Into Action!

Westside Central Office

September 2017 – Volume 5 – Number 12

What's Happening at the WCO?

We had 11 people in attendance for the 7th Tradition Workshop that we co-hosted with District 23 on August 27th at East Waluga Park in Lake Oswego.

Although 11 people seems a little light for attendance, long time 7th Tradition Workshop facilitator, Joe S, said that it's actually a pretty good turn out for a workshop on the 7th Tradition. He said that he once gave the workshop to just 2 people. Nonetheless, we now have 11 more people who came away with a little more insight on the 7th Tradition. They now have the opportunity to pass this information onto their home group as well as other members of A.A.

Topics include what it takes to be fully self-supportive at the General Service Office, Area 58, District, Intergroup/Central Office, and Group levels. Many of you participated in the $7.27 on 7/27 campaign. If every member of A.A. contributed $7.27 to GSO, then all of A.A.'s services would be paid for and they could sell A.A. literature at cost. Similar dollar figures were also presented for the other levels of service.

Everyone was encouraged to contribute more than a dollar to the 7th Tradition if they can because a dollar does not support as many services as it used to. Furthermore, newcomers typically learn through observation how much to contribute. When we sit by a newcomer in a meeting and contribute more than a dollar to the 7th Tradition, they typically will do the same.

To learn more about what we discussed at the 7th Tradition Workshop, visit our website, www.westsidecentraloffice.com, and click on the "Is your group fully self-supporting?" link. This link will present you with the handouts from the workshop.

This month we hosted our business meeting on the third Monday (September 18th) instead of the first Monday. Beginning last year, we meet on the first Monday of every month except in September due to Labor Day.

Our Ad Hoc Committee to investigate reducing paper consumption by encouraging more electronic document distribution gave a status report. They reported that they plan to recommend some changes to the WCO Guidelines at the next business meeting to encourage more electronic document distribution.

We re-elected Marilyn D to Recording Secretary and Tim S to Hotline Committee Chair at this month's business meeting. We still have many great service opportunities for A.A.s. To learn more, click on the Help Wanted link on our website or email us at info@westsidecentraloffice.com.

The featured article in the Fall 2017 issue of *Box 459* is titled "Intergroup/Central Office: Then and Now". It provides some perspective on their function in our fellowship over the years beginning with the first Central Office that was established in Cleveland, Ohio in 1939. Of course Intergroups/Central Offices have evolved since 1939, but they still serve the same function: to aid groups in their common purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers. You can access this article online at www.aa.org/newsletters/en_US/en_box459_fall17.pdf.

Want this newsletter emailed to you each month? Then subscribe today by sending an email with the subject "subscribe" to news@westsidecentraloffice.com

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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.

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! Visit www.westsidecentraloffice.com/literature or call 503-684-0415 (extension 2) to order literature.

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

- **September 1939** – A score or more of alcoholics apply the A.A. program and recover in Cleveland, Ohio. This sudden growth of A.A. in Cleveland proves that A.A. can grow to a great size. Also around this time, the Cleveland Plain Dealer newspaper would run a series of articles on A.A.
- **September 30, 1939** - An article on A.A. titled Alcoholics and God appears in Liberty magazine. After publication of this article, Big Book sales saw an increase of several hundred and the early A.A. Newark Office received 800 pleas for help.
- **September 1947** – The first A.A. group in Brazil takes shape.
- **September 1947** – A.A. is started in the Eugene-Springfield Oregon area when eight members met at the YMCA on September 12, 1947.
- **September 9, 1948** – The Astoria Alano Club opens its doors for the first time at 145 11th Street in Astoria, Oregon. The first group in Astoria, known as the Central Group, would meet at the Alano Club on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 8pm.
- **September 1950** – The first meeting in Seaside, Oregon is held at the home of Earl E and his non-alcoholic wife Leona.
- **September 1951** – The first Oregon A.A. Newsletter, titled "Our Baby", begins publication. The monthly newsletter would carry state as well as national A.A. news. Each group would receive a copy in the mail and additional copies were circulated through the central office in Portland. 500-600 copies were printed for each issue. The newsletter would cease publication after three years. The Oregon Area would begin publishing a second newsletter in April, 1960.
- **September 2001** – In the wake of the September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center in New York, exhausted A.A. members among firefighters, police, and clean - up crews form A.A. meetings at Ground Zero.
- **September 2013** – WCO began accepting 7th Tradition contributions through its website.

Upcoming Events

October 2, 2017 – Westside Central Office Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm, Westside Central Office (12705 SW Beaverdam RD Suite E, Beaverton, OR 97005).

October 13-15, 2017 – Rose City Girlstock, Holiday Inn Wilsonville (25425 SW 95th AVE, Wilsonville, OR 97070). More information is available at www.rosecitygirlstock.com/.

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

Grapevine News

Grapevine's new book, Voices of Women in AA, is now out. This book features stories of women who contributed to AA from its infancy through the present day. The book is available for purchase at store.aagrapevine.org.

The September 2017 issue of the Grapevine focuses on "Young and Sober" members of A.A. That is, those who got sober in their teens, 20s, and 30s. Visit www.grapevine.org to subscribe to the Grapevine, A.A.'s meeting in print.

The Grapevine is looking for stories for these upcoming issues: "Bridging the Gap Service Stories" (due October 5, 2017) and "How the Steps Changed My Life" (due November 5, 2017). Visit www.grapevine.org/contribute to submit your story.

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

"…to take responsibility for the well-being of others…is the very spirit of Step Nine."

(Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 87, 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.

Become an A.A. Service Office Volunteer!

Westside Central Office is seeking A.A.s to volunteer at our facility one Saturday a month from 12noon to 4pm.

Duties include:

- Opening/Closing the Office
- Selling A.A. Literature
- Answering the Office Telephone
- Provide information on A.A. for anyone who stops by the office

2 or more years of sobriety is suggested.
For more information or to apply, email info@westsidecentraloffice.com or call us at 503-684-0415 (menu option 0).

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.