Into Action!

Westside Central Office

November 2020 - Volume 9 - Number 2

What's Happening at the WCO?

We hope you all had a safe, sober, and wonderful Thanksgiving! This month marks our 3-year anniversary at the Cedar Hills Shopping Center location. Last month, we reported that our lease expires at the end of this month. We also reported that our landlord will only offer us a month-to-month lease since he still hopes to sell the shopping center. We were unsure how much our rent might increase since our lease allows for up to a 50% increase when exercising a month-to-month option. We are happy to report that our rent has only gone up by 3%. This is certainly good news since our income has been flat during the COVID-19 pandemic. We still need to be on the look out for a new location. However, the modest increase in rent means we can be a little more selective in our search.

The Finance Committee presented a proposed budget for 2021 at this month's business meeting. The budget was submitted this month so Groups can review it before ratification at the December business meeting. The overall budget is lower than this year's budget due to the pandemic-induced reduction of Member/Group Contributions and Literature Sales. However, when the budget was proposed, the Finance Committee assumed a worst-case scenario of a 50% increase in our rent. Fortunately, our rent did not increase that much. So, we can possibly make some more adjustments to it at the December business meeting. You can view the proposed budget here.

At this month's business meeting, we also elected Joe S to Chair and Tom F to the 12th Step Call Committee Chair. Thank you, Joe and Tom, for your availability to serve WCO!

Our Activities Chair, Tami R, is looking for virtual workshop ideas. She hopes the Activities Committee can hold a virtual workshop (via Zoom) in January or February. One idea is to hold a Hotline and 12th Step Call Volunteer workshop. When we last held this workshop in 2014 it was well received. So, we probably are overdue for another one. Also, the Hotline and 12th Step Call Committees are both proving to be extra important during the pandemic. If you have a workshop idea or would like to get involved with putting on a workshop, email Tami at activities@westsidecentraloffice.com.

As we mentioned last month, A.A.W.S. is holding 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 an additional 15% overall discount.

WCO helps A.A. Groups carry the message to the Alcoholic who still suffers. Our services are carried out by A.A. members who graciously volunteer their time and energy. Do you also have some time and energy to help us with our singleness of purpose? If so, then join us! You can view all our open positions by clicking on the *Help Wanted* link on our website, www.westsidecentraloffice.com.

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

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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

- **November 1934** – Ebby T visits Bill and tells him his story.
- **November 1937** – First realization of success. Dr. Bob and Bill W, while meeting in Akron, note forty sober cases among the early fellowship.
- **November 1950** – Peru's inaugural A.A. Group is founded.
- **November 16, 1950** – Dr. Bob dies of cancer. Dr. Bob had 15 years of sobriety when he died. During this time, he and Bill W created a fellowship that transformed the lives of over 100,000 men and women.
- **November 1, 1953** – First German A.A. Group founded in Munich by U.S. Servicemen stationed there.
- **November 1975** – A.A. Archives open at the General Service Office.
- **November 1986** – First paperback edition of the Big Book is published.
- **November 2001** – The fourth edition of the Big Book is released.
- **November 2006** – South Africa celebrates 60 years of A.A. in Johannessburg. The event is marked with a mini rally with over 300 people in attendance.
- **November 2012** – The first Spanish A.A. Public Service Announcement (PSA) produced by AAWS begins airing on Spanish TV. The PSA is titled "Tengo Esperanza" ("I Have Hope").
- **November 1, 2014** - The Westside Central Office begins offering open office hours on Saturdays from 12noon – 4pm. A.A. members and the general public can visit during open office hours to obtain information on A.A. and to purchase A.A. conference literature at cost.
- **November 18, 2017 –** WCO moves its office location to Cedar Hills Shopping Center.

Grapevine News

The Grapevine is A.A.'s meeting in print. This month's issue features stories about "Remote Communities and Sober Holidays." Visit https://www.aagrapevine.org/ to subscribe to the Grapevine.

Grapevine is also looking for stories for the following upcoming issues: "Dating and Relationships" (stories due December 15, 2020) and "Annual Prison Issue" (stories due January 15, 2020). Grapevine is also interested in stories about "Sober Seniors", "Young and Sober", and Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC). Visit https://www.aagrapevine.org/contact-us to learn how to submit your story.

The Grapevine is offering free shipping on items purchased between November 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020. Visit https://www.aagrapevine.org/ for more details.

Upcoming Events

December 7, 2020 – Westside Central Office Online Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm. Email info@westsidecentraloffice.com for an invitation.

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. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we hold our business meeting online each first Monday of the month, 7pm-8pm. 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

"The other Steps can keep most of us sober and … functioning. But Step Eleven can keep us growing."

(Reprinted from The Language of the Heart, page 240, with permission of AA Grapevine, 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.

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

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.