



TOP SHELF

NEWS FROM THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE OF SOUTHERN COLORADO
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 Office hours Monday-Friday 10 am to 4 pm. Closed some holidays. Call to verify.
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December 2022

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 Monday of the month, 6pm at the CSO this month, all General Service Representatives: GSR's, should attend these meetings.
- **Children's Christmas Party**, 3-Point Club, 2506 Lake Avenue December 17th 2-4 PM
- **Christmas Dinner Potluck**, Sunday December 25th, 1:30 Pm-? Bring a side dish to complete the feast .
- **New Years Eve Dinner and Dance** at the 3-Point Club., meeting at 6:00 P.M. Dinner from 7-8 P.M. Dance with DJ Doug from 8P.M. to close. COST \$10.00 / person, \$7.00/ club members.

Treasurer's Report

Oct 1st Balance	\$2397.72
Revenue	\$1132.78
Expenses	\$1462.98
Nov 1st Balance	\$2067.52
Revenue	\$ 661.20
Expenses	\$1783.21
Dec 1st Balance	\$ 945.51
Misc Fund	\$1000.00
Prudent Reserve	\$2500.00

Joy to The World

If this is December it must be time to celebrate and be grateful. Celebrating can be awkward for the recovering drunk. What do you do if you're not drinking? What do you say if someone offers you an adult beverage and you don't want it? How do you avoid people offering you a drink? What if I don't want to be around my drunk family? Do you tell everyone you know that you're Sober in A.A.?

Most folks who have been around for a while have found solutions that work for them. For the newcomer these questions can be a really big deal. It's not always a good idea to hang out in the kitchen and play with the Family Dog but in desperate times there are desperate measures. Play with the kids but don't do it so much it gets creepy. Children often love the attention of an adult and they don't care what you're drinking. When among the adults have a drink in your hand, sparkling cider looks like champagne , club soda with lime looks like a G&T. If there is a bartender keep an eye on them while they are mixing or pouring your drink, they may have a cruel sense of humor and try and get you drunk anyway.

If it is a dinner party, try and show up when the food is being served and scarp-er as soon as dessert is over. While I'm at it, look out for the dessert cart. Rum balls, rum cakes, whiskey soaked fruit and fruit cakes, people can hide booze in just about anything. Take a good whiff before eating any sweets, if you get tingly, better pass.

If you can avoid it don't be depending on anybody for a ride. Take your own transportation. Have the taxi number in your Phone or Uber or your sponsor. If you get uncomfortable get the hell out, NOW. We alcoholics are pretty good liars, we lied our way out of parties and holidays to drink , if necessary we can sure lie our way out of functions now that we Don't want to drink.

We all know that for some of us the family dynamic can be horrible at the Holidays. They want us to be sober but they don't want to be reminded that they aren't sober. Some may have issues with a member of the family being "uppity" or self righteous because they aren't drinking. If you want to deliver gifts and make contact with certain members of the family and avoid others, try and see them in public on neutral ground . If you must go to the family home, but feel threatened there, make arrangements for breakfast or lunch. You're less likely to have to engage in uncomfortable contacts before they have had a chance to hit the bottle.

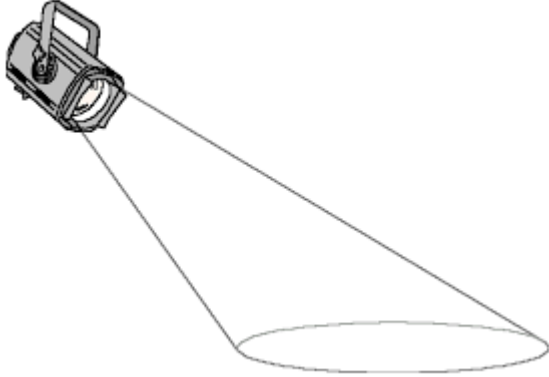
Finally, the holidays are just another day. They will pass. Trust god, clean house, help others.

Yours in service, Matt W.

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?

Our faithful and hard working DCM has reminded those in the meeting that is his home group that District 8 has service openings available. You may notice that there has been little change on this page this month. The District still needs help with openings as follows:

Archives Committee Chair, helps with digitization of the district archive as held at the CSO and collects recollections of long-timers, old printed material from the area basically the local history of AA

Cooperation with Professional Community Chair, distributes literature to psychology and medical professionals

explaining what AA is and how we may benefit their patients negatively affected by alcohol. All the more important with the losses to the treatment community in the recent past.

Hit and Run Chair Person; coordinates AA members from larger population centers visiting meetings in less populated, smaller, outlying areas. We have gone to Rye, Walsenburg, Westcliff, Rocky Ford to name a few.

Be on the lookout for flyers from The 3-point Club, the International Serenity Run in Colorado Springs, The Great Escape for holiday activities such as Halloween Dances, Thanksgiving Dinners and Christmas Activities through the upcoming holiday season. Being a volunteer on one of these committees could be a great excuse to get out of holiday obligations with people you don't want to see. Even better a reason to attend other groups and make new friends.

One thing that was abundantly clear from looking at the newsletters from Twenty years ago, was the level of local participation in keeping AA active. The committees had actual members and not just a chair person. People were active regardless of the group they attended, sponsors encouraged participation instead of isolation. We work the program to be able share what we have found.

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

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