



Nicotine Anonymous World Services Conference XX Atlanta, GA May 6-8, 2005

MEETING AGENDA

Friday, May 6

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. NAWS Officer's meeting
3:00 p.m. Registration Opens
5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Dinner on your own (Meet in hotel lobby)
8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Gratitude Meeting – Kick off Speaker – Robin L
3:00 p.m. - Midnight Hospitality Suite

Saturday, May 7

8:00 a.m. - Registration
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Business Session
12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. Voting Items
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. No-host lunch
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Workshop Sessions
1) Literature/Pamphlets – Checko M.
2) Copyright/Reprint Policy – Robin L.
3) Meditations/A-V Library – Kate W.
3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
4) Twelve Traditions – Checko M.
5) Bylaws Modifications – Steve M.
6) Outreach Development – Reaching out to the Youth - Annette A.
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Session Recaps
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Dinner -
Speakers – Roger W.
John O.

Sunday, May 8

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Sunrise Meeting
8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Voting on Issues
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Spirituality Brunch
Speaker – Chuck M.
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - NAWS Officers Meeting
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - After Conference Activity – Atlanta History Center



XX Conference Report – Jean L-S Chair Emeritus

My name is Jean, I am a nicotine addict and the chair emeritus. We have just returned from our 20th “Peachy Clean” World Services Annual Conference May 6-8th, 2005. We celebrated our freedom from nicotine at the very pleasant Sheraton Buckhead in Atlanta, Georgia.

We had a total of 70 registrants and 40 delegates. There was a lot of hard work and thrashing through important issues to the fellowship. The weekend went very smoothly with virtually no glitches and it was obvious that the Atlanta Intergroup spent an enormous amount of time preparing for the conference and paying attention to the numerous details that are involved in putting together a successful conference. The conference obviously would not be a successful conference without the hard work that the delegates and members who participated in the workshops and the voting items.

According to tradition we began the weekend with a Friday night gratitude meeting. Robin L. kicked off the meeting sharing her gratitude and what she has gained from the program as an officer and her many other commitments, including her involvement in this year’s conference. We also celebrated our 20th annual conference by sharing our birthday cake during the meeting.

Saturday morning began the official conference business. The first thing the delegates voted on was to approve Jan F. as Officer At Large for the 2005-2006 year to replace our Secretary elect David B. who was not able to complete his commitment as Secretary.

The conference and the fellowship would not be a success without the year round work that is done behind the scene by all the faithful servants. Here is an overview of their committee reports for the year:

Intergroup Report: Kathy K., chair-elect, has made contact with intergroups and has been visiting with the intergroups during their meetings via telephone. She has found that most intergroups have been carrying the message in a variety of creative ways. We have a new intergroup this year. Our Internet Meetings have joined together as an intergroup. Susan K. was the delegate from this group.

Outreach Report: Outreach projects approved in 2004 -2005 as follows:

Sacramento, Los Angeles and Chicago - Carry the Message

Mass mailing

500 letters to medical groups by state – in progress

120 letter to corporate headquarters of healthcare organizations

Mailing to psychologists in Hawaii

On-line outreach project – approved but not yet implemented

Frank N. Outreach Coordinator 2004-2005 presented his plan to reach dentists nationwide. He has resigned as Coordinator of Outreach but would like to continue with this project.

Meeting List Coordinator's Report: Scott M. has continued to keep our website meeting list current and is progressing to a goal where we can verify the existence of virtually every listed meeting. He has also improved the layout to show meetings in the same city and internet meetings in chronological order, based on suggestions from last year's annual meeting. We currently have 560 active meetings.

Seven Minutes Report: We have a new Seven Minutes editor, Susan K. and she has already published one successful newsletter and we are looking forward to new and interesting features while keeping many good things that Catherine C. our previous editor, has already started.

She has added four pages and will try to keep it at 16 pages. Susan asks that we take back to our home groups this news and ask members to send in stories, art, poems or articles. Last issue we added a newcomer's corner where the newcomer's can share and she would like to see more interest in the Discussion Corner and Letters to the Editor. Gary M. continues to do a great job as Publisher of Seven Minutes.

Webservant Report: Robin L. has agreed to remain as the Webservant for Nicotine Anonymous. This year we added 3 Spanish pamphlets that were translated by Pilar from NY. We added a link for the new telephone meetings. We continued to have a large amount of orders come through the website which Joe S. has done a great job processing and sending out. The website is the key place that the still suffering addict goes to get information and find meetings.

The biggest change to the website is that we have changed our hosting company. The new site is now up and running.

Robin will be work diligently to review the site for possible improvements which will include adding the .avi files and reviewing the searching of meetings, and have the typo errors on ALL the publications pages (not just the Spanish) corrected.

Meditations Coordinator Report: Kate W. has continued to compile the submitted meditations in the hope of having 366 meditations finalized by Conference 2006. We only have 77 remaining meditations to reach this goal. Her next project will be to have an audio-visual library of meditations made available.

Email Coordinator's Report: Alan K. reports that they handled approximately 915 email messages at the info@ email address. This number is lower this year probably because people requesting information have contacted other servants from their direct links listed on the web page.

Traditions Committee Report: Lenna M. and the traditions committee responded to questions regarding: starting a meeting in the UK, a request to interview members for an article and requests for television interviews as well as questions about the use of nicotine based products and giving of chips.

They reviewed the work on and made recommendations re The 12 Traditions, Seven Minutes, changes to Bylaws, the new and revised Pamphlets; Outreach letters; and Brief History of Nicotine Anonymous.

Teleservice Report: Scott J. reports that our fellowship now has three telephone meetings. These meetings came into existence to fill a pressing need that arose when people were looking for a meeting in their area when there were none to be found. The purpose of these meetings is to "bridge" the gap for the newcomer.

In terms of the regular functions of our Teleservice, they are continuing, although sparsely staffed. Jim T. has been handling the California box on his own for a long time. Gary M. has handled the NAWS Office mailbox for quite some time. He now has two new people working with him to respond to office enquiries but would always welcome more. Marcia G. is doing the Midwest and Allison of Long Island has handled the East Coast.

Another change we made is that we are sending the Toll Free number calls (877-879-6422) to the main Nicotine Anonymous number (415-750-0328) to be more user-friendly.

In Summary – the Information Line is weakly staffed. It, along with the Toll Free number, provides quite a few valuable links to other sources of information within the fellowship. Anyone interested in being of service can contact teleservant email on the website to sign up.

Judi D. our first delegate from our Telephone meetings presented this report. Judy has shown us how energetic, creative and inspiring the telephone meetings are.

Literature Coordinators Report:

We have been so fortunate to have a literature Coordinator. Checko M. has been very busy this year and with his determination we have submitted 3 new pamphlets: "HOW Nicotine Anonymous Works" (requested by board/delegates), "Keep Showing Up" (initiated by Southern CA Intergroup), and "When Steps are Taken" (initiated by Literature Coordinator); 1 revised pamphlet: "Serenity Prayer for Nicotine Users" and the Long version of The Twelve Traditions. The committee also edited a version of: "Brief History of Nicotine Anonymous", assisted with writing an outreach letter for

healthcare organizations and 3 additional Spanish pamphlets that were translated by Pilar.

Email Pen Pals Report: Heather C. reports a progressive increase in the number of email penpals New people joining - 5 in March, 3 in April, and 5 January. The total number email penpals is now at 53. When the numbers reached 50 new challenges developed but Heather is working these out.

Paper Penpal Report: Pat L. Continues as coordinator of Paper Penpal and we continue to receive requests from those in need of a penpal.

Archives: Jan F. has resigned as coordinator for Archives but reports that the Archives are in storage in Southern California. She continues to receive information for the archives and will accept the information until a coordinator can be found.

2005 Conference Report: Richie Z. introduced and thanked the entire Conference Committee.

The report is that although we do not have the final numbers this year's conference has been successful in keeping within their budget as well as a successful event for those attending.

2006 Conference Report

Jennifer M. and Chicagoland Intergroup of Nicotine Anonymous (CINA) are very excited to be hosting the 2006 World Service Conference! They have been very busy preparing for the event and identifying ways in which to make the weekend comfortable, affordable, and memorable.

Jennifer reports that this will be a different conference in terms of the location and pricing. We located an all-inclusive hotel & conference center, where the prices are reasonable. It will be held at the Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference and Hotel Center, in Lisle, IL The prices will include **all meals** for the entire weekend, 4 snack services, and a 24 hour beverage center providing water, soft drinks and coffee at no extra charge. The flyer is already on the Nicotine Anonymous website under "What's New". It will have a hospitality suite for folks to gather and chat with each other, marathon meetings all day Saturday, the gratitude meeting on Friday night, fabulous and inspiring speakers on Saturday and Sunday.

The theme for the 2006 Conference is "Service, Unity, Fellowship." The logo is a picture of the world and outreach efforts will be made to the meetings worldwide to encourage vacations in Chicagoland in late April 2006, in order to hopefully have the conference be a true "World Services Conference."

Saturday afternoon was spent in six workshops. The literature workshop reviewed the new and revised pamphlets and long version of the 12 Traditions as mentioned earlier. The meditations workshop reviewed the meditations and the AV library. The Bylaws workshop reviewed two revised amendments and one new amendment to the By-laws. Two other workshops that were presented to the delegates, but not up for approval are the copyright and reprint policy for the officer's Policy and Procedure

Manual, and finally an Outreach workshop which focused on youth outreach. The 12 Traditions, meditations and Bylaw changes and the literature were the workshops that were to be presented to the conference for approval. The other workshops help the officers by giving guidance to them for the directions that the fellowship recommends.

Saturday night we enjoyed a chicken or prime rib dinner with a delicious slice of cheese cake covered with strawberry topping. You notice I remember the dessert but have no recollection of the vegetable. Following dinner we were entertained by fun, humor and spirituality by Roger W. and the main speaker of the evening, John O., who brought us to laughter and tears as he talked about the road to his recovery.

Sunday morning business meeting was the time to vote on the issues brought before the delegates. 57 of the 58 meditations reviewed by the delegates were approved with minor editing.

Literature presented and approved with recommended changes was one new pamphlet "HOW Nicotine Anonymous Works: Honesty, Openness, Willingness". And one revised pamphlet "Serenity Prayer For The Nicotine User". The long version of 12 Traditions as presented did not pass, however, the 12 Traditions will be posted on the website and Seven Minutes and we will be asked to give feedback by October 1st so that the Traditions can again be presented to the conference next year for conference approval. The Bylaw changes were tabled until next year.

Sunday morning is also the time that the new officers are elected. We were fortunate that so many qualified people were willing and available to step into each of the open officer's position. Our new officers are Kate W. from Texas as Chair elect, Steve M. from Illinois as Treasurer elect and Barbara D. from New York as Secretary Elect. In addition, the Officer At Large position will be open 2006-2007. Ed T. was nominated and elected to that position.

We concluded the conference with our Sunday morning Spirituality Brunch in which Chuck M. gave a warm and inspiring speech about his nicotine experience and how far he has come since then.

It was during the brunch I passed the chairperson's gavel onto Kathy K. - with mixed feelings. I have enjoyed my tenure as chair and will miss my involvement as the chair in the fellowship. I am very happy to pass it onto Kathy K. and I am looking forward to my year as emeritus to be working closely with her. I know she will do a great job and I am looking forward to working with the new and returning officers and all our volunteers. I am very happy to announce that our vacated coordinators positions have been filled during the brunch. Thank you to the following volunteers: John N., from southern California and a long time member of the fellowship and the Tradition's Committee has agreed to be Tradition's Coordinator, Jan F. also a long time very active member and from Southern California has agreed to be our "temporary" Outreach Coordinator and Kent B. long time and very involved member of Nicotine Anonymous from Arizona has agreed to take over as the Archives Coordinator.

After the conference many of us visited the Atlanta History Center where we were taken back into the deep history of Atlanta from its beginning to the Civil War, World War II, the era of Martha Mitchell's "Gone With the Wind", and the civil rights movement. There is so much to see we could go back again and spend several hours to see what we have missed.

As I sign off as chair and step into the shoes of chair emeritus I have so many to thank and much gratitude. I am grateful that I have found a fellowship that many still have not found or are not willing to surrender their addiction to. I am thankful to have had the opportunity and the privilege to serve as chair of this organization. Many say that it will be an experience they will never forget. I am sure that will be true for me. I would like to thank all the previous officers who have gone before us and paved the way with their knowledge, experience and persistence. I would like to thank our emeritus Robin L. for her willingness to mentor me through the last 2 years and the enthusiasm she has brought to our fellowship, for Catherine C. for her creativeness, support and energy that she brings to the fellowship and to me personally and to Jeff C. for his commitment to the fellowship over the last several years. Thank you to the officers Bill C. and Kelly C. for your support, willingness to serve, and hanging in there with me. I can not think of a better group to serve with as officers. And I would like to thank our elect officers Kate W., and Steve M. for once again be willing to make this commitment to the fellowship and to our newest member Barbara D. for being willing to bring your experience to a new level. I am sure we will have another great year. Finally, thank you to the fellowship for being there whenever another nicotine addict steps through our doors and are in need of your experience, strength and mostly hope. I look forward to seeing all of you in Chicago in 2006!!!