



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

APRIL 2025

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

DISTRICT 8 NEWS

SAVE THE DATE!

- CSO STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, APRIL 2, 2025, 6PM AT CSO OR ZOOM (LINK ON PUEBLOAA.ORG)
- DISTRICT 8 COMMITTEE MONTHLY MEETING, APRIL 12, 2025, 1030AM AT CSO OR ZOOM
- AREA 10 CORRECTIONS CONFERENCE, APRIL 12, 2025, STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO
- DISTRICT 8 FOUNDERS DAY, JUNE 7, 2025, HOSTED BY GREENHORN VALLEY GROUP IN RYE, CO

Think, Think, Think
Easy Does It



When I arrived in AA, I had no clue what I was in for. It has been a lifetime thing for me. In January of 1980, my father died. He was the elephant in the living room, his abhorrent behavior to my mother, spoiling her rotten with anything she wanted and beating her senseless when she got it. He was conversely a saint in public, a life saving surgeon and generous to a fault. His epitaph says it all, He Gave.

That's not what this is about. I was two weeks short of my 21st birthday. There were two funeral services for my father and between them my two older brothers took me to a sandwich shop on Norwood. We went down a short hallway to a long narrow room in the back. The cigarette smoke was really thick, there were little framed things on the wall with sayings like "think think think" and "Just for Today". I was in the Great Escape.

This is the point of this article. There were many meetings in Pueblo in the Eighties. The people who say there were only a few didn't get out much. At the time the Great Escape was the only meeting at noon. Most meetings at the time were at eight pm. There were more meetings at the state hospital than today. On weekends we had dances on the Alcoholic Treatment Center ward with a DJ in the program. The 3-pont club was downtown on Main at tenth street in a former restaurant building that had been the Mozart. Probation and Parole

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offices were on tenth street across the street from where social services is now. There was a meeting there on Wednesday at 8:00 pm called the Great Open Door. That was where everyone went to get their court paper signed. Out on the mesa, at the old St. Joe's, in their education building there was an AA meeting in one room and an Alanon in another room further down the hall. You could tell the AA room because it was the one where people were laughing.

In Belmont the Christ the King Catholic church (X the Rex) had three meetings a week, which included a step study and a big book study. Man did I learn a lot in there. The Parkview CDU was just getting started. For a while, after some drunk drove into the Mozart, through the fireplace on the west side of the building no less, the 3-point club rented space for cheap in the same building occupied by CDU on Club Manor Drive. Tradition 6 anyone? There were still some meetings held at CDU but the club moved down to Clark Street when the counselors wanted to facilitate the AA meetings.

On the south side there were meetings at St. Peters Episcopal church in the basement. There were at least two I remember at 8:00 pm and one on Friday nights from 11:00 to Midnight that was a candlelight meeting. It was a hugely popular young people's meeting. Pueblo west had not been developed enough in early eighties for there to be meetings. The first ones I remember were held in a community center in the middle of the mobile home neighborhood. When smoking in public spaces, we were the first city in the country to have a municipal non-smoking ordinance, became an issue in Pueblo and a certain individual that was a real go-getter came into AA, there was a bloom of early morning, noon and 6:00 pm meetings like the desert after a heavy rain. Many of those meetings kept going for quite a while, and that man is the very best example of service to the program I know of.

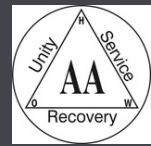
There are still some meetings that are not in the printed schedule or available on the app. These meetings are for the select few who feel that their reputations could be irreparably damaged by a breach of anonymity. Back in the day those meetings were often couples meetings and typically met in a closed restaurant or a meditation room at a church.

The moral of this story is that meetings, like alcoholics, come and go. Resentment, schedule changes and other circumstances beyond our control cause change. If a meeting that once thrived is gone, look around the chances are you'll just find those folks in another room. Matt W - Pueblo

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CSO NEWS



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Does your group have any questions about topics in A.A.? Do you need information about maintaining anonymity on the internet or how the relationship with Al-Anon works? There are guidelines produced by AAWS that are written to help with these topics and many others. If your group is interested, the CSO has copies of the guidelines free of charge.

The Central Office's service area includes District 3, 6, and 8 (basically the entire southeast corner of Colorado. We are very interested in improving our contact with our entire service area. We are looking for ways to reach out to individuals and groups that find it inconvenient to come to us. If you have any thoughts on this matter, please feel free to call us at 719-546-1173 or email us at csopueblo@gmail.com.

We always have need for volunteers who are willing to do 12th step calls, provide rides to meetings, or working with the Bridging the Gap committee. If you are interested or have any questions, please feel free to call us at 719-546-1173 or email us at csopueblo@gmail.com.

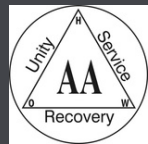
FEBRUARY 2025 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

January 1, 2025 Balance	\$2881.58
Revenue	\$1439.21
Expenses	(\$1964.85)
January 31, 2025 Balance	\$2355.94
Revenue	\$2195.97
Expenses	(\$1556.41)
Operating Funds 2/1/2025	\$2995.50
Prudent Reserve	\$2500.00
Miscellaneous Fund	\$1000.00
Year to Date	Previous Year
Revenue \$18030.12	\$17576.32
Expenses \$16386.59	\$14889.54

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 has to relocate).



FELLOWSHIP



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APRIL BIRTHDAYS

AMARA G - 04/03/2021
LYNN R - 04/08/2024
BILL C - 04/10/1996
JERRY JR - 04/10/2023
MICHAEL W - 04/10/2004
SARAH O - 04/12/2010
CHRISTIAN N - 04/13/1991
SANDRA B - 04/19/2022
GINA B - 04/20/2023
CRAIG T - 04/21/2012
CHARLES P - 04/23/2085

BIG HIT&RUN TURNOUT AT HUGNUTS IN LA VETA, Over 55 intrepid District 8 A.A.ers made the "Run" to La Veta and it was quite the "Hit"! We had great food and fellowship in a warm and comfortable setting culminating with a discussion meeting where locals and the visitors shared from the heart. It was a pleasure to see the conversations continue on afterwards as the caravans loaded up and headed back to all the points in District 8. And we learned where the Group name "Hugnuts" originated (find someone who attended to learn the secret!) Thanks again to Carlton C (D8 H&R Chair and Hugnuts GSR) and the Hugnuts Group (small in number, mighty in recovery) for hosting--Hugnuts meets Sunday evenings, at 6pm at the United Methodist Church in La Veta, CO. District 8 is planning more Hit & Runs (at least one per quarter) so if your Group is interested in participating, please reach out to Carlton C or send an email to codcm.aa.d8.a10@gmail.com

04 APR 2025

(If I have your sobriety date wrong, or if you would like your date to be listed, send me a quick e-mail at newsletter.cso.pueblo@gmail.com

