

LITTLE WHITE HOUSE NEWSLETTER

March 2014

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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.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Sunday, March 9th, 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, March 16th, 6:00 p.m.

March Board of Directors Meeting
Main room at the White House
Squad leaders are encouraged to attend
All members are welcome to attend

Dakota Alano Society

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

www.dasinc.org

**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

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.

In addition to cleaning up after each meeting, each meeting group is responsible for a thorough cleaning for the house during one month of the year. House cleaning schedules are included in the Squad Leader Guide and are posted at the house.

Upcoming Cleaning Schedule

March	Friday 6:00 p.m. Friday 8:00 p.m.
April	Wednesday 7:00 a.m. Saturday 11:00 a.m.
May	Board of Directors

The Board thanks you for your anticipated cooperation on this matter.

Southern MN Area Assembly (SMAA - Area 36)

Saturday, March 22nd 2014

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Hutchinson Event Center
1005 Hwy 15 South
Hutchinson MN 55350
For more information:
www.area36.org

Greater Minneapolis Intergroup's 31st Annual GRATITUDE NIGHT

Saturday, April 12th 2014

6:30 p.m. - Social Hour & Music
7:30 p.m. - Program & Speakers
10:00 p.m. - Music & Dance
Tickets - \$12

Minneapolis Convention Center

For more information:
www.aaminneapolis.org

SATURDAY 6:00 PM *THERE IS A SOLUTION* BEGINNERS MEETING

Beginning in April the Saturday
6:00 pm *There is a Solution*
Beginners Meeting will be holding
a potluck on the first Saturday of
each month at 5pm.

March Speaker Schedule

March 1st - Jan C - Happy Destiny

March 8th - Steve L - Uptown

MARCH 15TH - MIKE S - UPTOWN

MARCH 22ND - TBD

MARCH 29TH - TBD

April Schedule

APRIL 5TH - 5:00 PM POTLUCK.
PLEASE BRING SOMETHING TO SHARE.

APRIL 8TH - 7:00 PM DISTRICT 19 / AREA 36
MEETING IN ROSEMOUNT

SCHEDULED SPEAKERS:

APRIL 5TH - MAREEN F - HAPPY DESTINY

APRIL 12TH - MATT M - HAPPY DESTINY

APRIL 19TH - TERRY - ROSEMOUNT

May Potluck - Saturday May 3rd

March is Pledge Drive Month at the Dakota Alano Society

Every year in March the Dakota Alano society holds its annual Pledge Drive. During March members of the Board visit meetings to explain the purpose of Pledging and encourage those members who wish to do so to make a financial contribution to the DAS. Making a Pledge contribution is entirely voluntary and provides the White House with an additional source of income above and beyond contributions from the basket.

Below are some questions members frequently have regarding pledges.

What exactly is a Pledge?

A Pledge is either a regular monthly donation, or a one-time donation, from an individual member to the Dakota Alano Society.

How is a Pledge contribution different from the money I contribute to the basket?

Money donated by an AA meeting from the basket is a contribution from that specific meeting to the House. Those funds contribute to that meeting's portion of rent, utilities, and supplies - whereas a Pledge is a contribution from an individual member to the Dakota Alano Society.

Why should I consider making a pledge?

Making a Pledge contribution is entirely voluntary. An individual would only make a Pledge to the house if he or she wishes to donate above and beyond what they put in the basket each week. Pledging members receive a receipt for their donations so those funds may be counted as charitable contributions on the member's taxes. For some members this is important.

Why does the Dakota Alano need to collect money beyond what is contributed from the basket?

Donations made by meetings vary each month depending on meeting attendance, how much is collected in the basket and how often meeting treasurers turn in contributions. Pledge donations can be a more reliable source of income and cash flow. As mentioned previously, meeting donations are used for basic house operating expenses, while Pledge donations may be used for larger expenditures like repairs, improvements or maintenance issues that arise.

How do I know that my contribution is being spent responsibly and according to the principles of AA?

A monthly treasurer's report is provided at each Board meeting and is posted on the bulletin board in the kitchen. All of the Dakota Alano's income and expenses are documented, and any expenditure above and beyond monthly bills and operating expenses must be approved by a Board vote at a Board meeting. The Dakota Alano Society is an incorporated non-profit organization, which provides, manages and maintains meeting space for multiple AA and Alanon groups. In addition to being guided by the 12 Traditions of AA, the DAS is governed by its Articles of Incorporation, its By-Laws, and by the laws of MN regarding non-profit organizations.

How do I make a Pledge contribution?

Fill out a Pledge form, sign and seal it in an envelope, then place it in the Treasurer's mailbox in the kitchen, or mail it to the Treasurer (whose address is on the form). Pledge forms can be found in the Treasurer's mailbox or on the table in the main meeting room. If you have questions about pledging, please contact our Treasurer, Julie O, or any Board member. A phone list of Board members is located on the kitchen bulletin board.

STEP THREE -

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God
as we understood him.

TRADITION THREE -

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

The Principle of Step Three - Faith

This decision step to go on with the 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous asks that we step out on faith. It is only a matter of being willing to believe. Through the process of the 12 steps, that belief turns into faith. We carry this faith into the rest of the steps by being willing to believe. We must begin to have faith it will work.

Dakota Alano and the 7th Tradition

In order for Dakota Alano Society, Inc. to meet expenses (i.e. rent, electricity, heat, and provide coffee supplies, etc.), the Board of Directors requires that a minimum of 75% of the meeting collections be donated to its treasury. The remaining 25% of the contributions are for the group to use at their discretion. With the monies kept aside, each group may support the various A.A. service organizations; and/or buy books, newcomer packets and medallions for the group's use.

One recommended distribution for A.A. services is:

- 50% - Intergroup (Minneapolis and/or St. Paul)
- 30% - General Service Office (GSO)
- 10% - District 19 Committee
- 10% - Southern Minnesota Area Assembly (Area 36)

Minneapolis Intergroup - 7204 West 27th st. Suite 113 St. Louis Park, MN 55426

Saint Paul Intergroup - 1600 University Ave. W. Saint Paul, MN 55104

GSO - AA World Services, Inc. P.O. Box 459 Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

Area 36 - SMAA P.O. Box 2812 Minneapolis, MN 55402

District 19 - P.O. Box 1466 Burnsville, MN 55337