Into Action!

Westside Central Office

September 2022 – Volume 10 – Number 12

What's Happening at the WCO?

We held elections for all our service positions at this month's business meeting. Congratulations and many thanks to the following individuals who were elected: Andrew W (Chair), Clayton D (12th Step Call Chair), Joe S (Board), Scott C (Board, Outreach Chair, Secretary), Mark L (Board, Finance Chair).

We still have many important open positions at WCO. A list of Open positions is on pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter. Please consider standing for one of these open positions or pass this list onto someone who might be available to serve.

We certainly can use individuals to take over our Public Information (PI) and Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) Chair positions. These Chair positions help coordinate our A.A. Support Call requests with St. Vincent's and Portland Providence Hospitals. Having at least one of these Chair positions filled will help us continue to provide this valuable service.

We are grateful to have our 12th Step Call Chair filled again. This position was vacant the last year. Having the position filled means we can handle 12th Step Call Requests more efficiently. We also continue to need more 12th Step Call volunteers; especially individuals in the western portion of Washington County such as Hillsboro, Banks, Forest Grove, etc. For more information on the 12th Step Call Committee, or to sign up, visit https://westsidecentraloffice.com/service/twelfth-step-calls.

We noticed an increase in non-A.A. related calls to our hotline lately. Some of these calls include individuals looking for financial assistance with bills or space for religious worship. Of course, we do not deal in such affairs. After some investigation, we think we now know what might be happening. Some churches offer financial assistance with bills. When someone Google searches a particular Church that also has A.A. meetings, sometimes our website appears as the first Google Search result. The Google user would then click on the first result, go to our meetings webpage, click on the Contact link, then dial our phone number. We added a note next to our phone number that reads "*Please call only if you wish to speak to someone about Alcoholics Anonymous or the Westside Central Office".* So far, this appears to work

Continued on page 3

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

"A.A." and "Alcoholics Anonymous" are registered trademarks of A.A. World Services, Inc., used by permission.

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.

Continued from page 1

as we have not received non-A.A. calls since adding that note.

We are excited to report that the organizers of the 2023 Pacific Northwest Conference (PNC) have invited us to host a booth at next year's PNC, scheduled for June 23-25, 2023, at the Portland Airport Holiday Inn. PNC is the longest running A.A. conference with the first being held in 1948. That means next year's PNC will also celebrate its 75th Anniversary! We are excited to be a part of it. We will need some volunteers to help us host our booth. More information on how to volunteer at our PNC booth will appear in an upcoming issue of this newsletter. More information on PNC is available at https://pnc1948.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, online with Zoom. Email info@westsidecentraloffice.com for an invitation. We look forward to seeing your group's Co Rep there!

Upcoming Events

October 3, 2022 – Westside Central Office Online Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm, Email info@westsidecentraloffice.com for an invitation to the online meeting.

October 7-9, 2022 – Rose City Girlstock. This year, the event will be held online. More information is available at www.rosecitygirlstock.com.

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

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, 2024).

Treasurer – Prepares and submits to each business meeting WCO's financial statement which includes a summary of income, expenses, and budget balances. Some business/accounting experience is recommended. 4 or more years of continuous sobriety is suggested. The Treasurer is elected as a Board member and appointed by the Board. (4 years continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2024).

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, 2023).

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, 2023).

Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee Chair - Hosts A.A. presentations to professionals, such as health care workers, counselors, law enforcement, etc. who come into contact with active alcoholics (2 years continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2024).

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, 2024).

Public Information Chair – Informs the public on "what A.A. is" and "what A.A. is not" through literature, presentations, and public service announcements (2 years continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2024).

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, 2024).

Newsletter Committee Chair - Publishes the Westside Central Office's monthly newsletter *Into Action!* (2 years continuous sobriety suggested, serves through September 30, 2023).

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, 2023).

Office Manager – Manages the Westside Central Office and its volunteers. 5 or more years continuous sobriety is suggested. Serves through September 30, 2024.Note: Office Manager is appointed by the Board of Directors. Please email your service resume to info@westsidecentraloffice.com.

Assistant Office Manager –Assists the Office Manager in their duties. 3 or more years continuous sobriety is suggested. Serves through September 30, 2024. Note: Assistant Office Manager is appointed by the Board of Directors. Please email your service resume to info@westsidecentraloffice.com.

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).