

News from the Central Service Office of Southern Colorado

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Indiana Jim
Chairperson CSO
Victor S. Editor

Kevin
CSO Office Manager
Dave
CSO Secretary

Upcoming Events

District 8 Meeting

3rd Saturday of the month
1:30 @ Alano Club
320 Clark St. Pueblo
Cañon City Alano Club
715 Elm St. Cañon City

CSO Monthly Business Meeting

March 4, 2015 @ 5:30
April 1, 2015 @ 5:30
4035-A Club Dr. Pueblo
March is election meeting.

Daily Reprieve Group Inventory & luncheon.

February 28, 2015
11:30 - 2:30
1st Presbyterian Church
220 West 10th St.

Spring Assembly

March 20-22, 2015
Boulder CO
303-818-4441

New Group

Speaker Meeting Gentle Hour

1503 West Arroyo Ave.
Corner of Arroyo & Claremont
Friday 6:00 PM

If you have any information on a change of a meeting OR a new meeting call CSO and leave a message for Victor S. 546-1173

Step 1: We admitted we were powerless over alcohol - that our lives had become unmanageable.

Promise: We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness.

Principle: Honesty - Truthfulness; sincerity marked by or displaying truthfulness and integrity. Fairness and straightforwardness of conduct: adherence to the facts.

Reward: Hope instead of desperation.

Step 2: Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

Promise: We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it.

Principle: Hope - A desire accompanied by expectation of fulfillment; one that gives promise for the future. To wish for something with expectations of its fulfillment.

Reward: Faith instead of despair.



Hi, My name's JJ and I'm in trouble with my Sponsor!

Let me begin at the beginning. I came in the program when I was really young, broke, homeless and lookin' for a free ride. Literally, lookin' for a free ride. A street friend of mine clued me in on the AA meal ticket. He said "These AA folks have a saying that when anyone anywhere reaches out the hand of AA should be there. Cool right?" So we called the local AA service office and told the lady we needed a ride to an AA meeting. Well, sure enough about an hour later some old dude came by and picked us up. My friend ask the AA dude if we could stop by Safeway because we had no food, then stop by Walgreens because he needed his scripts, then "Oh crap. I forgot my money. Could you spot me a couple of bucks?" Things were going really good for me for a long time until one day this old timer called me on my crap. He told me "I'm not your banker, taxi service, meal ticket, psychotherapist or mother. But if you want to get sober I can help." My feelings were wounded and some of the more compassionate folks in the program smoothed my feathers and gave me food, rides to the store, and money BUT I couldn't stay sober, dang-it. I finally gave in and ask that hard nosed old timer to be my sponsor. He said "OK but quit using AA as a meal ticket, start making some living amends, start walkin' to meetings, learn to uses the steps, and don't drink today. If you need a ride to meetings, call me." What an a-hole. BUT I've been sober now for 2 years, got a job and still call that sorry SOB my sponsor. I'm grateful every day for what that man did for me. Thank God for crusty old timers who don't candy coat the truth. PS We still go to meeting together but now I drive.

CSO Treasurer's Report

Dec Balance 3004.19
Dec Revenue 1263.45
Dec Expenses 856.79
Dec End 3410.85

Jan Balance ... 33410.85
Jan Revenue 1554.60
Jan Expenses 1112.22
Jan End 3853.23

CSO is required by the Charter to maintain \$2500.00 for a prudent reserve and \$1000.00 for miscellaneous expenses. 2500.00 + 1000.00 = 3500.00 Therefore 3853.23-3500.00 = 353.23 is the operating funds for the CSO to start the new year.

Mr. Sunshine says --- Take the problem to your sponsor
 --- Take the solution to a meeting.



Central Office Election Meeting March 4th, 2015

Service positions are always a great way to help another alcoholic and keep sober ourselves. This was a message I learned many years ago as a newcomer and that's why I believe in staying active in my Home Group, District 8 and at the Central Service Office. This last year the CSO had a great group of active participants BUT illness, term limited, or just plain overworked the CSO will have the following positions open: Steering Committee Chairperson, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Member-at-Large and Office Manager. This is a bunch of new opportunities to be of service my friends so think about stepping up to the plate and taking a swing at some fun filled AA service work. I ask an old friend of mine, Indiana Jim to knock out a few lines about how rewarding his involvement has been with the CSO.

Indiana Jim "As a longtime supporter of the CSO Office I have some comments to make. The CSO has and will be a part of my sober routine. I feel the service work I do there adds to my contented sobriety. I was taught to do service work from the early beginning of my sobriety and I know that by doing service work I am insuring my sobriety. I know some people do not understand why there is a CSO. We are a service office to serve District's 3, 6 and 8. We are an information facility for all the groups in these districts. We need input from the groups to tell us what services they want from us. I'm sad to say we rarely have much input from the groups. Please select a CSO representative from your group so we can get input and the rep can participate by voting on all the decisions that are made at the office. It seems we are always looking for people to take a shift to be in the office to help the needy alcoholic. It saddens me that more people do not volunteer to be on the office staff and/or the Steering Committee. At the March meeting we will be electing people to fill these open positions. Think about volunteering to help keep the spirit of rotation alive and volunteer. I think your program will be enhanced and contented sobriety will follow. Indiana Jim, Chairperson."

There you have it my friends, a man with a message. He put his thoughts and concerns on the firing line, so to speak. When anyone anywhere reaches out the hand of AA should be there! How many times I've heard that phrase can not be counted on all my fingers and toes. Does that statement imply we only help the suffering newcomer OR does it mean longtimers too? Here is a man, Indiana Jim, that sees the good the CSO does and also sees the need for support and participation. Is the CSO perfect, heck no it's not perfect, no one is perfect. Change can not take place with out commitment and input from the people the CSO is designed to serve. One very gentle soul I saw at many Steering Committee meetings use to tell the guys he worked with, "What would Bill Wilson say?" Well, Bill Wilson would probably say "Get out there and get involved, it's your sobriety we're talking about.", just a guess. I'm really glad Bill got involved!

☯☯ Well it's time for me to constructively review my day and toss up a prayer or two, VS & out. ☯☯

How's it going with your AA Sponsor?

I'm reserving judgment until I see how he handles my panic attacks.



"An alcoholic is an individual who takes the most simple program -- and works on it until he has reduced it to it's most complicated form."



"Over the Fence" by Victor S.