Into Action!

Westside Central Office

July 2023 – Volume 11 – Number 10

What's Happening at the WCO?

This month, we sent a new printed meeting schedule to the printers. We have not published a printed meeting schedule since the pre-pandemic Winter 2020 edition. Moreover, this is the first printed meeting schedule that lists all the meetings on the Westside. In the past, we only listed meetings that Opt-In to the printed schedule. In fact, one of the reasons for the delay in releasing the new meeting schedule was that the old method for publishing it did not scale well for listing all the Westside meetings. The meeting schedule doubled in size, and we needed a better way to generate the meeting schedule than manually editing a Microsoft Word document.

Our website's online meeting schedule plug-in provides the ability to generate pdf pages for inclusion in a meeting schedule. It also can generate the pages for an arbitrary page size. However, one cannot easily include a pdf document into a Microsoft Word document. But one can include images. After finding a tool that converts pdf pages into individual images, we were able to easily include the pages generated by the website plugin into our meeting schedule document.

Although the publishing process still requires some manual steps, the process was still more efficient than the old method. The method for creating the old meeting schedule document could take up to 4 hours and the new method, which includes all the Westside meetings, took about 1 hour to complete.

The schedules are now back from the printers and only need to be folded and stapled. They should be available for pickup from our office soon. The old meeting schedules cost about $.50 each to publish and these new schedules, because they are double in length, cost about $1.00 each. The schedules are available for free but a voluntary contribution to help offset publishing costs is gladly accepted.

WCO still has some literature available at the old (pre-April 2023) prices. If your Group needs literature, now is a great time to purchase while supplies last. After we sell out an item at the old price, we will replace it at the new price. You can view our latest price list at https://westsidecentraloffice.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/wco-price-list-july-2023.pdf.

Individuals looking for a rewarding service position should consider one of our vacant positions. A list of open positions is available at https://westsidecentraloffice.com/westside-central-office-service-opportunities-3. You can attend our business meeting or email us at info@westsidecentraloffice.com to learn more about these service positions.

Want this newsletter emailed to you each month? Then subscribe today by completing the online subscription form at: www.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 on at our office located at 10220 SW Park Way Portland, OR 97225. Our office is currently open by appointment only. Email lit@westsidecentraloffice.com to request an appointment. A map to our office is available at www.westsidecentraloffice.com/map/

If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, that's ours! Call 503-684-0415

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.

This Month in A.A. History

- **July 6, 1948** – Earl E, founder of the first A.A. meeting in Seaside Oregon has his last drink. Earl will attend meetings in Astoria before starting the meeting in his Seaside home in September of 1950.
- **July 1950** – The Twelve Traditions adopted by the fellowship at the First International Convention (Cleveland, Ohio).
- **July 1950** – At the request of some judges, a city jail committee is established by the Portland Oregon *Central Advisory Committee* (CAC). CAC changed its name to *Portland Intergroup* in 1962.
- **July 1955** – The 20th Anniversary International Convention is held in St. Louis.
- **July 1955** – The second edition of the Big Book is published.
- **July 3, 1955** – The St. Louis Convention culminates with Bill W officially handing leadership of A.A. over to the members.
- **July 1955** – Steve L. Loy, managing editor of La Grande Oregon's newspaper, "Evening Observer", attends a local A.A. meeting. A few days later, the newspaper runs a 600-word editorial on A.A. entitled "It Must Have Something". The editorial provides the residents of La Grande a clear picture of what A.A. is and what A.A. is not.
- **July 1, 2004** – The A.A. Grapevine Digital Archive is launched providing online access to sixty years of Grapevine content.
- **July 2012** – The participating groups of the Westside Central Office approve job descriptions and Guidelines for conducting elections and business.
- **July 13, 2017** - the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) classifies Westside Central Office as a public charity under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) 501(c)(3). Upon receiving this recognition from the IRS, the Westside Central Office completes the last major milestone of its formation.

Upcoming Events

August 7, 2023 – Westside Central Office Business Meeting, 7:00pm-8:00pm, Held online. Email info@westsidecentraloffice.com for an invitation to join.

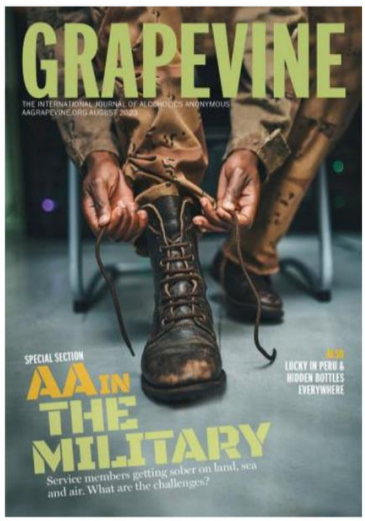
To list A.A. related announcements in this section, email the announcement to: newsletter@westsidecentraloffice.com

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: www.westsidecentraloffice.com/meetings

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, online through Zoom. Email info@westsidecentaloffice.com for an invitation. We look forward to seeing your group's Co Rep there!



Grapevine
Current Issue Spotlight:

This month's feature section is "**AA in the Military**." What's it like to get and stay sober while serving your country far from home? Stories of experience, strength and hope from our brave AA members in uniform.

Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues:

Getting Through Tough Times — A serious illness, divorce, the death of a loved one, a house fire, loss of a job, bankruptcy…How have you stayed sober through adversity? How did the program and fellowship help you? (stories due Aug 15, 2023)

Spanish-Speaking AA Members — We're looking for stories by members doing service to reach out to our Spanish-speaking members in meetings, districts, areas or at events. (stories due Sept. 15, 2023)

More upcoming topics: …Why I Love my Big Book…GV turns 80 soon! Send us your best Grapevine memories!

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!

"The Seventh Step is where we… move out from ourselves… and toward God."

(Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 76, 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.

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.