

Dear Friends and Fellow Addicts,

My name is Martha and I am powerless over nicotine. On behalf of the Board I am pleased to submit this summary of the business accomplished at World Service Conference XIV held this past April in Orange County, California.

First, though, I would like to acknowledge the hard work of our host, the Southern California Intergroup and in particular, Joe S. and Matt T., Conference co-chairs. Their organizational skills and preparedness, coupled with our two-day business format, allowed for careful examination and meaningful discussion of the many business items brought before the membership for consideration. Our deepest appreciation to the many SCINA members who manned literature tables and ran the marathon meetings, just to name two examples of the many services provided during the conference.

Two new pamphlets were approved by the fellowship. They are entitled "Nicotine Anonymous: The Program and The Tools" and "What Do Nicotine Anonymous World Services and Intergroups Offer Me and My Group?" Both pieces of literature are excellent summaries of our program and its structure, respectively. In addition, the members voted to accept the proposed changes to the following pamphlets: "Introducing Nicotine Anonymous," "Tips for Gaining Freedom from Nicotine," "Our Promises," and "To the Newcomer and Sponsorship." The conference also approved a name change for one of our pamphlets, which will now be known as "A Nicotine User's View of the Twelve Steps." Lastly, members disagreed with the Board's recommendation to permanently delete "Facing the Fatal Attraction." Instead, we will likely resubmit this piece of literature with revisions at next year's conference. Thank you, again, Checko M. for all of your work in creating and revising this literature. (Please consider purchasing copies of these new and amended pamphlets by using the enclosed literature order form.)

Also of great significance is the approval of the proposed Bylaws amendments. Our deep appreciation to Steve M., Cat H. and Rodger F. who worked so diligently to create a long awaited succession policy in the event of a Board member's death or resignation. Additionally, our bylaws now state that Intergroups and non-affiliated groups are eligible to send one delegate for every three recovery meetings, instead of ten, as was previously the policy. Work will continue on further revising the bylaws, and future amendments will be submitted at next year's conference. Please remember the fellowship's group conscience to no longer suspend our bylaws regarding voter eligibility. As of Conference XV, only registered delegates will be recognized for voting. (Please see [how to become a registered delegate](#).)

There was much discussion on the possibility of creating a toll-free number for Nicotine Anonymous World Services. The consensus of the workshop participants was that we proceed with the project in spite of the potentially high costs associated with it. The Board will continue to research the feasibility of instituting a toll-free number.

With regard to officially adopting an abbreviation for our fellowship, the conference approved a motion that groups and Intergroups be solicited for their opinions on whether an abbreviation should be adopted at all. Further, we will be asking for members to select one choice from the several available options. (Please see the accompanying piece in this issue on [Abbreviation Adoption](#) and submit your thoughts.)

The Board received excellent feedback on our revisions to the Starter's Kit, which has been expanded and updated. We extend our appreciation to Bill C. and Checko M. who authored those changes.

Our quarterly Board meetings will be held on July 24 in New York, October 16 in Chicago and January 15, 2000 in Southern California. If you are interested in attending a Board meeting or have any thoughts on business items that you'd like considered, please contact info@nicotine-anonymous.org.

I cannot end this article without acknowledging the changes in the composition of the Board. First, we welcome Michelle S. of New York/Indiana, our Secretary-Elect; Jack R. of Southern California, our Treasurer-Elect; and Scott J. of New York, Chair-Elect. They will be serving with Donna E., Active Secretary, Joe S., Active Treasurer, Cat H., Emeritus Secretary, and John N., Emeritus Treasurer. I must make special mention of John O., Emeritus Chair, who tirelessly worked to streamline and improve the many functions of World Services over the course of this past year and who conducted the business of the conference with seemingly inexhaustible energy. My deepest gratitude and respect to the three outgoing officers, Rodger F., Steve M. and Camille S., who have worked so hard over the years and have been there to guide us with their wisdom and expertise.

In gratitude, Martha K. Chairperson

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Thank you, Ken Mc