

NICOTINE ANONYMOUS WORLD SERVICES

February 2 2008
Chairperson Report

I hope this letter finds your meeting going well! Though I'd naturally recommend anyone to consider filling empty Committee or Board positions, it shouldn't be forgotten that just showing up at a meeting, especially at this potentially frigid time of year, is a valuable piece of service all by itself. I congratulate you on it!

Since the last Nicotine Anonymous World Services Conference back in April, the NAWS Board has had a fairly fruitful three quarters. Our top priority has been to reverse a lot of the damage done by our costly website upgrade from last year. One solution has been to pull away from our previous developer, and attempt to make changes and fixes to the website from within. Steve M, our Treasurer Emeritus (and fellow Chicagoan), knows a fair amount about programming, and I have a slight tech background and am learning the language our site is written in. Together, we've zapped a few minor bugs, and we hope to tackle the long list of enhancements soon. The Board agreed that this is certainly a cost-effective way of handling the site, so we'll stick with for now.

Another exciting development is also somewhat tech-related: the increased involvement in World Services from Nic-A's robust online community. I've been emailing folks from Voices of Nicotine Recovery and Lobbyville since my term started, and in January I finally attended a Voices meeting from the friendly confines of Steve M's home computer, just to see how it all worked. As Kathie K said at the last conference, online meetings are "for real," holding business meetings regularly, and abiding by our Traditions. I don't have any specific numbers, but I understand several "onliners" will be attending the 2008 conference, most of them as delegates. I'm thrilled by this news.

I'll keep the positive vibe going by mentioning the amazing work of our new wizards of outreach, Vicky and Ramona R. In November, they organized radio spots and newspaper announcements to coincide with a certain national smoke-out day. These were running in Atlanta, New York, San Francisco, Chicago and Boston. Both the radio and newspaper spots were very professionally done. Great work!

We're also working hard to get our 366-day meditations book, [A Year of Miracles](#), printed up in time for the conference. This has been a labor of love for Kate W, our Chair Emeritus—the new volume should surpass [90 Days 90 Ways](#) in quality as well as, obviously, quantity.

One area of concern for us is the tapering off of subscriptions to [Seven Minutes](#). We'll be holding a workshop at the conference around this, but in the meantime I encourage you to subscribe—it's not an expensive newsletter, and the writing is always inspiring, and sometimes pretty humorous, to boot. Also, our newish booklet on our Twelve Traditions isn't selling as well as we'd hoped.

But it's all about the 2008 Conference, organized by Martha K and all the fine people from the New York intergroup. In addition to the [Seven Minutes](#) workshop, we'll have forums on literature, online meetings, financial review, and more. Especially with the online members joining the fold, I really think we're poised for a tremendous brainstorm at this conference. As they say in another fellowship, together we can do what we could not do alone. So let's do it! Hope to see you at the conference!

Dan P
Chairperson
Nicotine Anonymous World Services