

April 19, 1998

Dear Editor:

Kindly print the enclosed letter in the next issue of Shades of Grey received by the GreySheet Community from Overeaters Anonymous World Service Office when it recently sought to register as an Intergroup of OA.

(OA letter reduce and insert here)

Based upon the OA letter, the results of the 1996 survey of the GreySheet Community at large and its mandate, GreySheet Community was incorporated on April 7, 1998 as "GreySheeters Anonymous World Services, Inc.", a distinctly separate twelve step program organized as a non-profit organization. Its corporate purpose is as follows:

The letter from OA clearly delineates the obvious differences in the approaches each of our communities has to our common problem-compulsive overeating, while stating reasons that make it inappropriate to seek any further affiliation with Overeaters Anonymous- especially given the past history of the "Grey Sheet" as a meal plan with that organization. We would have had to incorporate, even if we were eligible for intergroup status with OA because it is a good business practice.

We are currently pending 501 (c) (3) tax exempt status, registering trademarks, drafting bylaws, drafting group and intergroup registration forms, and determining the tasks to be performed to serve the newcomer, aid the existing Community and provide outreach for those who still suffer. We hope to present the bylaws to the membership at the annual NYC Round Up in October, 1998, and to set a date for the annual meeting. First things first! We must get our business in order first. Then we carry the message.

The current officers elected are:

Marvin , Chairperson
Penny, Vice Chairperson
Mona, Secretary
Eden, Assistant Secretary
Ari, Treasurer

We welcome and encourage participation from the Community. Anyone wishing to participate in the drafting of the bylaws call Mona or

Yours in abstinence,

GreySheeters Anonymous World Services, Inc.

March 3, 1998

Cambridge Greysheet
C/O Marvin A

Dear Marvin:

We have received your request to register Cambridge Greysheet as an intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous. Unfortunately, we cannot process that registration at this time. We at the World Service Office cannot process an intergroup registration without information about two or more registered OA groups which are forming the intergroup, as well as the Bylaws or Statement of Purpose for that proposed intergroup.

We are enclosing an Intergroup Starter Kit. It should have most of the materials that you requested in your letter, and it will provide answers to many of your questions. In addition, we are forwarding your letter to two Regional Trustees who both serve that area of the country. They may wish to contact you to further discuss your request to register as an intergroup.

I would also like to provide you with some other information about OA's groups and intergroups and their requirements. In order for us at the World Service Office to register any intergroup we must follow the requirements for registration as stated in Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws - Subpart B, Article VI - Intergroups:

Section 1 - Composition

- a) Two (2) or more groups may form an Intergroup for the purpose of servicing and representing the groups of which they are composed and acting as the guardian of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. Each Intergroup should be composed of groups within its region or groups within its geographical proximity.
- b) Each state/province may have at least one (1) Intergroup. In a state/province having only one group, that group may function as an Intergroup.

Section 2 - Registration

Each Intergroup shall be duly registered with the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous by submitting its bylaws and/or a summary of its purpose and operating procedures if bylaws have not been adopted yet, and by submitting full information on each group it represents.

All registered OA Intergroups and affiliated groups must affirm that they will abide by OA's Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts of Service, and all other bylaws and policies of the organization. Each OA Group Registration Form completed and submitted to the WSO signifies compliance with the following:

Tradition 3: The only requirement for OA membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively.

Definition of an OA group as stated in Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws - Subpart B, Article V - Overeaters Anonymous Groups:

6075 Zenith Court Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124 (505) 891-2664 FAX (505) 891-4320

Mail Address: P.O. Box 44020, Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87174-4020

Section 1 - Definition

- a) These points shall define an OA group:
- (1) As a group, they meet to practice the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous.
 - (2) All who have the desire to stop eating compulsively are welcome in the group.
 - (3) No member is required to practice any actions in order to remain a member or to have a voice (share at a meeting).
 - (4) As a group they have no other affiliation other than OA.

Section 2 - Composition

- a) A group may be formed by two (2) or more persons meeting together as set forth in Article V, Section 1.
- b) Groups compose the Intergroups as set forth in Article VI hereof.

Finally, the group of conscience of OA, the World Service Business Conference, has adopted a policy statement on Food Plans:

The OA 1997 World Service Business Conference, after careful consideration, believes that although many individual OA members choose to follow a plan of eating for their personal plan of recovery, offering food plans at OA meetings is a violation of Tradition 10. While each OA member is free to choose a personal plan of eating to achieve abstinence, OA as a whole cannot print, endorse or distribute food plan information to members. Nutrition is a most controversial outside issue; the hiring of professionals to produce food plans for use at meetings also violates the eighth Tradition, as we need always remain non-professional. Groups endorsing any food plans by distributing them at their meetings affect OA as a whole. We ask all groups, Intergroups and Regions of OA to adhere to the above policy statement and discontinue use of food plan information at meetings. We ought best concern ourselves with our suggested program of recovery — the Twelve Steps.

I hope that this information and the enclosed materials help you with the process of becoming an OA intergroup. Thank you for your interest. Please feel free to contact me with additional questions.

Sincerely,



Mary Margaret Karns
Associate Director

Enclosures

CC: Bob F., Region 6 Trustee
Carol P., Region 7 Trustee