WSBC 2008. TOGETHER WE CAN!



Thank God for Region 2 Convention! By Region 2 Trustee, Angela

OA Professional Outreach Committee

As chair of the Overeaters Anonymous Professional Outreach Committee¹, I and the other members pitch the virtues of OA to many professionals from educators to clergy.

Prior to my committee service a very enthusiastic educator was so enamored with OA that she incorporated success stories as well as OA's 12 Steps into her first book which was predicated upon the death of her beloved sister due to complications frombariatric surgery.

Much like the educator's sister and like the nearly 120,000 over-weight and obese Americans in 2003². Lotus Flower (not her real name) arranged for bariatric surgery shortly before the summer of 2006. However she attended the OA Region 2 Convention in Oakland, CA in June that year where a long time OA member greeted Lotus Flower and the rest is history.

She deferred the medical inter-

vention and took the OA Convention instead so that today, Lotus Flower is a faithful OA member experiencing weight loss and seeing the reversal of respiratory problems due to her commitment to abstinence. Lotus Flower also serves as her Integroup's Regional Representative, so thank God for Region 2 Convention!

¹In 2006, it was adopted to change the name of the Hospital, Institutions, Professionals and Military (HIPM) to "Professional Outreach" Committee per OA Business Conference Policy Manual. ²In 2002, the number of bariatric procedures jumped 40%, to 80,000. In 2003 statistics from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) show that the number of surgeries exceeded 120,000 in 2003. In 2004, 144,00 are predicted to be performed. Bariatric.Info



Page 5 of 8

Want to Go to Albuquerque for the World Service Business Conference?

Region 2 has a new program that funds three Region 2 reps each year to go to the World Service Business Conference (WSBC) in Albuquerque. Elections are held at the assembly and requirements include one year of abstinence and two years of service above the group level. Applications are

in the assembly packet.

Participating at WSBC is a 5 day commitment and an awesome service opportunity—this may be your chance to attend at no cost to you or your Intergroup. It's one more great reason to be a Region 2 rep and come to the next assembly!



2008 Region 2 Master Calendar

Date	Location	Торіс	Contact	Phone
Mar 1	Harbor City, CA	Day with the 12 Steps	Eda	310-833-3756
Mar 1	Saratoga, CA	The ABCs of Abstinence	Diane	408-226-8130
Mar 6	Reseda, CA	12 Steps of OA— continues 3/13,20 & 27	www.oasfvalley.org	
Mar 7-9	Santa Rosa, CA	Retreat—Spirng into Recovery	Sophie	707-546-9876
Apr. 18	Idylwild, CA	Retreat—Women's Surrender Retreat	<u>Chris</u>	714-557-1380
Apr 25-27	Santa Cruz,CA	Retreat—OA Serenity	Collette	408-396-7659
Apr 26	Sacramento,CA	11th Step	www.sacvalleyoa.org	
Jun 14	Sacramento,CA	How to Vacation in Recovery	www.sacvalleyoa.org	
Jun 27-29	San Jose, CA	Region 2 Convention—Doubletree Hotel	Shirley S	408-257-5093
			www.oar2.org/con2008	
Jul 26	Sacramento, CA	Sponsorship	www.sacvalleyoa.org	
Aug TBA	Sacramento, CA	Lake Tahoe OA Retreat	www.sacvalleyoa.org	
Oct 10-12	Napa, CA	Marin IG sponsored Retreat	www.oamarin.org	
Oct 25	Sacramento, CA	Holidays in Recovery	www.sacvalleyoa.org	
Dec 6	Sacramento, CA	12th Step Within	www.sacvalleyoa.org	

R2 '08 REGISTRATION FORM

Sign up for Recovery Today!



Registration includes OA Café (Choose only one)			
o Registration must be postmarked by April 30, 2008—\$35			
o Registration postmarked after April 30, 2008—\$40			
o Guest (Non-Member)—\$15	\$		
Saturday Dinner with 2 Speakers—\$42 (Choose only one)_			
Includes admission to Dance and Karaoke			
o Grilled chicken with miso sauce on the side, stir-fry vegetable	•		
o Grilled salmon with miso sauce on the side, stir-fry vegetable	s plus brown rice		
o Vegetarian stir-fry vegetables with tofu and brown rice (All items are sugar free. See web site for all additional menu details.)			
Dance and Karaoke—\$10	\$		
Entertainment only – no dinner	Ψ		
Sunday Breakfast with Speaker—\$26	\$		
Breakfast buffet with eggs, fruit and oatmeal	,		
Men's Royal Blue Traditional Crewneck T-Shirts—\$15	\$		
o S o M o L o XL o 2X o 3X o 4X			
o 5X o6X			
Women's Black Form Fitting Long Sleeve Scoop Neck T-S	hirts—\$17\$		
oS oM oL oXL o2X o3X			
Add one or two sizes for a looser fit.			
Diagon print logikhu			
Please print legibly:	ф		
Name on Badge:	TOTAL:\$		
o This is my first Region 2 Convention.o I am staying at the hotel.		Service Infor	mation
o Fairi staying at the note.		I would like to do service at the	
Name			Moderator
City			
City		O Speaker (Requirements abstinence, completed	
State and Zip		pre-registered for the	Convention)
Hansa O Wards Phansa			
Home & Work Phone		(preferred emp	onasis)
E-Mail		(length of absti	inence)
(Include e-mail address for easy e-mail confirmation)			
To register by mail, send completed form and check p	General Volunteers		
P.O. Box 2491, Santa Clara,	Please check top 3 choice	es only:	
Enclose SASE to receive a confirmation notice sent by postal r	O Wherever Needed	O Boutique	
mail. To use a credit card, register online at www.oar2.org Date & Time of Arrival:	O Registration	O Security	
Date & Time of Arrival:			



Overeaters Anonymous Region 2 Convention

June 27 - June 29, 2008

DoubleTree Hotel, San Jose, California

Workshops	Marathons and Special Focus Meetings		
Great Fellowship	Keynote Speakers with decad	Keynote Speakers with decades of recovery	
Boutique	OA Café	Silent Auction	
• Dance	Karaoke	Quilt/Afghan Drawing	
• 50/50 Drawing	A Weekend of Fun, Fellowsh	A Weekend of Fun, Fellowship and Recovery!	

This is Region 2's major annual fundraiser. Funds generated from the Convention are used throughout the coming year *to help carry the message*. One of the most common misconceptions is that Conventions are meetings. They are special events.

For more information, call Shirley S. (408) 257-5093.

All meal functions are open to paid participants only. Alternative events are offered for those not attending the meal functions.

Please specify "Region 2 and/or Overeaters Anonymous, Inc." when making hotel accommodations to obtain the special rate of \$95 per night, plus tax (based on availability). Make your reservations early! Rooms w-ith this special rate book quickly and the hotel reservation cut-off date for the special rate is June 3, 2008.

Registration opens on Friday at 2 pm. and continues through Sunday.

Hotel check-in from 3 pm.

Discounted parking rates are: \$6 per day on the hotel bill or \$4 for day-only attendees.

Marathon and Special Focus meetings begin on Friday at 3 pm.

Friday Grand Opening begins at 7 pm.

DoubleTree Hotel San Jose, 2050 Gateway Place, San Jose, CA 95110.

Hotel reservations: (408) 453-4000 or (800) 222-8733 or reserve a room directly online by clicking a button on www.oar2.org under "Convention Information" and "Hotel Reservations".

To use the hotel's Free shuttle service, call from Baggage Claim at the San Jose Airport, call (408) 453-4000, Press 3 for Guest Services.

Check www.oar2.org for current Convention news.

A written request for a refund, less \$10 processing fee, will be honored if received or post-marked by 5/28/08. You must contact the hotel separately for their refund policy.