

ALANO SOCIETY OF SAWYER COUNTY NEWSLETTER



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President's Message

By: Barry Hill

The new board has been in place for three months and we are still trying to get our arms around the many tasks necessary to fulfill our mission which is to provide and maintain a facility for 12 Step recovery programs. We often hear that the club doesn't offer enough activities to bring our members and guests together, so I thought I would look at the events we already host.

To begin with, we currently have 26 meetings a week for our A.A., N.A., Al-Anon and G.A. groups. Additionally the Club is open for seven hours on Wednesday and Friday nights and on Football Sundays. And finally, the Club sponsors a monthly Recovery Dinner on the last Saturday of the month.

All told, these activities add up to over 1,300 meetings or events per year, providing a safe and sober environment for 13,000 people.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

"In its 2012 Community Health Assessment, the Sawyer County Department of Health and Human Services cites Alcoholism and Drug abuse as the biggest health problem facing our community. The County has put in place several programs to address this problem and our Club has joined with them on one vital program, Drug Court. Secondly, we have been asked to consider having a member serve on a newly formed Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee. Sawyer County is extremely fortunate to have a resource like The

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
Outreach	1
Club Finances	2
Job Opportunities	2

Board Member Highlight

Each issue will feature a short bio of one of the Club board members. This issue features our board vice president, Jay Hands.

Jay is a long time member of A.A. and very active in both his civic and recovery communities. He has lived in retirement in NW Wisconsin for the past 17 years. Jay has extensive board experience in both the public and private sectors and is excited and honored to be serving on the Alano Society Board. He welcomes calls at (715) 469-3656

Alano Society as a tool to support their programs to reduce alcohol and drug abuse. In 2013, Alano Club members have been attending weekly Drug Court sessions and offering participants of the program continuity of treatment once they graduate. Drug Court meets most Wednesdays at 4:00 P.M. and sessions are open to the public. Judge Wright has expressed his appreciation for the support of The Alano Society.

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Club Finances

Financial information for the Club activities and operation are posted monthly on the bulletin board in the main room. Through the first nine months of 2013, the Club operated at a loss of \$1,388, due mostly to a \$2,370 shortfall in budgeted rental income from our 12 Step Groups. This loss is partially offset by profits from the concessions and games operations. Other expenses include building maintenance, snow plowing, cleaning, insurance, heat and A/C and waste disposal which were in line with budget and last year. While we have been able to meet our day



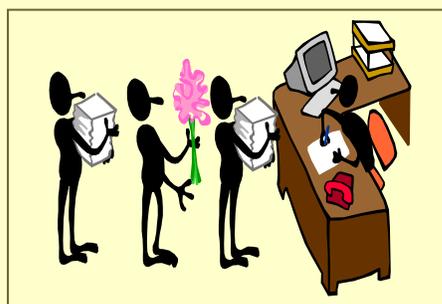
to day expenses, we need to provide timely for replacement of major items in the future. Accordingly, we have a capital fund available for things such as roof repair, replacement of major appliances and building systems. Our fund is currently insufficient to meet major expense such as a new roof.

Job Opportunities: Immediate openings

Our 12 Step Programs remind us that we need to continually reach out to others. We have been given a wonderful opportunity to give to others what has been so freely given to us. There are, of course, many ways to do this. Oftentimes, all we need to do is show up at meetings and greet others with a smile, but just as often, we need to give more of ourselves to keep the message viable in our community. For example, we have 26 group meetings per week, each of which needs help to function properly. Each Group needs a leader to assure the Club is open and coffee is made before

the meeting begins. Each group should also have a treasurer to keep the collections secure and pay the bills. A good sponsor often volunteers his/her sponsee for such activities, but all a person has to do is raise a hand and ask to be of help. Other than 12 Step groups, the Club itself has any number of activities that could use the help of volunteers. The Club is open on Wednesday and Friday nights as well as Football Sundays. Ryan P. and Ean M. give unselfishly of their time running the concessions and could use help.

We have but one primary purpose, to carry the message to those who still suffer.



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