

The Alano Club of San Jose News

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www.alanosj.org

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

Board of Directors

Mike Austin
 Laura Martin
 Sue Erskin
 Frank Peralta
 Steve Holloway
 Mingo Hurtago
 Joey Martinez
 Steve Carrasco
 Susan Whiteside

- 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
Jody K	01/01/1983 32	Eric C	01/01/1988 27
William L	01/01/1989 26	Eddie V	01/01/2005 10
Kris B	01/01/2013 2	Mary Lou G	01/04/2009 6
Richard F	01/04/2014 1	Juan A	01/05/1982 33
Shawn B	01/07/1987 28	Lionel O	01/07/2004 11
Terisa M	01/07/2009 6	Louie R	01/08/1991 24
Michael S	01/10/2011 4	Josephine B	01/12/1988 27
Audrey G	01/13/1972 43	Linda R	01/14/2005 10
Dan O	01/15/1973 42	Jim W	01/15/1989 26
Jeanette E	01/17/2002 13	Tony M	01/17/2014 1
George P	01/18/1990 25	Homberto N	01/18/2014 1
Kelly S	01/22/2009 6	Jim J	01/22/2014 1
Shelly L	01/24/2003 12	Janet H	01/26/1981 34
Alberto R	01/27/2013 2	Jorge V	01/29/2011 4

Member of the Month – Chester R

Our member of the month is Chester R, who has generously supported our club for years with his time, talent, and service. He is the creative owner of Rivera Signs, and responsible for the creative design and production for all of our banners here at the Alano Club.

Last year in 2014 alone, Chester donated over \$1,800 of his time, talent, and services in order to help promote the club's many events and activities. The designs are exclusively done by Chester – all we do is merely provide him with the basic info of the event – and he does the rest!

Thank you, Chester, for all of your generosity and support! The Alano Club of San Jose is most appreciative of everything that you do for us!

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Activities & More at the Alano Club of San Jose

THE NEXT "HOW TO MEDITATE"
WORKSHOP
THURSDAY, JANUARY 15TH 2015
7:00 am – 8:30 pm

Worthwhile for beginners & those wanting to grow
in their practice of building a connection through
meditation!

Super Bowl Party
Sunday, February 1st 2015
2:30 PM

Come fellowship and watch the game in the Café
See you there!

Did you know?
It takes a lot to keep our doors open.
The PG&E monthly bill alone is
over \$2,200!

Your support is appreciated! Any amount helps!

"Valentines Eve & Day Of" Sale
Friday & Saturday

February 13th and 14th 2015
Everything from Baked Treats, Balloons, Flowers,
Candy, and Other Gifts

An Amazing Example of Giving Back

Paul Furiosi – Owner & Executive Chef of By-Th'-Bucket Bar and Grill Gives Back to the Alano Club of San Jose

by Susan Whiteside

As many of you know, the Alano Club of San Jose hosts an annual celebration every October – the Heritage Dinner. It is an honor for the Board of Directors to provide an evening of excellence, including a four-course dinner, an extensive raffle drawing, and two key speakers sharing their experience over time in the 12 step community while also here at the Alano Club over the years.

This year, one of our club members, Michael Johnson, highly recommended that we meet Paul Furiosi, who he had regarded as "one of the best chefs in the valley." I took his advice, and in one short sentence, I could easily sum it up with "Paul was amazing to work with from starting to finish."

As I do not have much "writing real estate" here, I'll keep it brief – but let me just say that I could go on and on about Paul's business ethics, professional values, service importance, joining-in attitude – and the example that he presents himself as when it comes to community service.

Paul did an exceptional job at not only keeping food costs down by reaching out to his food vendors for donations, but he also incurred an additional cost of \$600 out of his own pocket to help out the club. In addition, he provided dinnerware, silverware, and many other items – saving the club an additional expense of \$800 in rentals.

Paul provided all of the labor – two additional chefs the day before, several employees the day of the event, and he personally was involved from start to finish.

As one of the attendees of the dinner said, "the food was off the hook!" – Paul prepared an outstanding 5-star dinner. If you've never been to his restaurant, By-Th'-Bucket, you're missing out on his excellence in preparing the best food, walking through the doors with that feeling of "Welcome, we're glad you are here!" – and once again, the humility and generosity of a good man who genuinely gives from the heart.

A Testimonial From A Member – If you fall...

Tammy A – Why I Am a Member of the ALANO Club

by Bill McBride of the "Think Tank"

She's a Cook, a Cashier, a Mother, a Grandmother – and a very essential part of the ALANO Club Café. As I began the interview, I complimented Tammy on the beautiful omelets and then she replied, "I've been told that I cook very well. My omelets look like an omelet, according to my customers."

Tammy A. has been affiliated with the ALANO Club since 2004. In 2005 she became a dues paying member, and has been a member ever since. "This is a non-profit organization, so I know that my monthly dues help support the club. I started working here in the Café in 2005 as a Cashier and a Cook. I've worked here off and on since 2005. What I love about my job is working with our guests. I am learning how important it is to have a good working relationship with my co-workers. Since 2005 I have seen many employees come and go."

She first came to the ALANO Club in 2004 broken and hurting. "The life I lived before coming to the ALANO Club was unmanageable and dysfunctional. Those who know me can see the good changes. Today I am employable. I'm a Mom and a Grandmother. I have four kids. And, I'm no longer homeless. I've been able to maintain a home for the past eight years." Tammy continued; "I've had a few relapses over the years. However, since 2004, I've been able to accumulate five years of being Clean and Sober."

A few weeks ago, as I waited at the bus stop after the meeting, I noticed a shiny older automobile going past. Tammy was at the wheel and waved at me... So, I asked her about her car. She smiled and said, "I drive my son's car, a 1968 Plymouth Satellite Station Wagon. I get lots of compliments and every day I get offers to buy it."

Tammy had nothing but praise for her co-workers. She works with Mary, Regina, Angela, Terri, Cassandra, and Kiki. "Kiki works all over the place here. He is very friendly and helps everybody. Kiki is a husband, a father, and a step-father. He is the Assistant Manager of the Club, and manages the staff and volunteers. His boss is Tony Baron, the Manager of the Club."

The ALANO Club has many volunteers, according to Tammy. The majority of the volunteers are court-ordered. "However, we also have several students who are here, doing community service for their school. I often run across a student who doesn't know how to work. I help them by talking to them in such a way that they don't feel bad about accepting helpful instructions." Work projects can include Kitchen duty, food prep, cleaning, landscaping, and other duties which need to be done. The green awning (roof) over the counter area in the café was done by a volunteer.

I then asked Tammy; What Is Your Advice to the Newcomer?

"IF YOU FALL, GET BACK-UP. THE SLOGAN, 'KEEP COMING BACK' REALLY WORKS.
FOLLOW SUGGESTIONS AND DON'T TRY TO DO IT YOUR WAY.
THERE IS ALWAYS TIME TO ATTEND A MEETING.
I'M REALLY GRATEFUL FOR THE ALANO CLUB. THIS PLACE HAS SAVED MY BUTT."

Why Do You Keep Coming Back?

We welcome your story and testimony! How do you stay clean and sober? Share your story, and email to Susan_Whiteside@alanosj.org – if you wish to remain anonymous, that is fine, too!

The Alano Club of San Jose – 12 Step Meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous		Narcotics Anonymous	
Daily	9:00 am, 12:00 pm	Mon & Tue	6:30 pm
Mon- Thu	4:00 pm	Tue	8:00 pm (Book Study)
Mon-Thu	6:00 pm	Tue	8:00 pm (Spanish)
Sat	6:00 pm (Newcomers Q & A's)		
Tue	9:30 pm (Men)	Fri	6:00 pm (Women)
Thu	7:30 pm (Chip Mtg)	Fri	6:00 pm (Spanish)
Wed	8:00 pm (Women)	Fri & Sat	8:00 pm
Fri	6:30 pm (Speaker)		
Sat	10:00 am (Men)	Sat & Sun	10:00 am
Sun	3:00 pm (Women), 5:00 pm (Men)	Sun	6:30 pm (Speaker)
Mon-Fri	7:30 pm (Spanish)	Sun	7:30 pm (Spanish)
		Cocaine Anonymous (CA)	
		Sat	8:00 pm
AA Medicine Crow Talking Circle		AI-Anon	
Sat	12:00 pm	Mon	8:00 pm
		Tue	12:00 pm
Crystal Meth Anonymous (CMA)		Co-Dependents Anonymous	
Sun	6:00 pm	Wed	6:30 pm
		Sun	5:00 pm
Cross Addiction			
Mon	7:30 pm		

THE NEXT ALANO CLUB OF SAN JOSE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 1st 2014 at 6:00 pm – Members Welcome

THE NEXT FAIR AVENUE FELLOWSHIP GROUP
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
January 8th 2014 at 6:30 pm – All Are Welcome

Your Alano Club of San Jose Board of Directors

The Alano Club of San Jose Board of Directors for 2015

Mike Austin
Sue Erskin
Mingo Hurtago
Steve Holloway
Susan Whiteside

Laura Martin
Joey Martinez
Steve Carrasco
Frank Peralta

The Board Meeting is held on the first Thursday of every month at 6 PM.
All current club members are encouraged to attend.
Let your voice be heard and make a difference!

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