

Into Action!

Westside Central Office

April 2020 - Volume 8 - Number 7

What's Happening at the WCO?

WCO held its first online business meeting on April 6, 2020. Overall, the meeting went well. We elected Tim G to our Secretary position and Joe S to our 12th Step Call Chair position. Thank you, Tim and Joe, for your service!

Our next business meeting on May 4th will also be held online. Everyone is welcome to attend.

April's business meeting was conducted through Google Hangouts. The May 4th business meeting will be conducted through a free Zoom account provided by the New York A.A. Intergroup. If you are on our business meeting email list, then you should have already received instructions for connecting to the May 4th business meeting. If you need these instructions, then email info@westsidecentraloffice.com.

Earlier this month, we obtained a trial Gsuite for Nonprofits account that included Google Hangouts. We used this account to host our online business meeting. However, we later found out that in order to continue to use Gsuite, we would have to convert our email accounts to Google accounts. We have several email accounts and the effort to convert them to Google appears to outweigh the benefit. There is also a risk of an outage to our email and website during the conversion. We may revisit this later.

In the meantime, we will take advantage of the generous offer by the New York Intergroup which is offering enterprise level Zoom accounts to all A.A. Groups. These accounts carry no time limit and can handle several hundred attendees. Any A.A. Group can obtain one of these Zoom accounts for their meeting. More information is available at <https://www.nyintergroup.org/remote-meetings/join-the-nyig-zoom-meeting-room/what-is-the-aa-zoom-room/>.

If you receive an invitation to join our May 4th business meeting using Google Hangouts, then please disregard and remove the invite from your calendar. You may receive the Google Hangouts invitation if your calendar created a local copy of the April 6th business meeting invitation.

WCO's office will remain closed during Oregon's shelter in place order. We are monitoring the situation and we will re-open our office when it appears safe to do so. In the meantime, Groups that need literature, can purchase literature at cost through AAWS at www.aa.org.

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On April 15th, AAWS announced new prices for their literature. The good news is that there is no across-the-board price increase. Prices on some titles will be normalized. For example, all unabridged Big Books will be \$9.50. This includes Large Print, AudioBook (CDs), Navajo Big Book (CDs), and the Braille Big Book. Prices for the abridged versions, such as the pocket Big Book, will remain as is.

There will be a 20 percent decrease in pamphlets and other non-book items regardless of quantity purchase.

The 6% handling fee has also been removed.

You can view the latest prices in the 2020 A.A. Conference Approved Literature catalog at https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/aa-literature/f-10-aa-literature-catalog.

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 headquarters 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

May 2, 2020 (7:00pm – 8:30pm)– Adjusting to the “New A.A. Normal” online panel. Hosted by A.A. District District 16 (Rogue Valley, OR). More information is available at <https://westsidecentraloffice.com/events/aa-announcements>.

May 4, 2020 – Westside Central Office Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm. You can join the meeting online or by phone. More information is available at <https://westsidecentraloffice.com/may-4th-wco-business-meeting-to-be-held-online>.

June 6-7, 2020 – Oregon Area 58 Service Assembly. The Assembly will be held online in lieu of a face-to-face assembly. More information is available at <https://www.aa-oregon.org/events/may-2020-service-assembly/>.

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

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.

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, **online during the COVID-19 pandemic**. Visit www.westsidecentraloffice.com for **more information**. 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@westsidecentraloffice.com phone: 503-684-0415 (extension 0) mail: Westside Central Office, P.O. Box 19911, Portland, OR 97280-0911.