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November 2013

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The Alano Club of San Jose News

1122 Fair Avenue, San Jose CA 95122 Phone - 408.297.1878 Fax - 408.297.4100 www.alanosj.org

The Alano Club is your Club. Our mission is to:

- Provide a safe & supportive environment where 12-step recovery can take place
- Provide information to help those new to recovery
- Provide encouragement through fellowship within a twelve step community
- Provide a place where twelve step meetings can take place
- Provide a social setting for events and other recovery-related activities

We have been a community asset for over sixty years.

Sobriety Milestones

Name	Milestone/Years	Name	Milestone/Years
Dennis L	11/01/2006 7	Angie W	11/01/2011 2
Monette R	11/01/2011 2	Art A	11/03/2012 1
Matt S	11/04/2004 9	Felix C	11/05/1975 38
Brunie O	11/05/1986 27	Larry B	11/06/2005 8
Barbara H	11/08/1992 21	J.C. S	11/11/1989 24
Don M	11/12/1983 30	Kevin R	11/14/2007 6
Mark G	11/15/2003 10	Greg M	11/15/2007 6
Terri W	11/17/2012 1	Ernest A	11/18/2010 3
Lee N	11/19/1978 34	lda L	11/21/1971 42
Jesus D	11/21/2007 6	Monte C	11/22/2009 4
Gary N	11/24/1991 22	Clyde R	11/26/1989 24

Member of the Month - Chuck M

Chuck has donated many hours to the club as a behind the scenes contributor for several years. As our CPA and business consultant Chuck has helped with many aspects of the business of running the club by being available to Tony and the Board of Directors. Chuck has attended board meetings and answered questions so that informed decisions could be made. Chuck's dedication to the Club has been a huge benefit to all of us.

Thank you Chuck!

Activities & More at the Alano Club of San Jose

November

Fair Avenue Fellowship Group
Thanksgiving
Alcathon
November 28

Alano Club of San Jose Thanksgiving Dinner November 28

December

Alano Club^{SJ}

2nd Annual Bike Run Toy Ride
December 14 - Donate a Toy

Christmas Eve & Day Alcathons December 24 & 25

> Santa for the Kids December 25th

Alano Club^{SJ}
Christmas Day Dinner
December 25th
Duncan Hall 2-4 p.m.

The 2014 first AA meeting in Santa Clara Valley January 1, 2014 12:00am Start the New Year Right

The Alano Club of San Jose - 12 Step Meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous			
Daily	9:00 am, 12:00 pm		
Mon- Fri	4:00 pm		
Mon-Sat	6:00 pm		
Tue	9:30 pm (Men)		
Wed-Fri	7:30 pm		
Wed	8:00 pm (Women)		
Sat	10:00 am (Men)		
Sun	3:00 pm (Women), 5:00 pm (Men)		
Sun	7:30 pm		
Mon-Fri	7:30 pm (Spanish)		
AA Medicine Crow Talking Circle			
Sat	12:00 pm		

Narcotics Anonymous			
Mon & Tue	6:30 pm		
Fri	6:00 pm (Women)		
Fri & Sat	8:00 pm		
Sat & Sun	10:00 am		
Sat	1:00 pm (Tagalog Speaking)		
Sun	6:30 pm (Speaker)		
Al-Anon			
Mon	8:00 pm		
Tue	12:00 pm		
Co-Dependents Anonymous			
Wed	6:30 pm		
Sun	5:00 pm		

The Next Alano Club Board of Directors Meeting

Will be held Thursday November 7, 2013 at 6:00 pm All Members are Welcome!

The Next Fair Avenue Fellowship Group Steering Committee Meeting

Will be held Thursday
November 14, 2013 at 6:30 pm
Mandatory for all secretaries
All Members are Welcome!

Life in Recovery

"Be transparent with your fears and what you fears becomes transparent."

from: Just Blow It Up, by Dixie Gillaspie

What I like about the club

A new series directly from club member contributors

Why am I a Member of the Alano Club of San Jose?

Who am I?

My name is Carl H. I grew up in New Jersey just 18 miles south of New York City. Watched the World Trade "Twin Towers" being built on the horizon from "Washington Rock". A historic look out spot in the Wachung Mts. (elev. 400ft.) where George Washington gazed out to observe the advancing British troops during the Revolution. I grew up in Suburbia. Mainly a blue collar neighborhood with a European flavor of Italians, Jews, Greeks and Irish. My Father, a WWII veteran, was good and honest man. My Mother was a faithful Catholic and is in my eyes a saint. I grew up liking Baseball and Football and Ice Skating in the winter along with sledding. I still keep in touch with some of my boyhood friends.

What brought me to AA?

Not far from my home in Suburbia (3 miles) was the town of Dunellun where there was a neighborhood bar on every corner. I had been drinking since I was 13 and at the age of 17 I was drinking in some of these bars. I'm an alcoholic of the garden variety type. I drank as much as I could for as long as I could until by best friend "Booze" kicked the crap out of me and I landed in AA; for which I am grateful. My drinking took me many places before I got here, the military, hospitals, jail, places where I sought lower companionship looking for approval. A place to fit in. I came to my first meeting of AA in Visalia, CA on Sept. 4, 1984 and never took another drink or smoked any funny cigarettes or taken any pills or snorted any "draino" since that day. This is where I finally found where I belong, where I fit in, where my people are and as a member told me early on, "welcome home".......

Why am I a member of the Alano Club of San Jose?

I did a lot of drinking in bars. We are very fortunate to have such a fine place to come to, a safe place, a place that is like a home for the wayward soul. I love the old building we have. The benches outside where I sat with other members drinking coffee and talking program early in sobriety. Being there for the new people. It's like the community center for members of AA. We have a nice kitchen with some pretty good food. We have a garden area out back where some of my cigar smoking buddies and I have a fine "stogie" and talk recovery and welcome all. We have potlucks, BBQ's and dances along with motorcycle runs and car shows. All are Welcome.

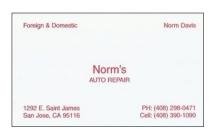
My advice to the newcomer?

You need 3 things to get this program. A sobriety date, a home group, and a sponsor. Simple stuff. If you do that, you'll get a book, you'll read it and you'll take the "steps" we have taken and you'll get this thing we call "sobriety". Join us. Your way wasn't working and that is what got you to us. Give yourself a break, this just might be the last one you're gonna get. I am convinced that God loves drunks! My name is Carl H., I'm a sober member of AA and the Alano Club of San Jose.

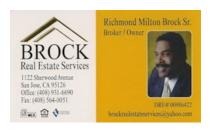
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