



October 2025

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 10AM - 4PM. CLOSED SOME HOLIDAYS.
CALL TO VERIFY



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR NEWSLETTER MUST BE SUBMITTED TO E-MAIL BELOW BY THE 21ST OF EACH MONTH

Notable Dates

- Oct. 1 CSO Steering Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm at CSO, 4035A Club Manor Dr.
- Oct. 11 District 8 Meeting, 10:30 am at CSO and on Zoom.
- Nov. 5 CSO Steering Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm at CSO, 4035A Club Manor Dr.
- Nov. 8 District 8 Meeting, 10:30 am at Rawling Library, 100 E Abriendo
- Nov. 14 - 16 Southwest Regional Forum - Mariott Albuquerque, ABQ, NM.
- Nov. 14 - 16 OIAA 2nd Online International Convention.
- Nov. 21 - 23 Area 10 Winter Assembly, Chamonix Casino and Hotel, Cripple Creek

My Experience as a GSR by Tim W

I was elected Alternate GSR for my home group. I had just celebrated my 4th anniversary. A few months later, the GSR resigned from the position and I stepped into the role. I was taught from the beginning that I was not in charge of the group, but that I was to be the group's trusted servant. This meant that I did not have a vote on any decisions made by the group, unless the decision ended in a tie. I was the chair of the group conscience, and I was responsible for setting the agenda. I was to inform the group what was happening at the District, Area, and national levels what was going on that would be of interest to the group. I was to find members who would be interested in helping out at the group level what was going on at the District and Area level committees, and for them to let the group know of local service opportunities that might interest the group. I attended the 12 District meetings each year, and also attended all the Area assemblies.

I remember at my very first Area assembly, I was sitting there listening and then realized I was supposed to be taking notes. I started scribbling as fast as I could. We were voting on something that made no sense to me. When we went on a 15 minute break, I remembered there was a man sitting behind me that had been introduced at the beginning of the assembly. His name is Don M., and he answered my questions about the subject at hand. He said "Well, you see, they are putting the horse before the cart...", and then explained what was trying to be accomplished in the subject matter. I was so grateful that he was willing to help out a brand new person, and I have always striven to do my best to help out new GSRs with all questions and concerns that they have.

continued

NEWSLETTER.CSOPUEBLO@GMAIL.COM/WWW.PUEBLOAA.ORG



October 2025

TOP SHELF, CONTINUED



IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON UPCOMING AA EVENTS, PLEASE CONTACT THE CENTRAL OFFICE AND PROVIDE US WITH A FLYER (IF AVAILABLE) AND WE WILL HELP GET THE WORD OUT. FOR FLYERS, PLEASE REMOVE ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION AS WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO POST ANYTHING WITH PERSONAL INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE TO PROTECT PERSONAL ANONYMITY.

I remember facilitating a group conscience where members were arguing back and forth over something that seemed very minor to me. There also seemed to be a lot of anger on both sides as they argued. I thought I was seeing the dissolution of the group right in front of my eyes. Eventually the matter got settled, and then after ending the meeting, the same members shook hands and went over to a local restaurant for a post group conscience meal. They were laughing and joking, and I asked, "What happened at that group conscience?". They said, "That was just a difference of opinion at the time. This is the meeting after the meeting, and this is where we relax." I thought they lost their minds. But my sponsor pointed out that we can agree to disagree in AA, and through spiritual principles, we do stay united in the AA mission of helping out the newcomers.

I would travel to the assemblies with our DCM, Alternate DCM, and another GSR. We would split everything 4 ways, and even split 2 hotel rooms to help save each our group's money. We would just talk and laugh the entire trip, and I got to enjoy the fellowship of my fellows in AA. It really helped me to become a part of something bigger than myself, and I got to understand that everything we do at group conscience, District meetings, and Area assemblies is to ensure the lights are on at local meetings and that everyone has the same chance at sobriety that I was given. I learned the value of communication, and how I was to be a conduit to ensure that my group was as fully informed as possible. I saw where an idea started at the group level, was taken to and approved by the District, and ended up being heard by the entire Area. By serving as a GSR, I learned that good ideas come from any source, and that everyone's voice is heard and respected.

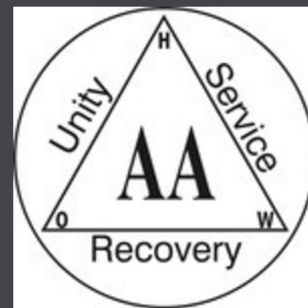




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CSO NEWS

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MINI NEWS

District 8 will hold trusted servant elections at the monthly meeting on October 11th.

All Trusted Servant positions will be rotating. Specifically, 1 Co-DCM, Alt-DCM, Treasurer and Secretary are in service rotation for the next two year term (2026-2027 starting January 2026). The 2nd Co-DCM will be a 1 year commitment to fulfill the Co-DCM role that was opened due to the in term resignation earlier this year.

Any District 8 member may stand for any open position. Also, if you know of anyone interested in General Service that might be a good match for one of these roles, please reach out to them to see if they are interested in standing or please let me know, and I can reach out as well.

HOW DOES AA AS A WHOLE WORK?

A REGIONAL FORUM IS AN EVENT WHERE MEMBERS OF THE AAWS STAFF, BOARD MEMBERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AA GRAPEVINE GO OUT TO A REGION (A REGION IS THE GROUP OF AREAS IN A GEOGRAPHICAL AREA. THE SOUTHWEST REGION COVERS THE STATES OF COLORADO, NEW MEXICO, KANSAS, OKLAHOMA, TEXAS, MISSOURI, AND ARKANSAS. THE FORUM HAPPENS EVERY OTHER YEAR AND IS IN A DIFFERENT LOCATION EACH TIME. THIS YEAR THE REGIONAL FORUM WILL BE CLOSE BY SO EVERYONE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND AND FIND OUT HOW AA WORKS FROM THE PEOPLE WHO SERVE US ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL. IT WILL BE FROM NOVEMBER 14 – 16 IN ALBUQUERQUE, NM. FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK OUT [AA.ORG/EVENT/2025-SOUTHWEST-REGIONAL-FORUM](https://aa.org/event/2025-southwest-regional-forum).

ON THE SAME TOPIC, AA PRODUCES A SET OF GUIDELINES THAT COVER MANY TOPICS IN AA, INCLUDING THE INTERNET, INTERGROUPS AND CENTRAL OFFICES, RELATIONSHIPS WITH CLUBS AND AL-ANON, AND MANY OTHERS. THEY ARE NOT RULES, BUT THEY PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON THESE TOPICS BASED ON THE EXPERIENCE OF AA. THE CENTRAL OFFICE WILL PROVIDE A SET OF GUIDELINES TO ANY GROUP WHO WANTS ONE, FREE OF CHARGE. CONTACT THE CSO FOR MORE INFORMATION.



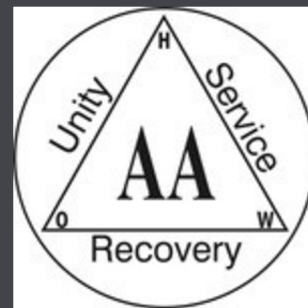
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TRIVIA TIME

Congratulations to Charles P. for answering last month's trivia question:

What was the original title of the Big Book voted on by the fellowship and why was it changed?

Answer: There were a number of titles considered for the Big Book. When a vote was finally taken of the entire fellowship "The Way Out" was preferred. I check was performed at the Library of Congress and it was found that the title had been used for 12 books. The fellowship did not want to be the 13th, so "Alcoholics Anonymous" was chosen. (From "Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age" page 166).

This month's question:

Which Member of Alcoholics Anonymous did Edward R. Murrow place on his list of the 10 greatest Americans of the 1950s?

Please contact us with your answer to receive a free piece of literature from the Central Office.



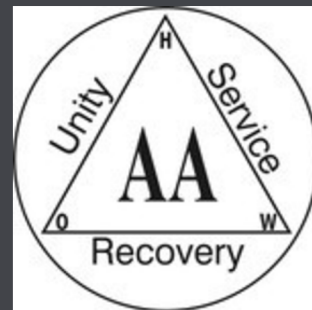
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FINANCIAL

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MONTH YEAR CSO FINANCIAL SUMMARY

August 1, 2025 Balance: \$1190.68

Revenue: \$496.62

Expenses: (\$711.41)

August 31, 2025 Balance: \$975.89

Revenue: \$1471.89

Expenses: (\$1507.57)

Operating Funds: 10/1/25 \$940.21

Prudent Reserve: \$2500.00

Miscellaneous Fund: \$1000.00

Note: The Prudent Reserve and Miscellaneous Fund are established by
The CSO Charter. The Prudent Reserve is held to support office
operations
for 3 months (not including literature purchases) and the Miscellaneous
fund
is available for emergent purchases (for example, the office must
relocate).