Into Action!

Westside Central Office

January 2018 – Volume 6 – Number 4

What's Happening at the WCO?

Happy New Year everyone! We hope that the first month of 2018 has been a good one to you all!

We are pleased that many of you are finding us at our new Cedar Hills Shopping Center location (10220 SW Park Way, Portland, OR 97225). It's proving to be a good move for us. Since we have opened our new location, we have had literature sales on all but one Saturday (the 5th Saturday of December).

If you have not stopped by yet, the key to finding us is to locate the Coffee Renaissance and Taekwondo shops at Cedar Hills Shopping Center. In between these two shops are a set of glass doors. Enter through the glass doors and down the steps to your right. We are the first door on the left. On the days that we are open, we will also have a sidewalk sign in front of the entrance.

Please remember to mail all written correspondence, including 7th Tradition contributions, to our mailing address (Westside Central Office, PO Box 19911, Portland, OR 97280). Mail sent to our new office address will also get to us, but our PO Box is checked more frequently. Unfortunately, mail sent to our old office address will not be forwarded because our old office did not have its own mail box.

The Winter 2018 printed meeting schedules have arrived! Special thanks to our office volunteers who helped fold and staple them during their office shifts. To help keep down the cost of the schedules, they arrive from the printers unfolded and unstapled. As before, the schedules are free, however, a voluntary contribution of 50 cents per schedule is welcome. To add or update a group in both our printed and online meeting schedules, visit the following web page: www.westsidecentraloffice.com/meetings/addupdate-meeting-information.

The Winter 2017 edition of GSO's Box 459 newsletter have two articles that may be of interest to many of you. The first article, titled "Passing the (Digital) Basket", talks about groups accepting credit cards for 7th Tradition Contributions. Typically, these payments are done with a smart phone app. WCO Board member, Nick F, also shared his group's experience with collecting electronic 7th Tradition payments at last Summer's 7th Tradition Workshop. You can read about his group's experience at www.westsidecentraloffice.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/7th-trad-workshop-2017.pdf, beginning on page 4.

The second article worth reading is called "Safeguarding Anonymity in a Digital Age". The article discusses ways to help protect our anonymity on social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Youtube without shunning them all together. The Internet still provides a great medium to reach the still suffering alcoholic. Many alcoholics find us through Intergroup websites, chat rooms, online meetings, and online PSAs. In fact, GSO may soon post PSA videos on Youtube (with comments disabled). Therefore, it's a fine balance between our 11th Tradition on Anonymity and our 12th Step on carrying A.A.'s message to the still suffering alcoholic. This article is a good starting point for finding that balance.

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 10220 SW Park Way Portland, OR 97225. A map to our office is available at http://westsidecentraloffice.com/map/

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

Grapevine News

The Grapevine is A.A.'s meeting in print. The theme for the current issue is "Staying Sober through Adversity". This issue features stories on how A.A. members navigate tough times in sobriety.

The Grapevine is currently looking for articles with the following theme: "Your Experience Doing Service" (due February 5, 2018); "Young and Sober" (due March 5, 2018); "AA in the Workplace" (due April 5, 2018). Visit www.aagrapevine.org/contribute to submit your article.

This Month in A.A. History

- **January 6, 1944**: The first regular meeting location for A.A. in Oregon is established at the Downtown Portland, Oregon YMCA. Although A.A. in Oregon was first established in March 1943 by Co-founders Doc H and Dan G, a regular meeting location had not yet been established until now. 27 people would attend the first meeting. From this meeting, 13 men expressed a desire to become members. A committee was elected and the first group in Portland, as well as Oregon, was established. This group would continue to meet here for two years before starting the 10th Street Clubroom.
- **January 3, 1949**: The first A.A. meeting in Albany, Oregon is held in the chamber of commerce building. The meeting was sponsored by the Salem (Oregon) Group.
- **January 1957:** First A.A. Group in India forms in New Delhi.
- J**anuary 1958:** As a service to its readers, the January 1958 issue of the Grapevine prints a chart outlining A.A.'s services and the Conference structure. Text in the top box of the chart indicates that there are over 7,000 groups registered with the "General Service Headquarters". This includes 500 in institutions (i.e., hospitals, prisons, and other institutions), and 760 overseas.
- **January 1959:** After years of failed attempts, a stable A.A. Group in Colombia forms.
- **January 1960:** First A.A. Group in Guatemala forms.
- **January 1962:** The (Portland Oregon) *Central Committee* changes its name to the *Portland Area Intergroup*.
- **January 24, 1971:** At the age of 75, A.A. Co-founder Bill W dies at the Miami Heart Institute in Miami Beach, Florida.
- **January 2006:** A Japanese General Service Board forms in Tokyo. At this time an estimated 3,500 to 4,000 members are meeting in 290 A.A. Groups in Japan.
- **January 2010:** The Intergroup Exploratory Committee holds its last meeting and approves the creation of the Westside Central Office.

Upcoming Events

February 5, 2018 – Westside Central Office Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm, Westside Central Office (10220 SW Park Way, Portland, OR 97225).

February 23-February 25, 2018 – Oregon Area 58 Pre-Conference Assembly. Lane Community College (4000 East 30th AVE, Eugene, OR 97405). 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

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.

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, 10220 SW Park Way, Portland, OR 97225. 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

"Only Step One, where we made the 100 percent admission we were powerless over alcohol, can be practiced with absolute perfection."

(Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 68, 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.