



TOP SHELF

NEWS FROM THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE OF SOUTHERN COLORADO
 4035-A Club Manor Drive, Pueblo, CO 81008 (719) 546-1173 24/7
 Office hours Monday-Friday 10 am to 4 pm. Closed some holidays. Call to verify.
 csopueblo@gmail.com www.puebloaa.org

February, 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **CSO Monthly Business Meeting** 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM at the CSO. All groups are encouraged to send a representative.
- **District 8 Meeting** 3rd Saturday of the month, 1:30 pm at the CSO. Pot luck lunch prior to meeting at 12:30
- **Area 10 Assembly** March 20—22, Colorado Springs, CO
- **Area 10 Corrections Conference** April 18, Johnstown, CO
- **Founders' Day Picnic** June 6, Bessemer Park
- **AA International Convention** July 2—5, Detroit, MI
- **4th of July Picnic** Bessemer Park

Treasurer's Report

Dec 1st Balance	\$ 868.94
Revenue	\$ 831.33
Expenses	\$ 888.21
Jan 1st Balance	\$ 812.06
Revenue	\$1717.45
Expenses	\$1720.62
Feb 1st Balance	\$ 808.89
Misc Fund	\$1000.00
Prudent Reserve	\$2500.00

Official Notice II:

The annual election of officers for the Southern Colorado Central Service Office will be held in March of 2020 at the monthly meeting, the first Wednesday of the month, March 4th at the above address. Most positions will be open including Newsletter editor.

Official Notice IIB:

The price of big books at the central office will go back to the regular price starting March 1, 2020. The books have been discounted due to a surplus of funds in CSO accounts. The surplus is waning so the price will go back to \$10.00.

Gimme That Old Time Religion

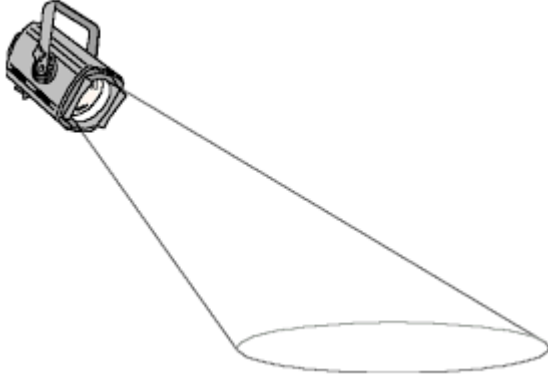
It has been my interpretation of the program of AA as laid out in the first 164 pages of the Book, that we work steps 1-10 to pull our heads around to reality and that the real purpose I am assigned is to carry the message of sobriety. The 12th step tells me to practice these principles in all my affairs so I have a goal to continue to work steps. But I also have been given a task to carry this message to the alcoholic who still suffers. With the closing of the Parkview Chemical Dependency Unit it has become even more important for us to step up and be counted. The Central Service office needs Phone numbers and names to be called when the public reaches out for help. The three point club needs volunteers to keep the doors open for the newcomer.

Yes there are other agencies and forms of treatment that will fill some of the gap made by the closing of CDU. AA is more effective over the long term than any paid or for profit spin dry. AA members have many excuses for not stepping up. If you disapprove of the way the message is being presented at some meeting or facility, get involved and change it. If we are directed by our group conscience and you aren't willing to be a part of the group, then nothing will change. Many places around the world Alcoholic treatment is not available due to social stigmas and denial of the problem. Yet AA exists in these places because of the willingness of people to be there for the alcoholic that reaches out for help. The happiest alcoholics in recovery that I know are those that believe in the value of service. We do it for free and we do it for fun, we do it because it is the right thing to do for our own peace of mind.

mattsready@live.com

If your group or the AA community have a special occasion or event that you would like in the newsletter, or a flyer that you would like distributed with the newsletter, please contact the CSO with the information. If your group is not getting the newsletter, contact the CSO to be placed on our distribution list.

IN THE SPOT LIGHT



How's that work any way?

Okay, so CDU is closed. The for profit business model for the treatment of alcoholism has been at issue within AA since the beginning of our fellowship. It comes up in the third tradition, remember in the beginning when we discuss who should be a member. It comes up in the seventh tradition of self support when we donate as a group to keep our society afloat and not expect our members to pay set fees.

Medical treatment for those withdrawing from addiction is a good idea. I have known of several people that have been deeply damaged or died from DTs as they withdrew from alcohol, seizures are not uncommon. This is not in question.

How appropriate is it for a treatment facility though, to be the only place a recovering member of AA goes to meetings. Tradition six of non-affiliation really tells us that AA meetings held in treatment facilities need to make clear that they are not part of the treatment center. The funny thing is there are people who have never been to a meeting outside of the facility. Do they understand the distinction?

The best advice in these instances come in the fourth tradition of autonomy. We would do well to remember Rule 62 and not take ourselves too seriously. The bottom line here and now in AA is the same as it has always been. We need volunteers, we need members of the fellowship to step up and participate. Apathy is a symptom of our disease, recovery from Alcoholism is improved when we become involved in carrying the message of hope. Every time an alcoholic tells a fellow sufferer there is a solution, they hear it themselves. We become hopeful by transmitting hope.

GET YOUR OWN COPY How would you like to be kept informed of what is going on in Southern Colorado? How would you like that information to come to your inbox? Your Central Service office is building an email list so we can send out information as soon as we get it. It will also allow us to email the newsletter to you as soon as it's ready. If you are interested in receiving these emails, please send us an email to: csopueblo@gmail.com

We will add you to our email list and start sending out emails!

HELP NEEDED

12TH STEP LIST

We need people to volunteer to be placed on our 12th Step List. If you are interested, please contact us at (719) 546-1173.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

To help take meetings into local correctional facilities. If interested, contact the office.

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 the CSO, except where indicated.