

AROUND THE COFFEE POT...

Volume 5, Issue 1
March 21, 2008

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS AT THE CLUB...

To say it's been a busy 1st quarter of 2008 would be an understatement. We've had meetings with the City, Downtown Development Authority and Historical Committees twice in January about our building issues. We learned that the 2006 proposal for a land swap was no longer a consideration. The city helped us with an engineer to come in and look at our front two story building and determine that it was not structurally worth renovating. The Historical group provided us with a letter in support of demolishing the old building. We had two long-term planning sessions at the Charlevoix Public Library facilitated by Chet Janik, superintendent of Charlevoix Public Schools. These meetings were held on



1/31/08 and 2/22/08. Results of these meetings provided much needed information that will be valuable in grant writing and long-range planning that includes four overall goals. 1) build a new building, 2) maintain financial stability, 3) maintain current operations while expanding membership & services, 4) community support & awareness. There were meetings with City Planners to gather information about parking issues and a meeting with bankers to learn about possible options for financing a new building project. There were several meetings and changes to initial building plans and lengthy discussions about what was necessary with a new facility and what was not. Final drawings incorporate keeping the back building for kitchen facilities, office space and a club room. We also maintain two parking spots on location to reduce our costs

into a city owned parking fund. There were discussions with several contractors to get a rough price estimate to begin putting a price tag on a new 1,800 square foot building. We have assurance from numerous contractors that our estimates of building for \$125 per square foot is within reason. The board has reviewed finances of the past four years and included the 2008 budget into the plans to determine that our organization can finance this plan. We will also work on a fundraising plan and network with key community stakeholders to gather more community support and attempt to pay down the entire project in the next 3-5 years. The Board had a final review meeting on all of these items on 3/20/08 and are now ready to present information to the membership for their approval to move forward on demolishing the front two story building and begin construction on a new facility in its location.



Current Membership

Past Due	10
Due in 2008	25
Due in 2009	9
Due in 2010	4
Lifetime	18
TOTALS	66

Upcoming Events:

- Membership & Board Meeting—Monday, April 7th 6:30 pm at BASES
- Speaker meetings at Alano Club—3rd Friday of the month—6:30 potluck, 7:00 speaker
- 3/21 Bev Z from Charlevoix
- 4/18 Tom C from Boyne City
- Board Meeting—Monday, May 19th at 6:30 pm at BASES

**Monday, April 7th
Membership
Meeting 6:30 pm at
208 W. Lincoln St**

SERENITY HOUSE - ALANO CLUB OF CHARLEVOIX, INC.

106 Mason Street
Charlevoix, MI 49720

Web-site: charlevoixalano.org
E-mail: info@charlevoixalano.org
Phone: 231-547-9184

Helping you help yourself.

**We're on the web:
charlevoixalano.org**



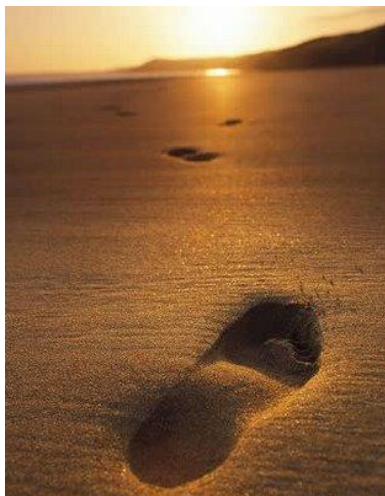
Recovery Happens Too!

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. 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".

WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON...

The annual bowl-a-thon was held in early March and saw 9 bowlers raise a net profit of \$1,500.

Meeting participation has been very good as the Sunday PM



meeting has a new record of 15 attendees!

We have been in communication with the Alano Club in Boyne City to assist them in any way we can. We hear that they have secured their non-profit

standing and are moving forward on paying off the debt on their building.

We submitted an annual grant to United Way for support of the Alano Club operations. Interviews will be held in April and final notification will be given in May.

Annual taxes have been filed for the organization with help from a local CPA and we have also applied to the state of Michigan for our "license to solicit" as a non-profit organization.

At year end, the Alano Club had cash assets of \$57,000. The organization has financial guidelines of maintaining \$10K in reserves for emergencies and \$2K in checking to maintain monthly cash flow. This brings the balance to \$45K to use for the building projects. \$13K for demolishing to the low bidder. \$25K down-payment on a \$225K construction project so we are financing \$200K initially.



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

With the information from the bank on a 6% loan for 30 years, we have payments of \$1,200 per month which is our average net income for the past 48 months. If we spend \$2K to launch our initial fundraising and community awareness project, we still have \$5K to cover our monthly payments if our cash flow should hit any bumps.

You can help by keeping your membership up to date and encouraging others to become a member of the club. Stay tuned for more as 2008 will become a very exciting time to be a member of the Charlevoix Alano Club!

There is talk of having a monthly social activity. If you have ideas, please contact a board member.