

CONDENSED SOAR 8 July Assembly Report

I attended the July 18-20 SOAR convention in Ft Lauderdale, comprising of delegates from 9 states, and Central and South America, totaling 56 Intergroups and 693 meetings. Eight states and Ecuador and Columbia were represented by 42 Qualified Representatives. Important items to note:

1. Group contributions (10%) of 7th Step donations should be sent to a new PO Box address: Soar 8 Treasurer, PO 1277, Largo, FL 33779. Checks must contain the group number, and day/time of group meeting. The Treasurer hopes each group can donate \$65.25 yearly.
2. Great questions for a group inventory:
 - Do members attend regularly & on time?
 - Is there a (temporary) sponsor for every newcomer?
 - Are positions rotated regularly, to share service?
 - Do we phone missing members?
 - Do we regularly donate a portion of our 7th contributions to Intergroup (60%), WSO (40%), & Region (10%)?
3. Literature Chairs; WSO has 2 terrific, new pamphlets: 'Is food a problem for you?' & '12 Step Within Workbook'.
4. Check out the SOAR 8 web page!
5. Through the magic of cyberspace that I'll NEVER understand, there was someone manning a computer in the meeting room, and some qualified reps who were at their computers back home were able to see, hear, and vote on all the procedures taking place at the Business Assembly!!
6. Our own Harriette B was the keynote speaker Saturday night, addressing a joint gathering of (50) Assembly Reps and those (200) attending the SOAR convention which was held on another floor. She spoke eloquently without notes, using slides to show her pictures, and shared her experience, strength and hope by outlining her physical, emotional, and spiritual recovery.....one day at a time. Harriette's 40-45 minute talk was moving, dynamic, and inspirational, and she received a prolonged and grateful standing ovation!

Jean Arlow, Durham Thurs PM