

Our Eye Opener

August 2010

Willamette Valley Central Office

687 Cottage St. NE Salem

Monday -Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday 10 to 2

Phone 503-399-0599

Office Manager: Laura

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Editor: Mari Anne G. mgest@msn.com or eyeopener@aa-salem.com If you have AA news or events, please let me know.

What's Up?

Get to know WVI officers and group representatives.

The Inside Scoop on Intergroup

Treasurer's Report

Inventory Revealed -Now what?

Step 8

Volunteers Needed!

New Meetings

Events

Service Position of the Month
Intergroup Representative to WVI

Peggy E.

**“When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of
A.A. to always be there, and for that I am Responsible!”**

Peggy E. is the Intergroup Rep. for “We Are Not Saints”. Her sobriety date is June 2, 1977. Peggy says: “My responsibility involves attending the monthly Intergroup meetings and reporting information received back to my home group. It keeps my meeting connected with Central Office with a voice and a vote. I came to be an Intergroup Rep through volunteering at my home group business meeting.”

Peggy shares: “Service Work is important to me as it keeps me connected to the AA community. The Big Book says “obviously you cannot transmit something you haven’t got...The answers will come, if your own house is in order.”

“There have been times I could not do volunteer service, but I could call a newcomer on the phone and ask how she is –getting out of myself. Also service work does not replace doing the steps. I have seen people do service work and not the steps and it just doesn’t work. I do try to be of “maximum service to others” if not just picking up the phone and making a call. That call could catch someone having a bad day and turn the day around for them. It is an honor and a privilege to give back to AA what has been so freely given to me.”

“My first service position was in 1977 picking up cigarette butts on the ground at my home group. I was the “butt patrol”. I was detoxing and falling on the ground so I was down there anyway. It was then that I felt like a member of AA and felt useful even though I was actually useless but I didn’t know that. That connection with my home group is the reason I was there every week no matter what!”

The Inside Scoop!

Willamette Valley Intergroup Approved June Minutes

Chairs and Committee members attending : Gene H. –Chair; Jane A. – Secretary; Kathleen K. –Treasurer; Mari Anne G. – Eye Opener Editor; Mel C. – Al-Anon Liaison; Ken. H. –H & I Chair; Laura F. –Office Manager; Gary C. –

Computer Adm.

Group Rep's : Jane A. Tuesday Night Woodland Chapel; Fred D, Mill Creek at OSP; Peggy We Are Not Saints; Randy H. North Santiam; Bill M. Santiam Hwy Proxy; Sarah S. Serenity Sisters; Sheri BW. Conscious Contact; Tiffany B. Step of the Month; Brian S. Capitol Discussion Group; Gene H. Way Home Group; Bill B. Pioneer Group. Special Guest: Dave P. District 21 DCM.

Reports (edited for brevity)

Computer Adm. –Gary C. stated that the office was in need of new computer software and hardware to bring us more current. We are currently using “dial up”. Printer is old and needs to be replaced. An Ad-hoc committee was formed to discuss solutions and will report back at Aug. meeting.

Eye Opener –Mari Anne G. reported that the June issue went out. Discussion ensued about using AA members pictures in Eye Opener. The committee felt personal stories were good but the use of photo's probably went against the traditions. Intergroup members felt it would be good to highlight Willamette Valley Intergroup officers and members rather than random volunteers so people could get to know their representatives better and better understand the service position.

Office Manager –Laura F. reported that there were 287 contacts in May bringing total contacts for 2010 to 1,489.

Treasurer –Kathleen K. reported that when doing deposits from groups, if the volunteer taking the money or the person delivering the money does not note the name of the group contributing, she cannot identify the contributing group. Contributing groups must identify themselves when dropping off money at Central Office in order to be highlighted in the Treasurers Report.

New Business: Inventory event. Questions for Inventory event were reviewed and agenda adopted. Dave P. will be assisting as our facilitator.

WVI Treasurers Report

6/1/10 thru 6/30/10

Income: \$1,954 Most of the income is from contributions submitted from area AA meetings and from selling medallions, books and literature. Contributing AA groups – 7 a.m. Downtown Group \$77.50. Capitol Discussion \$100. Good To Be Here \$10. Recovery at Noon Silverton \$150. Second Chance \$50. Tuesday Night Step Study \$14.

Expenses \$2,224 Most of the expenses are for office rent, telephone, 1 office manager and to purchase medallions, books and literature.

Balance \$7,836 Details can be found on Willamette Valley Central Office web site.

Events

Ladies Luncheon August 14 at Scottish Rite Temple -4090 Commercial St. SE Salem. Lunch begins at noon, Speaker at 1:15 and Raffle at 3:30. Registration is \$15.

She Thang Women's Conference -Seaside September 17th -19th



Thank You

A huge thank you to **Sarah** for our new office computer. Central Office has moved forward a good 10 years in the technology world!

How many alcoholics does it take to change a light bulb? Just one! Thank you to **Randy** from the North Santiam Group for helping out at Central Office. You do amazing work!

OUR INVENTORY

Willamette Valley Intergroup recently hosted a “**Performance Inventory**” to assess how well we are doing.

Willamette Valley Intergroup is a nonprofit which provides an Alcoholics Anonymous Central Office governed by an Intergroup Committee. The purpose is to encourage mutual support and cooperation between groups in the Willamette Valley.

Snip-its from the Group Inventory -

Overall we are doing a good job. We could improve by hosting a get-together periodically with the AA community to discuss service opportunities and workshops to help volunteers in these duties. We need to bring in new comers, young people and representatives from new groups recently formed.

Our Intergroup meetings are crowded. It is time to find a larger meeting space. We need to shorten the reports at our monthly meetings and allow more time for sharing and discussion from groups and for new business items. We need to upgrade computer system for better communication.

The Eye Opener has a lot of information in it but it is not getting out to the groups. We need to find a better way to distribute the monthly newsletter. We also need to look at using email for communication. Central Office should build a data base of member emails with their consent.

Overall the group thought we should create a social committee to organize fun events like picnic's, dances and educational events.

We may want to survey AA members and find out what they would like to see in the Eye Opener.

What Next? Stay Tuned!

Volunteer Opportunities :

Access Committee - share a ride to a meeting for those unable to physically attend meetings. Call Central Office and add your name and number to share a ride -503-399-0599.

Soberfest Committee - meets the last Friday of the month at St.Paul's Episcopal Church at 7 p.m. Just show up

Central Office - has volunteer openings on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. Answer the phone, sell books and coins etc. Call the office to volunteer - 503-399-0599. Laura is the Office Manager.

H & I committee (Hospital and Institutions) - Speakers needed to carry the message into hospitals, institutions and treatment centers. Women should call Kris G at 503-569-5083. Men call Dave at 503-269-8858 or Ken at 503-798-6580.

Bridge the Gap between treatment/prison and AA. Looking for woman to coordinate volunteers (temporary contacts) to arrange pick up of women coming from treatment and prisons and plug them into the AA community by taking them to AA meetings etc. Contact Ken at 503.798-6580

AA Hotline Phone

Volunteers are desperately needed. You can take calls from people in the

comfort of your own home. To sign up for a shift call Ben at 503-375-0382. 6 months of sobriety required.

Soberfest Fundraiser Car Wash - 1st Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the SOS Club 17th and Center Street. Bring your dirty car in for a wash, or come down and help out.

District 4 has openings: PI -Public Information; CPC -Cooperation Professional Community; CTF -Cooperation Treatment Facility; Secretary; Alternate Treasurer. To find out more come to District 4 meeting on Second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at St. Paul (inbasement).

Experience Strength and Hope

Step 8 - Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

The 8th step according to the 12 by 12 is: “The beginning of the end of isolation from our fellows and from God.”

From the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions page 77 “Steps Eight and Nine are concerned with personal relations. First we take a look backward and try to discover where we have been at fault; next we make a vigorous attempt to repair the damage we have done; and third, having thus cleaned away the debris of the past, we consider how, with our newfound knowledge of ourselves, we may develop the best possible relations with every human being we know.”



Committee's

H & I meets 2nd Monday of the month from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Central Office 687 Cottage St. NE Salem **District 4 GSR's** Meeting – 2nd Thursday of the month 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on 1444 Liberty St. SE Salem **WVI Intergroup Committee** – 3rd Monday of the month 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Central Office 687 Cottage St. NE **Soberfest Committee** meets the last Friday of the month 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church 1444 Liberty St. SE Salem.

Speaker Meetings

TTCO Speaker Meeting 2nd Saturday of the month 7 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church 1444 Liberty SE

KISS Speaker Meeting 4th Saturday of the month at 7 p.m. Morningside Methodist Church 3674 12th ST SE

New Meetings or changes

Step of the Month Group is moving from 1st Congregational on Cottage to Woodland Chapel at 582 High St. SE starting Saturday Sept. 4th. 8 a.m. to 9!

Upper Santiam Group Idana City Hall on Wed. & Fridays at 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Rickreall Saturday women's meeting is cancelled.