

LITTLE WHITE HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Dakota Alano Society

3920 Rahn Road Eagan, MN 55122
651-452-2921 (during meeting times)
www.dasinc.org

SEPTEMBER 2014

24 Hours a day:

MPLS Intergroup Hotline: 952-922-0880
St. Paul Intergroup Hotline: 651-227-5502



The Dakota Alano Society, Inc was founded in 1978 to serve the needs of men and women who are recovering from the effects of alcohol and drug abuse. As an Alano society, the Dakota Alano provides space for Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon meetings, and hosts at least one group every day of the week. If you are struggling with alcohol or drug addiction, or suffering because a loved one is addicted, please come find a meeting at our house, where you can find others who can help you on the road to recovery.

Do you have a drinking problem? A.A. wants to help if you want help.

Greater Minneapolis Intergroup and St Paul Intergroup are 2 organizations available to help men and women who might have a drinking problem. They help new members find local meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous in the Twin Cities and surrounding the Suburban Areas. Phones are answered 24 hours a day.
Mpls Intergroup Hotline: 952-922-0880
Saint Paul Intergroup Hotline: 651-227-5502

*I am Responsible.
When Anyone, Anywhere Reaches Out For Help,
I Want The Hand Of A.A. Always To Be There.
And For That, I Am Responsible!*

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Sunday, September 14th, 6:00 p.m.

Take a meeting to Hastings Detox

Meet in the parking lot at 6:00 p.m.
to car pool to Hastings

Sunday, September 21st, 6:00 p.m.

DAS Annual General Membership Meeting

Main room at the White House. All individuals who attend meetings at the White House are welcome and encouraged to attend. New Board members will be elected. *See page X for more details.*

Sunday, September 28th, 6:00 p.m.

September Board of Directors Meeting

Main room at the White House
Squad leaders are encouraged to attend
All members are welcome to attend

SQUAD LEADER REMINDERS

Keeping the White House Clean

Please be sure clean-up is done after every meeting. This includes washing out coffee pots, wiping down kitchen counters and tables in the big room and taking out the garbage. It is ultimately the Squad Leaders responsibility to make sure these tasks are completed.

Quarterly Squad Leader Meeting

The next mandatory quarterly Squad Leader Meeting will be held on October 19th at 5:00 pm immediately preceding the Oct. Board meeting.

Squad Leader attendance is required at this meeting in order for to receive a new key to the house. Squad Leaders must find a replacement to attend the meeting if they are unable to be there.

The Dakota Alano Society and The Board of Directors

To many who attend meetings here, we are known as "the little white house" or simply "the white house". Officially we are The Dakota Alano Society, Inc. - a non-profit organization who's purpose is to provide and maintain a facility for fellowship, meetings and the programs of Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon and Alateen. We became incorporated as a non-profit 36 years ago on December 11th, 1978. There were 5 original "incorporators" and 12 members on the first Board of Directors. In addition to being guided by the 12 Traditions of AA, the DAS (Dakota Alano Society) is governed by our Articles of Incorporation, By Laws and the laws of MN regarding non-profit organizations. The GSO (AA's General Service Organization in New York City) also provides guidelines regarding the relationship between AA and Alano Clubs.

The current Board of Directors consists of 9 Board members, each serving a 3 year term. Board members are elected from and by the general membership at an Annual General Membership meeting, which is held the 3rd Sunday in September. The purpose of the Board of Directors, as stated in the By Laws is to provide and maintain a facility for the DAS, to coordinate all activities that occur on the property and to be responsible for all financial transactions of the DAS. In other words, to take care of the business of running a non-profit organization and manage the day-to-day affairs of the white house.

The DAS rents the little white house from the Mount Calvary Lutheran church. (We are tenants of the church, but have no other official relationship with the church.) Therefore one of the top priorities of the Board is to make sure that the white house is being utilized according to the terms of our lease. The Board is responsible for paying the rent and utilities, and purchasing supplies (coffee, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, etc.), literature and medallions for use by the groups. The Board also takes care of maintenance and security issues, provides keys to squad leaders, stocks the pop machine, publishes squad leader guides, prints meeting cards and donation envelopes, publishes a newsletter and maintains a physical and digital Archives of board meeting minutes, motions and votes, treasurer's reports, etc. Additionally the Board of Directors finances the Hospitality Suite at Gopher State and supports the Annual Picnic.

The Board of Directors consists of 4 officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary) and 5 board positions, each of which takes on a specific responsibility. The Board utilizes an Operations Journal which outlines its policies and procedures, as well as, the duties and responsibilities of the various Board positions. The Operations Journal is updated periodically and changes to the Ops Journal must be voted on at a Board meeting.

The following is a general (and incomplete) description of each of the positions on the Board:

President - conducts Board and Membership meetings, is the primary liaison to the church, oversees and negotiates contracts, is an authorized signer on bank accounts. Must have served on the Board for 1 year.

Vice President - fills in for and assists the President when necessary, is responsible for inventory of literature and medallions, is an authorized signer on bank accounts. Must have served on the Board for 1 year.

Treasurer - responsible for paying all bills and invoices, reviews and reconciles group deposits, maintains accurate banking records, provides monthly financial reports, prepares and presents annual budget and year-end fiscal reports, oversees annual pledge drive. Must have served on the Board for 1 year.

The Board of Directors (cont.)

Secretary - Records and publishes minutes from all board and membership meetings, publishes rosters of current board members, keeps the DAS archives up-to-date

Assistant Treasurer - Assists Treasurer in all financial responsibilities

Facilities Maintenance - Responsible for general house maintenance, ongoing repairs and replacements, monitors heating and air conditioning, oversees house cleaning schedule

House Security - Maintains inventory of keys and list of current key holders, distributes and collects keys as determined by the Board, periodically checks doors, windows and locked cabinets for tampering

Supplies - Checks inventory of supplies on a regular basis and purchases replacements on a timely basis

Publications - Publishes monthly newsletters, prints meeting cards and donation envelopes, assists president in posting notices and flyers, is primary liaison to the webmaster for the DAS website

The 2014 Annual General Membership Meeting

The 2014 Annual General Membership meeting of the DAS will be held on Sunday, September 21st at 6:00 p.m. in the main room of the white house. This meeting is sometimes referred to as the "annual board meeting" when in actuality this is a meeting of the general membership that is lead by the Board. Elections for new Board members are held at the Annual General Membership meeting. New business can be brought before the Board by members in attendance. A report of the DAS financial position is also given along with a review of the minutes from the previous year's Annual Meeting.

Elections for 4 Board positions will be held on the 21st. There is one 1-year position to be filled, and three 3-year positions to be filled. Qualifications for Board candidates are one year of continuous sobriety or one year of attendance at Alanon, and the ability to attend monthly Board meetings on the 3rd Sunday of the month from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Willingness to take on a board responsibility is also required and candidates must be present at the Annual General Membership meeting to be elected to the Board.

It has been my privilege to serve on the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board for the past 7 years. I can not adequately express my gratitude to this White House, its members and the Board of Directors for the role they have played in my Recovery. Serving on the Board not only contributes to my recovery, it allows me to give back to an organization that has been instrumental in my sobriety.

Serving on the Board is certainly not for everyone. It demands a specific time commitment (that sometimes interferes with Sunday football games). It requires a willingness to take on responsibility, work with a group of individuals, and place principles before personalities. Usually it is not very exciting. But without volunteers to serve on the Board, the White House would not be able to host the 19 meetings that are held here each week. I hope that if you meet the requirements and are looking for a rewarding service opportunity you will at least talk to a Board member about serving on the Board. Board members phone numbers are posted in the kitchen.

Yours in Service, Susan H - Advisory Board Member

MORE MEETING NEWS ...**SATURDAY 6:00 PM**

**THERE IS A SOLUTION
BEGINNERS/SPEAKER MEETING**
*holds a potluck on the first
Saturday of each month at 5:00 p.m.*

Next potluck will be Sept. 6th

Upcoming Speaker Schedule:

Sept 6th - 6:00 p.m. Speaker: Jane H, Foxhall
Sept 13th - 6:00 p.m. Speaker: Mark S, Foxhall
Sept 20th - 6:00 p.m. Speaker: Kurt K, Foxhall
Sept 27th - 6:00 p.m. Speaker: TBA

New Meeting: Awakenings
Tuesdays at 6:00 pm
a 12 Steps and 12 Traditions
study meeting

**The Saturday 11:00 a.m. meeting
could use your support.**

Thank you to the members who stepped up
to revitalize this meeting.

Stop by on a Saturday morning in the near
future and give this meeting some support.

Fellowship on Sunday

**Did you know the White House is open
every Sunday from 2:00 - 4:00 pm
for Fellowship? Come for the Fellowship,
stay for the 4 p.m. meeting!**

A reminder to all Groups -**MONTHLY CLEANING SCHEDULE**

Each meeting group is responsible for a
thorough cleaning of the White House during
one month of the year.

Upcoming Cleaning Schedule

Sept	Tuesday	6:00 p.m.
	Sunday	4:00 p.m.
October	Thursday	7:30 p.m.
November	Saturday	9:00 p.m.

The suggested time for monthly cleaning is
before or after your regular group meeting
time. Allow adequate time to complete the
tasks listed below.

Cleaning supplies are kept under the sinks
in the kitchen and both bathrooms. The
House has a vacuum cleaner, and there
is additional cleaning equipment in the front
entry closet.

Monthly House Cleaning consists of:

- Vacuum all carpets:
upstairs, downstairs, and stairway
- Vacuum and/or shake out mats in
kitchen, hallway and bathroom
- Vacuum & damp mop linoleum floor
(with Swiffer mop in front entry closet)
- Clean both bathrooms
- Clean kitchen sink and counter tops
- Wash all coffee pots
- Wipe down all tabletops in all rooms

**The Board and all members of the Dakota
Alano Society appreciate each group's efforts
to keep the White House clean. Thank You !!**

RECOVERY EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

24th Annual Heartland Roundup

Experience the Serenity

Friday Sept. 5th - Sunday Sept. 7th
Northern Pines Assembly Grounds
Fish Hook Lake, Park Rapids MN
www.heartlandroundup.org

56th Annual Southern MN Roundup

The Greatest Journey Begins with Step One
Friday Sept. 5th - Sunday Sept. 7th
Best Western, North Mankato MN
www.aastpaul.org

69th Annual Duluth Roundup

A Common Solution
Friday Sept. 19th - Sunday Sept. 21nd
Marshall High School
1715 Rice Lake Rd, Duluth MN
www.duluthroundup.org

Into Action - Study and Action Group

Precisely How We Have Recovered

Begins Sunday Sept. 7th, 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Runs for approximately 15-16 weeks
The Recovery Church
253 State Street, St. Paul MN
www.into-action.com

Bloomington Alano 4th Step Workshop

6 Tuesdays beginning September 16th
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Bloomington Alano
2062 West 98th Street, Bloomington MN
More info, and to register, contact
Simone: 651-324-0888
Liz: 612-749-5077
www.aastpaul.org

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Phone Volunteering: Daytime Phones, Group Phones, Early Birds and Night Owls

Southern Minnesota Area 36 Temporary Contact Program

Southern Minnesota Area 36 Correctional Facilities Contact Program

"An opportunity for all AA members to connect into service"

GREATER MINNEAPOLIS INTERGROUP

952-922-0880

7204 West 27th Street, Suite 113

St. Louis Park, MN 55426

map & directions at www.aaminneapolis.org

A.A. History in September**Sept 1**

1939 - First AA group founded in Chicago.

Sept 11

2001 - 30 Vesey St, New York. Location of AA's first office is destroyed during the World Trade Center attack.

Sept 12

1942 - U.S. Assist. Surgeon General Kolb speaks at dinner for Bill and Dr. Bob.

Sept 13

1937 - Florence R, first female in AA in NY.

1941 - WHJP in Jacksonville, FL airs Spotlight on AA.

Sept 17

1954 - Bill D, AA #3 dies.

Sept 18

1947 - Dallas Central Office opens its doors.

Sept 19

1965 - The Saturday Evening Post publishes "Alcoholics Can Be Cured Despite AA"

Sept 19

1975 - Jack Alexander, author of original Saturday Evening Post article, dies.

Sept 21

1938 - Bill W. & Hank P. form Works Publishing Co.

Sept 24

1940 - Bill 12th steps Bobbie V., who later replaced Ruth Hock as his secretary in NY.

Sept 30

1939 - Article in Liberty magazine, "Alcoholics and God" by Morris Markey.

Other significant events which occurred in September, but for which we do not have a specific date:

1930 - Bill wrote 4th (last) promise in family Bible to quit drinking

1939 - Group started by Earl T. in Chicago.

1940 - AA group started in Toledo by Duke P. & others.

1940 - Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases gives Big Book unfavorable review.

1946 - Bill & Dr. Bob both publicly endorsed National Committee Education Alcoholism founded by Marty M.

1946 - First A.A. group in Mexico.

1948 - Bob writes article for Grapevine on AA, "Fundamentals In Retrospect".

1949 - First issue of A.A. Grapevine published in "pocketbook" size.

Step Nine

Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

**The Principle of Step Nine:
JUSTICE**

Tradition Nine

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

Tradition Nine - The Long Form

Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or inter-group committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our overall public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine.

All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles: they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

(The long form of all the traditions can be found in the back of the book: 12 Steps and 12 Traditions)