



# 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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August 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.
- **Colorado State Convention** September 1-3 in Greeley, CO. For more information go to [convention.coloradoaa.org](http://convention.coloradoaa.org).
- **Unity Day** September 23 at Sonrise Church in Pueblo West.

## Treasurer's Report

Jun 1st Balance	\$1433.32
Revenue	\$1217.64
Expenses	\$2255.68
Jul 1st Balance	\$ 395.28
Revenue	\$ 969.34
Expenses	\$1043.47
Aug1st Balance	\$ 321.15
Misc Fund	\$1000.00
Prudent Reserve	\$2500.00

## Midsummer Sobriety Thoughts

Here in the beginning of August, summer activities are still part of the joy of life on life's terms. It rained on the Campout down in Colorado City but that doesn't mean there was no fun to be had. Fellowship around a campfire, a meeting or two under the stars for a change can prove to be quite a spiritual experience.

The Fourth of July picnic can only be described as a success. An eloquent speaker along with great potluck additions to the sandwiches provided by the CSO made for an enjoyable afternoon for what can only be described as a capacity crowd under the pavilion in the park. It was relaxed and tension free without questionable participation by the street people of Northern Avenue. There was more than adequate parking for a change. I believe it can be said that a good time was had by all including the dogs.

Still to come are the Summer Jam at the Great Escape and an annual picnic celebrating the fellowship at No Matter What group. These are both great fun. The Great Escape puts on a real show with music and dancing, great food and fellowship in the parking lot. There are flyers circulating for both of these events. Unfortunately family circumstances have kept this writer somewhat isolated and I don't have the date and time particulars to share. This is a prime opportunity to get on the phone and speak to the Central Office to obtain those details. The No Matter What picnic is also the time when officers of the group are elected and chosen for the various service positions.

I am saddened to report that the Round Robin that had been hoped for in LaJunta has been cancelled. Apparently there was difficulty finding a suitable venue. All we need is a couple of these events to build back the enthusiasm for fellowship. Two types of meetings I miss and wish would return are book studies and podium style speaker meetings. In other parts of the country and in other parts of the world, an AA open meeting is one where the interested sector of the public is invited. There is a speaker for the first half hour of the meeting, a short break is taken for smoking and refreshments, then the group re-convenes for discussion. It might be worth a group considering such a format for one or two meetings a month.

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 2024 State Convention

After the SNAFU of the 2021 state convention, Pueblo was asked, politely and out of reach of the hands of certain individuals, to submit a bid for the 2024 State Convention. Pueblo was then chosen, in similar circumstances to the asking, to be the location for the 2024 state convention. One of our local trusted servants was chosen to chair.

Please, let's all get together and provide as much support and assistance as you can for this to be a success. If nothing else, encourage your friends in surrounding states and summer visitors to come for the convention in 2024. We have the best venue in the state for local attractions, variety

of cuisines and entertainment in walking distance of the Convention Center. The State Fair will be done and long gone for this next opportunity. The Fair had been a major impediment instead of the attraction we had hoped. Let's put on a good show.

### Step Eight

It is the eighth month. Meetings will be bringing the eighth step into focus. The most common issue that comes up with these discussions is the blending and confusion with the ninth step. In the eighth step we are to be making a list of persons we had harmed and becoming willing. We already have a list. We wrote it in the fourth step. Almost as much as in the fourth step we must have guidance in the work of this steps second part, the willingness. What constitutes harm? Theft of goods or money are usually easily defined as harm. The taking of things that do not belong to you is always harmful even if you believe you deserve them. Physical assault is also easily seen as harmful to another. Those whom we have stolen or physically attacked belong on the list unless the confrontation will cause harm to a third innocent party. It is also time to consider we are not simply preparing an apology. We need to ask the offender what we as the offender can do to set things right. These need to be considered well before the actual amends. Finally we need to consider those persons with whom we wish to maintain or improve relationships over the long term. These are parents, children, siblings and others in the family. The harm we have done them can be more esoteric in terms of lies, grief, fear and worry. What behavior of our own do we need to look to for change? Look at that sixth and seventh step.

### **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 interested, contact the Area Corrections committee.

### 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.*