



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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April 2023

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 all General Service Representatives: GSR's, should attend these meetings.
- **Hit and Run**
- **4th of July:** Picnic at Pueblo City Park the pavilion at the east entrance has been reserved. The main meal is provided by CSO, bring a chair, covered dish, salads, dessert. 11 am to 3 pm.
- **August 6th:** Round Robin in La Junta.

Treasurer's Report

Apr 1st Balance	\$ 33.01
Revenue	\$1451.97
Expenses	\$1053.27
May 1st Balance	\$ 431.71
Revenue	\$1738.57
Expenses	\$ 736.96
Jun 1st Balance	\$1433.32
Misc Fund	\$1000.00
Prudent Reserve	\$2500.00

Super Summer Edition

Okay kids, It's time to play. We are not a glum lot, if the newcomer could see no joy in a sober life our cause would surely wither and die. We absolutely insist on enjoying life. This is the time of year for picnics and gatherings, dances and camping trips. Watch your meeting for handouts and flyers from groups having these activities and GO TO THEM.

I started this too late to include the June 3rd District 8 workshop on service that I understand was a great success. Two of the important events are Founder's day and the 4th of July, both of their details are in the column on the left. The Area 10, that's the state of Colorado, Summer Assembly is at the Doubletree Greenwood Village on July 7th through 9th hosted by District 30. this is primarily a business meeting for GSR's to discuss the state of affairs in AA as a whole and Colorado in particular.

There are groups having picnics and parties. The Great Escape is hosting a picnic in Sticker Park, erm, excuse me, Plaza Verde Park is the official name, 800 E. Ash St. on June 17th. That starts at 1:30 pm, bring your own chair. Potluck, barbecue burgers and dogs provided. Bring a covered dish, salad or dessert.

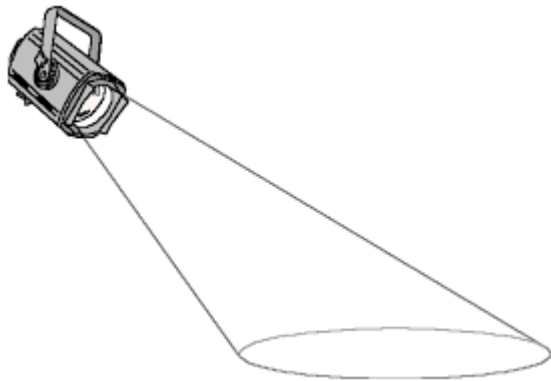
Ask around and look for flyers from groups for activities of all sorts. I know in the past there have been camping trips to San Isabel, the Sand Dunes and up on to the Greenhorn. (that's the big mountain there to southwest of us)

In the next newsletter there will be details of more activities to come in August and September including a Unity Day event in September put on by the District, and we are hoping to hear more on the revival of the Round Robin in LaJunta in August. Keep an eye out in this space for more details to come.

Yours in service, Matt W.

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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

Here we are in the sixth month and there will be lots of talk on the sixth step. The Big Book says very little and focuses on what we have learned in the fifth step. The step says “we were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.” The language of the step brings up a number of questions. In the next step these defects are referred to as shortcomings. let's settle this one right now. In Bill's later writings he states that he was taught that good writing meant not repeating the same terms for an idea if there is another way to express it. He meant only to change the term not the

meaning. To the author of the book, there is no difference between a “defect of character” and a “shortcoming”. The next question is, how do we work on something like the removal of defects? The answer is this, the step asks us to be “ready to have God remove” our defects. It does not say we will cast out our defects. It says that God will remove them. Our part is to be ready. That means that something like prayer and meditation, contact with a higher power is in order.

If we are to meditate on what kind of a change we wish to have come about, we should have a clear understanding of what we mean by defect of character. At this point we can switch from the Big Book to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. In this later book there is a lot more information about what a defect of character is. The easiest for most people to understand is that our behavior moves into the area of being defective when we let a natural instinct run out of control. The desire for security becomes greed, the desire for companionship becomes lust, the desire for recognition by our fellows becomes pride. This is but a partial list, but all these defects are based in fear. For myself, I have to meditate upon the questions of, what am I afraid of? Is this a valid fear? What if this did come true, how would it affect my life? In truth I have enough experience to know that the great majority of my fears are smoke and mirrors.

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

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 you are interested, please contact us at (719) 546-1173.

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