Annual Reports for Nonprofits

- I. Determine Type of Annual Report Presentation.
 - A. Oral
 - State of the Union
 - Year in Review

B. Printed/Published

- 1. Compliance
 - a. To meet legal mandates.
 - b. To comply with parent or affiliate organization requirements and standards.
 - c. To conform with organization bylaws.
 - d. To satisfy criteria of grant makers.
- 2. Correspondence
 - To sustain contact with stakeholders as part of the ongoing communications program.
 - b. To report progress and provide information that satisfies the needs and expectations of existing stakeholders.
 - c. To nurture and promote relationships with prospective stakeholders.
- II. Identify stakeholders.
 - A. Who already has an interest in reading about our organization?
 - B. Whose attention do we want to attract?

Usual Stakeholders:

- Governing board
- Organization members
- Volunteers
- Funding sources
- Clients

... and the people who give you money, too.

not soon
forget...yada yada"

tc
tandards.

'It was a year we will

- General public/ media
- Network of peer organizations
- Staff
- Others
- III. Establish objective and theme.

What do we want people to know, think and feel after they have read the annual report — and what action do we want them to take?

- IV. Determine contents.
 - A. Description or portrayal of the organization's purpose and philosophical approach.
 - B. Evidence and discussion of activities, progress, and future plans.
 - C. Recognition and appreciation of volunteers and contributors.
 - D. Summary of financial data.
 - E. List of governing board members.
 - F. Contact data and staff.
 - G. Call to action.
- V. Develop Form of Presentation. Layout and design.

"Nice, but cheap."

Concise, but it

doesn't have to

fit on a T-shirt.

Note: Your annual report may be your second most important marketing tool.

- A. Structure
- Size and format.
- Orientation.
- Order of content and pagination.
- Method of distribution.
- Paper selection.
 - color

- weight
- finish.
- B. Style.
- Design elements.
- Printing color vs. b&w.
- Typography.
 - Typeface serif vs. sans serif
 - Size
- Graphics.
- Density.
- VI. Select printer.

"I saw a video once about annual *checkups.*"

VII. Seek and document feedback.

Guidelines for evaluation:

- A. Does it truthfully tell the organization's story?
- B. Is the information clear and logical, and is the presentation comfortable and convenient to read?
- C. Is it distinctive?
- D. Is it durable?
- E. Does it emote a favorable reaction?

"That's an organization I want to support!"

1,000# (printing cost only)

Examples and approximate costs:

- 1. One-Minute annual report.
 - Vest pocket solution

\$375

2. Two-minute annual report.

Solution #10

•	Letter – two fold	\$500
•	Legal – three fold	\$1,000
•	Special – five fold	\$1,200

3. Pocket folder

\$1,800

4. "Newsletter"- three panel, three fold

\$700

5. Saddle-stitched brochure -16 pages.

\$1,750

6. Comb bound booklet.

7. Newspaper insert or page.