

August 6, 2008

Dear Fellow OA Members:

The SGIG Board is taking this opportunity to advise the fellowship of certain events that took place which involved the SDIG Retreat Committee.

The Board has been given the resignation of the Sal G, the Retreat Committee Treasurer, and was advised that he had forwarded some retreat records, including the checkbook, to the OA World Service Office. These records have been returned to SDIG.

A special meeting was called on Sunday, July 13th, requesting all members of the SDIG Board and the SDIG Retreat Committee to meet to discuss all issues of concern to the Retreat Committee. It was a very productive meeting, although the Retreat Treasurer did not wish to attend. The Board appointed Ron J as interim Retreat Committee Treasurer.

With the hope of resolving Sal's issues, the Board arranged to have a telephone conference call to discuss the situation on Sunday, July 20th, which included members of the Board, members of the Retreat Committee, and the Region 2 Treasurer. Although invited to participate, Sal declined.

It took lengthy discussions with the bank, which also included inaccurate direction and information from the bank, to be able to obtain the view only access. We offered alternatives to Sal G while trying to arrange for the online access was in process. We regret not being able to provide the full online access Sal G felt was needed to accomplish his duties as Retreat Treasurer. Unfortunately, because of post 9/11/01 banking procedures, many services have been restricted, making access far more limited than in the past. We regret that he felt he was not being heard, and will work to keep communications open with all committees in the future.

It is the view of the Region 2 Treasurer that the problems between the Board and the former Retreat Treasurer are probably the result of "perception" rather than "substance". The Region 2 Treasurer commended the Board and the Retreat Committee for our willingness to set aside past differences and our wish to go forward with a renewed attitude of cooperation.

In all, we look at this as an opportunity for us to learn better methods of communication and cooperation. There are plans to create a Policy & Procedure manual for the Retreat Committee, which will avoid many misunderstandings and provide guidance for new members to the Committee. It may be necessary to also create a Policy & Procedure manual for the Intergroup, to establish procedural guidelines for the Intergroup Service Board.

We are convinced that all parties want what is best for our Intergroup and for OA as a whole. That is a goal we all are willing to work toward.

Yours in service,

Tracy S., SDIG Chair