

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 MAY-2011

The 36th annual Rogue Roundup was a wonderful success. There were a total of 6,867 years and 5 days celebrated at the Sunday morning countdown.

The 11th Annual Rogue Valley Women in Recovery Brunch Buffet will be held at The Red Lion Hotel, June 18th, 10am-2:30pm. Al-Anon Speaker: Lori G. ~ Oklahoma City AA speaker; Eileen D. ~ Ashland, OR Questions? Beth- (541) 326-5702 or Fran- (541) 944-6807

Central Office is in need of volunteers; please call Dewey @ 541-732-1850. If there is something you would like included in the newsletter, please e-mail it to me at houservhs@aol.com or give me a call at 541-821-3822 or you can also drop it off at Central Office.

Looking forward to hearing from you.
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,

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Have a good day unless you have made other plans.

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

When things go wrong...don't go with them.

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 Dewey at Central Office to learn more about this.

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.jacksoncountyyaa.org or www.aa.jacksoncountycentraloffice.org.

The memorial for Eddie L. will be held Sunday, May 15th, 1:00 to 3:00pm at the Alano Club. Cake and Coffee will be served.

The wrinkles leave my face when I take off my bra....

Grandma!!

"Do you believe in life after death?" the boss asked one of his employees.

"Yes, sir" the clerk replied.

"That's good", the boss said. "After you left early yesterday to go to your grandmother's funeral, she stopped in to see you.'

Donations April, 2011

One Page at a Time	91.00
Central Point AA	20.00
Crack of Dawn	210.00
Anything Goes	60.00
Ashland How it Works	60.00
Keepin It Simple	100.00
Ashland Siskyou	156.00

When it's your anniversary in AA, why not donate \$1 for each year of your sobriety? The following people did in April;

Tom M. 28.00
Elizabeth B. 13.00

Board Members

Chair	-	Bill S.
Co-Chair	-	Terry K.
Office Manager	-	Al Z.
Volunteer Coordinator	-	Dewey H.
Secretary	-	Beth H.
Literature	-	Willie
Treasurer	-	Bob A.
Co-Treasurer	-	Dick.H.
Special Events Coordinator	-	Jan F. and Wayne T.
District Liaison	-	Open
Newsletter Editor	-	Virginia H.
Web Coordinator	-	Carol T.

"The only People with whom you should try to get even are those who have helped you."

NEW TO YOU NEWS

Jackson County Central Office has just scored a library of AA and Al Anon CD's. If you're TAKING A TRIP and would like to listen to some recovery while on the road, drop by and borrow one or two. If you're NOT TAKING A TRIP but would still like to hear a speaker of two, come on by and browse the collection. We ask that you understand that we lend these on the HONOR SYSTEM. Please return them so that others may enjoy. FYI! Central Office also has speakers on tape. (Is there anyone alive in 2010 that still owns a tape player?)

We Are Not a Glum Lot

Sometimes we *are* a glum lot! Alcohol dissolved my problems and eventually dissolved my family. Sitting in the back row of my first "dry" AA meeting I heard a man from Malibu named Jimmy Ryan speak. He had driven over 2 hours in the pouring rain to share his experience with me. My wife had announced the day before that the marriage was over and I had promised not to drink but as usual ended up drunk. I didn't want to listen to him because my life was over. Everything I had loved I had lost the day before. Jimmy began to tell his story and people began to laugh. I folded my arms tighter so as not to let him get to me but when he told his story about standing on the court house steps and being afraid to go in and face the same Judge with this 3rd DUI in 6 months, I began to listen. He knew he could not go in alone so he asked God to go in and face the Judge with him. "The SOB gave me and God 30 days in jail!"

He said that "he had forgiven the Judge and hoped God had also!". My arms came down and I began to laugh for the first time in a long time. My sponsor, Deac, used to say that the healing begins with the laughter.

My sponsor today used to think he yelled "Whoopee" and would look around to see if people were looking at him. I can certainly identify with that feeling only my word was "B---S---!"

I still get that feeling at times but don't have to act on it! One thing AA meetings will certainly do is ruin a good pity party. When you put down your tale of woe next to your chair and go and get some coffee, someone will probably move it or throw it out!

My friend Ellen who used to run with Sister Bea used to say, "Life is too important to take it seriously!" If your life is getting too serious come on out to the Saturday Ruch 9:03 World Famous International Meeting or the Jacksonville Friday 7am Men's Stud Muffin Meeting. Which presently has a bunch of old guys eating too many muffins but we hope to find a STUD someday. We take the disease seriously but not ourselves. Peter S. 8/16/82

I was asked to write an article for this newsletter, and although I could come up with a bunch of stuff to write about. I chose instead to submit a poem I wrote at 6 months sober for the out-patient treatment center classes I attended for 6 months, three times a week.

In conclusion.....

I wake up each day, open my eyes, and wonder what the day will hold.

Will it be the same dull pain, the acting out of shame, or will something new unfold.

There's the same rituals, habits, and routines, where fear of changing will upset the rhythm and speed.

Then there's the travel to the place I don't want to be all day, working for those who act out of greed.

As I sit and do, and complete each task, I know that something more must exist.

It's like time is rushing by, leaving dust in my eyes, but still I sit and persist.

By the end of the afternoon I can still say I've done my best, I've earned my keep.

Then it's off to group or a meeting, more self-discovery work and reading. I add more to my notebook, feel my feelings, or perhaps do some weeping.

Tomorrow is another day; I get ready for bed and give thanks to my Creator and say a prayer.

Perhaps today did have meaning, a design and a purpose. It may not seem easy, but it is fair.

If I remain humble and teachable, open and willing, life's joys will be mine to see.

Perhaps just for today, I was exactly where I was supposed to be.

Submitted by: Laurie W. 11-3-08

NEWCOMER BLUES

**I CLEARLY REMEMBER BEING A NEWCOMER!
AFTER MY DRINKING LICKED ME, I Poured
my gin down the sink, dropped my
drinking buddy, phoned family and
friends in AA and told myself, "NINETY
MEETINGS IN NINETY DAYS OR I'M DEAD."
NERVOUS AND AFRAID, I SAT IN THE BACK OF
THE ROOM AT MEETINGS IF SOMEONE
TALKED TO ME I NEVER LET ON THAT I WAS
STRUGGLING. I ACTED AS IF I HAD
IT TOGETHER. I MADE MYSELF INVINCIBLE AND
WOULD NOT STOOP TO SHOWING EMOTION.
EGO WAS MY ENEMY. FEAR WAS MY RUDDER.**

**SEVERAL MONTHS LATER I BECAME MORE
COMFORTABLE, BUT I WAS STILL ALONE. I
did NOT TALK TO OTHER MEMBERS UNLESS
THEY TALKED TO ME. FEELING UNLOVED AND
ALONE, I NOTICED OTHER WOMEN TALKING TO
EACH OTHER BUT NOT TO ME. THERE WERE
CLIQUEs IN DIFFERENT MEETINGS, CLIQUEs I**

WAS NOT A PART OF. I ATTENDED MEETINGS, ARRIVING JUST BEFORE THE MEETING STARTED AND LEFT AS SOON AS IT ENDED. "WELL AT LEAST I AM GOING TO MEETINGS" I SAID TO MYSELF, EVEN IF I AM NOT MAKING FRIENDS. MY INSECURITIES FED MY SOLITUDE.

TEN MONTHS INTO MY SOBRIETY I HAPPENED TO MEET WITH A VETERAN AA MEMBER. SHE MENTIONED THAT SHE WAS READING THE TWELVE AND TWELVE WITH A GROUP OF WOMEN. FEELING LIKE A CHILD, I ASKED, "CAN I COME?" "OF COURSE!" SHE SAID. THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME IN AA THAT I ASKED FOR WHAT I WANTED. I HAVE LEARNED SINCE THAT *asking* IS THE KEY TO THE KINGDOM. WE GET WELL BY *asking* GOD FOR HELP.

THE GROUP OF WOMEN FROM THE TWELVE AND TWELVE GROUP HAVE BECOME MY CLOSEST FRIENDS. THE OTHER NIGHT WE WERE ALL TALKING ABOUT HOW WE FELT AS NEWCOMERS. IT WAS AN EYE OPENER TO HEAR THEM ALL SAY, "I FELT SO LEFT OUT WHEN I FIRST JOINED AA." LIKE ME, THEY FELT THAT THEIR SOBRIETY WAS UP TO THEM. NO ONE WAS GOING TO HELP THEM. I IMMEDIATELY THOUGHT, "HOW COULD THIS BE RIGHT? THE FOUNDATION OF THE PROGRAM IS THE GROUP ITSELF. WE GET SOBER BY BEING TOGETHER "SO I ASKED MYSELF, "WHAT WAS MY PART IN THAT FAULTY THINKING? WHAT CHARACTER DEFECT DID I HAVE THAT PREVENTED ME FROM JOINING IN?" AT THE TOP OF MY LIST WAS FEAR. I DID NOT WANT TO BE REJECTED. SECOND IN DISTRICT DISH

Announcements/Upcoming Events:

99& Under Ohana Day

LINE CAME PRIDE AND JUDGMENT. I THOUGHT MYSELF BETTER THAN OTHER ALCOHOLICS.

HAVING HAD THAT MOMENT OF CLARITY I MADE A DECISION TO HELP WOMEN NEW TO THE PROGRAM. FROM NOW ON, I AM GOING TO EXTEND MY HAND TO THE WOMAN IN THE BACK OF THE ROOM WHO IS AFRAID. I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO HELP EVERYONE, BUT I MIGHT MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO SOME. IN THIS WAY I AM A RESPONSIBLE MEMBER OF AA.

"I AM RESPONSIBLE. WHEN ANYONE, ANYWHERE REACHES OUT FOR HELP I WANT THE HAND OF AA ALWAYS TO BE THERE; AND FOR THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE."

SUSAN H.

SOBRIETY DATE: JANUARY 21, 2010

None of us has been given a torch big enough to light the way for all those who need Alcoholics Anonymous. We each have been given a candle ~ if we stand together, our light will be greater than the torch. If we bicker at each other and blow on each other's candles, none of us will have enough light to shine on the Alcoholics in the darkness.

...When we retire at night, we constructively review our day...On awakening let us think about the twenty four hours ahead.. Before we begin, we ask God to direct our thinking, especially asking that it be divorced from self-pity, dishonest or self-seeking motives.

Alcoholic Anonymous, page 86

May 29th Noon to 6pm
Touville State Park
8425 Table Rock Rd.
White City, Or.

Speaker meeting and Hawaiian Food
Volleyball and Limbo

Mitch S 541-301-3615 or Ross M. 541-663-7059

Pacific Northwest Conference
June 24, 25 and 26 2011
Bend Senior Center
1600SW Reed Market Rd.
Bend, Or. 97702
Contact PNC Chair Kathi C.
peaceinbloom@gmail.com 541-280-6980

Post Conference Quarterly Assembly
May 20-22 2011 Ashbrook School
4045 SW Research Way
Corvallis, Or. 97333

Oregon Area Al- Anon Fundraiser
May 20th- 22nd 2011
Red Lion Inn
200 N. Riverside Ave.
Medford, Or. 97504
Contact: Michelle B. 541-482-5155

34th Annual Summerfest 2011
July 15-17th 2011
Valley River Inn
1000 Valley River Way
Eugene, Oregon
www.aa-summerfest.org Reg. Chair: Josh
541-968-1846

17th annual High Desert Round-Up
September 23- 25th 2011
Bend Armory
875 SW Simpson Bend, Or. 97702
www.coigaa.org

The District meets the third Wednesday of every month at the Smullen Center at 7:00pm.



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