

Oakland County Alano Club
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In 1960, a handful of AA's decided to try to create a place to hold meetings and social events for the people in recovery. These people worked hard at fundraising to be able to open up doors to an Oakland County Alano Club. These people put forth this effort to do something, not to get something. Since then, Members of this club have moved it's location 5 times to it's current spot here on Clintonville Rd. That took dedication to keep a place where people in recovery could get together.

It began with a fairly strict Membership rule. You had to become a Member to enjoy the club. You could only be a guest of a Member a few times before you were asked to become a Member. Over the years, that strict Membership rule has diminished and anyone is allowed to enjoy the club as long as they are respectful of our bylaws and policies. Because of that, the Membership has slowly diminished and there are fewer and fewer of us who accept responsibility for providing a place for people in recovery to have meetings and social interaction.

We are in need of financial help and are asking for assistance. Funds generated by this endeavor will offer our organization the ability to maintain, continue and improve the dedicated service we offer the community. All funding received for our organization will benefit any individual or family of our community who wishes to make sweeping changes in their lives. Funding will allow us to continue to offer our facility for recovery meetings and sober lifestyle events and workshops. By offering these types of services, we can expect more successful recoveries from addictions in our community.

It has been difficult to gain access to actual numbers to illustrate our growth in serving the Oakland County community. Since the changes made to Michigan laws regarding DUI, many more individuals are required to attend AA meetings, and the evidence is clearly on the numbers found in each and every meeting in Oakland County alone. This alone will help carry the message about recovery to many more individuals who may have never attended a meeting on their own.

Many funding opportunities that we have researched focus on the needs of children. Our dedicated service does indeed help children, but usually in a "back door fashion". If we can assist a recovering alcoholic/addict to gain a responsible life, then we are indeed also assisting the family of the alcoholic and also the entire community.

There must be a dramatic increase in our funding to continue to serve the community. Even maintenance seems like a hardship oftentimes. Costly projects looming before us have called us to seek outside our four walls for resources. Included in this list are a few of the major priorities.

- [Connection to the Township Sewer System](#). We have repaired and revised as best as could possibly be. We have scheduled pump-outs every quarter. This alone is costly (\$375 per pump).
- [Main Furnace System replacement](#). Our current system of 40 years has sustained such a long life due to the close eye maintenance of dedicated volunteers. We are closely monitoring it's efficiency and safety. We feel this unit needs to be replaced before the 2008-2009 heating season.

- **New Parking lot.** Our current parking area is costly to maintain. Last year, resurfacing cost was \$1800. There are major break downs in the stability of the asphalt and needs to be tore up and replaced. To make matters more complicated, we discovered that the land beneath the parking lot actually belongs to DTE. Previous owners of the building paved a parking area on that land. The OCAC inherited that problem. About 7 years ago, when this was discovered, DTE began charging the OCAC rent for use of that land. We currently pay approx. \$110 per month. On many occasions, when the parking lot is filled, vehicles will be parked along the road for members to attend a meeting or seminar. This obviously creates a safety problem for individuals attending the OCAC. It would be unfortunate if a person chose to NOT attend a meeting due to lack of parking. We have the space available to create a parking area on the OCAC property. We could then eliminate the need to "rent" DTE land.

It seems that a certain question is often spoken around our club.
 "Why should I become a Member of the club? What do I get for being a Member?"
 Sometimes I hear an answer such as "We have occasional Members Only Deals or Events".
 Although this is true, I believe that this is not the best reason to be a Member of the Oakland County Alano Club.

If you join a bowling league, you get to bowl. If you join a golf club, you get to golf. If you join the OCAC, you get to be involved in the purpose of providing a place for people in recovery. So...do you want to join to do something or to get something?

If you join the OCAC, you get to see newcomers come to our club for their 1st meeting. You will see some of them stick around and try to figure out our AA program. You will get to see peoples lives change. You will see your own life change. You will find yourself doing unselfish acts. You will make new friends. You will share holidays with a new family who are together by choice to support each other. You will experience a new joy in helping others.

Please don't join the OCAC to get something. Join the OCAC to do something. Be a part of those who wish to provide a safe place for people in Recovery to hold meetings, social events and get to know one another and support each other.

Show your Gratitude for those people who came together many years ago with a purpose: To provide this place that many of us enjoy. Let's not take that for granted.

We are asking for your support to continue our operations of the Oakland County Alano Club. Your monetary donations, which are tax deductible, will be gratefully received. Your Membership will be honored. Please choose a way to help this organization, so that this organization can continue to help the community.

Officers, Board & Members, Oakland County Alano Club

Please accept my _____ (Please check one)
 O contribution of \$_____ O membership dues(\$70 yr.) O both, \$70 plus \$_____

And send receipt of donation to a 501©3 organization to:

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone _____
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