

LITTLE WHITE HOUSE NEWSLETTER

February 2015

Dakota Alano Society

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

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, February 8th, 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, February 15th, 6:00 p.m.

February Board of Directors Meeting

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

@ @ @ NEW DAS WEBSITE @ @ @

In October 2014 the Dakota Alano Society
launched an updated website.

Thank you to Hilary S. for all her
hard work in getting the site up and
running. We appreciate your service!

Check out our website at:

www.dakotaalano.org

A REMINDER TO SMOKERS . . .

**Smoking is prohibited within 25 feet of
the front door of the White House.**

**Members are requested to refrain from
smoking on the front porch or steps
of the house.**

Thank you for being considerate of others.

SQUAD LEADER REMINDERS

A Reminder to All Groups and Squad Leaders

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

In addition, each meeting group is responsible for a thorough cleaning of the White House during one assigned month of the year.

Upcoming Cleaning Schedule

February	Thursday	8:00 p.m.
March	Friday	6:00 p.m.
	Friday	8:00 p.m.
April	Wed	7:00 a.m.
	Saturday	11:00 a.m.

Cleaning supplies are kept under the sinks in the kitchen and both bathrooms. The House has a vacuum cleaner, and additional cleaning equipment is stored 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. By pitching in to keep the house clean you are doing valuable service work, and maintaining a pleasant environment for our meetings. Thank You !!

Check Your Mailbox !

Squad Leaders are requested to check their mail slots on a weekly basis for squad leader and Dakota Alano news. Mail slots are located in the kitchen on the wall between the bathroom and the side room, above the counter. Pre-printed donation envelopes are provided in the mail slots, along with flyers and any postal service mail for your meeting.

Check the Website !

In addition to the mail slots in the kitchen, Squad Leaders can look for news and reminders on the Dakota Alano website:

www.dakotaalano.org



Squad Leader Guide ? ? ?

There is a Squad Leader guide available to all trusted servants.

Who Knew?!?

(Apparently, not many.)

The Dakota Alano Society Group Leaders Guide is available on the DAS website:

www.dakotaalano.org

The guide has 33 pages of information including:

Group Leader Responsibilities

Treasurer Responsibilities

Sample Meeting Agendas

Info and directions to Hasting Detox

Guidelines for a Group Conscious

Monthly Cleaning Schedule

Various Readings

The DAS By-Laws

And a **bunch** more stuff

So check it out!

February Meetings & Events

Dakota Alano 6:00 pm Beginner's Meeting

There Is A Solution

Speaker Meeting every Saturday at 6pm

And don't miss the next Potluck:

Saturday Feb. 7th - Potluck at 5 pm

Speaker at 6 pm - Niles A, FoxHall



SPONSORS NEEDED !

The newly revitalized

Saturday 11:00 a.m. meeting

at the White House

***is looking for members willing
to sponsor newcomers.***

***If you are interested in being a
sponsor or temporary sponsor,
please come check out this
meeting.***

Greater Minneapolis Intergroup's

32nd Annual

*****GRATITUDE NIGHT*****

Saturday, February 21st

6:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

AA Speaker: Mari G, Ontario Canada

Al-Anon Speaker: Scott T, Bloomington MN

Tickets: \$12

6:30 p.m. Social Hour & Music

7:30 p.m. Program & Speakers

10:00 p.m. Music & Dance

Minneapolis Convention Center

1301 2nd Avenue South, Mpls

Ballroom A

More info: www.aaminneapolis.org



NEW MEETING IN EAGAN

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

Speaker Meeting

at the Eagan Community Center

REMINDER TO DAKOTA ALANO MEETING TREASURERS

Group treasurers are reminded that the preferred method for making group donations is via check, payable to the Dakota Alano Society, Inc. Checks should be placed in a donation envelope in the Treasurer's mail slot in the kitchen. Writing a check decreases the risk the group's donation funds will be stolen. Group treasurers are requested to make their donations to the House **weekly** whenever possible. Pre-printed donation envelopes are in each groups mail slot in the kitchen.

Thank you for your valuable service work!

STEP TWO

Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

To clergymen, doctors, family, and friends, the alcoholic who means well and tries hard is a heartbreaking riddle. To most A.A.'s he is not. There are too many of us who have been just like him, and have found the riddle's answer. This answer has to do with the quality of faith rather than it's quantity. This has been our blind spot. We supposed we had humility when really we hadn't. We supposed we had been serious about religious practices when, upon honest appraisal, we found we had been only superficial. Or going to the other extreme, we had wallowed in emotionalism and had mistaken it for true religious feeling. In both cases, we had been asking something for nothing. The fact was we really hadn't cleaned house so that the grace of God could enter us and expel the obsession. In no deep or meaningful sense had we ever taken stock of ourselves, made amends to those we had harmed, or freely given to any other human being without any demand for reward. We had not even prayed rightly. We had always said, "Grant me my wishes" instead of "Thy will be done." The love of God and man we understood not at all. Therefore we remained self-deceiving, and so incapable of receiving enough grace to restore us to sanity.

Few indeed are the practicing alcoholics who have any idea how irrational they are, or seeing their irrationality, can bear to face it. Some will be willing to term themselves "problem drinkers," but cannot endure the suggestion that they are in fact mentally ill. They are abetted in this blindness by a world which does not understand the difference between sane drinking and alcoholism. "Sanity" is defined as "soundness of mind." Yet no alcoholic, soberly analyzing his destructive behavior, whether the destruction fell on the dining-room furniture or his own moral fiber, can claim "soundness of mind" for himself.

Therefore, Step Two is the rallying point for all of us. Whether agnostic, atheist, or former believer, we can stand together on this Step. True humility and an open mind can lead us to faith and every A.A. meeting is an assurance that God will restore us to sanity if we rightly relate ourselves to Him.

From Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pgs 32-33.

TRADITION TWO

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority - a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscious. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Sooner or later, every AA comes to depend upon a Power greater than himself. He finds that the God of his understanding is not only a source of strength, but also a source of positive direction. Realizing that some fraction of that infinite resource is now available, his life takes on an entirely different complexion. He experiences a new inner security together with a sense of destiny and purpose as he has never known before. As each day passes, our AA reviews his mistakes and vicissitudes. He learns from daily experience what his remaining character defects are and becomes ever more willing that they be removed. In this fashion he improves his conscious contact with God.

Every AA group follows this same cycle of development. We are coming to realize that each group, as well as each individual, is a special entity, not quite like any other. Though AA groups are basically the same, each group does have its own special atmosphere, its own particular state of development. We believe that every AA group has a conscience. It is the collective conscience of its own membership. Daily experience informs and instructs this conscience. The group begins to recognize its own defects of character and, one by one, these are removed or lessened. As this process continues, the group becomes better able to receive right direction for its own affairs.

Trial and error produces group experience, and out of corrected experience comes custom. When a customary way of doing things is definitely proved to be best, then that custom forms into AA Tradition. The Greater Power is then working through a clear group conscience. We humbly hope and believe that our growing AA Tradition will prove to be the will of God for us. *Excerpted from Language of the Heart. Copyright © 1988 The AA Grapevine, Inc. Reprinted in the A.A. Lifeline, January 2012*

Spiritual Principle of Step Two

✿ ✿ Hope ✿ ✿