LITTLE WHITE HOUSE NEWSLETTER

September 2015

Dakota Alano Society

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

www.dakotaalano.org

24 Hour a day:

MPLS Intergroup Hotline: 952-922-0880 St. Paul Intergroup Hotline: 651-227-5502



ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

Dakota Alano Society's

<u>Annual General Membership Meeting</u> **Sunday September 20th**6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church

(Due to flooring project at the White House, the Annual Membership meeting will be held next door at the church.

The exact meeting room will be posted)

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Elections of new Board members take place at the Annual General Membership Meeting.

3 regular 3-year terms and 1 vacated 2-year term are open to be filled.

Qualifications for Board candidates are:

- 1 year of continuous sobriety OR
- 1 year of attendance at Alanon or ACOA
- Ability to attend Board meetings on the 3rd Sunday of the month from 6 - 7 p.m.
- Willingness to take on a Board responsibility

Candidates must be present at the Annual General Membership meeting to be elected to the Board. If you are interested in serving on the DAS Board of Directors please contact a current board member.

NEW FLOORING AT THE WHITE HOUSE!

Starting Saturday Sept. 19th the White House will have new flooring installed on the main level.
This project will run through Friday, Sept. 25th.

During these dates all meetings will be held next door at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church. The exact rooms for each meeting will be posted prior to the 19th. Saturday the 26th will be the first day meetings will resume at the house.

Volunteers are needed to help remove
the old flooring at the following times:

Saturday Sept 19th, 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Saturday Sept 19th, 12:30 - 5:00 p.m. Sunday Sept 20th - 1:00 - 4:30 p.m. (only if the project is not finished on Saturday)

Volunteers will need to provide their own work gloves and eye protection, wear appropriate working clothing and shoes, and bring water. If a volunteer has misc. tools (i.e. hammer, pry bars, utility knife), they are encouraged to bring them. If bringing tools, please have them identified with the owner's name on the tool itself.

Members who are interested in volunteering should contact Lonnie L
612-799-8806
Or any other Board member

Sunday, September 27th, 6:00 p.m.

September Board of Directors Meeting

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

The Dakota Alano Society and The Board of Directors

To many who attend meetings here, we are known as "the little white house" or simply "The White House". Officially we are The Dakota Alano Society, Inc. - a non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide and maintain a facility for fellowship, meetings and the programs of Alcoholics Anonymous, Alanon, ACOA and Alateen. The DAS (Dakota Alano Society) incorporated as a non-profit 37 years ago on December 11th, 1978. There were 5 original "incorporators" and 12 members on the first Board of Directors. In addition to being guided by the 12 Traditions of AA, the Dakota Alano Society is governed by its Articles of Incorporation, By Laws and the laws of MN regarding non-profit organizations. The GSO (AA's General Service Organization in New York City) also provides guidelines regarding the relationship between AA and Alano Clubs.

The current Board of Directors consists of 9 Board members, each serving a 3 year term. Board members are elected from and by the general membership at the Annual General Membership meeting, which is held the 3rd Sunday in September. The purpose of the Board of Directors, as stated in the By Laws, is to provide and maintain a facility for the DAS, to coordinate all activities that occur on the property, and to be responsible for all financial transactions of the DAS. In other words, to take care of the business of running a non-profit organization and manage the day-to-day affairs of the White House.

The DAS rents the little White House from the Mount Calvary Lutheran church. (We are tenants of the church, but have no other official relationship with the church.) Therefore one of the top priorities of the Board is to make sure that the White House is being utilized according to the terms of our lease. The Board is responsible for paying the rent and utilities, and purchasing supplies (coffee, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, etc.), literature and medallions for use by the groups. The Board also takes care of maintenance and security issues, provides keys to squad leaders, stocks the pop machine, publishes squad leader guides, prints meeting cards and donation envelopes, publishes a newsletter and maintains a physical and digital Archives of board meeting minutes, motions and votes, treasurer's reports, etc. Additionally the Board of Directors finances the Hospitality Suite at Gopher State and supports the Annual Picnic.

The Board of Directors consists of 4 officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary) and 5 board positions, each of which takes on a specific responsibility. The Board utilizes an Operations Journal which outlines its policies and procedures, as well as, the duties and responsibilities of the various Board positions. The Operations Journal is updated periodically and changes to the Operations Journal must be voted on at a Board meeting.

The following is a general (and incomplete) description of each of the positions on the Board:

President - conducts Board and Membership meetings, is the primary liaison to the church, oversees and negotiates contracts, is an authorized signer on bank accounts. Must have served on the Board for 1 year.

Vice President - fills in for and assists the President when necessary, is responsible for inventory of literature and medallions, is an authorized signer on bank accounts. Must have served on the Board for 1 year.

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The Board of Directors (cont.)

Treasurer - responsible for paying all bills and invoices, reviews and reconciles group deposits, maintains accurate banking records, provides monthly financial reports, prepares and presents annual budget and year-end fiscal reports, oversees annual pledge drive. Must have served on the Board for 1 year.

Secretary - Records and publishes minutes from all board and membership meetings, publishes rosters of current board members, keeps the DAS archives up-to-date

Assistant Treasurer - Assists Treasurer in all financial responsibilities

Facilities Maintenance - Responsible for general house maintenance, ongoing repairs and replacements, monitors heating and air conditioning, oversees house cleaning schedule

House Security - Maintains inventory of keys and list of current key holders, distributes and collects keys as determined by the Board, periodically checks doors, windows and locked cabinets for tampering

Supplies - Checks inventory of supplies on a regular basis and purchases replacements on a timely basis

Publications - Publishes monthly newsletters, prints meeting cards and donation envelopes, assists president in posting notices and flyers, is primary liaison to the webmaster for the DAS website

The 2015 Annual General Membership Meeting - Sunday, September 20th, 6pm

The 2015 Annual General Membership meeting of the DAS will be held on Sunday, September 20th at 6:00 p.m. at Mt Calvary Lutheran Church, next door to the White House. This meeting is sometimes referred to as the "annual board meeting" when in actuality this is a meeting of the general membership that is lead by the Board. Elections for new Board members are held at the Annual General Membership meeting. New business can be brought before the Board by members in attendance. A report of the DAS financial position is given along with a review of the minutes from the previous year's Annual Meeting.

Elections for 4 Board positions will be held on the 20th. There is one 2-year position to be filled, and three 3-year positions to be filled. Qualifications for Board candidates are one year of continuous sobriety or one year of attendance at Alanon or ACOA, and the ability to attend monthly Board meetings on the 3rd Sunday of the month from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Willingness to take on a board responsibility is also required and candidates must be present at the Annual General Membership meeting to be elected to the Board.

Serving on the Board is certainly not for everyone. It demands a specific time commitment (that sometimes interferes with Sunday evening football games). It requires a willingness to take on responsibility, work with a group of individuals, and place principles before personalities. Usually it is not very exciting. But without volunteers to serve on the Board, the White House would not be able to host the approximately 19 meetings that are held here each week. If you meet the requirements and are looking for a rewarding service opportunity contact a current Board member about serving on the Board. Board members phone numbers are posted in the kitchen.

MONTHLY HOUSE CLEANING

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

Sept	Tuesday Sunday	6:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.
October	Thursday	7:30 p.m.
Nov	Saturday	9:00 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!!

SQUAD LEADER REMINDERS

! Check the Website!

Please check out the <u>Squad Leaders News</u> page @ www.dakotaalano.org

This page will be kept up to date with reminders, upcoming Squad Leader meetings and messages for you to relay to your group.

and 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.



Squad Leader Guide

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

The guide has 33 pages of information including:
Group Leader and Treasurer Responsibilities
Sample Meeting Agendas and Readings
Info and directions to Hasting Detox
Monthly Cleaning Schedule
And a bunch more stuff
So check it out!

www.dakotaalano.org

Thank You to All Squad Leaders and Treasurers for Your Service Work!

Recovery Meetings & Events

57th Annual

SOUTHERN MINNESOTA ROUND-UP

Spirit to Spirit . . . We carry the message

Friday Sept.11th - Sunday Sept 13th

Best Western Hotel, North Mankato, MN www.aastpaul.org

70th Annual

DULUTH ROUND-UP

Growth Has Only Begun

Friday Sept.18th - Sunday Sept 20th

Marshal High School, Duluth MN www.duluthroundup.org

Big Book Study and Action Sessions

"Precisely How We Carried the Message"

Beginning Saturday, Sept. 12th

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

4 Saturdays through 10/10

Wooddale Church 6630 Shady Oak Rd, Eden Prairie, MN

Beginning Sunday, Sept. 13th

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. for 15-16 weeks The Recovery Church 253 State St., St Paul, MN

For more information on the Big Book Studay and Action workshops, visit the website: www.into-action.com Dakota Alano 6:00 pm Beginner's Meeting

There Is A Solution

Speaker Meeting every Saturday at 6 pm

1st Saturday of the monthPotluck at 5 pmSpeaker at 6 pm

Next Potluck: Sept 5th

DAS Service Opportunities

Take a meeting to Dakota County Jail

Third Saturday of the Month
12:45 pm Arrival 1:00 - 2:00 pm Meeting

Format: Big Book, 12x12 or Your Story 2 people needed: 2 men or 1 man/1 woman Must have 6 months of sobriety and can not have been incarcerated at this facility.

Organized by the Saturday 6 pm meeting.

For more information or to sign up for the next available meeting contact Sheryl S:

952-346-4809 sasaunders@live.com

Take a meeting to Hastings Detox

Second Sunday of the Month. 7pm

Every 2nd Sunday of each month, the Dakota Alano sponsors a 7pm meeting at Hastings Detox. Volunteers from all groups meet at the house and carpool to Hastings at 6:15 pm. This is an opportunity to carry the message and to introduce detox residents to the AA program. There are no sobriety requirements or credentials for volunteers. Meetings last no longer than 1 hour.

Take a meeting to Ramsey Co. Detox

Fourth Wednesday of the Month

Contact Lee G for details: 612-202-1013

A.A. History in September

Sept 1

1939 - First AA group founded in Chicago.

Sept 11

2001 - 30 Vesey St, New York. Location of AA's first office is destroyed during the World Trade Center attack.

Sept 12

1942 - U.S. Assist. Surgeon General Kolb speaks at dinner for Bill and Dr. Bob.

Sept 13

1937 - Florence R, first female in AA in NY.

1941 - WHJP in Jacksonville, FL airs Spotlight on AA.

Sept 17

1954 - Bill D, AA #3 dies.

Sept 18

1947 - Dallas Central Office opens its doors.

Sept 19

1965 - The Saturday Evening Post publishes "Alcoholics Can Be Cured Despite AA"

Sept 19

1975 - Jack Alexander, author of original Saturday Evening Post article, dies.

Sept 2

1938 - Bill W. & Hank P. form Works Publishing Co.

Sept 24

1940 - Bill 12th steps Bobbie V., who later replaced Ruth Hock as his secretary in NY.

Sept 30

1939 - Article in Liberty magazine, "Alcoholics and God" by Morris Markey.

Other significant events which occurred in September, but for which we do not have a specific date:

1930 - Bill wrote 4th (last) promise in family Bible to quit drinking

1939 - Group started by Earl T. in Chicago.

1940 - AA group started in Toledo by Duke P. & others.

1940 - Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases gives Big Book unfavorable review.

1946 - Bill & Dr. Bob both publicly endorsed National Committee Education Alcoholism founded by Marty M.

1946 - First A.A. group in Mexico.

1948 - Bob writes article for Grapevine on AA, "Fundamentals In Retrospect".

1949 - First issue of A.A. Grapevine published in "pocketbook" size.

Step Nine

Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

The Principle of Step Nine: **JUSTICE**

Tradition Nine

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

Tradition Nine - The Long Form

Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our overall public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine.

All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles: they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

(The long form of all the traditions can be found in the back of the book: 12 Steps and 12 Traditions)