

NOVEMBER 2007



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The next Central Office Representatives meeting will be held on **November 11, 2007**, at 2:00 PM at Serenity Service, 697-G Haywood Rd., next to Ingles.

Calendar

Wednesday, NOVEMBER 7, 2007

District 70 Treatment Committee Mtg.

Trinity Episcopal Church, Tuton Hall
Church St., Asheville
(use back entrance)

1st Wednesday of every month

6:00 PM

Contact Eleanor D. (828) 403-2887



NOVEMBER 8, 9, 10 & 11, 2007

14th Annual NC Native

American AA Convention

Great Smokey Mt. Convention Center
Aquoni Rd., Cherokee, NC

NOVEMBER 16-18, 2007

Area 51 Fall Assembly

Hilton North Raleigh
3415 Wake Forest Rd.
Raleigh

Saturday, NOVEMBER 17, 2007

Clyde Central Group

Thanksgiving Covered Dish

Clyde Central United Methodist Church
410 Charles St., Clyde
Open Meeting 5 pm Eating 6 pm
Bring a side dish, salad or dessert.

Wednesday, NOVEMBER 28, 2007

Asheville Big Book Step Study

8th Anniversary

Emma United Methodist Church
59 Adam's Hill Rd, corner of N. Louisiana &
Adam's Hill Rd.
6:30 to 9 pm 2 Guest Speakers
Bring a side dish, salad or dessert.

Sunday, NOVEMBER 11, 2007

District 70 Business Meeting

St. Luke's Church
219 Chunns Cove Rd., Asheville
All District 70 GSRs
Please plan to attend
2:30 pm

Sunday, NOVEMBER 11, 2007

Central Office Representatives Mtg.

Serenity Service
697-G Haywood Road, Asheville
All COR's please plan to attend
2:00 pm



TREASURER'S Report

N.C Mountain Central Office, Inc.

BALANCE SHEET AS OF 10/15/2007

ASSETS	
Checking	858.00
Money Market	1,576.00
Petty Cash	50.00
Accounts Receivable	3,026.00
Inventory	6,074.00
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	12,214.00
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Accounts Payable	2,622.00
Sales Tax Payable	110.00
Total Current Liabilities	2,732.00
Equity	9,482.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	12,214.00

Profit & Loss 30 days up to 10/15/2007

INCOME	
Total group contributions	2,658.00
Individual contributions	134.00
Sales Income	3,927.00
Gross Profit	6,719.00
EXPENSES	
Answering service	655.00
Payroll	810.00
Other Telephone	732.00
Rent	400.00
Payrol	830.00
Sales tax	233.00
Literature, chips and medallions	4,946.00
Postage	529.00
Copier Costs	495.00
Supplies	181.00
Total Expenses	9,001.00
NET INCOME	<2,282.00>

"Month to 10/15" includes payments of about \$1,600 from prior months in 2007.

NEW MEETINGS and CHANGES

The **Open Hands Meeting** at YANA Club on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 12:30 pm has been cancelled.

The **Saturday Night Live Meeting** at YANA Club on Saturday at 7 pm has been cancelled.

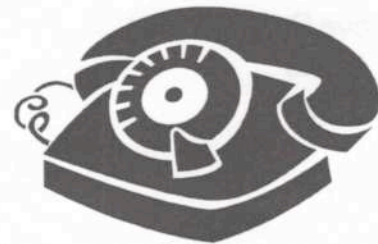
The **Young People's Group** will now have a speaker at the Sunday 7 pm meeting.

All **Mystic Lake Meetings** at Essence Recovery Center Monday thru Friday at 8 pm are cancelled.

The **Clyde Central Meeting** is an Open Discussion at 5 pm Saturday at the Clyde Central UMC, 410 Charles St. in Clyde behind the firehouse.

The **Serenity Group** meeting in Maggie Valley Tuesday and Friday at 7 pm is cancelled.

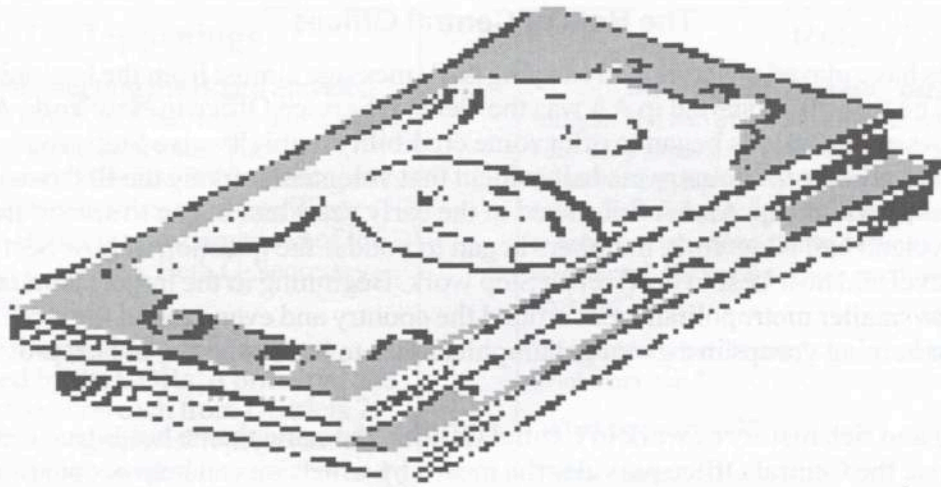
Did you know that NC Mountain Central Office has a CPC/PI lending library with TV and radio public service announcements from the General Service Office? Come on by.



Phone Log September, 2007

Answering Service Calls

A.A. Crisis	24
General Information	40
Family Help	8
Meeting Information	310
Central Office Business	68
Medical Help/Detox, Hosp, etc	9
Visitors	31



NCMCO Financial Status Report - October 2007

Where Are We Now?

Over the past year or so our financial condition has been eroding, with our prudent reserve sinking from around \$5000 to \$1500. Much of this deterioration occurred earlier this year, at a time when NCMCO was operating without a treasurer. Unfortunately this period coincided with an expansion of our inventory and with some steeply increasing costs – the answering service, telephone, rent.

We're stable now, but we're still eating into our prudent reserve. So –

We Need Your Help, Please!

NCMCO's support comes principally from the generous contributions of AA groups in our area – Districts 70, 71 and 80. Many groups follow GSO's longstanding guideline (expressed in the pamphlet *Self-Support – Where Money and Spirituality Mix*) that 50% of excess group funds go to the local Central Office/Intergroup. But a number of groups don't give at all, or give only rarely. See the donations tally elsewhere in this issue of *Mountain Doin's*.

Please do what you can to review your group's support. It will serve to improve your Central Office and make it more responsive to your needs

Some Financial Details, For Those Who Care About Such Things

On average we receive group contributions of about \$1750 per month, with individual contributions adding another \$50. Our more-or-less fixed costs are \$880 payroll and payroll-related, \$400 rent, \$400 answering service, \$400 telephone (\$90 long distance, \$260 basic/local/internet, \$50 white pages listings), \$100 postage (mostly *Mountain Doin's*), \$350 maintenance, supplies and miscellaneous. The shortfall thus has been about \$800 per month, only part of which is offset by "profit" on the sale of literature, chips and medallions.

By mid-November the salary item will be reduced to near zero, since the folks occupying the paid positions have agreed to work for free for at least the next few months. And as we've identified some other ways to cut costs our monthly expenditures will be reduced by at least \$900. That by itself will put us on a break-even basis, and literature, etc. sales can start to help rebuild our prudent reserve.

Hey, What About Those Literature, etc. Sales?

So far in 2007 we have paid \$25,371 for merchandise, compared to sales of \$26,022. Improving our purchasing practices – minimizing last-minute orders, paying at time of purchase rather than on account, doing more with GSO directly rather than going through middlemen - will improve our "profit." Should literature, etc. sales bear more of the cost of the Central Office? This is one of the questions Richard B poses to the groups in his article in this issue, and we – the groups and the office – will wrestle with it.

The Role of Central Offices

Central Offices have played a vital role in carrying AA's message almost from the beginning of the fellowship's history. The first office started in AA was the General Service Office in New York. After the Big Book was published and news organizations began to offer some credibility to this Twelve Step program, the number of inquiries coming in from all over the country made it evident that volunteers among the first two or three groups were not going to be able to keep up. As AA flourished in the early years and began to spread from the earliest groups in Akron, Cleveland and New York, members began to ponder the question of how best to carry the message at the local level and how best to do Twelfth Step work. Beginning in the largest population centers, and eventually spreading to smaller metropolitan areas around the country and even around the world, Central Offices became the answer for helping groups in a given geographical area to band together to best provide these vital services.

After this long and rich history of work in Central Offices, the same theme holds true today. In places like Western North Carolina, the Central Office provides the means by which we can help people find help in Alcoholics Anonymous, help groups do their 12th Step work and provide whatever services the groups in that location require. Using New York City as an example, the role of the Central Office became clear. New York is a unique situation because the General Service Office was there first. GSO is a vibrant office that publishes all AA Conference-approved literature; provides services and resources to groups, primarily in the U.S. and Canada, but also around the world. All the work done there is another story. But the important thing to remember is that no one at GSO is paid to do 12th Step work. If a call comes in from a drunk seeking help, it is immediately referred to the New York Intergroup office, or some similar office or AA member if the call is from out of the city. The staff members at the Intergroup office don't do 12th Step work either during working hours. The phones are answered by a network of dedicated volunteers so callers are immediately talking to an AA member and special workers are not being paid for 12th Step work.

Of course not every Central Office is going to work the same way as NYC. That's clear. But every Central Office should be exactly, no more, no less, what the groups it serves want it to be. It is the groups' responsibility to let the trusted servants chosen to oversee the operations know exactly what is expected. The two age-old responsibilities of the groups are to provide the human and financial resources to allow the Central Office to be of true service to the groups in the area. Serving the groups and helping them to better do 12th Step work and carry the AA message is the only function of a Central Office. If a Central Office is to function as the groups want, it is a two-way street. Our central office has an assembly of Central Office Representatives that meets quarterly. If my group does not have a COR who attends the quarterly meetings, the Central Office board cannot hear what my group thinks the Central Office should be doing. If my group is not sending a regular contribution to the Central Office, then obviously the office cannot function as the groups wish.

Historically, central offices have had to answer some tough questions. Ours is no exception. How much should the office cooperate in guiding people to other fellowships? How many hours and days each week are the groups willing to pay for? Do the groups want a paid staff? Do the groups want to be involved with a paid answering service or do they want to set up an effective network of phone-answering volunteers and a group of volunteers from all groups to take 12th Step calls at home? Do the groups want the office to provide literature distribution to the groups in the area? If so, do the groups want the office to carry only Conference-approved literature? Or any literature? Or eliminate all non-Conference-approved literature but carry items that aren't AA but which everybody uses - like chips? medallions? anniversary cards? 24-Hour Book? The board cannot know the answer to these questions unless the groups participate and provide the answers. If they do not, the office cannot adequately provide wanted and needed services. The Central Office trusted servants also have an obligation to the groups. Again, the only purpose of a Central Office is to help the groups it serves carry the AA message and do 12th Step work. It cannot act in a vacuum or operate independently. It can only serve. Lack of communication often seems to be at the root of problems experienced in AA. Those entrusted with the daily operations of the office must do everything possible to learn what the groups want and do it. They must learn what their relationship is with general services committees and servants and do everything possible to facilitate effective 12th Step work without any turf fighting.

For all these things, WE ARE RESPONSIBLE. And don't forget folks, half measures availed us nothing.

Richard B., Flat Rock, NC

(Editor's Note: The writer served as Delegate from Western Missouri to Panel 35 of the General Service Conference, and then was on the GSO staff from 1988 through 1999.)

NCMCO Happenings

At its Oct 18th meeting the Board elevated Carl I, formerly Vice Chair, to Chairman, and elected Jack D to be the new Vice Chairman. These appointments will last until the first 2008 meeting of the Central Office Representatives votes on filling these offices. So the Board is now composed of the above as well as Tim P, Trustee, Beth G, Secretary, and Dick J, Treasurer.

A couple of changes in the bylaws were proposed, to be voted by the CORs. A principal one would add two Trustees, one each from Districts 71 and 80, to improve the geographical representation of the Board and to improve communications to and from those areas. Another would add the position of Volunteer Coordinator as a voting position.

Jack D was appointed to be the new Interim Manager, replacing Bob K when the latter's tour ends on November 11th.

Both Jack and Communications Director Jim B have agreed to waive any salary (these are paid positions) until further notice. Partly this generosity was impelled by the present financial condition of the office, but equally it is an experiment to see if in the future we can meet the needs of the groups on an all-volunteer basis.

As respects the upcoming COR meeting on November 11th, the Board felt that the focus should be on improving communications with the groups (both ways) so that NCMCO might better serve the groups and that the groups might assume a more active part in directing the office. We hope for a large turnout.

Rule 62

An elegantly dressed gentleman sits at a table in the bar of a five-star restaurant and orders four very expensive cocktails. The waiter promptly serves them, perfectly chilled and garnished on a silver tray. Our man proceeds to down them, one after another, in less than thirty seconds. Aghast, the waiter whispers, "My word sir, you must have very serious problem!"

"If you had what I have," the man whispers back, "you'd drink fast too."

"What do you have?"

"Fifty cents."

The town drunk had died. A Wonderful funeral for her was in progress and the preacher talked at length about the good traits of the deceased; what an honest women she was, what a loving wife and kind mother.

Finally, the widower leaned over and whispered to one of his children, "Go up there and take a look at the coffin and see if that's your ma."

Fed up with her husband's coming home drunk every night, late one evening a wife drove her husband up the mountain to an overlook where they could see the local liquor factory in full swing below. Lights were flashing, machines were roaring, and trucks were pulling in and out.

"See," the wife said patiently to her spouse. "They can make it faster than you can drink it."

"Yes," he replied, but you have to admit, I've got 'em working overtime at night."

Volunteers are needed!

We are currently staffing the NCMCO office Monday through Friday 10 am - 5 pm and Saturday 9 am to noon with volunteers.

If you would like to become part of making it all happen, just check the area of service that you would like to work in and return the form to the address listed below. You will be contacted by our volunteer coordinator, Rick W.

I would like to work in the following area:

OFFICE

PHONE

Name:

Address:

City/St/Zip:

Area Code/Phone:

Please return the completed form to:

Volunteers, NCMCO
206 Park Place Office Bldg.
70 Woodfin Place
Asheville, NC 28801



November Birthdays

ANDREWS GROUP

Bob W. 11/22/67 40 years

ASHEVILLE BIG BOOK STEP STUDY

Ian C. 11/03/01 6 years
 Rosanne 10/15/05 2 years
 Debbie D. 11/19/94 13 years

ASHEVILLE GRACE GROUP

Jane M. 11/06/99 8 years
 Con S. 11/07/06 1 year
 Doug I. 11/08/94 13 years
 Ian C. 11/13/01 6 years
 Molly B. 11/16/77 30 years
 Isaac C. 11/22/00 7 years
 Chris W. 11/24/01 6 years

BACK TO BASICS

Jeff G. 18 years
 Tadd C. 20 years
 Cate M. 25 years

CONSCIOUS CONTACT

Steven M. 11/07/94 13 years
 Pat E. 11/05/91 16 years
 Kay G. 11/05/84 23 years
 Chris C. 11/08/06 1 year
 Wayne D. 11/09/70 37 years
 Eric T. 11/17/05 2 years
 Debbie S. 11/19/92 15 years
 Diane R. 11/20/03 4 years
 Peggy H. 11/23/86 21 years
 Kelly T. 11/27/06 1 year

CUMBERLAND GROUP

Lore S. 11/13/05 2 years
 Mollie S. 11/17/93 14 years
 Bill G. 11/30/83 24 years

HAPPY HOUR, HENDERSONVILLE

Bob I. 11/30/03 4 years

HENDERSONVILLE GROUP

Marvin C. 6 years
 Stephen K. 2 years
 Clay W. 8 years
 Joe B. 3 years
 Ed S. 17 years
 Bob B. 29 years
 Cindy T. 2 years
 Jerry B. 19 years
 Joyce A. 1 year

MARS HILL GROUP

Tony V. 11/17/74 33 years

SPRUCE PINE GROUP

Larry G. 19 years
 Jean J. 27 years

TRADITIONAL GROUP

Roy M. 11/04/02 5 years
 Jeff J. 11/05/89 18 years
 Jim G. 11/09/98 9 years
 Brad C. 11/24/05 2 years

WEAVERVILLE BACK TO BASICS

Bob V. 27 years
 Peter S. 30 years
 Vivian G. 28 years

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS 2007

District 70	Jan-Sept	Oct 1-19	Tot YTD
Acceptance	725	150	875
Asheville Big Book SS	115		115
At Ease	0		0
Back to Basics	200	150	350
Black Mountain	47		47
Bone Dry	20		20
Burnsville	150		150
Came to Believe Women's	0	50	50
Candler KISS	400	25	425
Chunn's Cove Men's	410		410
Conscious Contact	950	500	1450
Cumberland	690		690
Daily Decisions	1225		1225
Day by Day	683		683
Easy Does It	0		0
Fellowship	157	60	217
First Step Group - Men's	0		0
Good Livers	0		0
Grace	1240		1240
Joy of Living	0		0
Lambda	19		19
Ledger Serenity	20	5	25
Leicester	50		50
Marion	50	78	128
Marshall	75		75
New Day	47		47
Nuevos Amigos	0		0
Old Fort Saturday Night	0		0
Pathfinders	30		30
Principos Nuevos	0		0
Recovery by the River	149	38	187
Safe & Sound	100		100
Serenity Seekers	75		75
Serenity Service	257		257
Six O'Clock Open	360	120	480
Spruce Pine	100	1	101
Surrender	0		0
Swannanoa Library	0		0
Traditional	100		100
Tuesday Night Men's	0		0
West Asheville	150		150
Women of Grace	0	30	30
Young People's	123	239	362
Subtotal District 70	8717	1446	10163

District 71	Jan-Sept	Oct 1-19	Tot YTD
Big Town	47		47
Blue Ridge	100	40	140
Brevard Mountain	0		0
Brevard Serenity	150		150
Brevard Sylvan Valley	0		0
Columbus	55		55
Dunns Rock	0		0
Early Birds	285		285
Edneyville	128		128
But for the The Grace of God	0		0
Seniors on Sobriety S.O.S.	0		0
Fletcher	0		0
Grupo Vida Nueva	0		0
Hendersonville	180	20	200
Henderson Happy Hour	321		321
Joy of Living	220		220
Kanuga	202	23	225
Log Cabin	0		0

Mid-Day	420	110	530
Mill Spring	60		60
Plan B	0		0
Round Table	0		0
Speed Bump	150		150
Thursday Saluda Big Book	0		0
Thursday Afternoon Ladies	200	7	207
Principles	0		0
Tryon Closed	0		0
Tryon	0		0
Upward	30		30
Subtotal District 71	2548	200	2748

District 80	Jan-Sept	Oct 1-19	Tot YTD
Andrews	6		6
AWOL	178		178
Bethel Up the River	110		110
Bryson City	0	15	15
Cashiers Valley	191	227	418
Common Sense	180	116	296
Cullowhee Valley	50		50
Franklin	0		0
Friday Ladies	0	1	1
Hayesville	53	30	83
Hayesville Lunch Bunch	75		75
Locked in Forward	180		180
Lunch Group	0		0
Maggie Valley	0		0
Maple Grove	0		0
Men's Attitude Adjustment	25		25
Mission	50		50
Mountainside	0		0
Mountain View	595		595
Murphy Big Book	45	50	95
Native American Easy Does It	0		0
New Hope - Cherokee	0		0
New Hope - Franklin	0		0
No Name	300		300
No Place Like Home	0		0
No Nonsense	0	2	2
Practicing Principles	121	100	221
Renacimiento	0		0
Serenity	0		0
Serenity Now	0		0
Sunshine	30		30
Sylva	141		141
Waynesville Grace	560		560
Subtotal District 80	2890	541	3431

Total Contributions	14155	2187	16342
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Would you like a subscription to *Mountain Doin's*? Just fill in the form below and mail to the address below.

Mountain Doin's Order Form

Mountain Doin's Annual Subscriptions: *PLEASE NOTE NEW RATES (due to Postal rate increase)**

Groups:

2 copies monthly	No charge	
	<i>Pick up from Central Office</i>	<i>Deliver by mail</i>
5 additional copies	\$10.00 per year	\$22.00 per year
10 additional copies	\$20.00 per year	\$37.50 per year
15 additional copies	\$25.00 per year	\$48.00 per year
20 additional copies	\$30.00 per year	\$65.00 per year

Individual Members:

Single copy monthly \$6.50 per year

Please circle which of the above you wish to receive and make out check or money order accordingly. Subscription rates are subject to change, depending upon USPS rates.

Clip and mail with check or money order to:
N.C. Mountain Central Office
206 Park Place Offices
70 Woodfin Place
Asheville, NC 28801

Group or Individual Name _____

Street/P.O. Box No. _____

Town and Zip Code _____

North Carolina Mountain Central Office
206 Park Place offices
70 Woodfin Place
Asheville, NC 28801



Address correction requested
Town and Zip Code