

# ALANO SOCIETY OF SAWYER COUNTY NEWSLETTER



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## President's Message

By: Ean McClelland

I'm very grateful for all the support I've received in this new life experience as President of the Alano Club. I'm looking forward to helping the Club grow and will remain open to suggestions from members and others. In my tenure as President I hope to make the Club more accessible. In addition to the Open Club nights on Wednesday and Friday and Football Sundays, we will add another Open Club night on Mondays from 4:00 – 10:00 ish. We've even planned a dance for October 11<sup>th</sup>. Details are available at the Club.

## Board Member Highlights

Welcome to the new board!

July 1 marked the inauguration of the new board of the Alano Society of Sawyer County. For the first time in a few years, the board will be fully

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

At a meeting in August, 2014, the Sawyer County Criminal Justice System identified alcohol and drug abuse as the single biggest cause of crime in the county. A study of the county's justice system by the National Institute on Crime (NIC) indicated two major problems, an exploding jail population fed primarily by crimes committed under the influence of drugs and alcohol. NIC recommended that Sawyer County initiate programs to deal with substance abuse. Current programs in the county are limited to three residences with very limited

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staffed with 7 members. The new board membership is as follows.

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capacity, a Drug Court program, some counseling and, of course, the Alano Club. Our Club is a vital asset in the community. We offer over 20 A.A., N.A., AlAnon and GA meetings per week plus open clubs for those who want to get together with others for social activities. All together, our club serves over 1,000 people per month. We are now working with the County and have made them aware of our facility, should they choose to refer addicts and alcoholics to us. Can we do more? See page 2, "Job Opportunities."

## Club Finances

Financial information for the Club activities and operation are posted monthly on the bulletin board in the main room. For the year, 2014, the Club is operating at a loss of \$391, due mostly to a 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 for the



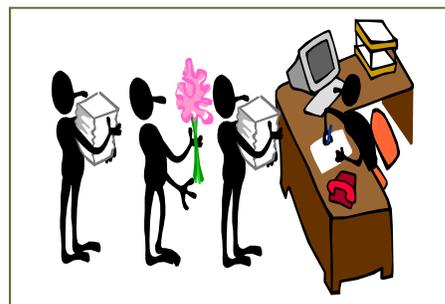
replacement of major items in the future. Accordingly, we have a capital fund available for things such as roof repair, replacement of major appliances and building systems. Our fund is currently insufficient to meet major expense such as a new roof.

## Job Opportunities: Immediate openings 3<sup>rd</sup> Notice!

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 21 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 to help all a person has to do is raise a hand and volunteer. 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. Several members 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.*



*Sign up now!*