

## **SOAR8 2026 Spring Assembly Report**

**March 13<sup>th</sup> through March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

First and foremost, I want to thank OACFI for tagging me to represent central Florida at the Region Assembly. It was an unexpected opportunity that greatly enhanced my understanding of the immense efforts our folks take to make this service body work and carry the message to those who suffer in and out of the rooms. The experience was mind-altering... I AM ON FIRE FOR SERVICE!

Our region included Intergroups and National Service Bodies, 56 in total; the East Coast from Florida to North Carolina then West to Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana. Also, Caribbean Islands, Central America and South America. I have inserted a link to provide that detail for others.

### **[Region 8 Coverage Area](#)**

I share this information because I was astonished to learn of the wide reach and international service our Region 8 offers.

I was also completely caught by surprise that parliamentary proceedings were so fascinating. I have a whole new respect for Robert's Rules of Order!

The business assembly convened for Board Members, Funded Chairs, IG Representatives and others that wished to join via zoom at approximately 2pm on Friday. The meeting was open to all.

The count for voting participants was 33 to 34 throughout the weekend.

Standard procedures such as accepting minutes from previous fall assembly were executed.

There was a check-in from Committee Chairs or designated Committee Members with updates and issues and activities plus an opportunity to respond to questions.

Friday at 7pm, we reconvened to opening prayers in English, Spanish and Portuguese, followed by standard readings.

I was introduced as a new representative with a 'Green Dot' designation. I was fortunate to have a Green Dot mentor, Georgette P. It was truly a match made in heaven. I so enjoyed shadowing her. She is the WSO Ways and Means chair and has so much experience that she readily shared. Such a dynamic and enthusiastic individual, I couldn't help but be inspired by her history.

On Saturday, the assembly reconvened 8:30a to prayers and readings. Also approved a consent agenda... that process is new to me. Board reports and trustee report. Then of great interest was an exciting Power Point presentation by PIPO Piedmont IG. That IG has utilized social media with a pop-up 'ad' for OA with great results. I have reached out to that group in an effort to have them send me the presentation in a file that could be shared with our PIPO.

As a Region Representative I was delegated to serve on a committee. I chose Twelve Step Within. Our mission statement as MEMBERSHIP RETENTION and RELAPSE PREVENTION was revealed by Tina S. our chair out of the Manasota IG. There was much discussion regarding the support and service to our own existing members struggling with breaking out of relapse.

Tina pointed out a valuable resource on the Region 8 website, The Red Recovery Button available to all 24/7:

### [RECOVERY HELP](#)

There were six participants on this committee that met in person. We shared our own unique stories with relapse and recovery. All in attendance were very passionate in providing service at the Region level.

Assembly reconvened after our breakout sessions to address three motions.

Motion 1: was adopted by consent to remove duty of administration from PIPO to IGOR to have said duty.

Motion 2: adopted by consent to amend P&P to add financial policies and procedures regarding the administration of seed money requests.

Motion 3: lost, to insert an item IX Financial policies item E. There was passionate debate on this item as it was already being addressed elsewhere, overcomplicating a policy to fix what wasn't broken.

New Business included nominations to Vice Chair and Secretary. Those positions have not been confirmed.

All committees gave reports and yet another Green Dot ceremony to acknowledge we were now seasoned representatives.

The Assembly adjourned with the Responsibility Pledge.

I do want to acknowledge the speaker events going on at the concurrent SOAR8 Convention. They were outstanding. Our own Debby Hughes was featured and as always, delivered a valuable message of hope and recovery. In lieu of having been there, I can share the audio files from a flash drive purchased to anyone interested. I would love to see a couple of these speakers at our Destination Deland retreat this fall.

In closing, I thank you again for not just planting a seed for service, but for flowering an entire garden!