



**OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF
HELPING PEOPLE FIND STRENGTH AND RECOVERY
THROUGH HOPE AND A COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT**
Golden Anniversary Marks Half a Century of Service

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(RIO RANCHO, N.M.) – In 1960, three women with a common plight gathered in a home in California to share their experiences and create a group for support, strength and hope as they overcame their compulsive eating addictions. That small meeting inspired the Fellowship of what is now known as Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. (OA), a non-profit organization with the goal of supporting its members as they seek recovery from compulsive eating behaviors. **50 years later, OA serves approximately 54,000 members in 75 countries. This year OA is proud to celebrate its golden anniversary and half a century of global service.**

“We’re proud of how far OA has come in the last fifty years and the thousands of people who have found recovery and fulfillment because of it,” said Naomi Lippel, OA’s Managing Director. “We look forward to increasing public awareness and providing hope and resources to those who continue to suffer from this disease.”

Every year, a 16-member Board of Trustees (BOT) and 200 delegates from around the world work together to evaluate and develop OA at the Annual World Service Business Conference. The 2010 conference will be held April 26 – May 1 at Hotel Albuquerque in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This year’s theme is “Half a Century = One World of Growth” in recognition of OA’s anniversary.

This summer, OA will continue its anniversary celebration at its triennial international convention, to be held August 26-29 in Los Angeles, California, OA’s birthplace. The theme is “Now Playing: 50 years of OA Recovery.” The event is open to all those who have found, or seek to find, recovery from compulsive eating through OA’s Twelve-Step program.

For more information about OA, OA’s anniversary and upcoming conferences or to be put in contact with an OA representative, member, or health professional, please call Annemarie Ciepiela Henton at (505) 260-3358 or email her at media@oa.org.

About Overeaters Anonymous: *Founded in 1960, Overeaters Anonymous held its first meeting in Los Angeles, California. Now 50 years later, OA is a worldwide Fellowship that has found a solution to the problems arising from overeating. There are more than 6,500 meeting groups in approximately 75 countries. It is not a religious organization and does not promote any particular diet. For more information, go to www.oa.org.*

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