Into Action!

Westside Central Office

February 2021 - Volume 9 - Number 5

What's Happening at the WCO?

On February 6th, the Westside Central Office celebrated its 11th year anniversary! It has been a challenging year with the COVID-19 pandemic, but we are very grateful to our Groups and Members for their generous support! We could not have done it without you!

As we reported last month, the Zoom account we were using through the New York Intergroup was coming to an end this month. Many thanks to the New York Intergroup for offering Zoom accounts to all Groups that needed them this last year. At this month's business meeting, we decided to purchase our own Zoom account for our business meeting, service committees, and workshops.

This month, a social worker from St. Vincent's Hospital contacted us about connecting alcoholic patients with members of A.A. They are interested in having individuals call and/or visit patients that are new or returning to A.A.

This is an exciting 12th Step Opportunity since many of our hospitals and treatment facilities have been locked down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope to coordinate this service opportunity with our 12th Step Call Committee and Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) Committee. Western Washington provides "peer support visits" to hospitals which might provide a good model for this activity. We will share details on this 12th Step Opportunity soon.

If you are interested in "peer support visits" to hospitals, then please email cpc@westsidecentraloffice.com or sign-up for our 12th Step Call Committee at https://westsidecentraloffice.com/service/twelfth-step-calls.

To learn about our other service opportunities, visit our website, www.westsidecentraloffice.com, and click on the *Help Wanted* link.

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 at our office located at 10220 SW Park Way Portland, OR 97225. We are currently open by appointment only. Visit https://westsidecentraloffice.com/literature to make an appointment.

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. This month's issue features stories by A.A. members on "Making Amends". To subscribe, visit www.aagrapevine.org .

The Grapevine is now accepting stories for "Young and Sober" (due March 15, 2021); "CPC" (due April 15, 2021); and "Remote Communities" (due June 15, 2021). Visit www.aagrapevine.org/contribute to submit your story.

This Month in A.A. History

- **February 1938** – Frank Amos, friend of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. assesses the Akron Group and explores the possibility of opening a small hospital for alcoholics. Amos recommends that Rockefeller donate $50,000 for the hospital, but Rockefeller refuses stating that the fellowship should be self-supporting. The philanthropist does donate $5,000 toward Bill and Dr. Bob's basic needs.
- **February 1940** – First A.A. World Service Office opens on Vesey Street in New York City.
- **February 1940** – First A.A. Clubhouse opens at 334 ½ West 24th Street in New York City.
- **February 8, 1940** – The A.A. Co-founders and some early members attend a dinner party put on by John D. Rockefeller Jr. It's at this meeting that Rockefeller informs Bill, Bob, and the early members that he feels A.A. should be self-supporting as far as money is concerned. This stance by Rockefeller would later form the basis of A.A.'s 7th Tradition.
- **February 14, 1971** – A.A. groups around the world hold memorial meetings honoring Bill's work as Co-founder of A.A. Bill died on January 24, 1971.
- **February 1993** – In a textbook example of country-to-country sponsorship, A.A. Mexico succeeds in getting Cuba's first group going. The Cuban Government had previously outlawed A.A. But after A.A. Mexico informed the Cuban Government of how A.A.'s program of recovery works, the government changed its mind and welcomed the Fellowship. By the end of 2004, some 200 groups have formed in Cuba.
- **February 6, 2010 –** The Westside Central Office is founded.

Upcoming Events

February 26-March 1, 2021 – Oregon Area 58 Pre-Conference Assembly. Held Online. Visit https://www.aa-oregon.org/upcoming-assemblies/ for more information.

March 1, 2021 – Westside Central Office Online Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm. Email info@westsidecentraloffice.com for an invitation to the online meeting.

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. We currently meet online. Email info@westsidecentraloffice.com for an invitation to our business meeting.

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 Two gently and very gradually began to infiltrate my life. I can't say upon what occasion or upon what day I came to believe in a Power greater than myself, but I certainly have that belief now."

(Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 27, 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.

Celebrating 11 Years of Service!

Westside Central Office

2/6/2010 - 2/6/2021

Thank you everyone for your support!