Into Action!

Westside Central Office

October 2020 - Volume 9 - Number 1

What's Happening at the WCO?

Welcome to volume 9 of our newsletter! That means it was 8 years ago this month that we began this newsletter. Where has the time gone? Certainly, a lot has changed in this last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Intergroups and Central Offices have had to adjust as most Groups have moved to online meetings or temporarily closed. And those few that have resumed in-person meetings are not necessarily putting out literature for their members due to social distancing requirements. These changes have led to a nationwide slump in A.A literature sales. To help move some of the literature that was sitting in warehouses, A.A.W.S. held a sale on the Big Book this past Summer. It may have helped as WCO's Big Book Order this past week was placed on back-order. Up until now, we never had a problem ordering Big Books. It is also possible that the COVID-19 pandemic has slowed down the production of the Big Book as well. According to the G.S.O. website, the regular edition Big Book should be back in stock on 10/30/2020.

WCO has some Big Books (and other literature) in stock, so if your Group needs literature, contact us. We are open by appointment only, however, our appointments are flexible. We can meet outside our normal Saturday 12noon to 4pm office hours.

A.A.W.S. has announced that it will hold a holiday literature sale from December 1st through January 31, 2021. For each copy of *Our Great Responsibility* sold, the customer will receive a free copy of an Alcoholics Anonymous facsimile first printing of the first edition Big Book. Those who spend $100 or more will receive a 15% overall discount. This discount is in addition to any bulk discounts.

A.A.W.S. also announced that a new book called *A Visual History of Alcoholics Anonymous: An Archival Journey* will be released on February 14, 2021. A.A.W.S. will accept preorders of this book from December 1st through January 31, 2021. The preorder price is $11.00 per book. The book's regular price will be $12.00 each after January 31st. This new book originated as a souvenir book for the 2020 International Conference in Detroit.

Although literature sales are down, WCO continues to sell A.A. literature at our cost to you. We are an all-volunteer Intergroup/Central Office which keeps our overhead low. However, there is some uncertainty on the horizon for us. Our lease expires at the end of November. Our landlord informed us that he still intends to sell the property and therefore can only offer us a month-to-month extension on our lease. According to our current lease, a month-to-month lease incurs a 50% increase on the current rent. This gives us added incentive to find a new location sooner rather than later. Fortunately, a month-to-month lease provides us the flexibility to move into a new location right away if we find one. Hopefully, we can find a less expensive location in the long term. If you know of a possible new office location in the Beaverton area for us, please let us know. You can email us at info@westidecentaloffice.com or call us at 503-684-0415 (menu option 0). Our November 2nd business meeting at 7pm will provide a proposed budget for 2021 that includes the anticipated increase to our rent.

Want this newsletter emailed to you each month? Then subscribe today by visiting https://westsidecentraloffice.com/newsletter/

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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

- **October 1943** – A second A.A. Group forms in Canada when alcoholics begin meeting in Windsor, Ontario
- **October 1944** – Reader's Digest publishes an article titled, "Maybe I Can Do It Too" about how A.A. member Edward G got sober. For the next four years, this article would appear in translation in several of the publication's international editions.
- **October 1944** – The Yale School of Alcoholic Studies and the Oregon Alcoholic Education committee hold a meeting at the Portland Masonic Temple. The meeting is well attended, following which, three members of Portland A.A. Group Number 1 decide to start a new group on Portland's eastside.
- **October 11, 1946** – Oregon State Hospital Group (Salem, OR) forms.
- **October 1951** – Lasker Award is given to A.A. by American Public Health Association.
- **October 1954** – The "Alcoholic Foundation" becomes the General Service Board of A.A.
- **October 1956** – The first overseas General Service Board is established in London, England to serve A.A. Groups in Great Britain and Ireland.
- **October 1957** – *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age* is first published.
- **October 1958** – Alcoholics Anonymous is called upon to play an advisory role in the October 1958 TV broadcast of "Days of Wine and Roses". The play, examining the lives of an alcoholic married couple seeking help from A.A., will reach an international audience when produced as a movie in 1962.
- **October 8-11, 1969** – First World Services Meeting is held in New York. Representatives from General Service Offices from around the world hold a meeting to exchange ideas on literature distribution, service structure, publishing, and finance. The countries in attendance were Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Holland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, United Kingdom, and United States.
- **October 1991** – 800 Native Americans from 100 tribes in U.S. and Canada attend the First Native American A.A. Convention in Las Vegas, NV.
- **October 2011** – The Westside Central Office establishes an A.A. telephone hotline (503-684-0415).
- **October 2012 –** The Westside Central Office begins publishing this newsletter, *Into Action!*

Upcoming Events

October 31, 2020 – AA District 31 Virtual Halloween Celebration. 3pm to 10pm. Visit https://westsidecentraloffice.com/events/aa-announcements for more information.

November 2, 2020 – Westside Central Office Online Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm. Email info@westsidecentraloffice.com to receive an invitation to the meeting.

November 20-22, 2020 – Oregon Area 58 November Quarterly Assembly. Assembly will be held online. More information is available at https://www.aa-oregon.org/upcoming-assemblies/.

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

Grapevine News

The Grapevine is AA's meeting in print. The current issue features stories on the "Twelve Traditions." Also included are powerful stories of hope by AA members during the COVID-19 crisis. To subscribe, visit www.aagrapevine.org.

Effective January 1, 2021, the Grapevine will implement price changes to its publication. Click here to view the price changes.

Grapevine is looking for stories for these upcoming issues: "The Step that Changed my Life" (due November 15th) and "Dating and "Relationships" (Due December 15th). Submit your story at https://www.aagrapevine.org/guidelines-contributing-grapevine.

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~~ online during the COVID-19 pandemic. Email info@westsidecentraloffice.com for an invitation to the meeting. 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

"Learning daily to spot, admit, and correct [our] flaws is the essence of [Step Ten]."

(Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 95, 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 home group have news it wishes to share with the fellowship?

Any group events, milestones, format changes, or AA birthdays of home group members?

Or do you just want to put in a plug for your home group?

If so, send us your group news and we will publish it in an upcoming issue of WCO's newsletter, Into Action!

Email group updates to:
newsletter@westsidecentraloffice.com