



January & February 2012
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UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Central Service Office Monthly Business Meeting**
1st Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm at the CSO. All groups are encouraged to send a representative.
- **District 8 GSR Meeting**
3rd Saturday of the month at 1:30 pm generally @ Alano Club, 320 Clark Street, Pueblo
- **Longtimer's Meeting**
January 28th at the Alano Club, 320 Clark St., Pueblo. Long Timers 11:00 ~ 3:00
- **Area 10 Spring Assembly**
March 23- 25 in Aurora, Colorado. Go to www.Coloradoaa.org for more information.
- **2012 Colorado State Convention**
August 31 to September 2 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Go to www.Coloradoaa.org for more information

NEWS FROM THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE OF SOUTHERN COLORADO

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Office hours Monday-Friday 10 am-4 pm

Closed some holidays. Call to verify.

Why We Call It "The Big Book"

A printer in Cornwall, NY, named Edward Blackwell, had been highly recommended to Bill Wilson. Blackwell was the President of Cornwall Press. So Bill and Hank Parkhurst (author of the personal story "The Unbeliever" in the first edition of the Big Book) went to Cornwall to see Blackwell. There they were told that the book would probably be only about four hundred pages when printed. That seemed a bit skimpy. They wanted to sell the book for \$3.50 per copy. That was a very large sum in those days; probably the equivalent of about \$50 today, and people might not think they were getting their money's worth.

They picked the cheapest, thickest paper the printer had, and requested that each page be printed with unusually large margins surrounding the text. This made for an unusually large book. Thus, the book came to be nicknamed the "Big Book."

A reproduction of the first printing can be purchased today and it is much taller and thicker than our current Big Book, although it has fewer pages.

Blackwell had an excess of red material for the bindings, so he offered them a special deal. Eager to save costs, Bill and Hank agreed. They also thought, according to some reports, that the color red would make the book more attractive and marketable.

The first printing was the only one on which a red binding was used. All the other printings of the first edition, except for the fourth printing, were in various shades of blue. The fourth printing, due to another overstock of binding material and thus, lower cost, was bound in blue as well as in green.

Despite all their efforts at proofreading, there was a typographical error in the first printing. On page 234, the second and third line from the bottom was printed twice. This was corrected in subsequent editions.

A New York AA member named Ray Campbell, a recognized artist, was asked to design the dust jacket. His story, "An Artist's Concept", appears in the Big Book's first edition. He submitted various designs for consideration including one which was blue and in an Art Deco style. The one which was chosen was red, and yellow, with a little black, and a little white. The words Alcoholics Anonymous were printed across the top in large white script. It became known as the circus jacket because of its loud circus colors. The unused blue jacket is today in the Archives at the Stepping Stones Foundation.

Nancy O.

CSO Elections

The annual CSO Steering Committee elections will be held on March 7, 2012 5:30 pm at the Central Service Office. Positions are; Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, Office Manager, two Members-at-Large, and Newsletter Editor. Candidates must have two years of sobriety, be willing to commit to one year of service work, and be present during the election. For information on duties of the various positions talk to Kevin at the CSO on Monday, Wednesday or Friday afternoons or call Dennis at 719-250-9022.

Any group representatives who wish to have a vote must have attended at least 4 steering committee meetings in the last fiscal year.

2012 CSO Budget

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|------------------------------|------------|
| Rent | \$ 2,820 |
| Phone/Internet | \$ 3,300 |
| Phone Listings | \$ 375 |
| Office Supplies | \$ 700 |
| Activities | \$ 750 |
| Insurance | \$ 150 |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 200 |
| Total | \$ 8,945 |
| January 2012 Operating Funds | \$ 1668.94 |

Long Timer's Roundup

When: January 28th, 11 am—3 pm

Where: The Alano Club, 320 Clark Street, Pueblo

Fellowship: 11 am –12 pm, Lunch: 12 pm-1:30 pm, Speakers to follow.

Speakers: Al H. from Trinidad CO

Eddie M. from Canon City CO

Chuck & Candice L. from Mosca CO

CSO is providing Fried Chicken, Cake, Coffee, Soft Drinks and Water. Covered Dishes and Donations would be appreciated. Volunteers needed, please call 719-546-1173

Highlights of Monthly CSO Board Meetings

Dec 2011... It was brought up that the accounting practices we were using need to be amended to do it properly. The income and expenses need to be recorded as they occur and not when they have cleared the bank. This will be corrected. Dennis completed the Special Holiday Newsletter and it was sent out Dec 5th. Office Manager Kevin reviewed income and expenses for the last 3 years and will be presenting a proposed budget the next meeting. Prudent Reserve was discussed on rather it needed to be raised or not, tabled until next meeting. Long-timer's will be on Jan. 28th at the Alano club with Anita making the arrangements.

Jan 2012. . .District 8 is working with Area 3 and 6 to try to get them to come onboard to host the Winter Assembly in 2013. Office manager found a more inexpensive place to purchase the toners for the office copy machine. He also proposed a budget for the next year it was approved. Long Timer's flyer needs revised and put out along with the Newsletter in the next few days.

DISCLAIMER

This Newsletter is a publication of the CSO of Southern Colorado. It is about, by, and for the members of A.A. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous. Publication of an article does not imply endorsement by either A.A. or CSO, except where indicated.