

Around the Coffee Pot...

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Board Meeting Highlights from 5/11/09 & 6/8/09...

It's probably no surprise that the board has been discussing the building project at great length in board meetings that involved coordination of the temporary meeting room, obtaining all of the appropriate permissions, permits and blessings from city, county and all around as well as fundrais-



ing in hopes of having the project paid for before it's completed to avoid any financing. The building project officially began with an unceremonious ground breaking on 4/22/09 following the city council's approval of the site plan the night before. The basement was dug, blocks laid, cement floor poured, and eve-



rything was ready for the building to be moved from its foundation at Charlevoix High School. Weather pushed things back one week and then waiting to gain the state inspector's approval to move the building on a state highway delayed things another week. On May 20th at 5:48 a.m. with clear



skies and a comfortable 60 degree temperatures, our new building began its departure from the High School location on Marion Center Road. At 6:05 a.m., the building turned the corner at Subway from Bridge Street onto Mason Street with a city police car in front and a sheriff's car at the back of the caravan. At 6:25 a.m., the

movers began backing the building into place and by 9:00 a.m., the building was set upon its new cement block foundation and every-



thing was completed. Over 100 pictures of this process were taken and are posted on the Alano Club's website. It takes a few minutes to load and the pictures are all sequenced so you can see the entire process unfold—we had two people taking pictures. The 6/8/09 board meeting was held at the temporary meeting room and the board got a chance to see the new building up close as the roof trusses were installed that tied the two buildings together.



Current

Past Due / Due Soon	5
Due in 2009	20
Due in 2010	20
Due in 2011+	4
Lifetime	24
TOTALS	73

Upcoming Events:

- Board Meeting—Thursday, July 16th, 5:00 pm at Alano Club Meeting Room
- Speaker meetings at the Alano Club—3rd Friday of the month—6:30 pot-luck, 7:00 speaker
- Friday, July 17th — Gary C from Petoskey will be the speaker
- May be in new building at this time!

“Faith is the confident assurance that things hoped for will be realized.” Hebrews 11:1

SERENITY HOUSE - ALANO CLUB OF CHARLEVOIX, INC.

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Helping you help yourself.

We're on the web:
charlevoixalano.org



Recovery Happens Too!

The "Serenity House - Alano Club of Charlevoix, Inc." was organized in 1986 to provide an alcohol and drug-free environment for 12-step recovery programs. The organization is a non-profit corporation governed by a volunteer Board of Directors elected from its membership. Club membership is never required and should never be implied for participation in 12-step meetings held at the club. We request each group to organize itself as suggested through their respective 12-step program to avoid any violation of their traditions. Alano Club membership dues are \$5 per month or \$50 per year or you can invest in a lifetime membership for \$1,000. Married couples membership is available for \$75 per year. For your membership, you will receive newsletters, have voting rights in determining the activities of the organization, receive an anniversary coin at no cost, have more opportunities for fellowship and service through our annual bowl-a-thon and special events. As a club member, you will also be making a positive contribution toward the continuation of recovery support services in our community. Meetings held at the Alano Club in Charlevoix account for over 30% of available meetings within a 40 mile radius. Revenues to cover the annual operating budget for the Alano Club come from the following sources: 36% from Meeting Rent, 32% from Fundraising Activities, 20% from Donations, and 12% from Membership Dues. You can join the Alano Club by using one of our donation envelopes at the Club or mail in your membership dues along with your name, address, city, state, zip and e-mail address if you have one. Checks can be made payable to "Charlevoix Alano Club".

Q & A regarding the building project...

Q: When will be able to move in? A: We are being told that mid to late July will be our move-in date. The roof and porch were finished this past week and the drywall was installed in a day. They will spend three or four days mudding, taping, sanding and priming. Trim work will go up, more painting, walls will be finished with some wallpaper in a few spots, tile flooring around the kitchen area and bathrooms, lighting and electrical finished, kitchen cupboards and appliances installed, carpeting, shades on the windows, setting all of the fixtures and cupboards in the three bathrooms, two handicapped accessible, final plumbing, electrical, lighting, security system, multi-media system, outside cement work for the entrances and parking area, landscaping completed and move the new furniture into the finished facility. 3-5 weeks is being hopeful with all of the things needing to be done yet.

Q: Who is in the other room at the Beacon Center? A: Charlevoix has a newly formed Elks Club that is looking to open their full operations on 7/1/09. They have signed a lease for the use of the entire facility and we are working with them to accommodate one another's needs until we can move into our own facility. They have big meetings on Wednesday, June 24th and July 8th beginning at 7:00 p.m. that cannot be rescheduled due to their national charter. The Alanon meeting has agreed to take a field trip on 6/24 by meeting at the room at 6:00 and then departing for Petoskey at 6:30 to attend an open speaker meeting that night. And on 7/8, the Alanon group plans to meet at 6:00 and wrap up by 7:00. The Elks group utilizes the same bathroom facilities that we are using at the Beacon Center. They enter through the back hallway. Thank you for your understanding and helping us work together with our fellow community members.

Q: Why is there a security system in the new facility? A: An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure. In the past, there were complaints with people being in the building doing things that were not appropriate for our facility. There have been complaints from females that they were uncomfortable with some men's behavior. Just before we moved into our temporary facility, the metal drop box was broken into. The security system is for everyone's protection and safety. Whether you realize it or not, most public facilities have some type of surveillance system in place. Our new facility will have a final price tag of nearly \$250,000 and for those who contributed money to this project, this is our way of saying, "we will take care of this gift you have so generously bestowed upon us."

Q: What will happen behind the building to the west, behind the Courier building? A: Bruce Bartlett, owner of the building, has generously agreed to allow us to use this backyard space to design an outside smoking / picnic area. We have also been blessed with a generous donor who has agreed to cover the expenses of landscaping the back area to meet our needs. There has been talk of keeping the two picnic tables at this spot, establishing a small fire pit for "campfire meetings", some patio stones for outside grilling opportunities and some outside yard furniture for private sitting. There will also be a more visible picnic table area and flower garden in the northeast corner of the property closest to Mason Street and the public parking area. The backyard area will be the designated smoking area to provide those future quitters a space of their own. Obviously, the new facility will be smoke free.

Q: What multi-media capabilities will be in the new facility? A: Computer with cable television compatibility, ceiling mounted overhead projector, home theater surround sound system, 7 foot pull down screen, high speed wireless. BYONC—bring your own notebook computer.