

# AROUND THE COFFEE POT...

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## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Board met on 10/8/07, approved minutes from August, financials for August and September, approved plans to have carpets cleaned, siding power-washed, front door replaced on meeting room and reviewed some winterizing plans for front building water and storage issues for picnic table and lawn-mower.

Medallion supplies have been updated and 24 hour coins, months from 1 thru 6, 9 months and a few one year coins are available in a plastic container on the table. These coins are available for all groups to share with those attending meetings who would like them.

Updated District 13 meeting schedules are available on the table as well as updated Charlevoix Alano Club meet-

ing list cards with emergency numbers and space for phone numbers are also available. For those that haven't noticed, more ink pens were ordered for sharing with others that now have the message phone number and web-site listed on them.

Scott attended a District 13 meeting in Petoskey in October. They were very happy to have some representation from Charlevoix. Each group is encouraged to send a GSR to these meetings that take place each month on the 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm in the basement meeting room below the Harbor Hall Administrative offices.

Scott and Richard O met with the new City Manager to renew talks about the possible Alano Building Project. The City Manager said

he would seek direction from the mayor and council members and get back with us at some time. We hope to have more definite information on this subject in the months to come.

Board elections are needed in November. There was no new interest in running for the board and all involved agreed to run again. Ballots will go out in early November and need to be returned before the 11/19 meeting.

Next meeting November 19th at 6:30 pm at BASES.



### Current Membership

Past Due	1
Due in 2007	8
Due in 2008	31
Due in 2009+	5
Lifetime	18
TOTALS	63

### Upcoming Events:

- Board Meeting - Monday, November 19th at 6:30 pm at BASES
- Speaker meetings at Alano Club—3rd Friday of the month—6:30 potluck, 7:00 speaker
- October 19th speaker—Helga from Charlevoix
- November 16th speaker—Jennifer from Petoskey

## LIFE'S A GAMBLE...

"Life is a gamble," a Mother Cabbage told her offspring, Brussels Sprout. "You have to weather storms and drought. You have to fend off animals, bugs, mold and rot. But if you hang in

there, you'll grow."

"I'll try," said the little Sprout. "But how long does this take. When should I stop growing?"

"As with any other gamble," said Mother Cabbage. "Quit when you're a head."

**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!**

*From Bits & Pieces on Leadership:*

Where do you go when you have a question that needs an answer these days? The internet, of course.

Here are some questions found on the Internet and published in the *Write File Quarterly*, Woodville, Ontario, Canada:

Why do you need a driver's license to buy liquor when you can't drive and drink?

Why isn't phonetic spelling spelled the way it sounds?

Why are there interstate highways in Hawaii?

If you're in a vehicle going the speed of light, what happens when you turn on the headlights?

Why is it when you transport something by car it's called a shipment, but when you transport something by ship it's called cargo?

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. For your membership, you will receive monthly 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, Venetian Booth 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 \$25,000 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".

Why is it that when you're driving and looking for an address, you turn down the volume on the radio?

Almost nothing is more helpful in dealing with people than a sense of humor. Now, a sense of humor doesn't necessarily mean a knack for telling jokes. Rather, it means the ability to take some setbacks and still see that the world has not come to an end.

If you keep from taking a situation or yourself too seriously, you'll get much better results. If you don't take yourself too seriously, there are always things in any situation that are still amusing, that you can still smile about. And a smiling, cheerful leader invariably wins more cooperation than a grim or gloomy one.

If all you do in a crisis is add to the heat and confusion, people will soon lose respect for your



The Alano Club is supported by the Charlevoix Emmet United Way.

abilities under pressure. But if you can maintain your sense of proportion and humor when the world seems to be falling apart, people who rely on you will show their appreciation in better work and greater loyalty.

Yes, some problems are serious—but there's nothing gained by exaggerating their importance. Get in the habit of taking yourself and your problems less seriously. Learn to smile at yourself and the world as well. You'll get better results—and actually have more good things to smile about when you do.

When you come to a fork in the road, take it.—Yogi Berra