

NAWS Chairman's report . . .

I can't believe it's over. The best year of my life. Because of all of you, everything has come true. Martha said it when I accepted the nomination for Chair and asked her what it was like . . . She said it was "Life Changing". Truer words were never spoken. Think of how many people go aimlessly through life without a purpose. Not for us. We have been given a sacred mission, a job to do, a calling. What higher calling can there be than to bring another person to recovery and know that we have helped save their life? No material blessing or career accomplishment can take the place of this. Not to mention the total GIFT of living life smoke free. On this, the 25th anniversary of our World Service Conference, we partied like it was 2025! We earned it, we deserved it. There is truly no other group of people I'd rather be with, and I'm honored and proud to call you my family. That's right. My family. On our Silver Anniversary of World Services Conferences, our gift of freedom from nicotine is even more precious than silver and gold.

I cannot say enough good things about the Arizona Intergroup Conference Committee. What a great facility. Every-thing ran without a hitch and you should be sitting back right now feeling pretty great about it all. We are ever so grateful for your hard work and hospitality. Please do it again in another five years, guys! We realize that many of you could not come this year, and I'm sure you already know what a great conference it was, as the quality vs. quantity principle was in full force. But we'll see you next year, I'm sure. We missed you!

We've made incredible progress this year and I'd like to share that with you. It was all due to your World Services Officers on the Board and the Committee Chairs, as they all worked together so well. And our incoming officers and committee chairs are equally well qualified and will provide excellent Trusted Servant service. It was truly great to watch our Higher Power at work as folks stepped up to the plate and took open service positions and officer nominations out in Arizona. Way to go, every-one! And John R, you're going to make a great Chair! This will now become the best year of YOUR life! We made great outreach strides this year. Internet inquiries have never been stronger. With the new hospital regulations coming in to effect, our presence at health fairs is even more critical. Plus, we have the Akron CD out on the website for you to download to MP3, and new outreach brochure which presents, on paper, our three way access to help, namely Online, Telephone, and Face to Face. How cool is THAT!

We were extremely pro-active with our merger of face to face and online meetings this past year. This is something that truly distinguishes us from the other fellowships. And our new outreach to the Mental Health community is also a distinguishing factor. To coin a book title from you-know-where, Nicotine Anonymous is coming of age as well. The technical advances we are making are moving faster than we could imagine. You should have been there to see Judi be with us via Skype! Again, our forward thinking Fellowship is getting a jump on all the high tech and hopefully, we'll include that in our Tradition 11, referencing "other electronic media".

I know I sound like a broken re-cord when I keep repeating over and over that this is the best of all possible times to be involved with our Fellow-ship. But it's true. Thank God for Nicotine Anonymous and all of you.

Enjoy your upcoming year smober and we look forward to seeing all of you in Baltimore next year!

Love always,
Jan S, Chair Emeritus