

Proposed
Nicotine Anonymous World Service Conference XVIII Agenda
April 25 – 27. 2003
Santa Monica, California

Friday, April 25th

01:30PM–05:00PM	NAWS Officers' Meeting	<u>LOCATION</u>
03:00PM	Registration opens	Carousel C
	Hospitality Suite	Marquee Ball Room
03:00-08:00PM	Marathon Meetings	Gallery North
05:15PM	Meet for no-host dinner	Gallery South
08:00PM	Gratitude Meeting	Marquee Ball Room

Saturday, April 26th

09:00AM-07:00PM	Marathon Meeting	Gallery South
09:00AM-11:45AM	Business Reports	Marquee Ball Room
11:45AM-12:30PM	Presentation of Voting Items Nomination of Officers Bids for 2005 WS Conference Site	Marquee Ball Room
12:30PM-02:00PM	No-host lunch	
02:00PM-03:15PM	Workshops 1Rodgers Story 2Outreach 3Speakers Bureau	Marquee I Marquee II Carousel C
03:15PM-04:30PM	Workshops 1Webite Demo 2Daily Meditations 3Step Study Guide	Marquee I Marquee II Carousel C
04:30PM- 06:00PM	Workshop review and Recommendations	Marquee Ball Room
07:00PM-09:00PM	Banquet *	Marquee Ball Room

Sunday, April 27th

07:00AM-08: 30AM	Sunrise Meeting	Gallery South
08:30AM-11:00AM	Marathon Meeting	Gallery South
08:30AM-11:00AM	Discussion and voting on agenda items 1 2005 Conference Location	Marquee Ball Room
	2	
	3	
11:30AM-01:00PM	Spirituality Brunch *	Marquee Ball Room
01:30PM-02:30PM	Officers' Meeting	Gallery North
03:30PM	Harbor Cruise	Marina Del Rey

Chairperson's Report on Conference XVIII

My name is Jan F and I am a nicotine addict. My higher power through this program has done for me something, which I could not do for myself. During the very first moments after I arrive at a Conference I am reminded that these Conferences have had a very significant impact on my life. I am sure this is also true of many other members. My first Conference was in Woodland` Hills in 1993. I had nine months of abstinence from nicotine. I considered it an absolute impossibility at that time. My personal life for several years was pretty unstable and it wasn't until the 1999 Conference in Santa Ana that I really caught the "Conference Bug" and decided that I never wanted to miss another one. (Fear of financial insecurity might have been a big part of my reticence but I would never have the nerve to say that in public.) I will be going to all the future Conferences as long as I am physically capable.

Even before the Conference officially starts with the Friday night Gratitude meeting there is a World Service Officer's meeting, which is open to the public. Attending one of these meetings is a real education on how the business matters and fellowship efforts of the World Service Office are conducted. It's not impossible to leave one of these meetings with a determination to get more involved and work towards a goal of one day serving on that very same board.

The Gratitude Meeting Friday night was as powerful as ever. If the only meeting one could attend was the Gratitude Meeting it would make the Conference worthwhile. The mood of this year's Friday night meeting was melancholy as we reflected on the fact that one of our member's from New Jersey had passed away that morning. This seemed to trigger powerful feelings among other members who reflected on others who died in recent years. It was very touching. As usual, the gratitude expressed at that meeting just leaves one with a special feeling that permeates one's experiences for the rest of the weekend. If you come, please don't ever miss the Gratitude Meeting.

Saturday morning started with the reports by our trusted servants and various committee chairs. I want to mention three items. First, our Financial Position remains stable and the reduced level of income this year reflected the Officers willingness to spend our extra funds on Public Outreach. We completed several projects this year in Atlanta, Chicago, and Los Angeles. We even supported a Stop Smoking Campaign at several YWCA's on the East Coast, the South and Southwest. We did a mailing to all of the AA offices in the United States. Second, the WSO completed the review of the work on Nicotine Anonymous The Book and we recently published the Second Edition of the Book. It took a very determined effort by the Board and other members who actually stuck it out at a couple of very, very long Board meetings. Third, we paid a professional Website Company to redo our website. The fellowship owes a debt of gratitude to this group of World Service Officers for having the intestinal fortitude to vote for spending the necessary funds to accomplish this task. It would have been very easy for them to sit back and say we simply cannot afford to spend the money. I hope you all share my enthusiasm for our new site and the possibilities it presents for the fellowship in the future.

During the morning voting items were presented and nominations were opened for the three World Service Officer positions that open up each year. In addition, the delegates officially ratified Catherine C who had volunteered during the year to fill the empty Secretary Elect position. After lunch we had six workshops on the following topics: Rodger's Story, Outreach, Speakers Bureau, Website Demo, Book of Daily Meditations and Step Study Guide. Then the leaders of the workshops presented reports from the workshops if appropriate.

The Saturday night banquet presented a couple of unforgettable speakers: Mary P and Carrie W. both hailing from Southern California. Both speakers demonstrated the fact that you can abstain from nicotine and live life with an incredible sense of humor. (This is a fact of life that most of us would have doubted before we came to this program.) Both speakers demonstrated a very real knowledge of how their life and attitudes have changed since they came to this program. I think the dinner was delicious; all I remember is the Chocolate.

Sunday morning the delegates made quick work of the business at hand. The motions on the floor to publish Rodger's Story and the Daily Meditations as conference-approved literature were approved. The delegates also voted to direct the officers to change the homepage on our website to reflect the fact that we have materials available in other languages. Atlanta was chosen as the site of our conference in 2005 and was confirmed by the WSO at their meeting.

Please join me in congratulating and welcoming the following individuals as the incoming World Service Officers: Jean L – Chair Elect, Joyce B – Treasurer Elect, and Kelly C – Secretary Elect. A special thanks goes to those officers who completed their term of service: Kent B, Annette L, and Jennifer M. You all have served the fellowship well.

Sunday brunch rounded out the Conference. Rodger F was the speaker. Listening to Rodger speak about the early days of the fellowship makes me realize how the effect of our actions may radiate out in a manner we never anticipated. We take the action; our higher power determines the outcome. My thanks to the Southern California Intergroup for hosting the Conference and to the Committee lead by Nicholas V as Chairperson along with members Gary M, Marc S, Jenny M, Mary P, George L, Jean L, Doug H, Stella P and Joe S.

After the Conference, several of us enjoyed a cruise of Marina Del Rey. Rarely have so many been so impressed by boat slips – ah, the wonders of Southern California sites.

By the way, we have T Shirts for you. (Go to the Website)

Thank you for allowing me to be of service

Jan F, Chairperson Emeritus