Into Action!

Westside Central Office

January 2020 – Volume 8 – Number 4

What's Happening at the WCO?

Happy New Year everyone! We hope that the first month of 2020 has been a good one to you all!

Our Winter 2020 printed meeting schedules have arrived! Special thanks to our office volunteers who helped fold and staple them during their office shifts. Stop by our office on a Saturday (12noon to 4pm) or during a business meeting (first Monday 7pm-8pm) to pick some up. Meeting schedules are free, however, a voluntary contribution of 50 cents per schedule is welcome.

Our office is now carrying the A.A. conference approved book, Our Great Responsibility. This book contains a selection of talks by Bill W at the General Service Conference during the period of 1951 to 1970. The 16 selected talks give fresh perspectives on the A.A. Fellowship in a co-founder's own words. The book is available for $10.00.

Our Treatment Facilities Committee Chair, Allan, continues to look for individuals who would like to serve on the Committee and/or take meetings into Treatment Facilities. This month, the committee purchased some Big Books for patients at Tigard Recovery Center. The purchase was made possible by the generous support of our A.A. Groups and Members! Thank you! To get involved with the Treatment Facilities, email tf@westsidecentraloffice.com.

The Activities Committee continues to plan their Traditions play and workshop. They have a tentative speaker lined up and have received interest by our fellowship to star in the play. They are currently looking for a location for this event. They hope to put on the workshop and play in April. Members who would like to get involved with the play can contact the Activities Chair, Tami R, at activities@westsidecentraloffice.com.

At our January 6th business meeting, the body approved a motion that empowers the Chair to cast a tie breaking vote at our Board meetings. Our Treasurer, who is also a Board member, stepped down last month. That left us with an even number of Board members. Allowing the Chair to break ties, prevents any possible deadlock with Board voting until we fill our Treasurer position again. Incidentally, the Chair also can cast any tiebreaking votes in our regular Business meeting.

Besides a Treasurer, we can really use another Office Volunteer and a Recording Secretary. More information on these open positions is available on page 5 of this newsletter.

Our Outreach Committee is available to visit your Group! Email the Committee at outreach@westsicentraloffice.com for your more information.

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 "Getting Through Tough Times in Sobriety".

The Grapevine is currently looking for articles with the following theme: "Sober and Out – LGBTQ+ AA Stories" (due February 15, 2020); "Young and Sober" (due March 15, 2020); "Money (Financial Security) " (due April 15, 2019). 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 3, 2020 – Westside Central Office Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm, Westside Central Office (10220 SW Park Way, Portland, OR 97225).

February 28-March 1, 2020 – Oregon Area 58 Pre-Conference Assembly. Holiday Inn Portland International Airport (8439 Columbia Blvd, Portland, OR 97220). More information is available at https://www.aa-oregon.org/events/february-2020-service-assembly/

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.

Help Wanted at WCO

The Westside Central Office (WCO) has the following key service openings:

- **Treasurer –** Prepares and submits to each business meeting WCO's financial statement which includes a summary of income, expenses, and budget balances. Some business/accounting experience is recommended. 4 or more years of continuous sobriety is suggested, serves through September 30, 2020.
- **Office Volunteer –** Job duties include opening and closing the office, selling literature, and answering questions about A.A. to anyone who stops by the office. 2 or more years continuous sobriety is suggested. Note: This is an appointed position. Please email your availability to info@westsidecentraloffice.com or call us at 503-684-0415 (menu option 0).
- **Recording Secretary –** Records monthly business meeting minutes. Emails minutes to business meeting attendees and distributes hard copies of minutes at each business meeting. 1 or more years of continuous sobriety is suggested, servers through September 30, 2020.

To learn more, click on the Help Wanted link at www.westsidecentraloffice.com, email info@westsidecentraloffice.com, or attend our business meeting (first Monday of the month, 7pm-8pm) at our office at Cedar Hills Shopping Center (10220 SW Park Way, Portland, OR 97225).