Into Action!

Westside Central Office

September 2021 – Volume 9 – Number 12

What's Happening at the WCO?

We regret to report the passing of one of our co-founders, John W, on August 29th. He was 74 and had been battling Parkinson's Disease for many years. He was a great example how we can face anything in A.A. and remain sober. John also served as our first treasurer, an office volunteer, and a longtime volunteer on our hotline. He was instrumental in the creation of our hotline in 2011. It is for this reason that we plan to add a dedication page to his memory in the next revision of our A.A. Hotline Volunteer Handbook. He will be missed!

Our one-year term positions are rotating at the end of this month. A list of these and our other open service positions is on page 6 of this newsletter. Please consider getting involved with one of these positions or pass this list on to someone who might be available for service.

Our Hotline Committee Chair and our 12th Step Call Committee Chair positions are two of these one-year positions that are rotating. These positions have become more important in recent months due to the pandemic. We can really use volunteers for these two positions as soon as possible. Both positions do not require a lot of work. Some basic computer skills are helpful for the Hotline position. The 12th Step Call Chair mostly forwards 12th Step requests to available volunteers. So, availability to receive calls/texts and forward them to appropriate 12th Step Call volunteers is what is required with this position.

Our Website Committee can also use some help by someone familiar with HTML and/or WordPress websites. If you are interested in getting involved with the website committee, then contact us at info@westsidecentraloffice.com.

Our Hospital Peer Visitation Committee continues to meet with patients at St. Vincent's. As we reported last month, these meetings have been through video conferencing due to renewed COVID-19 restrictions by the state of Oregon. The Committee also recently gave presentations to other St. Vincent's hospital professionals who work in Behavior Health and Social Work. The goal is to expand this program into other departments within the hospital.

The Hospital Peer Visitation Committee is still seeking volunteers and holding training sessions. You can volunteer on this committee by completing the form on our 12th Step Call Committee web page at https://westsidecentraloffice.com/service/twelfth-step-calls.

We would love to publish news and updates from your home group in this newsletter. If your Group has any news that it would like to share with the fellowship, then consider submitting it to this newsletter. You can use the form on page 5 to submit your Group's news and updates.

Want this newsletter emailed to you each month? Then subscribe today by sending an email with the subject "subscribe" to news@westsidecentraloffice.com

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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! Our office is currently open by appointment only. Visit www.westsidecentraloffice.com/literature or call 503-684-0415 (extension 2) to schedule an appointment to purchase literature at our office.

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

- **September 1939** – A score or more of alcoholics apply the A.A. program and recover in Cleveland, Ohio. This sudden growth of A.A. in Cleveland proves that A.A. can grow to a great size. Also around this time, the Cleveland Plain Dealer newspaper would run a series of articles on A.A.
- **September 30, 1939** - An article on A.A. titled Alcoholics and God appears in Liberty magazine. After publication of this article, Big Book sales saw an increase of several hundred and the early A.A. Newark Office received 800 pleas for help.
- **September 1947** – The first A.A. group in Brazil takes shape.
- **September 1947** – A.A. is started in the Eugene-Springfield Oregon area when eight members met at the YMCA on September 12, 1947.
- **September 9, 1948** – The Astoria Alano Club opens its doors for the first time at 145 11th Street in Astoria, Oregon. The first group in Astoria, known as the Central Group, would meet at the Alano Club on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 8pm.
- **September 1950** – The first meeting in Seaside, Oregon is held at the home of Earl E and his non-alcoholic wife Leona.
- **September 1951** – The first Oregon A.A. Newsletter, titled "Our Baby", begins publication. The monthly newsletter would carry state as well as national A.A. news. Each group would receive a copy in the mail and additional copies were circulated through the central office in Portland. 500-600 copies were printed for each issue. The newsletter would cease publication after three years. The Oregon Area would begin publishing a second newsletter in April, 1960.
- **September 2001** – In the wake of the September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center in New York, exhausted A.A. members among firefighters, police, and clean - up crews form A.A. meetings at Ground Zero.
- **September 2013** – WCO began accepting 7th Tradition contributions through its website.

Upcoming Events

October 4, 2021 – Westside Central Office Online Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm, Email info@westsidecentraloffice.com for an invitation to the online meeting.

October 8-10, 2021 – Rose City Girlstock. This year, the event will be held online. More information is available at www.rosecitygirlstock.com.

October 24, 2021 – Safety in A.A. Workshop. 11am – 12:30pm. Zoom meeting I.D. 873 4912 9960. Passcode: 831867.

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

Grapevine News

The Grapevine is A.A.'s meeting in print. This month's issue focuses on "Cooperating with Professionals (CPC)". This includes stories that discuss the importance of CPC service as well as stories by members who found A.A. because of CPC service. Also, this issue includes stories by members that present their experience, strength, and hope during the COVID-19 crisis. To subscribe to the Grapevine, visit https://www.aagrapevine.org/.

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 Ce 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 (inside Cedar Hills Shopping Center)~~ online during the COVID-19 pandemic. Email info@westsidecentraloffice.com for an invitation. 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: westsidecentraloffice.com/meetings

"…to take responsibility for the well-being of others…is the very spirit of Step Nine."

(Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 87, 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 Group have any news that it wishes to share with the fellowship? Time/Place/Format Changes? Milestones? AA Birthdays of Home Group Members? Or do you just want to put in a plug for your Group?

Complete the form below and we will publish it in an upcoming issue of WCO's newsletter, *Into Action!*

Group Name:

Group Format:

When/Where Does It meet:

Group News:

Please return this form to the Newsletter editor at a WCO Business meeting or email the information to newsletter@westsidecentraloffice.com.

A.A. Service Opportunities at the Westside Central Office

The Westside Central Office (WCO), an A.A. Central/Intergroup Office serving the western Portland, Oregon metropolitan area, has the following service position opportunities:

Co-Chair – If Chair resigns or is unable to serve for any reason, the Co-Chair steps in and assumes Chair duties and responsibilities; records WCO business meeting minutes in absence of recording secretary (2 years continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2022).

Recording Secretary – Records WCO business meeting minutes; distributes meeting minutes via email and at the start of each business meeting (1-year continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2022).

Treasurer – The Treasurer position is open. The Treasurer would need to be elected to the WCO Board of Directors and then appointed by the Board. (4 years continuous sobriety suggested[1], serves through September 30, 2022).

12 Step Call Committee Chair - Maintains a list of 12th Step Volunteers for participating groups; receives calls from Hotline volunteers; and refers 12th Step volunteers to incoming calls (2 years continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2022).

Activities Chair - Brings suggestions for WCO-sponsored events to Co Reps for approval; Organizes volunteers to host activities; Finds the facilities to host activities; Prepares flyers for distribution to A.A. community for events (2 years continuous sobriety, serves through September 30, 2022).

A.A. Hotline Committee Chair - Maintains a calendar of individuals and groups willing to answer the WCO phone (2 years continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2022).

Corrections Committee Chair - Carries the A.A. message to alcoholics behind the walls of correctional institutions (2 years continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2022).

[1] Non-alcoholic Directors may serve on the Board provided that the Alcoholic Directors out number the Non-alcoholics by at least a 2/3 majority. For example, if there are 3 Directors, then no more than one Director may be a Non-alcoholic.

Outreach Chair - Informs A.A. groups and members of the available services and opportunities for service at the WCO; Maintains the Westside Central Office Frequently Asked Questions (F.A.Q.) form (2 years continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2022).

Treatment Facilities Committee Chair - Contacts Treatment Centers and offers assistance in coordinating A.A. meetings and presentations at their facility (2 years continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2022).

Newsletter Committee Chair - Publishes the Westside Central Office's monthly newsletter *Into Action!* (2 years continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2022).

Office Volunteer Chair – Assists the Office Manager (or Board of Directors) with finding A.A.s to volunteer at the WCO facility (2 or more years continuous sobriety is suggested. Serves through September 30, 2022).

Individuals interested in these service positions are encouraged to attend the Westside Central Office business meeting. Additional information is available on our website, www.westsidecentraloffice.com, by emailing info@westsidecentraloffice.com, or by phone at 503-684-0415 (extension 0).