



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



September 2026

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

Notable Dates

- Sep 12 District 8 Meeting, 10:30 am at Rawlings Library 100 E Abriendo Ave. and on Zoom
- Sep 19 Unity Day at SonRise Church in Pueblo West - 421 E. Spaulding Ave., 10:00 am
- Oct 3 OcSoberfest at PCC
- Oct 7 CSO Steering Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm at CSO, 4035 A Club Manor Drive, Pueblo
- Oct 10 District 8 Meeting, 10:30 am at Rawlings Library 100 E Abriendo Ave. and on Zoom
- Nov 4 CSO Steering Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm at CSO, 4035 A
- Nov 6-8 Area 10 Winter Assembly at the Double Tree by Hilton - Greenwood Village, CO
- Nov 14 District 8 Meeting, 10:00 am at Rawlings Library 100 E Abriendo Ave.
our Area 10 delegate will be in attendance to give General Service Conference Report

In a last-minute effort to replace the content for the September Newsletter, I went through some of the information I had been studying for Unity Day. I came up with a biography of an individual who is not known to many in AA, but without whom AA might not have survived.

Hank Parkhurst (1895 - 1954)

Hank P. was the second person to recover in New York City (after Bill). He was an executive at Standard Oil of New Jersey who was fired because of his drinking. He and Bill were the driving forces behind the writing of the "Big Book" and Hank is credited for the writing chapter 10 - "To Employers".

As an agnostic, Hank wanted the "Big Book" to be more of a psychological book; not talking of God, but of a spiritual path to recovery. The use of God as we understood him was a compromise used to appease him

He and Bill formed the Corporation, Works Publishing Company, inc., to help fund the "Big Book".

Hank handled all the finances for Works Publishing, but the funds were mixed with those of his personal business and the fellowship with no records. It was during this time that Bill decided to move out of Hank's office in New Jersey to New York City.

continued



September 2026

TOP SHELF continued



During this period, Hank began to drink again. Problems with finances (many different issues) caused a split between Bill and Hank with Hank carrying a resentment toward Bill.

Hank later moved to Ohio. He started rumors that Bill was embezzling fellowship money for his own use. Although he was drinking, many members in Ohio believed him and began to call for Bill's expulsion. A meeting was held in Cleveland where a local committee with an attorney and CPA. Bill and Dr. Bob spoke to the assembled members and opened "the books" to them. The CPA said all the records were in order and the committee members apologized to Bill.

It is believed that distrust in Bill remained in Ohio for a very long time.

Hank died in 1954. He never returned to Alcoholics Anonymous and there is no evidence that he ever had a significant period of sobriety after this. However, his contributions to A.A. are immeasurable. Ruth Hock, Bill and Hank's secretary, said the Big Book definitely would not have been written without Bill and surely could not have been published without Hank.

God works in mysterious ways!

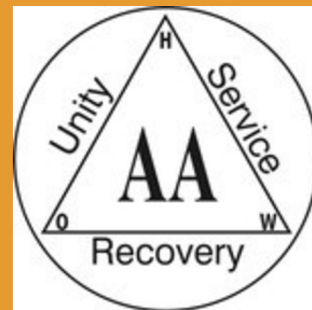




September 2026

FINANCIAL

NEWS FROM THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE OF SOUTHERN
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SEPTEMBER 1, 2026, FINANCIAL SUMMARY

July 1, 2026, Balance	\$654.31
Revenue	\$2802.37
Expenses	(\$1033.02)
August 1, 2026, Balance	\$2423.66
Revenue	\$1809.70
Expenses	(\$954.68)
Operating Funds 9/1/2026	\$3278.68
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 emergency purchases (for example, the office must relocate or office equipment fails).

Thank you to all individuals and groups who helped us stabilize our financial situation. We appreciate everyone who helped us.

We provide a detailed accounting year to date at the CSO monthly business meeting. If you would like to review the details, send a representative to the meeting or come by the office when I am here.

Yours in Love and Service,
Kevin