

On The Rogue Again

JACKSON COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE NEWSLETTER

Jackson County A.A. Central Office
110 East 6th Street Suite A
Medford OR (541) 732-1850

Editors Note -January 2014

Happy New Year to you!!! I wish you all a happy, prosperous, healthy and sober New Year!!!!
~Virginia

We publish for your enjoyment and information. Any mistakes you find are there for a purpose. We publish something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes.

On the Rogue Again, is a monthly Newsletter of the Jackson County Central Office. It is about by, and for the members of Alcoholic Anonymous Fellowship. Opinions expressed herein aren't to be attributed to Alcoholic Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply any endorsement by either Alcoholic Anonymous Jackson County Central Office, or "On the Rogue Again". (Exceptions: Quotations from the A. A. books or pamphlets and the 12 Steps and/or 12 Traditions are reprinted with permission of A. A. World Services, Inc) On the Rogue Again reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity, proper language, length, contents that violate A. A. Traditions, etc.

Have a good day unless you have made other plans.

Read pages 86-87-88 in your Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous everyday.

Central Office News

Greetings from the Board of Jackson County AA Central Office. We thank all of the groups and individuals for their generous support. A great way to get involved is to volunteer for a four hour shift once a week. Please contact Bill S. at Central Office to learn more about this. You can always come to the business meeting the first Saturday of the month to volunteer. Remember, Central Office now has a web site. There you can find information about upcoming events and the meeting schedule as well the current issue of "On the Rogue Again." You can find it by pointing your browser to either www.jacksoncountyaa.org or www.aa.jacksoncountycentraloffice.org.

"Circumstances are beyond human control, but our conduct is in our own power."

Board Members

Chair	-	Terry K.
Co-Chair	-	Wayne T.
Office Manager	-	Al Z.
Volunteer Coordinator	-	Bill S.
Secretary	-	Beth H.
Literature	-	Tom M.
Treasurer	-	Judi R..
Co-Treasurer	-	Dewey H.
Special Events Coordinator	-	Barb R.
District Liaison	-	Wayne T.
Newsletter Editor	-	Virginia H.
Web Coordinator	-	Drew.

Tradition One

Donations for December 2013

Monday Night Phoenix	149.78
AA Chippers	98.00
White House Chippers	100.00
Sobriety Bakers	20.00
BIRTHDAYS	
Kelly K.	31.00

How about donating a dollar for each year on your sobriety birthday?!

Central Office Annual Fundraiser Breakfast

Breakfast, Speaker, Raffle

\$10 adults, \$5 children

Sunday, April 6th, 2014

9:30am

St. Vincent De Paul

2424 Pacific Hwy

Medford, OR

Tickets will be available at Central Office
(If you have any donations for raffle, please
drop them off at Central Office)

Imaginary Perfection

When we early A.A.'s got our first glimmer of how spiritually prideful we could be, we coined this expression: "Don't try to be a saint by Thursday!"

That old-time admonition may look like another of those handy alibis that can excuse us from trying for our best. Yet a closer view reveals just the contrary. This is our A.A. way of warning against pride-blindness, and the imaginary perfections that we do not possess.

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Only Step One, where we made the 100 per cent admission that we were powerless over alcohol, can be practiced with absolute perfection. The remaining eleven Steps state perfect ideals. They are goals toward which we look, and the measuring sticks by which we estimate our progress.

1. GRAPEVINE, JUNE 1961
2. TWELVE AND TWELVE, P. 68

"Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on AA unity." If you're anything like me, you have a problem with this tradition (and it's the first one!). My problem relates to what I was taught when I came to AA: recovery is a personal responsibility. I learned I had to make it my first priority that it could not depend on others that I had to get rid of or deflect away anything or anyone that interfered. To me, the idea that the common welfare and unity are paramount sounded like sobriety by committee or team recovery. I needed to look behind the words to appreciate the Tradition's intent. What I discovered - at least my interpretation- is that the Tradition means the individual (me) needs to actively promote group (meeting) survival and that this frequently involves subordination of (my) ego to the group conscience. Conflicts resolve themselves because everyone practices the same AA principles and pursues the same objectives. Anyway, that's the theory.

I've found that self-subordination isn't easy. Because each group has so much autonomy, a lot of different approaches can be used for format, readings, announcements, length of sharing, spending the treasury, assigning responsibilities, etc. As you might expect, I have excellent ideas about every one of these areas. Regrettably, these ideas aren't always shared by all - they have their own, somewhat less well thought-out approaches. Not only that, when it comes to a vote, probably because of misunderstanding, these other ideas often prevail. Of course, I keep going to these meetings to make certain they don't get even more screwed-up.

But I think following the Tradition involves a lot more than some kind of grudging acceptance of group conscience. I believe it's my responsibility to promote unity by becoming knowledgeable about and by following (as best I can) all the traditions, steps and principles. Further, I feel obligated to be of service to the group, including being secretary, treasurer, greeter, (not GSR, I can't handle that yet), to chair when asked, and to attend groups regularly.

For my money, groups (meetings) are the essence of AA. I was well into my recovery before they told me about Central Offices, Districts, Areas or the GSO. And I was practicing the traditions before I realized it because people in the meetings taught me what to do before I knew where it came from. Similarly, I had no useful understanding of the Big Book until people in meetings related it to their own experience.

The Twelve and Twelve says it well on page 130...."most individuals cannot recover unless there is a group." And in Pass It On, Bill Wilson says...."the group must survive or the individual will not". Ben Franklin, perhaps anticipating the creation of AA said it best: "We must indeed hang together, or most assuredly, we shall all hang separately".

Tom M.

Two guys get pulled over while drinking and driving.

The driver tells his friend, "Peel the labels off these beer bottles, and we'll each stick one on our forehead. Now, shove all of the bottles under the front seat. Just let me do all the talking."

The cop walks up and shines his flashlight into the car, "Have you been drinking?"

"No, sir," the drunk answers. "We haven't had a thing to drink tonight."

"Then what on earth are those beer labels doing on your foreheads?"

"We're both alcoholics, " says the drunk, "and we're on the patch."

TRADITIONS CHECKLIST

These questions were originally published in the AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through September 1971. While

they were originally intended primarily for individual use, many AA groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion.

1. Am I, in my group, a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive?
2. Am I a peacemaker? Or do I, with pious precludes such as "just for the sake of discussion," plunged into an argument?
3. Am I gentle with people who rub me the wrong way, or am I abrasive?
4. Do I make competitive AA remarks, such as comparing one group with another or contrasting AA in one place with AA in another?
5. Do I put down some AA activities as if I were superior for not participating in this or that aspect of AA?
6. Am I informed about AA as a whole? Do I support, in every way I can, AA as a whole, or just the parts I understand and approve of?
7. Am I as considerate of AA members as I want them to be of me?
8. I spout platitudes about love while indulging in and secretly justifying behavior that bristles with hostility/
9. Do I go to enough AA meetings or read enough AA literature to really keep in touch?
10. Do I share with AA all of me, the bad and the good, accepting as well as giving the help of fellowship?

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*One of the greatest discoveries a man makes, one of his great surprises, is to find he can do what he was afraid he couldn't do.
— Henry Ford*

About the Central Office

Our intergroup, or Central Office as it is more commonly known in the west, is often where the sick alcoholic first calls or shows up for A.A. help.

The Central Office is an A.A. oriented service provider that partners with groups in our community, just as A.A. groups themselves partner with individuals. It is established to carry out certain functions common to all the groups...functions that are best handled by a centralized office. It is maintained, supervised, and supported by these groups in their own general interest. It exists to aid the groups in their common purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers. What a Central Office may vary from one area to another, but generally our local intergroup strives to:

1. Respond to phone or walk-in requests for help from sick alcoholics and, when appropriate, arrange for A.A. volunteers to accompany them to their first meetings.
2. Maintain an A.A. listing in the local telephone directory and route calls appropriately.
3. Distribute up to date meeting lists.
4. Stock and sell A.A. literature.
5. Serve as a communication center for participating groups issuing a newsletter to keep groups and individuals informed about one another.
6. Sometimes provide information on treatment centers, hospitals and halfway houses.
7. Provide a liaison representative at District 16 meetings to enhance outreach to the still suffering alcoholic and his/her family. This is in cooperation with District 16 and in no way strives to duplicate services.

The Central Office is supported solely by contributions from A.A. groups and from grateful A.A. members. Contributions from sources outside A.A. are not accepted in accordance with A.A.'s seventh tradition. In addition, individual groups help support Central

Office by electing a representative who will attend Central Office meetings generally held once a month. This is the way Intergroup has of informing individual group members of current numbers of calls, inquiries and individual group concerns. A continuing flow of communications is vital, because although there are no dues or fees to join or be a part of Central Office, our only income stems from groups that choose to support our local Intergroup. The groups, in turn, maintain control over the Central Office through their representatives, who reflect their group's conscience in the decision making process.

Our Central Office relies heavily on A.A. volunteers for help. By its very nature, it has financial commitments quite different from those usually encountered in the operation of an individual A.A. group. Office rent and supplies, phone bills, printing costs and renting halls for events are all regular monthly expenses for Central Office. Some methods employed by our local Central Office include;

- a) Group donations
- b) Special individual contributions
- c) The annual Breakfast/Speaker meeting at St. Vincent De Paul

Many A.A's have found that serving at the Central Office here in Medford either on special events committees, listed on a volunteer 12-step list, answering the phone, or doing what else needs to be done, greatly enriches their sobriety and broadens their circle of friends. Let's strive to keep our Central Office a strong viable resource in our community.

Presented in Memoriam
Jack Houser
Mike Kelly

Former Presidents and Champions of Medford
Central Office

“Old ways won't open new doors.”



Central Office Annual Fundraiser Breakfast

Breakfast—Speaker—Raffle
All for the low price of \$10
Children \$5



50/50
Raffle at the End
Many Many Valuable
Prizes!!

Speaker at 10 30 a.m.
JIM D.



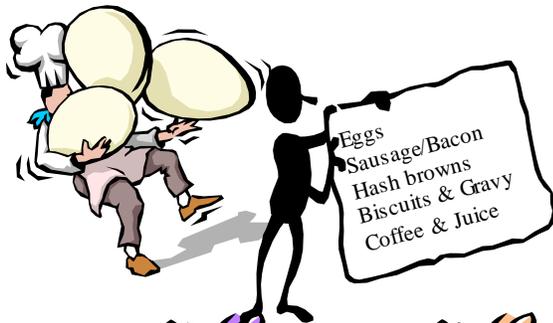
FOOD & FELLOWSHIP
SUPPORT YOUR
CENTRAL OFFICE
Serving time
9:30— 10:30 a.m.

Where: St. Vincent DePaul
2424 N Pacific Hwy
Medford Oregon

When: Sunday April 6, 2014

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Tickets Available at the Central Office
541-732-1850



Eggs
Sausage/Bacon
Hash browns
Biscuits & Gravy
Coffee & Juice





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