Into Action!

Westside Central Office

September 2019 – Volume 7 – Number 12

What's Happening at the WCO?

WCO held its business meeting on September 16th this month, in lieu of Labor Day. All one-year termed service positions were up for election. We re-elected Tami R to the Activities Chair position. Thank you, Tami, for your service! Our other one-year positions are now open. A list of these positions is on pages 6-7 of this newsletter. Please help spread the word on these important service openings.

Speaking of Activities… our August newsletter reported that our Activities Committee was asked to participate in a Traditions Workshop with Districts 10 and 31 before District 31's Halloween Party. We have since learned of an AA Grapevine Writing Workshop that's happening on the same day at the same location (see also *Upcoming Events* on page 3). The business meeting participants encouraged the Activities Committee to consider a different day for the Traditions Workshop. Stay tuned for the day/time of this event.

Besides our one-year service positions, WCO's I.T. Committee can use some help revamping its meeting schedule and website. If you have some experience with Microsoft Excel and you are available for some data entry, please contact us. We are looking for someone to spend a few hours to update our meeting schedule. Also we are looking for someone to assist our I.T. Committee with our website. To get involved with these tasks, email us at info@westsidecentraloffice.com.

Grapevine News

The Grapevine is AA's meeting in print. The theme for the October 2019 issue is "Accessibilities". AAs who use wheelchairs, have sight issues, hearing loss, etc. tell their stories on how they overcome their challenges and recover from alcoholism. Visit www.aagrapevine.org to subscribe to the Grapevine.

The Grapevine is looking for stories for the following upcoming issues: The Annual Prison issue (stories due December 19, 2019), AA's 85th Anniversary – AA Around the World (stories due January 15, 2020), Sober and Out – LGBTQ AA Stories (stories due February 15, 2020).Visit www.grapevine.org/contribute to submit your story.

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 5, 2019 – 4th Annual Oregon Area Corrections Conference, 10am-2pm, St. Mark Lutheran Church (790 Marion ST NE, Salem, OR 97301). More information is available at www.westsidecentraloffice.com/events/aa-announcements/.

October 7, 2019 – Westside Central Office Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm, Westside Central Office (10220 SW Park Way Portland, OR 97225).

October 11-13, 2019 – Rose City Girlstock, Holiday Inn Wilsonville (25425 SW 95th AVE, Wilsonville, OR 97070). More information is available at www.rosecitygirlstock.com.

October 25, 2019 – District 31 Step 11 Workshop, 6:45pm, Helvetia Community Church (11295 NW Helvetia RD, Hillsboro, OR 97124). More information is available at www.westsidecentraloffice.com/events/aa-announcements/.

October 26, 2019 – AA Grapevine Story Writing Workshop, 10am-12noon, Hillsboro United Church of Christ (494 E Main ST, Hillsboro, OR 97123). More information is available at www.westsidecentraloffice.com/events/aa-announcements/.

October 26, 2019 – District 31 Halloween Party, 6pm – 11pm, Hillsboro United Church of Christ (494 E Main ST, Hillsboro, OR 97123). More information is available at www.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, 10220 SW Park Way, Portland, OR 97225 (inside Cedar Hills Shopping Center). 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.

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.

AA Group Sound Off!

Does your Group have any news that it wishes to share with the fellowship? Time/Place/Format Changes? Milestones? AA Birthdays of Home Group Members? Or do you just want to put in a plug for your Group?

Complete the form below and we will publish it in an upcoming issue of WCO's newsletter, *Into Action!*

Group Name:

Group Format:

When/Where Does It meet:

Group News:

Please return this form to the Newsletter editor at a WCO Business meeting or email the information to newsletter@westsidecentraloffice.com.

A.A. Service Opportunities at the Westside Central Office

The Westside Central Office (WCO), an A.A. Central/Intergroup Office serving the western Portland, Oregon metropolitan area, has the following service position opportunities:

Co-Chair – If Chair resigns or is unable to serve for any reason, the Co-Chair steps in and assumes Chair duties and responsibilities; records WCO business meeting minutes in absence of recording secretary (2 or more years continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2020).

Recording Secretary – Records WCO business meeting minutes; distributes meeting minutes via email and at the start of each business meeting (1 year or more continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2020).

Board of Directors – The WCO Board of Directors consist of three to seven individuals that act as the legal custodians of Westside Central Office, Inc. and oversee the day-to-day operations of WCO (4 years or more continuous sobriety suggested[1], serves through September 30, 2020).

12 Step Call Committee Chair - Maintains a list of 12th Step Volunteers for participating groups; receives calls from Hotline volunteers; and refers 12th Step volunteers to incoming calls (2 years or more continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2020).

A.A. Hotline Committee Chair - Maintains a calendar of individuals and groups willing to answer the WCO phone (2 years or more continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2020).

Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee Chair - Hosts A.A. presentations to professionals, such as health care workers, counselors, law enforcement, etc. who come into contact with active alcoholics (2 years or more continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2020).

Corrections Committee Chair - Carries the A.A. message to alcoholics behind the walls of correctional institutions (2 years or more continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2020).

Outreach Chair - Informs A.A. groups and members of the available services and opportunities for service at the WCO; Maintains the Westside Central Office Frequently Asked Questions (F.A.Q.) form (2 years or more continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2020).

Public Information Chair – Informs the public on "what A.A. is" and "what A.A. is not" through literature, presentations, and public service announcements (2 years or more continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2020).

Newsletter Committee Chair - Publishes the Westside Central Office's monthly newsletter *Into Action!* (2 years or more continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2020).

Office Volunteer Chair – Assists the Office Manager (or Board of Directors) with finding A.A.s to volunteer at the WCO facility (2 or more years continuous sobriety is suggested, serves through September 30, 2020).

[1] Non-alcoholic Directors may serve on the Board provided that the Alcoholic Directors out number the Non-alcoholics by at least a 2/3 majority. For example, if there are 3 Directors, then no more than one Director may be a Non-alcoholic.

Office Manager – Manages the Westside Central Office and its volunteers. 5 or more years continuous sobriety is suggested. Serves through September 30, 2020. *Note: Office Manager is appointed by the Board of Directors. Please email your serv*ice resume to info@westsidecentraloffice.com.

Individuals interested in these service positions are encouraged to attend the Westside Central Office business meeting. Additional information is available on our website, www.westsidecentraloffice.com (click on the Help Wanted link), by emailing info@westsidecentraloffice.com, or by phone at 503-684-0415 (extension 0).

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).