Into Action!

Westside Central Office

January 2023 – Volume 11 – Number 4

What's Happening at the WCO?

Happy New Year everyone! We hope that the first month of 2023 has been a good one to you all!

This past month, we have been busy reviewing the meetings listed in our meeting schedule for accuracy. Please visit the meeting schedule on our website and review your Group's information. If you need to update the information, you can click on the link "Request a change to this listing" for the meeting or click on the "Add/Update Meeting Information" link under the Meetings tab on our website, www.westsidecentraloffice.com. The direct link is https://westsidecentraloffice.com/meetings2/addupdate-meeting-information.

Our Hotline Committee has updated its Hotline Guidelines and Resources handbook. The latest revision of this handbook is dedicated to A.A. member, John W, who was a co-founder of WCO, our first treasurer, an office volunteer, and longtime Hotline Volunteer. His guidance and wisdom were instrumental in the development of our A.A. Hotline and the content of the Hotline handbook. He passed away on August 29, 2021.

This Hotline handbook explains to the volunteer how to receive a hotline call. It also provides some information on common calls one receives as a hotline volunteer. The handbook also provides contact information for other A.A. Hotlines and 12th Step programs that might be of interest to our callers. We still need volunteers on our hotline. One can serve anytime they are available. Visit https://westsidecentraloffice.com/service/a-a-hotline for more information and to sign up for WCO's hotline.

The A.A. Service Call Committee is a committee focused on handling 12th Step Call Requests to hospital patients. This committee handled over 200 Hospital 12th Step requests in 2022! The Committee is planning to hold another training session soon, so now is the time to sign up if you would like to get involved with this rewarding service committee. To learn more about this committee and to sign up, visit https://westsidecentraloffice.com/help-us-carry-a-a-into-hospitals.

As we reported earlier, Cedar Hills Shopping Center, where we have our office is undergoing a sale. All tenants will need to relocate as the developer plans to replace the shopping center with apartment buildings. We are looking for a new office to lease within a 10-mile radius of our current location. We can use some help in the office search. If you have a lead on possible office space or would like to help the office search committee, email us at info@westsidecentraloffice.com.

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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Grapevine News

Current Issue Spotlight:
This month's issue features "Making Amends." AA members share powerful experiences about how they made their Ninth Step Amends.

Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues:
1. AA in the Military — Did you ever serve in the military sober? Were you ever stationed overseas or on a ship while trying to stay sober? What were AA meetings like in the military? What were some of the challenges? Did you find AA while serving? We're also looking for Vet's stories! (stories due Feb. 15)

2. Young & Sober (ICYPAA Celebrates 65 Years!) — Did you come into AA at an early age? What was that like? What were the challenges? Do you go to Young People's AA (YPAA) meetings, dances and Conferences? How did that help you? Share! (stories due March 15)

Upcoming topics: Mid-Sobriety Challenges; Sober Holidays! & Remote Communities.

Important: We're looking for stories of experience with **each Step and each Tradition!** (Pick a particular Step or Tradition and share your experience!) We also need your jokes!

Visit aagrapevine.org to submit your stories!

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. We are open by appointment during the COVID-19 pandemic. Visit www.westsidecentraloffice.com/literature to request an appointment.

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

- **January 6, 1944**: The first regular meeting location for A.A. in Oregon is established at the Downtown Portland, Oregon YMCA. Although A.A. in Oregon was first established in March 1943 by Co-founders Doc H and Dan G, a regular meeting location had not yet been established until now. 27 people would attend the first meeting. From this meeting, 13 men expressed a desire to become members. A committee was elected and the first group in Portland, as well as Oregon, was established. This group would continue to meet here for two years before starting the 10th Street Clubroom.
- **January 3, 1949**: The first A.A. meeting in Albany, Oregon is held in the chamber of commerce building. The meeting was sponsored by the Salem (Oregon) Group.
- **January 1957:** First A.A. Group in India forms in New Delhi.
- J**anuary 1958:** As a service to its readers, the January 1958 issue of the Grapevine prints a chart outlining A.A.'s services and the Conference structure. Text in the top box of the chart indicates that there are over 7,000 groups registered with the "General Service Headquarters". This includes 500 in institutions (i.e., hospitals, prisons, and other institutions), and 760 overseas.
- **January 1959:** After years of failed attempts, a stable A.A. Group in Colombia forms.
- **January 1960:** First A.A. Group in Guatemala forms.
- **January 1962:** The (Portland Oregon) *Central Committee* changes its name to the *Portland Area Intergroup*.
- **January 24, 1971:** At the age of 75, A.A. Co-founder Bill W dies at the Miami Heart Institute in Miami Beach, Florida.
- **January 2006:** A Japanese General Service Board forms in Tokyo. At this time an estimated 3,500 to 4,000 members are meeting in 290 A.A. Groups in Japan.
- **January 2010:** The Intergroup Exploratory Committee holds its last meeting and approves the creation of the Westside Central Office.

Upcoming Events

February 6, 2023 – Westside Central Office Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm held online. Email info@westsidecentraloffice.com for an invitation.

March 31, 2023 – April 2, 2023 – Oregon Area 58 Hybrid Service Assembly. 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

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, ~~at the Westside Central Office, 10220 SW Park Way, Portland, OR 97225~~ online during the COVID-19 pandemic. Email info@westsidecentraloffice.com for an invite.

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

"Only Step One, where we made the 100 percent admission we were powerless over alcohol, can be practiced with absolute perfection."

(Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 68, 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.