

# AROUND THE COFFEE POT..

Volume 4, Issue 5

June 24, 2007

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Board met on 6/17/07 to review and approve financials for May which showed a net income of \$1,355.09. A new lifetime member accounted for \$1,000 of this net income.

There was no new news or updates related to the Building Project. The board voted to not bring up the issue again for 2007 unless there are significant changes from the City or DDA.

The board approved appointing Sue G to the board to fill the open seat which brings the current board total to eight members.

Updates on flower planting and bowl-a-thon—see below.

Decision by Board to not participate in Venetian this year with our food trailer due to the downtown park being under construction

which has moved all activities to Michigan Beach area. Due to the high volume of buns and ice that we normally walk to the Villager or the Club building to replenish, it was felt that there would be too many obstacles this year to participate. Richard O will submit a letter to the Chairperson of Venetian activities expressing our desires to be included in the festival in the years to come.

Discussion about 5/14/07 membership meeting and some of the issues that were raised at that time. Decision to leave meeting rent as it is. Discussion on the procedures involved for starting a new meeting at the club. For those interested in starting a new meeting, it is requested that they notify the board of directors of their wishes and attend a board

meeting to gather all the necessary details. All questions submitted prior to the meeting and answers along with handouts from the 5/14/07 board / membership meeting were sent to club members by email and mailed to those members who are active. If anyone has questions regarding the 5/14 meeting and some of the things that took place following the meeting, please contact Scott for clarification, lodging complaints, advice, questions or issues for the good of the whole.



### Current Membership

Past Due	7
Due in July & August	8
Due in 2007	10
Due in 2008+	23
Lifetime	17
TOTALS	65

### Upcoming Events:

- Board Meeting - Monday, July 16th at 6:30 pm at BASES
- July & August Speaker meetings at Michigan Beach pavilion—3rd Friday of the month—6:30 potluck, 7:00 speaker
- Enjoy the summer—it's going quickly!!

## RECENT EVENTS UPDATE

The Bowl-a-thon was held on June 9th at Paul Bunyan Lanes in Charlevoix and had three bowlers participate. Over \$600 was raised for the club. Judy R was the big fundraiser—thanks to Judy for all of her efforts and those who sponsored her for this event.

Flower planting was completed by a group of volunteers after the June 3rd meeting in about 30 minutes. Thanks to all who helped with this and to Betty C for getting the flowers. The outside water for the hose is in operation and we are watering every few days to keep them growing!

### Heard at Meetings

**“Sober is better.”**

**The late David R. from Central Lake**

**SERENITY HOUSE - ALANO CLUB  
OF CHARLEVOIX, INC.**

106 Mason Street  
Charlevoix, MI 49720

Web-site: charlevoixalano.org  
E-mail: info@charlevoixalano.org  
Phone: 231-547-9184

*Helping you help yourself.*

**We're on the web:  
charlevoixalano.org**



**Recovery Happens Too!**

The "Serenity House - Alano Club of Charlevoix, Inc." was organized in 1986 to provide an alcohol and drug-free environment for 12-step recovery programs. The organization is a non-profit corporation governed by a volunteer Board of Directors elected from its membership. Club membership is never required and should never be implied for participation in 12-step meetings held at the club. We request each group to organize itself as suggested through their respective 12-step program to avoid any violation of their traditions. Alano Club membership dues are \$5 per month or \$50 per year or you can invest in a lifetime membership for \$1,000. For your membership, you will receive monthly newsletters, have voting rights in determining the activities of the organization, receive an anniversary coin at no cost, have more opportunities for fellowship and service through our annual bowl-a-thon, Venetian Booth and special events. As a club member, you will also be making a positive contribution toward the continuation of recovery support services in our community. Meetings held at the Alano Club in Charlevoix account for over 30% of available meetings within a 40 mile radius. Revenues to cover the \$25,000 annual operating budget for the Alano Club come from the following sources: 36% from Meeting Rent, 32% from Fundraising Activities, 20% from Donations, and 12% from Membership Dues. You can join the Alano Club by using one of our donation envelopes at the Club or mail in your membership dues along with your name, address, city, state, zip and e-mail address if you have one. Checks can be made payable to "Charlevoix Alano Club".

## THE LEGEND OF THE CAMEL

The Camel is one of the oldest mammals on the face of the earth, originating some sixteen million years ago. Many recovering alcoholics have unofficially adopted it as their symbol because of its appropriateness of possessing the ability to be able to go for a long period of time without a drink. Their choice of the "Arabian" species, which has one hump, was due to similarities other than just the ability to abstain from drinking.

Note the similarities: The Arabian camel has an above normal range of intelligence. Some of its other attributes disclose a tremendous amount of will power. Camels, in spite of their clumsy appearance, their unpleasant odor, and a body

structure which suggests that it may have been designed by a committee, are nevertheless very loveable creatures. The camel has such precise engineering excellence that it is able to survive under conditions which usually prove fatal to other forms of life. It is built for speed and endurance, capable of covering one hundred miles per day, and carrying up to one thousand pounds.

The Arabian camel displays a wide assortment of temperaments, ranging from amiable to downright disagreeable. No matter what their disposition, they have this outstanding desire to obey their master. Without the last attribute, they would be of little use to anyone. The most predominant resem-



The Alano Club is supported by the Charlevoix Emmet United Way.

blance the camel has with the recovering alcoholic is evidenced at the beginning of each day when the camel kneels by its master and is given its daily burden, but only an amount that it can safely carry. At the end of the day, the camel again kneels by its master and is relieved entirely of its burden.

In order to be able to fully understand the resemblance, one would not only need to experience an alcoholic situation, but, most importantly, the phenomenon of recovery.

By Raymond Malec