

Trusted Servants in
Your Employ:
Mary G.
Sherri G.
Charity M.
Judy P.
Jessica J.
JoAnn B.
Carolyn S.
Christeen M.
Debi H.
Judy H..
Tony B.

The San Jose Alano Club News

Trusted Servants on
The Board Of Directors
Cora S.
Mike A.
Ernie A.
Judy P.
Karen C.
Randy G.
Edie M.
Frank P.
Felix L.

Home of the Fair Avenue Fellowship

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Thanks

Many thanks to all the great and wonderful people who donated enough money for us to get up to the current code with our trusted servants at the fire department.. Although they haven't had time to inspect us yet, I have every hope that they will do so soon! I want to drop some names here of some very important people: JoAnn B., Frenchie P., Bob Mc., Anonymous, Andy D., Sal C., Carmine M., Robert T., Craig O., Steve D., Anonymous, Judy P., Mike C., Sherri G., Norm D., Charity M., Jessica J., Arturo G., Andrew C. Anonymous, Victoria W., Mike A., Tom G., Steve H., Laura M., Frank P., Mary G., Paul W., Fran D., Gino H., Kenneth., Marty F., Anonymous, Glenn S., and all of those that I forgot to mention.

Help Wanted

Looking for someone to paint a logo of Narcotics Anonymous and Cocaine Anonymous in our meeting room. Must be good, reliable, and actually willing to show up. Management has suffered many failures in the past and has lost a little steam on the project. We are running about 20 years late, but some things take longer than others. The pay for this project is perhaps a cheeseburger or two, and trust me it just doesn't get any better than that. Oh, and assuming you keep going to meetings and assuming that this building stands for a long while, you will be able to share an idea with someone new.

Congratulations On Your Upcoming Milestone In recovery:

Dennis B.	5/1/74	Phyllis F.	5/1/83	Chuck M.	5/2/96	Willie C.	5/2/97
Felix L.	5/4/94	David R.	5/6/89	Steve H.	5/6/85	Joe B.	5/7/61
Dalia D.	5/9/97	Cheryl D.	5/10/97	Maryann W.	5/11/78	Ed R.	5/11/91
JoAnna D.	5/12/92	John C.	5/14/71	Lupe M.	5/22/89	Jaime R.	5/24/91
Frank P.	5/24/93	Goody Goody For You					

The Board Would Like To Recognize and Thank

Michael O'Connell for his efforts in getting a brand new floor finish in our main meeting room. This was an all night job and Mike did a great job of it.

A New Policy and we need your Help!

The Board would further like to thank all of you for your support in the new policy of no children in the poolroom for any reason any day of the week after six p.m. This decision was not taken lightly and we believe that it is necessary for the over-all good of the Club.

And Our Next Dance Will Be

Friday, May 15th following the regular AA Meeting. Please be so kind as to get your tickets in advance. To protect and better our dances we need to remind you that no children are allowed in the dance. We reserve this activity for the adults in our population. Thanks, and again we need you to make it work.

A Memorial Day Bar-B-Que.

It Will Be Good, It Will Be on Monday, May 25th, And you should plan on eating. If you can get 100 people to this BBQ, I will tell you where Les and me got the Club BBQ. It is a story you will want to tell your grandchildren.

I will never understand why they cook on TV. I can't smell it. Can't eat it. Can't taste it. The end of the show they hold it up to the camera, "Well, here it is. You can't have any. Thanks for watching. Goodbye."

Then There's My Psychiatrist

Why is that with the psychiatrist every hour is only fifty minutes? What do they do with the ten minutes that they have left? Do they just sit there going, "Boy that guy was crazy. I couldn't believe the things he was saying. What a nut. Who's coming in next? Oh no, another head case." One could use a sponsor for such things and get the full hour!

I'm on the plane, we left late, of course and the pilot says, "We're going to be making up some time in the air." I thought, "Isn't that interesting. They just make up time." That's why you have to reset your watch when you land. Of course, when they say they're making up time, obviously they're increasing the speed of the aircraft. Now my question is, if you can go faster, why don't you just go as fast as you can all of the time? "Come on, there's no cops up here! Nail it! Give it some gas! We're flying!"

MOVING, GROWING, MOVING

Behind every good man stands a woman. Alcoholics aren't always good and women seldom 'stand' for things that aren't good. So moving to a better place where the men could learn a little more

about being good (staying sober) seemed the only reasonable thing to do. A few more meetings, a little less cards and more time to spend with their wives. The meetings this group attended were held at the Women's Club, while the wives met in each other's homes. So, when Jim H. and Carl M. located three rooms above the Padre Theater on South First Street, the stage was set for a better way.

Not all the members of the group liked the idea, but those who did pitched in to make it worthwhile. A long chesterfield and a few chairs from Los Angeles (connections and a better price) made the lounge warm and friendly. A recreation-room and a combination meeting and card room rounded out the new 'place to be'. An artist in Los Angeles painted the Twelve Steps of AA and the spirit of the program began to grow. The first organized place dedicated to sobriety.

Roy M. was active in the club, his wife, Eva, making sandwiches and good coffee (at last). Bob B. and his wife, Vivian, Lloyd S. and his wife, Jean (Jean started the first Al-Anon group in San Jose), Chet M., Dorothy B. and several others frequented the club, taking an active part in the going's-on, making it much more than merely a refuge from drink - it was becoming a new way of life.

This new life began attracting more and more to the point that three rooms no longer provided the comfort it did when they first moved in. Sam H., a prominent attorney, filed a club charter and the club had a formal name - "The Alano Club of San Jose." A new name and a need for more room. Time to move again. The need to move was different than before, and the obstacles were different as well.

Johnny B. loved to dance, so the new place should have room for that. The meetings were getting larger, so more room was needed for them. Card games were a must. And of course, a bigger lounge was needed for a break from all the other activities. Some members, however, weren't convinced. The Board of Directors of this new club didn't know what they wanted, or how to go about it. They'd get started, get opinions and if they couldn't have their way, there'd be problems. At one point, all the Board Members resigned leaving Johnny president. He was proud of that responsibility.

The Old-timers (8, 9 and 10 years at the time) said that a clubhouse would create resentments. Johnny thought that alcoholics are full of resentments anyway, so a club couldn't make many more. Martin K. had a set mind, and said if there was no gambling, a club would be O. K.. Johnny said O. K., Al C. didn't think that was a good idea because the card players were the only regulars they could depend on, and the gambling was one of the few ways to raise money. Martin was always saying at the meetings "We have to learn to stand on our own two feet!", yet the members would say "If Martin goes along with it, we'll go along with it." Johnny would say, "If we have to stand on our own two feet, why does it depend on what Martin says." Another thing Martin liked to say was whenever I have a problem like that, I always take it to my Higher Power." Johnny took it to his Higher Power, and the answer came back "Go For It!"

The Twelve Steps painted by an artist in Los Angeles are the same Twelve Steps that survived the fire which destroyed the next clubhouse, and the same ones that hang in Duncan Hall at the Fair Avenue Fellowship today.

Next Month "Sobriety In A Winery"