Into Action!

Westside Central Office

April 2017 - Volume 5 - Number 7

What's Happening at the WCO?

Although credit and debit cards with an embedded chip are a commonplace today, they still usually come with a magnetic strip so they could be swiped by an older credit card reader. Recently, a customer presented us with a credit card that had just a chip, no magnetic strip. This required the office volunteer to manually enter the credit card number into the system instead of swiping it. Unfortunately, our credit card service provider charges a higher transaction fee for manually entered numbers. Therefore, it was time to upgrade the credit card reader at our office. We now can conveniently process chipped, as well as magnetic stripped, credit cards.

April has a 5th Saturday this year. We are covering this Saturday by committee. Therefore, we are still looking for a regular volunteer to cover the 5th Saturdays. At least two years of sobriety is suggested. Contact us at info@westsidecentraloffice.com for more information or to apply.

WCO held its most recent business meeting on April 3, 2017. This meeting was facilitated for the first time by our new Chair, Carla M.

The I.T. Committee reported that we had a record breaking month on our website for the second month in a row. In March, we had 1,665 visitors who viewed 4,037 web pages, or 130 views per day!

Our list of service openings includes Public Information (PI) Chair, Corrections Chair, Treatment Facilities Chair, and Activities Chair. Please visit our web site (www.westsidecentraloffice.com) and click on the *Help Wanted* link for more information.

Grapevine News

The Grapevine is A.A.'s meeting in print. The theme for the May 2017 issue is "Diversity in AA". This issue features articles by members on how they felt different when they found A.A. and how the fellowship and the Traditions helped them find their place. To subscribe to the Grapevine, visit www.aagrapevine.org.

A new book titled Making Amends: Finding a New Freedom is now available through the Grapevine. This book sells for $11.50 or $10.50 when you buy 5 or more copies. Visit www.aagrapevine.org for more information or to order the book.

Did you serve in the military while maintaining your sobriety? Were you ever stationed on a ship or overseas while trying to stay sober? What were A.A. meetings in the military like? What were some of the challenges with staying sober in the military? Is that where you found A.A.? Stories for an upcoming "AA in the Military" issue are due on May 5, 2017.

December is a great time of year to reach out to alcoholics and do service. What are some of things you do to stay sober during the holidays? Stories for the annual "Service During the Holidays" issue are due on July 5, 2017.

Visit www.aagrapevine.org/contribute for writer guidelines and to submit your story.

Want this newsletter emailed to you each month? Then subscribe today by completing the online subscription form at: http://westsidecentraloffice.com/newsletter/#subscribe

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Are you looking for a meeting?

Or would you like to read today's *Daily Reflection*, the *Big Book,* or *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* book online? These are just a few of the A.A. resources available on our website. Visit today by pointing your browser to www.westsidecentraloffice.com.

Need A.A. Literature?

The Westside Central Office sells A.A. Conference Approved Literature at cost! You can purchase A.A. Literature on Saturdays from 12noon-4pm at our office located at 12705 SW Beaverdam RD Suite E Beaverton, OR 97005. A map to our office is available at http://westsidecentraloffice.com/map/

Making a Seventh Tradition Contribution

Besides contributing time and energy to the Westside Central Office (WCO), A.A. members and groups may also make a financial contribution. The WCO is funded exclusively by the voluntary contributions of A.A. groups and members. No contribution is too small. Please make checks payable to Westside Central Office, P.O. Box 19911, Portland, OR 97280-0911.

If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, that's ours! Call 503-684-0415

This Month in A.A. History

- **April 1939:** The book Alcoholics Anonymous is published.
- **April 22, 1946:** First A.A. Group in Astoria, Oregon is established.
- **April 29, 1946:** First A.A. Group in Salem, Oregon takes shape.
- **April 3, 1949:** The first *open to the public* meeting of A.A. in Eugene, Oregon is held.
- **April 1951:** The First General Service Conference meets. This begins a five-year experimental period linking A.A.'s Trustees with the entire Fellowship.
- **April 1958:** The First International Conference of Young People in A.A. (ICYPAA) is held at Hotel Niagara in Niagara Falls, NY.
- **April 1960:** First Alateen group in Salem, Oregon is started.
- **April 5, 1961:** First A.A. meeting at Dammasch State Hospital (Wilsonville, Oregon) is held.
- **April 1970:** G.S.O. moves its headquaters to 468 Park Avenue South in New York City.
- **April 1973:** The distribution of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous, reaches the 1,000,000 mark.
- **April 1976:** Membership tops 1 million for the first time.
- **April 1989:** The book Alcoholics Anonymous turns 50. To commemorate the Golden Anniversary of the Big Book, a cake sporting replicas of the covers to the First and Third editions is served at the General Service Conference.
- **April 2000:** The 50th General Service Conference is held in New York City. Conference Delegates also toured G.S.O.'s new office in Manhattan's Morningside Heights neighborhood.
- **April 2003:** The book, Experience Strength and Hope, is published. This book contains a collection of personal stories that appeared in the first two editions of the Big Book.
- **April 2014:** The book, Alcoholics Anonymous, turns 75. To commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Big Book, AAWS begins selling a first edition replica of the Big Book printed on thick paper similar to the original.

Upcoming Events

April 28-30, 2017 – Soberfest 2017. Chemeketa Community College Bldg. 50 4071 Winema Place NE Salem, OR. More information is available at http://westsidecentraloffice.com/events/aa-announcements/.

April 29, 2017 - Group Inventory Workshop and Bingo Night fundraiser for the Columbia River Roundup. 2pm – 6pm. 3807 NW MLK Jr BLVD, Portland, OR 97212 (The Fourth Dimension). More information is available http://westsidecentraloffice.com/events/aa-announcements/.

May 1, 2017 – Westside Central Office Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm, Westside Central Office (12705 SW Beaverdam RD Suite E, Beaverton, OR 97005).

May 5-7, 2017 – The 42nd Annual Rogue Roundup. 1451 Fairgrounds Rd, Grants Pass, OR 97527 (Josephine County Fairgrounds). More information is available at http://www.rogueroundup.com.

May 19-21, 2017 – Oregon Area 58 Service Assembly. 1140 Umpqua College RD, Roseburg, OR 97470 (Umpqua Community College). More information is available at http://westsidecentraloffice.com/events/aa-announcements/.

To list A.A. related announcements in this section, email the announcement to:
newsletter@westsidecentraloffice.com

Does your Home Group have a WCO Rep?

A Central Office Rep (CO Rep) serves as the liaison between the A.A. Group and the Westside Central Office (WCO). Co Reps attend the WCO business meeting and vote their group's conscience on Central Office matters. By electing a CO Rep, your group not only helps the Central Office help the alcoholic who still suffers, but your group also creates another service position for a home group member. Our business meeting is held on the first Monday of the month, 7pm-8pm, at the Westside Central Office, 12705 SW Beaverdam RD Suite E, Beaverton, OR 97005. We look forward to seeing your group's Co Rep there!

Is There an Alcoholic Looking for Your Meeting?

Each day, we are contacted by A.A. newcomers and visitors from out-of-town in search of a meeting. You can help us find a meeting for these individuals by listing your home group's meeting(s) in our meeting directory. To list your group, complete the online form at: www.westsidecentraloffice.com/meetings

Step Four is "… the first *tangible* evidence of our complete willingness to move forward."

(Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 54, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.)

Get Involved!

The Westside Central Office has the following 12th Step opportunities:

12th Step Calls – Interested in going on a 12th Step Call? A.A. members are needed for the 12th Step Call Committee. We suggest that volunteers have at least 1 year of sobriety, a sponsor, a home group, and have worked all twelve steps at least once. Visit the 12th Step Call webpage at westsidecentraloffice.com/service/twelfth-step-calls or email the 12th Step Call Committee Chair at 12stepchair@westsidecentraloffice.com for more information.

A.A. Hotline - Do you like talking on the phone and helping people? Volunteers are needed to answer the Westside Central Office phone, day and night. Phone shifts last about 2 hours and calls can be forwarded to any cell phone or landline. To learn how you can help, visit the Hotline webpage at westsidecentraloffice.com/service/a-a-hotline/ or email the A.A. Hotline Chair at hotlinechair@westsidecentraloffice.com.

Public Information – Volunteers are needed to help inform the public on what A.A. is and what A.A. is not. Activities include putting on presentations at area schools, dropping off meeting schedules at hotels/motels, donating Big Books to public libraries, taking out ads with the A.A. hotline phone number in local newspapers, etc. The Public Information committee carries the message to the alcoholic who may not yet know about A.A. Email pi@westsidecentraloffice.com for more information.

Activities – Interested in putting on social or service oriented events? Then join the activities committee. Email activities@westsidecentraloffice.com for more information.

Treatment Facilities – Volunteers are needed to help contact treatment centers and offer assistance in coordinating A.A. meetings and presentations at their facility. The type of organizations this committee works with includes inpatient/outpatient treatment centers; detox centers, hospitals, institutions, nursing homes, etc. Email tf@westsidecentraloffice.com for more information or to get involved with the Treatment Facilities Committee.

Professionals – Volunteers are needed to help carry the A.A. message to professionals, such as health care workers, counselors, law enforcement, etc. who come into contact with active alcoholics. Email cpc@westsidecentraloffice.com for more information or to get involved with the Cooperation with Professionals Committee.

Corrections – Volunteers are needed to help carry the A.A. message to those behind bars. Email corrections@westsidecentraloffice.com for more information or to get involved.

Into Action! is published monthly by the Westside Central Office. The Westside Central Office is an Intergroup/Central Office serving the A.A. community in the Western Portland Oregon metropolitan area. Our primary purpose is to serve our A.A. groups and members by helping them carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. More information is available at www.westsidecentraloffice.com. Direct all correspondence to: email: info@westsidecentraloffce.com phone: 503-684-0415 (extension 0) mail: Westside Central Office, P.O. Box 19911, Portland, OR 97280-0911.