

Deadline for the next
Northern Light is
November 6th, 2017

This is YOUR Newsletter.

Please send your questions or comments for publication to
Steven L. at NorthernLight@area35.org

Please bring extra copies to share with your group!

Don't forget to visit and bookmark your Area 35 web site! - <http://area35.org>
Event Calendar - Meeting Directory - NL Online - Download Pamphlets - District Pages

2017 AREA 35 COMMITTEE

<u>AREA OFFICERS</u>	<u>COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (C.P.C.)</u>	<u>DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS (D.C.M.'s)</u>	<u>DISTRICT 14</u>
<u>DELEGATE</u> Kelly D. delegate@area35.org	Jim T. cpc@area35.org		Paul E. dcm14@area35.org
<u>ALTERNATE DELEGATE</u> Roger R. Alt_delegate@area35.org	<u>TREATMENT</u> Gayle R. treatment@area35.org	<u>DISTRICT 1</u> Leslie H. dcm1@area35.org	<u>DISTRICT 15</u> Melissa A. dcm15@area35.org
<u>AREA CHAIR</u> Jim S. areachair@area35.org	<u>WEBMASTER</u> Rodney S. webmaster@area35.org	<u>DISTRICT 2</u> Myron H. dcm2@area35.org	<u>DISTRICT 16</u> Mike F. dcm16@area35.org
<u>TREASURER</u> Christine G. treasurer@area35.org	<u>GROUP RECORDS</u> Robert (Bob) B. grouprecords@area35.org	<u>DISTRICT 3</u> Brian P. dcm3@area35.org	<u>DISTRICT 17</u> NO INFO
<u>SECRETARY</u> Rillis E. secretary@area35.org	<u>NORTHERN LIGHT</u> Steven L. northernlight@area35.org	<u>DISTRICT 4</u> Greg C. dcm4@area35.org	<u>DISTRICT 18</u> William “BR” B. dcm18@area35.org
<u>AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRS</u>		<u>DISTRICT 5</u> John S. dcm5@area35.org	<u>DISTRICT 21</u> Jeffrey L. dcm21@area35.org
<u>PUBLIC INFORMATION</u> Mark N. pi@area35.org		<u>DISTRICT 6</u> Renell P. dcm6@area35.org	
<u>ARCHIVES</u> Steve D. archives@area35.org		<u>DISTRICT 7</u> Liz L. dcm7@area35.org	
<u>ARCHIVIST</u> Brad I. archivist@area35.org		<u>DISTRICT 8</u> Scott M. dcm8@area35.org	
<u>CORRECTIONS</u> Servando M. corrections@area35.org		<u>DISTRICT 9</u> Cathy R. dcm9@area35.org	
<u>LITERATURE</u> Skip D. literature@area35.org		<u>DISTRICT 11</u> Cindy S. dcm11@area35.org	
<u>GRAPEVINE</u> Paul M. grapevine@area35.org		<u>DISTRICT 12</u> Steve E. dcm12@area35.org	
		<u>DISTRICT 13</u> Sean S. dcm13@area35.org	

MOVING? ADDRESS NOT CORRECT?

Please help us keep our Northern Light mailing address accurate and up-to-date. It costs the Area (you) \$.50 for each piece of returned mail.

Please contact our Group Records Secretary with your new or changed address:

GroupRecords@area35.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Regular Articles</u>		<u>Guest Views</u>	
Page 2	2017 Area 35 Committee	Pages 7	Humility and Ego— Hummmm
Page 3	District Map/District Zone Breakdown	Page 8	What Did I Do at the Forum Today?
Page 3	District Meeting Location Information	Page 13	GSO Treatment Request
Pages 4 – 7	Area Officers and Committee Chair Reports	Page 13	Letter to GSO Treatment
Page 7	Area Committee Meeting Map	Page 16	Third Legacy Procedure
Pages 9 - 13	Area 35 Meeting Minutes	Page 16	Guardians of the Fellowship
Pages 14 - 15	Upcoming Events Fliers in Area 35		
Page 16	Inclement Weather Procedure		
Page 17	Directions for Inserting a Flier into the Northern Light		
Page 17	Northern Light Submissions		
Page 17	N.L. Editorial Position		
Page 17	N.L. Committee & Primary Purpose		
Page 18	Our Past Delegates		
Page 18	The Delegate’s Duties		
Page 19	Twelve Concepts for World Service		
Page 19	Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous		
Page 20	Area 35 Fall Assembly Meeting Agenda		



Zone I

- District 1** - Ada, Crookston, Erskine, Fertile, Fosston, Mahnomen, Naytahwaush, Red Lake Falls, Twin Valley, Waubun,
- District 2** - Badger, Baudette, Grygla, Hallock, Halma, Middle River, Rainy River (Ontario, Canada), Roseau, Stephen, Thief River Falls, Warren, Warroad, Williams
- District 16** - Bowstring, Boy River, Cohasset, Deer River, Effie, Grand Rapids, Hill City, Lawrence Lake*, Longville, Remer
- District 21** - Akeley, Bagley, Bemidji, Blackduck, Cass Lake, Debs, Menahga, Onigum, Park Rapids, Red Lake, Shevlin, Solway,Squaw Lake, Walker

Zone II

- District 3** - Audubon, Barnesville, Battle Lake, Cormorant, Deer Creek, Detroit Lakes, Dilworth, Elizabeth, Erhard, Fergus Falls, Frazee, Hawley, Henning, Lake Park, Moorhead, Osage, Ottertail, Pelican Rapids, Perham, Underwood, Wadena

- District 4** - Alexandria, Browns Valley, Carlos, Elbow Lake, Evansville, Glenwood, Herman, Kensington, Morris, Osakis
- District 15** - Albany, Avon, Cold Spring, Holdingford, Lake Henry, Melrose, Paynesville, Richmond, Sartell, St. Joseph, St. Stephen, Sauk Centre, Watkins

Zone III

- District 5** - Becker, Big Lake, Elk River, Milaca, Otsego, Princeton, Zimmerman
- District 6** - Braham, Bethel, Cambridge, Forest Lake, Harris, Isanti, Lindstrom, North Branch, Rock Creek, Stacy, St. Francis, Rush City
- District 7** - Aitkin, Baxter, Brainerd, Fort Ripley, Garrison, Ironton, Isle, Little Falls*, McGregor*, Palisade, Pierz, Pilager*, Waukon
- District 11** - Finlayson*, Grasston, Henriette, Hinckley*, Lake Lena, Malmo, Moose Lake*, Mora, Ogilvie, Pine City, Quamba, Sandstone, Willow River, Wahkon
- District 13** - Kimball, Rice, St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids, Waite Park, Foley

- District 17** - Backus, Cross Lake, Nisswa, Pequot Lakes, Pillager*, Pine River

- District 18** - Browerville, Clarissa, Eagle Bend, Little Falls*, Long Prairie, Motley, Parkers Prairie, Staples, Verndale

Zone IV

- District 8** - Alango, Aurora, Babbitt, Biwabik, Cook, Cotton, Ely, Eveleth, Gilbert, Hoyt Lakes, Mountain Iron, Nett Lake, Orr, Palo, Pike, Tower, Virginia, Zim*
- District 9** - Chisholm, Floodwood, Goodland, Hibbing*, Keewatin, Kelly Lake, Lawrence Lake*, Nashwauk*
- District 12** - Beaver Bay, Silver Bay, Brimson, Brookston, Cloquet, Duluth, Esko, Finland, Fredenberg, Grand Marais, Grand Portage, Hermantown, Knife River, Lawrence Lake*, Lutsen, Mahtowa, Pike Lake, Proctor, Sawyer, Silver Bay, Foxborro (Wisconsin), Side Lake, Superior (Wisconsin), Toivola, Two Harbors
- District 14** - International Falls, Littlefork

** In cities marked with an asterisk, some meetings consider themselves to be in one District, and some meetings consider themselves to be in another District.*

District Meeting Location Information

District 1
2nd Sunday of even months, 2:00 p.m.
Fertile Community Center
101 S. Mill St., Fertile, MN 56540

District 2
2nd Sunday of Odd Months, 2:00 p.m.
First Lutheran Church
210 Park Ave. N.
Middle River, MN 56737

District 3
3rd Sunday of Month, 10:00 a.m.
Alano Club
827 Summit Avenue
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

District 4
3rd Saturday of Month, 5:30 p.m.
Contact DCM for location (It Rotates)
Potluck at 6:30 p.m.
Round Robin at 7:00 p.m.

District 5
3rd Monday of Month, 7 p.m.
Freshwaters Church
12475 273rd Ave NW
Zimmerman, MN 55398

District 6
3rd Thursday of Month, 7:30 p.m.
Spring Lake Lutheran Church
8440 Erickson Rd. N.E.
North Branch, MN 55056

District 7
3rd Thursday of Month, 7:00 p.m.
First Congregational United Church
415 Juniper Street
Brainerd, MN 56401

District 8
Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m.
General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Contact DCM for location “It Rotates”

District 9
Last Sunday of Month, 6:00 p.m.
Hibbing Alano Club
3725 1st Avenue
Hibbing, MN 55746

District 11
1st Tuesday of Month, 7:00 p.m.
Peace Lutheran
2177 Hwy 18
Finlayson, MN 55735

District 12
3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30 p.m.
Contact DCM for meeting location (It Rotates)

District 13
1st Monday of Month, 7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
St. Cloud Alano Club
127 7th Ave. NE
Saint Cloud, MN 56301

District 14
2st Thursday of Month, 5:00pm District Meeting
Alano Club
410 5th Ave
International Falls, MN 56649

District 15
1st Monday of Month, 8:00 p.m.
Albany Community Center
741 Lake Ave.
Albany, MN 56307

District 16
1st Wednesday of Month, 6:30 p.m.
United Methodist Church
1701 S.E. 5th Ave.
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Handicap Accessible, Non-Smoking

District 18
1st Tuesday of Month, 6:30 p.m.
Long Prairie Alano Club
21 2nd Ave.
Long Prairie, MN 56347

District 21
2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m.
Bemidji Alano Club
3802 Greenleaf Ave NW
Bemidji, MN 56601

District 17
Not currently active or unknown

AREA OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Delegate:

Greetings Area 35,

As I am writing this, we are coming off our Labor Day holiday weekend which always means an end to our summer in northern Minnesota and fall will soon be in the air. It has been a good and busy time for me personally and with my service position as your Delegate this summer. I have only two reports backs to finish up this September and I will have them completed. It is hard for me to put into words what this has been like for me to be able to serve you, attend our General Service Conference and then travel and visit our Districts within Area 35. I am truly humbled and grateful for the opportunity I have been given by you. There has been some great discussion/questions/concerns with many of you on topics and issues we face today in our program of Alcoholics Anonymous. I am amazed at the dedication and love of those that serve along with the newcomers that attended for their first time that were interested and wanted to see what our fellowship is truly about. I believe we will see some new faces in service this next rotation! So thank you all that attended my General Service Conference report back which also included some individuals from Area 36 Southern Minnesota that came. You will receive an email from me once I have all of them completed that it will be posted on our Area 35 website with a pass protected password. Please be sure that you pass that information on.

I am preparing to get my bags packed and will be off to Sioux Falls, South Dakota for our WCR Forum this upcoming weekend September 8-10th. I am looking forward to a great weekend of business and fellowship with some of our General Service Office members along with of course all of our West Central Regional friends, an event that only happens every other year. We eight Delegates from our Region will be meeting with Tom A. our WCR Trustee on Friday afternoon before the start of the Forum. I will also be doing a presentation there on “Disintegration or Over-integration in Alcoholics Anonymous.” I will have more to report on that weekend at our upcoming Fall Assembly.

Speaking of our Fall Assembly, it is fast approaching. It is hard to believe that the 2016-2017 rotation will be coming to an end and we will be voting in another rotation of trusted servants in Area 35 in a little over three months. I hope to see many of you there! I will be bringing the hard copies of the “Final Conference Report” with me to the Assembly so please see Skip our Area 35 Literature to get copies to distribute within your Districts. I have been passing on a lot of information and updates from our General Service Office through emails lately. They have been very busy fulfilling our requests from the Conference on Agenda Items and Floor Actions that became Advisory Actions in preparation for the 2018 Conference along with the Considerations. Their hard work has not gone unnoticed and I want to take the opportunity to thank them all for their service to us! I hope you are all receiving them and passing them on. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about any of them.

As always thank you for the opportunity to serve.

In love and service,
Kelly D.
Area 35 Panel 66 Delegate

Alt. Delegate:

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as Area 35’s Alternate Delegate.

One of my major responsibilities is to set up the next Area 35 Service Workshop for the incoming Alternate Delegate, who will be elected at the Fall Assembly and will Chair this event next January. I am pleased to report good progress on this workshop. It will be held from January 13-14, 2018, at the Radisson Duluth Harborview, in Duluth MN. Bob Wilcox who recently rotated out of his board position as Trustee- at Large will be our guest presenter and speaker at the workshop. Bob was highly recommended to me as a presenter for our workshop and I’m glad he has agreed to come to Northern MN next January. I have extended invitations to Districts: 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13 and 14 to conduct presentations at the service workshop. I have also completed a list of 9 topics that support the theme for this workshop which is “ AA- A Solution for All Generations”. Five Districts have responded to my invitation and have selected topics for their presentations. I hope to be hearing from the other DCM’s soon, after you have had a chance to select a topic with your district. A flyer for this event will be on the Area 35 Website soon.

The next Area 35 Zonal Forum will take place in Zone 4 which is comprised of Districts 8, 9, 12 and 14. District 12 is hosting this event on October 21 at the Duluth Alano Club. I would like to thank Steve E. for stepping up to host this forum.

I am looking forward to attending the WCRAASF in Sioux Fall SD in early September.

I am also looking forward to seeing you all at the Fall Assembly in Hibbing MN.

In service,
Roger
Area 35 Alternate Delegate.

Area Chair:

Hello Everyone,

I hope you have all had a great summer. This has been the quietest time for me yet this rotation with not much going on. The next two assemblies and Joint Workshop are all set. I am just looking for a place for the 2018 Fall Assembly. I am looking forward to the Forum in September. I hope many of you can make it. This will actually be my first forum that I have attended. I am quite excited about it. Not only do I have a short drive finally, also the topics look very interesting and I'm sure the presenters will do a great job.

I hope that you all have been considering standing for a position at the Fall Assembly. Some things to remember, we don't come pre trained. That is what will happen while you have the position. So, even if you don't think you can handle the position, please talk to someone in the position or that has held it before. You might be quite surprised what you find out. While some positions do require some computer skills, such as Webmaster and Northern Light editor, these still may be attainable with some trial and error. I spent at least over 10 hours talking with Kelly between Oct and Jan of last year with questions about how to do you this or that. If you can find someone, preferably the outgoing member to assist you, the position will be easier than you think.

See you all at the Fall Assembly.

In Service
Jim S.
Area Chair

Secretary:

Hi everyone and happy fall!

Since the August Committee Meeting, I compiled the minutes from that meeting and sent a copy to the Northern Light Editor. Several DCM reports were not received before the August 20 deadline and I sent out several emails asking for these reports. In the future, please have your reports to me before the deadline. I also helped Roger R. with a flier for the Service Workshop, which will be held in January 2018, the first event of the next rotation. I am looking forward to attending the West Central Regional Forum in Sioux Falls, SD. I will write a separate report about my experience attending that event.

Other service work I do is chairing a weekly women’s meeting at the Douglas County Jail in Superior, WI and feel extremely blessed that I get the opportunity to do this on a regular basis. Eight women attended the meeting tonight, two were new to the meeting and one was there for her first ever AA meeting; she was honest and said she just wanted to get out of her cell. We read the story from the Big Book titled “Winner Take’s All” after which the women shared how they related to the story. Many of the women identified with the first sentence of the last paragraph of the story, which reads; “In working the Twelve Steps, my life and my old way of thinking have changed.” A great discussion followed about the changes in their thinking that have occurred since they first arrived at jail. I always feel honored when I get to witness those moments when the still suffering person realizes their life can get better and AA will be there to guide them. Anyone interested in this amazing experience should contact their district Corrections Chair to see that opportunities are available.

Yours in Service,
Rillis E.

Treasurer:

Greetings Area 35,

Summer has flown by very fast. It has been one month since the August Area Committee and there is not a lot to report on so I will jump into your financial reports.

As of August 31, your checkbook has an ending balance of \$19,698.19 plus \$6,044.16 in prudent reserve for a total of \$25,742.35.

We received \$1,497.38 in income and had \$1,496.29 in expenses.

To date, we have received \$21,878.03 in income and have had \$25,509.92 in expenses so we are still down \$3,631.89 in contributions to meet our financial responsibility. We have a couple more events that will have some expenses and that is the upcoming West Central Regional Forum and the Fall Assembly in October. We would like to see our contributions at least match our expenses for the year.

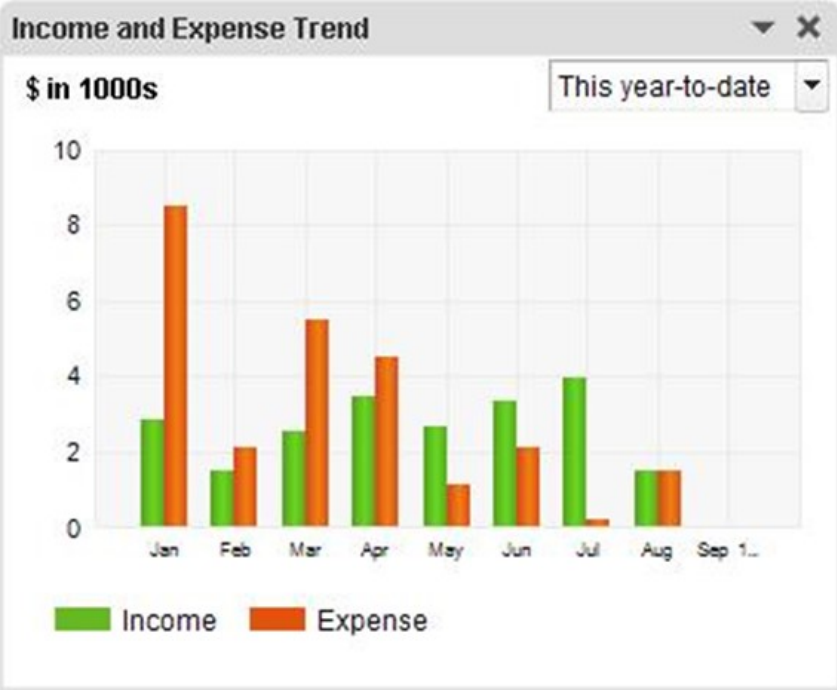
I would like to thank all the groups who contribute to the Area along with all the individuals that send in birthday contributions. All of your contributions are greatly appreciated.

When sending in a contributions please make sure to include your group number on your checks so that the monies can get allocated to your group.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Fall Assembly.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)



Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Treasurer.

In Service,
Christine G.
Area 35 Treasurer

Please include your group service number on both your Group and Birthday Contributions.

Archives:

We had 6 in attendance, including our past delegate Jake J. Districts 3, 8, 9, 13 and 14 were represented.

Welcome to Matt L. from International Falls to our Committee.

Scott L. reported that there was not much new activity in their district. They are transitioning some positions at the district.

Peter T. reported that he is now recording District meetings to archive. This is a great idea. This is not a replacement for minutes but an opportunity to capture the details of District meetings. Peter will be putting together a procedure to record district meetings.

Matt L. reported that he has received from their clubhouse material to review for archiving. We will supply Matt with an Archives workbook and our contact information so we can provide any assistance needed.

Jake J. reported that he is developing an archive display at their clubhouse. His desire is to provide a venue for AA members to see the history of AA in that area. Thanks for participating in our committee.

Brad I. our area 35 Archivist reported his recent activities. He will be rotating out as area archivist at the end of the year. Having had the opportunity to interact with other area archives committee chairs and other area archivists, I can say without hesitation that we have been blessed to have Brad provide us with a wealth of knowledge of the history of AA. He has been a great mentor for me to learn about the history of AA.

Action items.

- Jake J. mentioned that he would like to see us include past delegates in our activities. What a wonderful idea. We decided to ask past delegates to join us at Area Committee meetings.
- Scott suggested we tour the Archives in Waite Park to get a sense of the scope of our history in Area 35. We are looking at the end of September. We will try to communicate this to all interested districts.
- Jake J. suggested that the Area Archives Chair be responsible for the Display at area events. We discussed the benefits of disseminating some of the responsibilities of the Archivist to allow the new Archivist to transition into that position.
- Peter will be providing a Northern Light Article on electronic recording of District meetings.

Steve D.
Area 35 Archives Committee Chair

Archivist:

NO REPORT

Brad I.
Area 35 Archivist

Cooperation with the Professional Community:

Although there remains several months in this rotation of your officers and committee chairs, it is never too early to seek and find those in our fellowship who can step forward (reluctantly or “both feet in”) to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. As I wind down my commitment during these final months of 2017, I also seek those who will step forward to assume the responsibility for the coordination of the Area’s Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) Committee in the next rotation. There are many in Area 35 who have taken responsibilities to meet with and offer the A.A. message of recovery to doctors, social workers, law enforcement and other professionals. Thank you for your work at the local level.

In the “A.A. Guidelines for CPC”: Which A.A. Members are Best Suited for Cooperation with (Agencies)? These are the suggestions for A.A. members who want to step forward:

- Have several years continuous sobriety, serenity and steadfastness, mixed with a clear grasp of the purpose of 12th Step work;
- Have had wide A.A. experience, not only in more than one group, but also...in general service affairs;
- Have an understanding of A.A. experience recorded in the Big Book, *A.A. Comes of Age*, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, and other A.A. publications.

Also in the “A.A. Guidelines” appears a general summary of C.P.C.

“Members of these committees provide information about A.A. to those who have contact with alcoholics through their profession. This group includes healthcare professionals, educators, members of the clergy, lawyers, social workers, union leaders, and industrial managers, government officials, as well as those working in the field of alcoholism. Information is provided about where we are, what we are, what we can do, and what we cannot do.”

Those who respond to the call for commitment to this important aspect of “carrying the message” can learn much through a visit to the G.S.O.’s A.A. Web site (www.aa.org). Under the tab “Information on A.A.” there are three additional tabs which will lead you to many sources and materials for CPC work.

You will find at least 8 basic pieces of literature regarding C.P.C. There is a long list of pamphlets for Professionals as well as for people who Professionals serve.

Though it is not a requirement that individuals who seek to serve in C.P.C work be professional presenters, it is suggested that C.P.C. members be comfortable in their skills to present to small groups as well as to contact professionals by phone and written messages.

Your next step to pursue your interest to serve C.P.C. is to talk to your sponsor, your District C.P.C. Committee, Area Chair Jim S. or me. I have many materials to pass on to the next Committee Chair. I offer my service Sponsorship for all who follow this rotation. Those who work with them share the successes of this committee, and from that commitment, build on their contented sobriety.

When I was one year, three years, or 10 years sober I simply did not understand the calling to serve at the Area level. There were those with longer periods of sobriety who asked me to “jump in”; there were those who kicked my a** and simply said, “Do this!” There has been nothing done to me to cause me harm as this work progresses. No one called me out. I learn to live this program of recovery through commitment and simply moving forward. I can never learn in the “outside” world the benefits which we as alcoholics can gain from simply saying “yes” to our call to give away what we have been given.

Jim T.
Area 35 C.P.C. Chair

Corrections:

Hello Area 35,

Another fun and successful year at the state fair has come and gone. A great big thanks to Jay J. and Nick S. for joining in and making it a wonderful experience. Lots of people stopped to thank us for being there, shake hands and share a story or two. The best was seeing people we had met during past visits to the fair and catching up. There were also people who stopped to ask how to find help for loved ones, where to look to find meetings, and how to get involved. I'm hoping to be able to attend next year.

Unfortunately, my work situation has changed and I will be going to Indiana for the next few months. While I will still try to receive, sort, and forward any temporary contact requests, I will not be able to attend any of the events that are scheduled for the rest of this rotation. I am so very grateful that I have been given the opportunity to serve with each and every one of you. I have learned many lessons from your examples.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Servando M.
Area 35 Corrections

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Grapevine:

Greetings!

It's been a busy summer. I attended the area Committee meeting in August with 7 districts represented. I'm going to the Heartland Round Up to display and sell Grapevine literature, also put it on the Grapevine Workshop. This should be very good. I am here to announce that my article was published in the September Issue of the Grapevine I was very pleased about that! I've ordered \$600 worth of literature to bring with me to the Assembly and will be doing a complete inventory of everything I have in stock for the Grapevine, for the new Grapevine chair beginning the first of the year.

Yours in service,

Paul M.
Area 35 Grapevine

Group Records:

Northern Light Mailing List: The Northern Light Mailing list is made up of Area 36 Officers and Committee Members, area 35 Past Delegates, special requests for mailing, and all Area 35 Active Registered Officers, Committee Members and GSRs. Three Hundred and Forty Four issues of the last Northern Light were mailed with 38 returns. The mailing list came directly from the GSO Group Records database. The 38 returns were updated to do not send mail. The Northern Light mailing list was reduced by 250 names. To date, I only have 2 requests to add past committee members to the mailing list.

The districts that attended the last committee meeting were given a list of all their meetings and GSR addresses. I do not have a current DCM or contact for District 4. Only one district has sent updates for their district groups.

Bob B.
Group Records
grouprecords@area35.org

Literature:

Good day,

I really do not have much to report. It has been a quiet month sense the last report. However, I would like to thank everyone who placed an order with Area 35 to be picked up at the Committee Meeting in Aitkin on August 6th, we sold \$851.00 in literature.

As of today September 5th I have received one order (a fairly large one). I will be heading to the WCRF in South Dakota this weekend, found a room with District 15, Thank you Pat.

In Service,
Skip D.
Area 35 Literature Chair

Northern Light:

Howdy Ladies and Gentlemen

There has been a nice turnout of articles for this issue of the Northern Light. I've been busy with chairing a rotation of our Districts Beginners Meeting, attending a great workshop on the Twelve Concepts and looking forward to going to the Forum in Sioux Falls.

When making a flier for an event you know where it is held and what it's about. By making the flier, you are trying to convey that message to other people. So, make it as if they are all aliens from a place far far away, they have no idea where you are, and what is going on. Less is more. The less busy the flier is the easier it is to read. Use fonts that are easy to read and only use font size, boldness, italicizing, and underlining for emphasis of main points that you want to make. Use color cautiously, it can rob the intended effect when printed in B&W for large distribution.

After this issue, there will be a new group of people elected to serve you for the next two years. The new Area Chair will be looking for people to fill Action Committee Chairs. The Editor of the Northern Light is one of these posts to fill. All you need for the job is a desire to learn and expand your boundaries with working with Microsoft software: Publisher and Word. As Editor, the biggest job is massaging white space to get things to fit in the paper. I never, never, never thought I would be the NL Editor. It was the second lest thing I would ever want to do. I can't spell, my grammar is atrocious and written communication is just not my style. My wife Karen is my personal proofreader she makes my written message understandable, without her I'd sound like a blooming idiot. I'm lucky to have her. I had some working knowledge of Word and Publisher and I was asked to help and couldn't say no even though I was just recovering from a Heart Attack and the loving people around me thought the stress would be bad for me. It has been fun and very rewarding seeing every two months something I helped to create go out and be read by the fellowship of Northern Minnesota. Oh I have help,

lots of help, from you sending in articles, the committee chairs getting in their reports on time, and JoAnne for proofreader extraordinaire. As with anything in this fellowship, the WE wins out in putting this together. So think about taking over as NL Editor and enhance your life.

One last note. I'm a last minute deadline type of guy. My report is always the last thing placed into the NL, which is the best part of being the Northern Light Editor you get to take the absolute last minute.

Yours in Service
Steven L.
Area 35 Northern Light Editor

Public Information:

So here, it is the end of summer here in the North of Minnesota, the fairs are done the many summer camp - outs and round -ups are coming to an end and fall is fast approaching.

I was tasked with manning the Crow Wing County Fair and the Minnesota State Fair, which just finished up yesterday. The booths and tables are similar except the literature is more extensive at the State Fair. On average at the State Fair I would have 6 to 8 people showing interest in the literature and or asking for specific help concerning the issues they face with alcoholic drinking either for themselves or a friend or relative. We direct them to a specific pamphlet or meeting or intergroup in their area. It is interesting, fun and fulfilling work. The cost of fair booths is small expense in the scheme of things and worth the effort. It allows us access to a large swath of the general public, something we can appreciate similar to Radio, Television or other Public Service Announcements.

Things that I am working on now. To bring service workshops to the clubs and groups in my local district, taking a shift on the AA Central Lakes Help-line, corresponding with a prisoner, getting my work life back together so I can devote more time to the extra curricular, and looking for people who can be brought into the AA service structure.

The end of rotation is fast approaching and I would love to see someone find the same great experience and fulfillment that I find in the Alcoholics Anonymous service structure. If you are interested in Public Information, you can check out the guidelines at Area35.org, or get in touch with me.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Mark N.
Area 35 Public Information Chair

Treatment:

I owe Mark N. and Servando a huge apology, I misread the email from Saturday to Sunday. So, I was a no-show at the state fair on Saturday. Please forgive me. With that aside, I have had a few temporary contacts that I have forwarded on. I am also working on the treatment presentation that I will be presenting at the Fall Assembly. The topics I will be talking about is, Singleness of purpose inside treatment centers, and communications with facilities and how we keep our commitments. Hopefully this will encourage healthy discussions.

Inside this issue of the Northern Light is an article from me stating GSO is requesting shared experience regarding two topics. How we are carrying the AA message within the context of military life, to the alcoholic veteran and active duty. Also shared experience of the AA member who is the veteran or active duty and how the AA message was carried to them and if there was a barrier. Request can be sent by December 15, 2017 to Patrick C., Treatment and Accessibilities Coordinator at tf@aa.org or 212-870-3344. I asked one member who is career military to consider this request, Major John's story is also in this issue of the Northern Light.

I am planning on going to the West Central Regional Forum September 8-10. I will give a treatment report at the fall assembly.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Gayle R.
Area 35 Treatment Chair

Webmaster:

Greetings Area 35,

Though it seems as if eons have passed since the August committee meetings, I have little material for which to write a report. There is an old reference regarding an individual's step-work and daily practice of the program that goes something like, "If you were arrested today for participating in the Alcoholics Anonymous program of recovery, would there be enough evidence to convict you?" Putting this same question to my service activity since the committee meetings I would have to admit that a simple public defender could probably get me off. Perhaps this lack of activity is the reason it seems that August has been such a long month. I would prefer to believe this a falsehood—that the true reason lies in the fact that I have been so busy in other

(Continued on page 7)

Slogans

Think, Think, Think — Easy Does It — K.I.S.S. — Live and Let Live— H.A.L.T — But For The Grace of God — This to Shall Pass — One Day at a Time

areas in my personal life. I have had a minimal number of flyers and updates to the website and the events calendar.

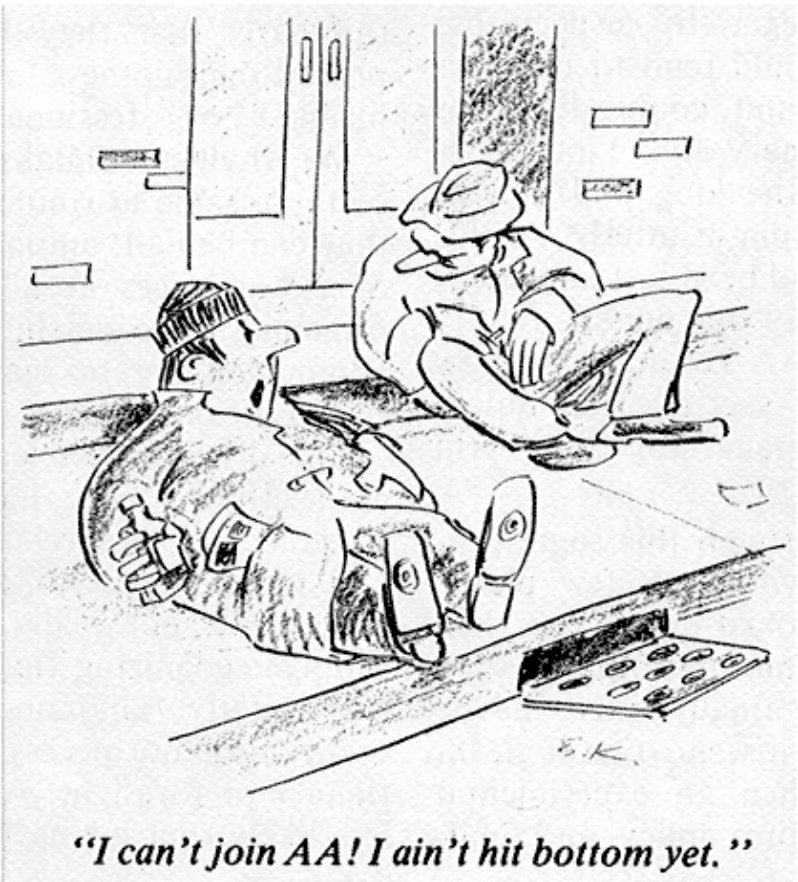
Besides making my weekly meetings with Douglas County Jail in Superior, Wisconsin, I have kept in contact with the District 12 DCM about upcoming events including the zonal forum, for which I created and uploaded a flyer for the Area website. This brings me to my next topic—upcoming opportunities for service at the area level.

The Fall Assembly is coming up. This assembly is an election assembly; we will be voting for a new batch of officers to serve during the 2018-19 rotation. A fine selection of resumes for the position of delegate was printed in the last edition of the *Northern Light*. People interested in standing for, or nominating someone for any of the remaining officer positions (alternate delegate, area chair, secretary, and treasurer) should review the position guidelines and qualifications listed in the A.A. Service Manual and on area35.org and then attend the Fall Assembly. A new crew of committee chairs will be needed to serve the area during the 2018-19 rotation and this assembly is a great time to share your knowledge of any interested and/or qualified candidates for these committee positions. The newly elected Area Chairperson will gratefully appreciate such information. It is also a good way to learn more about the people serving in these positions and their experiences during the past two years.

I will be attending the West Central Regional Forum in Sioux Falls, SD this weekend and should have lots more to share for my report at the Fall Assembly.

Thanks for the opportunity for service and your continued support,

Yours in service,
Rodney S.
Area 35 Webmaster



Humility and Egoes - HmMMM

Where has our humility gone? Where have our principles gone? Right out the window with the premise that our 12 Steps and 12 Traditions are suggestive only or that “more will be revealed”. Meaning maybe we don’t have to follow the traditions any longer, maybe we can take what we like and leave the rest, we need to change with the times etc... always another rationale so that we don’t need to do what we know to be the right and good thing—follow the 12 Traditions set before us by our founders.

We seem to be ignoring all the work our founders did for us and are deciding that things need to change with the times. Is AA changing? I think people are sure trying to change it and not for the better. Facebook and social media have become a regular, even acceptable, place to break anonymity. When we have sobriety celebrations and achieve those milestones, we seem happy to announce it on Facebook, twitter or other social media to let everyone know we are so grateful to have these sober days, months or years. Then of course, all the ensuing comments congratulating us on our achievement of sobriety and a new life. Some may even be so bold as to put the AA name into their comments. So why do we do it, really? Ignorance? There are those that don’t know or have not had the benefit of studying the traditions and our history. If this is the case, we need to do everything we can to educate those of us that simply do not know or understand our traditions of anonymity and humility. If done in a spirit of love and concern, we can accomplish and educate with great results.

What are other reasons why we like to announce sobriety dates on social media? I have asked myself that very question and have to ask what are my motives? I too have been tempted to share my sobriety celebration on Facebook to let the world know how grateful I am for my new way of life in recovery. To let people know what God is doing in my life and how thankful I am for that God and a new way of living. To let people know there is hope out there for anyone else that suffers from the disease of alcoholism. There are many reasons to share it on social media. But really what are our motives? If all these reasons were truly my motives, I wouldn’t need to announce it on social media because people would already see this new way of life working in me. They would see how grateful I am, they would see what I already am doing in my life and I should already be giving people hope. People should already be seeing these things that I profess on social media in my everyday life. If I have worked the steps and have been given the solution as a result of the steps, people will know it and I don’t need to advertise it. Remember the tradition of attraction rather than promotion? I certainly don’t need to promote myself or AA. I need to be attracting people in my everyday life by the new life I have been given. So, what are my motives? Hmmm- maybe just to gain a few pats on the back, and congratulations, maybe just to simply reassure my ego that I am a success today.

There’s that ego again. If we are following our traditions, as we should be, we would see there is no place for the ego, only humility and service. In following our traditions, we are to stay humble, keep our name out of the limelight. Then of course we have those that post their sobriety dates and just don’t use the word AA or Alcoholics Anonymous. They are in recovery or have recovered—hmm- that certainly is not in the spirit of the traditions just because you don’t use the word alcoholics anonymous. I think that is just skirting around the issue and the true meaning of Tradition 12. It goes back to checking our motives and egos.

Principles before personalities. We have all heard it and even said it. Generally, when someone is doing something or saying something we don’t agree with, we brush it off and say, “ah well, principles before personalities” and move on. Certainly we can say that and it is helpful in being loving and tolerant to all. However, after listening and learning from an old timer who said, “Read through the tradition in the 12x12 and learn that that has nothing to do with it.” What? So, after reading through tradition 12 in our 12 Steps and 12 Traditions book and learning, of course, the old timer was correct. That tradition is about the principle of anonymity at the level of press, radio, film and now social media. The principle of humility, putting our own personal ambitions and egos, agendas aside for the unity of AA. Experience tells us that anonymity is real humility at work in us. We try to give up our natural desires for personal distinction. We are sure that humility, expressed by anonymity, is the greatest safeguard that Alcoholics Anonymous can ever have. As stated in our Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions book, because AA’s twelve traditions repeatedly ask us to give up personal desires for the common good, we realize that the sacrificial spirit—well symbolized by anonymity— is the foundation of them all. We must give up our own personal desires and thinking that we know best. If we continue, we will surely be jeopardizing Alcoholics Anonymous and then there will be no hope for the still suffering alcoholic. Let us put aside our egos and well-intentioned plans and ideas, listen and learn from our founders and adhere to the traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous. Who are we, who is any one of us to disregard or “get around” our traditions? For AA to survive and help those still suffering, we must adhere to what we have been taught and what has been so freely given to us.

In love and Service
Denise R.- Sartell

**AREA 35
COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Where is the Aitkin Alano Club?
Area 35 holds committee meetings in February, June, August and December at the Aitkin Alano Club
322 1st Ave. N.E.
Aitkin, MN.

What Did I Do at the Forum Today?

Notes and Thoughts from attendees to the West Central Regional Forum

WCRAA-Forum Treatment report. Was able to get there in time for the first timer orientation, even though this wasn’t my first time at a forum. We heard from both our Class A (non-alcoholic) and Class B (alcoholic) trustee on what they have been doing since being elected, or drawn from the hat back in April. Beau, AAWS Director, stated, “GSO is here to make sure the fellowship has what they need to carry the message.” There are 85 employees at AAWS which handles 90,000 emails-letters or phone calls annually, 73,000 contribution envelopes, 1500 requests for the archives and ships 7.3 million books-pamphlets or materials. The www.aa.org website has been revamped to make it more mobile friendly. During the first year (20 years ago) of the website there was 100,000 visits. Today there are 100,000 per day. There are three different venues, for the future alcoholic, the professional and the AA member. There are 9 employees at AA Grapevine and over the last 4 years \$815,000 went to reserve fund.

We enjoyed some PowerPoint presentations, topics sprinkled with personal stories from Delegates from areas 40, 52, 36, and our very own Delegate Kelly. Several staff gave reports on their departments. I enjoyed the report from David M, non-alcoholic, he is a CPC and the General Service Board Treasurer and Finance. He stated that the reserve fund cannot be larger than a 12-month reserve, it is currently at 10.3 months. If it gets above the 12 months, that’s when we could see perhaps a price drop in literature or something similar.

I attended two breakout sessions, the first was American Sign Language Accessibility. In the session we learned the difficulties two women from Area 36 faced when they sobered up. Ashley moved from Washington and only had ASL meetings Monday and Friday, like a lot of us she felt she needed a meeting every day. At some point she was paying out of her own pocket for

(Continued on page 16)

Reflections on the 2017 WCRAASF

This regional AA forum was a great experience in both learning and motivating all to carry our message to the still suffering alcoholic.

We gained knowledge of the important role our General Service plays in carrying AA’s message out to the world. Our Big Book is now available in over 70 languages and AA is working in over 175 countries. I was touched by a report the AA in Israel is making the Big Book in Arabic available to Palestinians who cross the border to attend AA meetings in Israel. It was also great to learn our General Service Office is doing well financially as contributions from group and members are up as well as literature sales have been strong. This means that the projected major short-falls in 2017 and likely 2018 will not take place.

Presentations and workshops at the forum were well prepared, informative and stimulated good participation. Many first-time attendees reported great experiences at the forum.

Tom A. our West Central Regional Trustee did a wonderful job in chairing this event.

We all left the forum with a positive feeling that through our work in general service and the work of our trusted servants, AA will continue for this generation and generations to come after us.

Roger R.
Area 35 Alternate Delegate

Greetings Area 35,

I just got back from the West Central Regional Forum that was help in Sioux Falls, SD. It was a great weekend filled with an abundance of information and great presentations. This was an opportunity to learn more about GSO, AAWS and Grapevine. Plus, we got to meet some of the staff in a more personable setting. Even though it only takes place every other year, it is a great place to connect and ask questions about what is happening in New York. It is amazing how much work goes through the office and how few employees work so hard to make all the work happen. I have a new appreciation for all our paid workers and the time and dedication they put into making sure that Alcoholics Anonymous operated smoothly.

A group of us had the opportunity to have dinner with David Morris, CPA, GSO Treasurer. What a wonderful privilege to meet David and ask questions about our fellowship finances. Our fellowship is doing a great job of sending in contributions and we just need to fire it up a little bit more. Can you believe we are only about 2 million away from being self-supporting? That seems like a lot but if we break like this. There are only about 40% of groups contributing and if we could get that up to 60% and that would be approximately 15,000 additional groups contributing at \$135 total. We could be completely self-supporting through our own contributions. WOW! That is obtainable. Please remember that if your home group does not contribute to the three entities, you can contribute on an individual basis. GSO offers online contributions and recurring payments if this is something you’re interested in doing.

I also chaired a workshop on “Increasing Contributions” and I found it very interesting to hear all the different ways that groups and areas work at trying to increase the money in the basket. Do you realize that a dollar in the basket from 1935 could buy what \$17.30 buys today? Let me challenge you to step up your game and start throwing a \$5 in the basket at your homegroup and at least \$2-\$3 at all other meetings you attend. Is your sobriety worth \$10/week?? I know mine is and this is something I am going to commit to doing.

I would strongly recommend attending the next West Central Regional Forum and experience the unity of our fellowship.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Area 35 Treasurer and allowing me to attend this conference.

Christine G.

One of the workshops I attended was on Implied Affiliation. In that session, it mentioned there is a district in Nebraska with a Facebook page. On their Facebook page, they show pictures of faces, full names and have treatment center ads. I thought this was big news until I looked on line at other Intergroup and other recovery pages that have AA links to them. Tradition 11 on public Anonymity looks shattered. WOW, I was surprised and deeply saddened by this wide spread ignorance and lack of respect for AA Traditions.

David M. the GSO Treasurer made a great presentation and if you would like his complete 90-page report, email him at david.morris.cpa@gmail.com. In the Friday Night Grapevine presentation it was mentioned how the GV is operating in the black and has for the past few years. With the surplus GV has paid back the monies withdrawn from its prudent reserve. I asked the GV general manager how was that accomplished. She stated that it was through the lessening of operation overhead, and the increase in the selling of other GV books though GV subscriptions have remained flat. I found all the GSO staff present were easy to talk with and easily accessible.

The other breakout workshop I attended was on using the Traditions as a Club. Mostly stories about groups in Alano Clubs. How the people in these groups don’t have any awareness of the Traditions and truly think people who try to inform and educate about our Traditions become ostracized. No matter if you are Tradition conservative or Tradition stretcher the only real person wielding a club is John Barleycorn. He wins when we disregard or tighten the Traditions and groups falter and die.

There were questions put to the GSO staff about litigation on a temporary restraining order by New York State Supreme Court to prevent a manuscript (printers’ copy of the Big Book) from being sold at auction. This Manuscript has handwritten notes from Bill W. and others and shows the evolution of what became the first published edition of the Big Book. There is more to come on this, since the GSO staff said they could not comment now because of current litigation. They promised full disclosure when settled.

Thank you for sending me to the West Central Regional Forum. There was a nice sprinkling of experienced service people. Past Trustees, Past Delegates, Past Area Committee people with a healthy mix of new people to General Service along with first time Forum Attendees. I had some great fellowship, pie and ice cream.

One of the last things I heard from the mike was,” Many people say they are able and willing to do something in AA. Challenges test your willingness, by having you do something.”

In Service
Steven L.

I attended the West Central Regional Forum in Sioux Falls, S D. I had a nice trip with our Area Secretary, Rillis E. and was pleasantly surprised at our continued lively conversation throughout the entire trip.

Uncertain whether it is an asset or defect, but whenever I am taxed to report on presentations or entire events I seem to usually wind up with questions instead of answers. Since these are service functions, these questions focus, in one way or another, on whether or not I am doing what I’m supposed to be doing and whether I can do it any better.

Rillis and I did not leave Duluth until mid-afternoon on Friday and the 6-hour-plus trip to Sioux Falls kept us from attending any of the Friday night sessions. Saturday was packed with interesting and thought provoking presentations and workshops. I will share some of the questions that arose in me throughout the weekend. Perhaps as you read this you might apply them to your own commitment, not to tear down but as an incentive to do better.

Am I listening for the “collective conscience” of whatever committee or entity I am involved with and then acting responsibly to that group or committee? Do my actions originate from an obligation to serve, or are they demonstrations of power and control? Am I using the traditions as a guide—or a club?

(Continued on page 14)

AREA 35 MEETING MINUTES

Area 35 Committee Meeting Minutes Aitkin, MN August 6, 2017

Call to Order: Jim S. Called meeting to order. Opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Recognition of Past Area 35 Delegates in Attendance: Tom A. Panel 50; Susie A. Panel 48; Mike J. Panel 64; Jim Kath Panel 62.

Approval of the 2017 Spring Assembly Minutes: Motion made and seconded to approve minutes. Minutes were approved.

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE-Kelly D. Greetings Area 35.

It is good to be here with all of you today as we come together to share our experiences carrying our message of hope through the service we do within our Districts and Area 35. I recently sent out the June “AAWS Highlights” to all of you. Quoting from that report under Finance “While noting some of the variances between the 2017 budget and year-to-date results in the finance report, it was reported that sales were running considerably ahead of budget, with contributions ahead of budget as well. One reason for the higher than anticipated sales related to the availability of the new A.A.W.S./Grapevine catalog which was recently mailed with *Box 4-5-9*. The G.S.O. four-month unaudited financial report revealed that gross sales were \$127,650 or 2.62% ahead of budget. Contributions were \$368,923 or 16.35% ahead of budget and total operating expenses were \$202,622 or 3.67% less than budget. Net profit for the four months was \$719,374 compared with a budgeted loss of \$155,197. The committee also discussed the switch to new paper for the Big Book last year, which has already saved as much as \$70,000 so far, and the overall reduction of Conference expense in the travel, meals and accommodations cost line. Additionally, it was noted that a meeting between the Finance and IT departments and Class A Trustee David Morris, treasurer of the General Service Board, took place to discuss immediate changes on how to process contributions more effectively and efficiently.” It is great to see the positive totals and changes so far for this year, thank you all that are contributing to our GSO to make this possible! I hope you all take the time to read all of the other “Highlights” and the work that is being done by so many that are committed to carrying our message.

Since the last Committee Meeting in June where I presented my report back to all of you, I have traveled and presented to Districts 8, 13, 15, 1, 2, 21 and 11. I will be finishing up with Districts 3, 4, 5, 6 and 12 throughout this month and the last in September. As you know, there has been a world of information that came out of this year’s General Service Conference and it has been great to see the questions and conversations that have occurred because of it. I am truly grateful to be a part of Area 35 that is so involved in our Agenda Items process and all that is going on at our GSO. I am also humbled from receiving such wonderful comments and feedback from many and I want to thank you all for the opportunity to be able to serve and present that information to you! Again, once I have completed all Districts I will send my power point of my report back to Rodney, to have him post it on our Area 35 website. I will then send out an email with a pass-protected password to access it. I will be receiving the hard copies of the “Final Conference Report” via the mail sometime in the middle of August. They will be available for distribution at our upcoming Fall Assembly from Skip, our Literature Chair, be sure to grab a copy. I also received it anonymity protected digitally and asked Rodney to post it to our Area 35 website. Because the document is so large, he has run across some difficulty. I have no doubt he will get it figure out and posted. I will let him explain it further in his report today. Once it is posted, I will send out and email to all of you with a password to access it. Please be sure to pass the information on.

On Saturday, June 3rd I presented along with the other Area Officers at a Forum with Districts 3, 4 and 15. Thank you to Greg and District 4 for hosting and all that attended that afternoon. Reminder to be sure to make your reservation for our upcoming Fall Assembly that is October 7th and 8th by the September deadline and also for our upcoming West Central Regional Forum that will be held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota September 8th thru the 10th, that deadline to get the group rate is this Tuesday, August 8th. I have been asked to present at the Forum along with some of the other Delegates from our West Central Region. It will be a great weekend of business and fellowship with some of our GSO members and our friends within our region; I hope you plan to attend. I will also be out at the Minnesota State Fair AA Booth on Saturday, August 26th from 7-9:00 pm. I am sure that there could possibly be some spots available so see Mark, our Area 35 PI Chair to sign up. It is a great way to give back so please consider volunteering.

Lastly, I would like to report that I have signed a contract and provided a venue for our WCRASC that Area 35 will be hosting in 2019. It will be held March 1st thru the 3rd (which also includes the Delegates only meeting on

Thursday February 28th) at the Courtyard Marriot in Moorhead, MN. Our incoming Delegate that will be elected in October will be responsible for all the planning of this event so there will be a lot more information to follow once it gets closer to that date. I am also excited and grateful to announce that Greg T., our General Manager for Alcoholics Anonymous was able to and has accepted my invitation to be our guest for that weekend. We are lucky to get such a popular, well sought after busy man!

As always thank you for the honor and privilege, it is to serve you. If you have any questions/concerns or I can be of service to any of you and your Districts please let me know.

In love and service,
Kelly D.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE-Roger R. Good Morning.

I am serving you all as your Alternate Delegate and would like to thank Area 35 for this opportunity.

One of my major responsibilities is to set up the next Area 35 Service Workshop for the incoming Alternate Delegate, who will be Chairing this event next January. I am pleased to report good progress on this workshop. It will be held from January 13-14, 2018, at the Radisson Duluth Harborview, in Duluth MN. Bob W. who recently rotated out of his board position as Trustee at Large will be our guest presenter and speaker at the workshop. Bob was highly recommended to me as a presenter for our workshop and I’m glad he has agreed to come to Northern MN next January. I have extended invitations to Districts: 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13 and 14 to conduct presentations at the service workshop. I have also completed a list of 9 topics that support the theme for this workshop, which is “AA- A Solution for All Generations”. If any DCM’s from these Districts did not receive my email communication on the workshop, please see me for this list of topics. I hope to be hearing from DCM’s soon, after you have had a chance to select a topic with your district. A flyer for this event is located at the front table.

The next Area 35 Zonal Forum can take place in Zone 4 that is comprised of Districts 8, 9, 12 and 14. I have been in contact with the DCM’s from these Districts to see if they have an interest in hosting a fall, Area 35 Zonal Forum, in their District. I do need to follow-up with Cathy R. District 9, Steve E. District 12 and Paul E. District 14 on this Area 35 Zonal Forum.

I am looking forward to attending the West Central Regional Forum in Sioux Fall SD in early September.

In service,
Roger

AREA CHAIR–Jim S. Good Morning Everyone,

The Spring Assembly is set at the Holiday Inn in Alexandria, MN for April 7th and 8th. We are looking at single rooms for \$90 plus tax and doubles for \$100 plus tax. The banquet room will be around \$800 for the weekend and coffee is around \$15/gal plus tax.

I will be starting to look for venues for the Fall Assembly 2018 in Zone 3, which is districts 5, 6, 7, 11, 13, 17 and 18. If you are a DCM for any of those districts, I would appreciate you looking into locations that would be a good fit for us. The facility should be able to accommodate a banquet room of up to 140 people, should be able to have a large room for GSR orientation and smaller rooms for action committee meetings.

The Joint Workshop is scheduled for Nov. 18th outside deer hunting season at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in St. Cloud MN. There are fliers on the back table and it is on the website as well.

If you are interested in being Area Chair, please come and ask me anything you want. I will be more than happy to share my experience with you. I could not have done this without the help of Kelly D's experience, as this position is much larger than I ever expected.

In Service
Jim S.

SECRATARY-Rillis E. Good morning and I am grateful to be here with all of you today.

Things have been rather quiet in the secretary position since we last met. I compiled the minutes from the June Area Committee Meeting and sent them to Steve L. our Northern Light editor. I made a flier for the Fall Assembly and after several revisions; I believe all the dates on the flier are finally correct. Fliers for the Joint Workshop are on the back table. If you have a paper copy of the report you give today, please give it to me as you leave the podium otherwise email it to me before August 20th, that is two weeks from today. Thanks to Brad for making digital recordings of these meetings and other

(Continued on page 10)

Responsibility Statement

I am Responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

(Continued from page 9)
Area 35 events as sometimes, I need to go back and listen when the notes I’ve written don’t make sense to me. This morning I left my jump drive at home and Brad had an extra to lend me. Thanks again Brad and to all of you for letting me serve,

Rillis E.

TREASURER-Christine G. Greetings Area 35,

As we are winding down this rotation, I have revised the treasurer duties and sent them to the Area Chair. If anyone is interested in serving as Area 35 Treasurer and would like more information, please come see me.

I will be attending the West Central Regional Forum in Sioux Falls on Sept 8th-10th. I will also be chairing a breakout session on Finance.

Balance Sheet shows that your accounts have a balance of \$25,720.26 for month ending July 31, 2017.

For period 4, we received \$5,566.73 in group contributions for a total of \$15,497.19 YTD. Total income for the year is \$20,380.65.

Our total expenses for period 4 were \$2,334.25 for a total of \$24,034.63 TYD.

We are still about \$3,700 below in contributions to cover what was approved at the Fall Assembly to cover our Financial Statement of Responsibility.

Thank you to all the groups that support the Area with group contributions and to the individuals who send in Birthday contributions. All your support is greatly appreciated to help support “carrying the message to the still suffering”. We can rent facilities to hold meeting where we can all come together to share how we are “carrying the message” and to have a place where groups can voice their concerns.

Also, please make sure you are putting your group numbers on your checks.

If you send a flyer to the Northern Light for insertion, please send your payments to me:

NMAA
PO Box 401
Becker, MN 55308

Thank you again for allowing me to serve as your Treasurer.

In Service,
Christine G.

COMMITTEE CHAIR & DCM REPORTS

CPC-Jim T. Attendees: Sally, Dist. 8; Allan, Dist. 5; John, Dist. 13; Carl, Dist. 7; Cathy, Dist. 9; PI Chair Mark N.; CPC Chair Jim T.

Committee members shared challenges of “summer time” doldrums have yielded limited participation in some Districts for both the PI and CPC functions, aggravated by the absence of committee chairs for those committee assignments. Cathy reported that District 9 has posted a list of committee chair openings for the coming rotation and a number of people have signed up. She noted that the time remaining in this rotation will pass quickly and suggested that Districts seek actively replacements and recruit qualified new people into these positions.

John reported that in his capacity as PI chair for District 13 he participates with 12 organizations in a monthly meeting to share what each group is planning for their programs in recovery in general; he brings the AA perspective to organization leaders that may not be proponents of 12 step programs. His comments launched a discussion among attendees regarding successes, or lack thereof, in some of the high-profile presentations in the Area. It was noted that a St. Louis County gathering featured a number of well-known recovery programs but that AA was not represented.

The Committee members discussed such questions as: How do we discern which Committee takes on projects or programs when there are multi-faceted aspects of a challenge which don’t necessarily fall into the “wheel house” of, say, Treatment or PI or Corrections? Is there among area and district officers sufficient time and enough knowledge to guide newcomers to service work at the District level? Is there sufficient information shared at District or Area levels in order make a determination about special events or programs; which issue or program fall into the responsibilities of specific Committee Chairs or members?

It was suggested that Area Officers could assist Districts to sort out needs and provide guidance if there were more meetings of the Officers, either in person or by teleconference.

PI Chair Mark is coordinating Area 35 representation at the State Fair Booth for AA.

District 1-Leslie H. Not present

District 21-Jeff L. Not present

WEBMASTER-Rodney S. Greetings Area 35,

I have been quite busy with flyers to the events calendar, updates for district pages and updated area trusted servant guidelines—or so it seems, with all the other summer activity.

Due to recent experiences requiring more work for everyone involved, it is necessary again to go over some basic criteria for A.A. flyers to be uploaded to Area35.org. Flyers should specify what group or A.A. entity is hosting the event—this will avoid controversy over tradition breaking affiliations. Flyers need a time and date for the event (including the year makes the flyer an accurate archival source), and an address—since our website calendar uses google mapping, this needs to be a physical address, not something like, “Across the street from the ‘Do Drop In’.” Also, listing any registration fees signifies our tradition of self-support. I finished updating the guidelines for the Webmaster position. While the conversion to WordPress has made maintaining the website a less daunting task, it is still a technical position with other technical responsibilities, many that I am not comfortable with. It would have been nice to throw out any references to terms like HTML and FTP, but some basic knowledge of these items may come into play when searching for help within the WordPress forums. I want to say thanks to Bob and others for their help, and all of you for your support.

In service, Rodney S.

LITERATURE-Skip D. Good day all,

We had ten people this morning. Districts 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 16 were represented.

District 9 has been ordering literature as he needs, using Area 35 for orders. He has been nominated for DCM in the next rotation for District 9. Thank you for your service.

District 16 is having a service workshop in September. He also has an article coming out in the Grapevine, all from attending a GV workshop.

District 9 came to the Area 35 Committee Meeting to see where and how he may be of service; he did general service work in the 1980's. Welcome back Joe.

District 3 usually has literature in the trunk of car, has been out visiting other districts to get literature out there.

District 6 going to Round Robins to make literature available to all in her surroundings.

I am looking forward to the West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Forum in South Dakota September 8th-10th 2017, tried to book a room, but they only had one available. It was a King size bungalow for \$193.00 a night, so I am looking elsewhere.

Just to let everyone know I have been nominated for DCM in District 5, if voted in I will be seeing all of you in the next rotation.

The Big Lake Big Book study group is holding a Service Workshop on October 14, 2017 from 11am-2pm all information can be found at area35.org (area events).

And, PLEASE if you are planning to order literature through Area 35 place the order TWO weeks prior to area events, Contact literature@area35.org. All contact information can be found in the Northern Light newsletter.

Thank you ALL for allowing me to serve in Area35,

Skip D.

District 11-Cindy S. Kelly D's presentation and a potluck dinner was held on August 1st at Peace Lutheran in Finlayson; well attended (12 people) questions asked and answered. Most appreciated, thanks Kelly!

Happy Joyous Free open meeting hosted a potluck picnic and speaker meeting on July 28th at Moose Lake city park. Our speaker was Pat G. from Duluth (for an example of a poor flyer see the Area 35 calendar July 28th a physical address was not listed and I had to have Rodney change it from Moose Lake State Park to the city park) lesson learned create the flyer like you don't live there.

Round Robin always the 3rd Tuesday - July was hosted by St Mary's 10am AA group of Mora. August will be Tuesday August 15th 8pm hosted by Ogilvie/Quamba AA at Ogilvie City Hall.

District 11 has an AA booth at the Pine County Fair located in Pine City August 2nd through 6th

Corrections obligations are being met, but we can always use more volunteers

District 11 will be hosting a 4th Step workshop in October (Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday morning) location will be in Moose Lake, stayed tuned. When dates are firmed up, we will post on Area 35 website and mail out fliers. This district is in the building stages and I am excited to be part of it.

In service,
Cindy S-K.

(Continued from page 10)

District 7-Liz L. Read by Carl P. Greetings from District 7! Hard to believe that we’re already halfway through the summer! The district picnic was this last weekend and we had great weather, food, and FUN. Thanks to our Picnic Chair, to those who set up, cooked, and cleaned up, donated food and money, and to everyone that came!

Two fairs down and two to go! There are still opportunities for SERVICE (many that have NO length of sobriety requirements) and FELLOWSHIP. Reminder that if you’re close to Brainerd August 1-5 that you can volunteer to help, or at least swing by and say hi to the folks volunteering at the booth!

A reminder that we do have opportunities for service at the District Level: Treatment Chair, PI/CPC Chair, Archives, and a Secretary to name a few. I encourage all GSRs and AAs to spread the word and prayerfully consider joining us for the remaining 5 months of this rotation. There are always many other ways to be of service as well, like chairing events, creating flyers, serving at the treatment and correctional facilities, or answering the AA Central Lake Phone Line for a shift per week.

Blessed by strong AA service workers and commitment to serve we already have in our district. I always look forward to getting together at our District Meetings the third Thursday of each month at the First Congregational UCC (415 Juniper Street, Brainerd, MN 56401) from 7:00-8:30 pm. I hope you will join us for meetings, fellowship, and fun!

- Upcoming events in the District/Area/Region include:
- July 20th- District 7 meeting-7:00-8:30 pm-FCUCC, Brainerd
- August 6th-Area 35 Committee Meeting-9:00 am-3:30 pm-Aitkin Alano Club, Aitkin, MN
- August 17th-District 7 Meeting-7:00-8:30pm- FCUCC, Brainerd
- September 8th-10th-West Central Regional AA Forum-Holiday Inn-Sioux Falls, SD
- September 21st-- District 7 meeting-7:00-8:30 pm-FCUCC, Brainerd
- October 7th-8th-Area 35 Fall Assembly-Hibbing, MN

Yours in Service,
Liz L.

NORTHERN LIGHT-Steve L. Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen

Four people attended our meeting this morning. Issues discussed were fliers. What do you want posted in the Northern Light and on our WEB page? What constitutes an AA function? There are no actual guidelines on what the criteria is acceptable for a flier. The NL is a different media than our WEB site so it has a different audience. Something posted in the NL is at minimum two months out and is broadcast over the entire Area. The WEB is broadcast over a large area but its use a lot of time is to find out something local to do.

There were four inserts in this issue off the NL. I was surprised by one, the Duluth Round-Up, I guess they didn’t see the memo from the Spring Assembly. Please submit fliers as laid out in the NL. I still need articles from you so please take the time and write one.

Two Issues left so it is time to beat the bushes for a new editor. Remember the costs have changed look in the NL for the price break down. Its been a pleasure editing the NL for you.

Yours in Service
Steven L.

GROUP RECORDS-Bob B.

GSO added two new fields to the database, PrimaryPreferredName and SecondaryPreferredName. The database can now store First Name, Last Name, and Preferred Name for the Primary and Secondary contact. I did not pay much attention to this change until I processed the GSO database for aaMeetingLocator. The aaMeetingLocator software had to be updated to account for the new fields.

Meeting Guide was locked out of our website. During this time, Meeting Guide could not update their meeting list for Northern and Southern Minnesota. The problem was correct by our web host

The aaMeetingLocator website was renewed for another year.

Bob B

District 14-Paul E. Not present

District 6-Renell P. Read by Sharna J. Greetings from District 6, nestled in the SE corner of Area 35.

I am sorry I can’t be with you today. Work commitments won’t allow me to be off today,

Since the Spring Assembly, we have continued to reach out to area AA members and community members. I have contacted and provided information to our school therapist and our local Veteran’s Representative. We continue to provide AA meetings and contact info for inmates at our county jail and a local treatment center. Our Treatment chair continues to provide AA information to facilities in our district.

District 6 is planning an Archives Presentation Workshop on Saturday, June 24th from Noon to 4 pm at the Isanti Alano, 790 Heritage Blvd., Isanti, MN. It will be potluck. Please plan to attend. Flyers available in the back.

Not much else happening. I am thankful for all the help and support of my Officers and Committee chairs.

By the grace of God, I will see you later this summer. Yours in service,

Renell P.

TREATMENT-Gayle R. Today there were 10 members present from Districts 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16. With a report also from District 18. We stepped outside to enjoy the sunshine and ability to hear each other during our committee meeting. Peggy, District 13 Secretary, reported Mike L stepped up to finish the rotation for treatment. District 13 is working on the statuses of each facility they serve; groups are still going in during this process. There will be a treatment and corrections meeting before the District monthly meeting tomorrow (August 7th). Pat, District 15, reports we are keeping commitment at New Visions in Alexandria with District 4. We serve Sobriety 1st in Sauk Centre the first Monday at 10 am and Sobriety 1st at Midtown Square in St. Cloud every Wednesday 10am to 12pm and every Friday. District 15 has 4 or 5 groups that goes into Passages in St. Cloud on Mondays 7pm, this is a yearly rotation with groups also from District 13. Serenity Paths in Paynesville we were finding it difficult to find weekly speakers to go in so they started having a Big Book meeting with District 4 Treatment Chair and that is going “Awesome”. Before the end of this rotation, District 15 would like to rework the Bridging the Gap contact list. Steve, DCM District 12, Treatment commitments being met, treatment chair is enjoying vacation. Alt District 12 DCM, Rich, Also reported, there is a new administrator at the Center for Drug and Alcohol Treatment (CADT) requiring every volunteer that sees patients to have a state required background check. This process includes fingerprinting, photo, etc., this generally takes a short time, and Rich has been waiting for 3 months, so this facility has not had a meeting from us during the 3 months. The clients here are generally young guys so Rich tries to get young men from AA with a couple of years sober for his speakers. Teen Challenge in Duluth does not want us to come in, one of District 12 members states being a former client there so perhaps that member could help us establish a relationship with Teen Challenge- Duluth. Nells, District 8, filling in for treatment chair, Sara. Speaker meeting goes into Range Treatment on Sundays at 8pm. The rest of commitment are getting better. Cindy, DCM District 11, reported she is working on building the district. Bruce, Alt DCM District 16, states treatment chair rarely comes to district meeting so he is stepping up to get treatment back on track. Mary, District 16, is here to get information. Ken, District 5- Princeton, District 5 takes speaker or Big Book meetings into Transformation House and Freedom Centers both in Princeton. Kathy, GSR District 14, International Falls has a couple of speaker meetings, looking to take information back to groups. BR, DCM District 18, reported all is well and commitments are being met.

During our meeting we discussed an email sent from GSO (and Kelly) “Treatment Activity Update” asking for submissions from veterans and active military on how committee has carried a message to them, as well as asking how effectively the AA message was, and what barriers did you face. Grapevine is also looking for submissions with the Bridging the Gap service experiences , on both sides, those doing the service work and those who have received help threw the Bridging the Gap program. Looking for 300 to 1800 words by October 5, 2017. There will be a Bridging the Gap Workshop weekend September 8 – 10, 2017.

We also discussed pages 7 & 8 of the Treatment workbook, “Working within the Traditions”. We talked about dually addicted is the hardest in keeping with the singleness of purpose. Committee suggestions were, reading the chapter “There is a Solution” from the Big Book, Run meeting as an AA meeting not a treatment center meeting, some centers force clients whether closed or open (some groups has changed to open so they could attend), are we welcoming, and defining a meeting. We will talk more about this during the Fall Assembly’s treatment presentation. I am planning to attend the West Central Regional Service Forum in Sioux Falls in September.

Thank you for allowing me to serve-Gayle R.

District 18-BR Borders. Hi, my name is BR B., DCM District 18.

We have a new meeting started in Verndale at 9:30 pm called the Night Owls. We had a safety issue at one of our regular meetings of some doing doughnuts in the parking lot and has been addressed appropriately. We’re still looking for applications for corrections in our district. The Motley camp out was a great success, we had 30 people camping at the Saturday meeting. We had 150 adults, 30 kids, and 2 infants. We raffled a quilt, made \$263, and purchased literature for Bell Hill. Scott M. was an excellent speaker and thank you. Staples camp out is coming up, that is 11th-13th of August. Saturday, August 18th-20th is Sylvan Shores round robin. Contact Manny 218-639-1428 for information. We hold our district meeting the first Tuesday of every month. Our next meeting will be the 5th of September.

Thank you, BR B.

District 12-Steve E. Good morning Area 35.

Very grateful to be alive and sober today. District 12 is doing fine financially. All of our committees are covered although we could certainly use more volunteers for service on those committees. We had our last Dist. 12 meeting in Silver Bay with good attendance. Our treatment meetings are all going

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)
with the exception of CAD, men's. We are waiting for a background check on a person to chair. Corrections committee chair, Frank K. is making sure all jail and prison meetings are covered. We will have a manned table with literature at the Carlton County Fair in Barnum August 17-20th. We are looking forward to having Kelly D. share her report from the GSC with us in Cloquet on Thursday, Sept. 21th at 6pm. Also coming up is the 72nd Duluth Roundup Friday and Saturday, Sept. 15 and 16. It will be at a new location at First United Methodist Church, often called the Copper Top Church. The address is 230 E. Skyline Parkway. Looking forward to seeing all of you there.

Yours in service, Steve

ARCHIVIST-Brad I. Greetings everyone. Since the June committee, I gave a history talk on AA’s 82’nd anniversary minus one week. Judging by the enthusiastic responses I received and the questions, I was asked it went over very well and was very well attended. I also gave a history talk in Isanti. Last Sunday I spoke at the 30th anniversary of the St. Cloud back to Basics meeting and today I was on the road at 4:30 A.M. to be here. Sitting next to me is Mike P. who has stepped up to do the recording after this year. I showed him how to set up the equipment and we are in the process of learning how to record and upload and save. I also burned a set of CD’s of a District 8 work-shop.

For upcoming events, I am not attending the Regional Forum due to not being able to get off work. I am doing displays at the Duluth Round Up, the St. Cloud AA convention and the Saint Cloud Roundup.

It has truly been an honor and privilege to have been recording for the past 20 years and being Archivist for 10 years. I got to meet and become friends with folks that I never would have met otherwise.

Keep those district minutes coming.

Brad I.
Area 35 Archivist

ARCHIVES-Steve D. We had 6 in attendance, including our past delegate Jake J. Districts 3, 8, 9, 13 and 14 were represented.

Welcome to Matt L. from International Falls to our Committee. Scott L. reported that there was not much new activity in their district. They are transitioning some positions at the district.

Peter T. reported that he is now recording District meetings to archive. This is a great idea. This is not a replacement for minutes but an opportunity to capture the details of District meetings. Peter will be putting together a procedure to record district meetings.

Matt L. reported that he has received from their clubhouse material to review for archiving. We will supply Matt with an Archives workbook and our contact information so we can provide any assistance needed.

Jake J. reported that he is developing an archive display at their clubhouse. His desire is to provide a venue for AA members to see the history of AA in that area. Thanks for participating in our committee.

Brad I., our area 35 Archivist reported his recent activities. He will be rotating out as area archivist at the end of the year. Having had the opportunity to interact with other area archives committee chairs and other area archivists; I can say without hesitation that we have been blessed to have Brad provide us with a wealth of knowledge of the history of AA. He has been a great mentor for me to learn about the history of AA.

Action items.

- Jake J. mentioned that he would like to see us include past delegates in our activities. What a wonderful idea. We decided to ask past delegates to join us at Area Committee meetings.
- Scott suggested we tour the Archives in Waite Park to get a sense of the scope of our history in Area 35. We are looking at the end of September. We will try to communicate this to all interested districts.
- Jake J. suggested that the Area Archives Chair be responsible for the Display at area events. We discussed the benefits of disseminating some of the responsibilities of the Archivist to allow the new Archivist to transition into that position.
- Peter will be providing a Northern Light Article on electronic recording of District meetings.

Yours in Service,
Steve D.

District 8-Scott M. Greetings Area 35,

Not a lot to report at this time. We will hold our elections in the coming month. We’ve been having some discussion in regards to our Sunday night treatment meeting. Group participation is down which is the root of the problem.

Meeting with Cathy from District 9 to work out a schedule to attend to registration and coffee for the fall assembly.

Yours in Service,
Scott M.

District 4-Greg C. Not present

CORRECTIONS-Servando M. No report

District 2-Myron H. Good morning, my name is Myron, and I am an alcoholic. I am the DCM for District 2.

At our Delegate's report back from the last conference, we combined Districts 1, 2, and 21. The DCMs from 1 and 2, plus a past DCM from 1, were the only people in attendance. That says a lot about our corner of the state. I feel many of our groups like the first part of Tradition 4, about being autonomous, but not the second part, about how it affects other groups or AA as a whole. I am concerned about the state of our district, especially with elections coming on September 10.

Yours in service,
Myron H.

District 13-Sean S. No report

District 15-Melissa A. Greetings from District 15,

We have our District meeting the first Monday of every month at 8:00pm, which is located at the Albany Senior Center. We are currently meeting all of our commitments. We are still bringing meetings in the following treatment centers: New Visions in Alexandria, Sobriety First in Sauk Centre and St. Cloud, Passages in St. Cloud and Serenity Paths in Paynesville. We had our District Inventory done on July 10th. We want to thank Tom and Susie A. for attending and really appreciate Tom for having an amazing template to use and for facilitating the Inventory. Our District was able to have a thorough inventory done which we learned a lot, about what we need to focus on in order to make our District healthy. We are looking forward to making the necessary changes in order for that to occur before we rotate out. That way the new officers and GSR’s can be off to a good start and continue leading our District in the right direction. We will be having nominations take place tomorrow night for the next 2-year rotation and voting will be taking place in September. As my rotation comes to an end I want to thank every one of you for all that you have done within A.A. Everything that you have shared throughout the past 2 years of my rotation as DCM has helped me grow, learn and continue staying recovered from this seemingly hopeless disease. Service work is something that I will continue to do throughout A.A., which is a gift from God.

Thank you again for all the hard work and effort you all continue to put into this program. Without you our Area wouldn’t be as wonderful as it is.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Melissa A.

PI-Mark N. For our Public Information morning meeting we had 5 in attendance.

District 8 had a question concerning a Robo - call on the helpline that inferred low usage and asking to update information.

The school season is coming soon and they will be planning for a PI luncheon. Date to be determined.

In District 13 they are very busy with AA workshops, A 12 traditions play, GSR workshops and I see 4th step workshops on the calendar as well. There is a December 9th assistance line training session planned. Discussed the Recovery Community network.

I am working on staffing the state fair booth, taking shifts on the District 7 Central Lakes AA helpline. I had a call from the North West Indian community development Center in Bemidji MN they are growing their support services and wanted AA to be a part of that and I put them in touch with Jeff L the DCM up there.

Public Information is the 12 - step call made through a 3rd person. How can we best serve the active alcoholic using the professionals and the regular people in our community?

Thanks
Mark N.

District 9-Cathy R. It is hard to believe that summer is almost over.

Our next District meeting is August 27; at that meeting, we will entertain nomination for all our district chairs and executive officers. It is exciting to see that over ½ of the district positions have volunteers (not railroaded folks) next to the functions!

We are encouraging a newer group (Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri at 10:00 am) to put on a workshop on the subject of How to Put on a Meeting. We have volunteers to help with a skit. This should be happening sometime in October or November.

Additionally, I would like to suggest that the Area 35 Committee Chairs
(Continued on page 13)

A Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.s future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.

meeting more frequently than they currently do. This could be accomplished via a teleconference.

District Meeting is last Sunday, August 27, 2017.

Regards in Service,
Cathy R.

District 5-Jon S. Not present

GRAPEVINE-Paul M. Greetings from your Area 35 Grapevine Chair. We had 7 districts represented this morning. All districts seem to be holding their own in getting the Grapevine message out there. I will be placing a \$500.00 order to receive the discount before the Heartland Round Up. I will be displaying the Grapevine Literature for sale there and putting on a GV writing workshop. No Area funds are used for this event as they have invited me there. If anyone needs additional GV literature let me know, please. Plus, bring your old Grapevines to committee meetings or assemblies so we can distribute them to treatment and correctional facilities. I would like to thank Sharna from District 6 for bringing old Grapevines here this morning. On a side note, I hope all my friends are having a blast in Sturgis!!

Yours in Service,
Paul M.

District 3-Brian P. My name is Brian. I am an alcoholic and DCM for District 3.

We meet the 3rd Sunday of each month in Detroit Lakes at the Alano Club at 10 am.

Some of the things that have happened in the District

- The Moorhead Thursday Night Group had their 47th anniversary
- Potluck and open meeting
- Gene M has been doing a great job with the treatment centers in our District
- Keeping in touch with them. Supplying speakers when needed
- Bill D has been our temp CPC/PI chair and has been busy distributing
- Meeting lists and Big Books to schools, libraries and jails when allowed
- We are currently looking for a CPC/PI and a Corrections Chair
- Coming up on August 19th we are having our District 3 Roundup/Service workshop. Kelly will be giving a delegate report and we will be having a potluck along with Al-Anon and AA speakers.
- Looking forward to the West Central Regional Forum in Sioux Falls in September

Thank you, yours in Service,
Brian P.

District 16-Bruce M-alternate DCM

- District Service Workshop on September 23rd at the First Methodist Church from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.
- Tuesday Night solutions workshop on AA, What We're About on October 18th at the First Methodist Church.
- Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the First Methodist Church.
- The district is solvent and has a prudent reserve.

OLD BUSINESS

Guidelines: Area officer and committee chair guidelines needed to be updated and submitted to Jim. S. They should be dated August 2017.

NEW BUSINESS

Financial Oversight Committee Report- Neil The FOC met this morning to review the Area's financials for period 4, 2017. Jim and I confirmed all Area money is accounted for in the bank accounts and accurately reflected in the financial statements. In addition, all contributions and expenses were reconciled to the financial reports. In summary, all financials we deemed to be in good order. We would again like to express our gratitude to our treasure, Christine, for her service and accuracy. Thank you!

In Service,
Neil

Joint Corrections Committee-Servando M. The Joint Corrections meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday so there is no report at this time. Vicky will attend this meeting and bring back information on the Moose Lake Transition Fair.

Archivist Position-Brad I. announced he will be stepping down from the Archivist position at the end of this rotation. He offered to share his experience and expertise to the incoming person. It was suggested that the Archives Chair share some of the Archivist responsibilities. The possibility of

separating the PA duties and Archives responsibilities will be discussed at the Fall Assembly. Appreciation for Brad's many years of service as the Area 35 Archivist was expressed with a round of applause and a standing ovation.

Calendar of Events-See the Northern Light and Area 35 website calendar. Email your events to Rodney S. for posting on the website and Steve L. for listing in the Northern Light. There is also an option for a flier to be inserted into the Northern Light. A reminder was made that fliers should include the 5 W's of who, what, when, where, and why; a map is helpful too.

The meeting was adjourned with the Responsibility Statement.

"Sometimes, the only place on earth that makes any sense to me is a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous."

December 1979
"The Root of Our Troubles," Emotional Sobriety

GSO Treatment Request

I recently received a request from GSO's Treatment and Accessibilities Coordinator, Patrick. He is requesting shared experiences. G.S.O. is requesting shared experience from two different perspectives. 1. How is your committee and/or local members carrying A.A.'s message, within the context of military life, to alcoholics who are veterans and active duty members of the Armed Services? 2. If you are an A.A. member who is also a veteran or active duty member of the Armed Services, please share how the A.A. message was effectively carried to you. Within the context of military life, what barriers, if any, did you face in receiving the A.A. message? Share any additional information you believe would be helpful.

This brought to mind the time I just moved to St. Cloud in District 13 in 2008. I went to the Tuesday night 7:30pm (currently meeting at 6:30pm) St. Cloud Call-up Meeting (SCCUM) Group at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and one of the speakers that night was a guy who was career military. He was talking about having been deployed to Iraq is was set to depart. During his talk he talked about sobriety away from the meetings. When the request from GSO came in I gave this request to this guy. With his permission I have asked Steve to include it in this issue of the Northern Light, with only minor editing (last name removed).

I may not always agree with the way this guy carries the message I am amazed by the fact that he is 39 years sober and still has the heart to reach out the hand to the alcoholic who still suffers, no matter where in the world he is, and he does so in many different ways. I would like to Thank Major John not only for writing to GSO when I asked, but to always be willing. I also look forward in reading his article in the October edition of the Grapevine. If there is any veteran or active military who has a story to share on how the message was carried to you, or how you carried the message to a veteran or active military, Please send your shared experience to the Treatment Coordinator, Patrick C. at tf@aa.org. Note: Please provide shared experience by December 15, 2017.

Thank You from the Area 35 Treatment Chair
Gayle R.

"By our Twelve Steps we have recovered, by our Twelve Traditions we have unified, and through our Third Legacy -- Service -- we shall carry the AA message down through the corridors of time to come."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., November 1951
"Services Make AA Tick," The Language of the Heart

Letter to GSO Treatment
from Major John

Rewritten for the Northern Light

Dear Patrick,

The Treatment Chair from Area 35 asked me to write to you about "carrying the message" to the active duty and veteran communities. I am happy to do so.

First allow me to introduce myself. I am Maj. John D. with the Minnesota National Guard. I am on active duty and I recently celebrated 39 years of sobriety. I will retire from the Armed Forces in January of 2018. While on active duty I have had the honor of starting English speaking A.A. meetings in Germany, putting on an A.A. Roundup for sober GIs and civilians in Augsburg, Germany, working as a liaison to German speaking A.A., starting an A.A. meeting in Basra, Iraq and attending A.A. meetings in Talill and Balad, Iraq. I also had the honor of speaking at our last Int'l Convention during the "Sober and Serving Our Country" meeting.

GSO has asked for input on the following two items:

- 1.) How is your committee and/or local members carrying A.A.'s message
(Continued on page 14)

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

September: 23rd : St. Cloud A.A. Convention *

713 Anderson Ave 12pm – 11pm
St Cloud, MN

October: 7th & 8th : Area 35 Fall Assembly *

Hibbing Park Hotel (218) 262-3481
1402 E Howard St.
Hibbing, MN

14th : Big Lake Service Workshop *

Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church 11am—2 pm
440 Lake St N,
Big Lake, MN

14th : Detroit Lakes October Round Robin *

First Lutheran Church 6 pm— 9:30 pm
912 Lake Ave,
Detroit Lakes, MN

27th & 28th : 35th Annual St Cloud Roundup *

River's Edge Convention Center
10 4th Ave S
St Cloud, MN

November: 18th : Area 35/36 Joint Workshop *

Bethlehem Lutheran Church 12pm –4 pm
4310 Co Rd 137
St Cloud, MN

November: 24th - 26th : Founder’s Day Weekend 2017

DoubleTree Bloomington
7800 Normandale Blvd
Bloomington, MN

December: 3rd : Area 35 Committee Meeting *

Alano Club 9:30 am –2 pm
322 1st Ave NE
Aitkin, MN

31st : New Years Eve Open Meeting *

Peace United Methodist Church 6 pm –10pm
303 S 9th Ave W.
Virginia MN

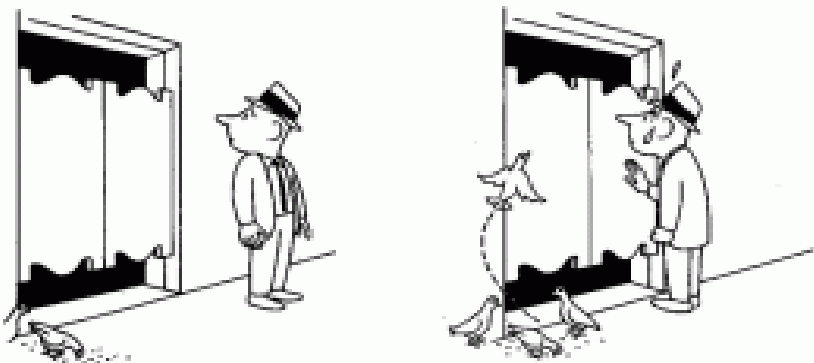
2018

January: 13th– 14th: Area 35 Workshop

Radisson Duluth Harborview
505 W Superior St
Duluth, MN

March: 23th– 24th: Winter Rap-Up

Iron Range Community Center
8586 Enterprise Drive South
Mt. Iron, MN



(Continued from page 13 - Letter to GSO Treatment)

Here are some of the ways that I have carried the message to our veteran and active duty community within the context of military life, to alcoholics who are veterans and active duty members of the Armed Services.

- I bring a meeting into the St. Cloud VA six times a year. The St. Cloud VA cooperates with the local A.A. groups and has A.A. meetings brought inside to their treatment facility on a weekly basis.
- I often do A.A. talks to Soldiers in the Minnesota National Guard on my alcoholism and recovery therefrom.
- I conducted an A.A. workshop for Chaplains of the Minnesota National Guard in January of this year. We used the CPC PowerPoint and showed the video Hope as well as conducted a lively Q&A session.
- I have contacted the St. Cloud VA about our upcoming A.A. convention in Sept. We have made arrangements to pay for the registration fee for any veteran who wants to attend the convention as well as providing transportation from the VA to the convention and back.
- I wrote a story for the Grapevine on A.A. and the Armed Services. It was published in the October 2017 edition of the [Grapevine](#) on page 26.
- At the request of GSO NY, I spoke at our International Convention in 2015 in Atlanta, GA at a meeting entitled “Sober and Serving Our Country”.

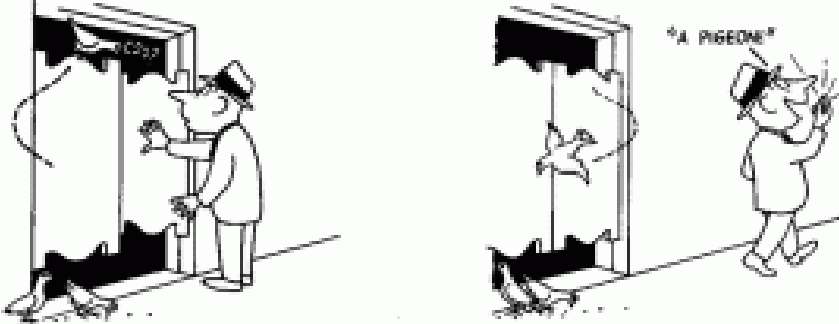
2.) If you are an A.A. member who is also a veteran or active duty member of the Armed Services, please share how the A.A. message was effectively carried to you. Within the context of military life, what barriers, if any did you face in receiving the A.A. message? Share any additional information you believe would be helpful.

I was seven years sober when I joined the Armed Services. However, one barrier I encountered was my background check for my security clearance. I was getting ready for deployment and I had to have a secret security clearance. A background check was conducted and during the interview the investigator asked, "Are you a member of A.A.? Do you attend A.A. meetings?"

I froze momentarily picturing my military career going down the toilet, but I responded, "Yes, I am a sober member of A.A."

The investigator replied, "Meet another friend of Bill W."

Astonished I asked him, "How is this going to affect my security clearance



application?" He replied, "Very well - we'd rather have you doing something about a drinking problem and being honest about it. It's the person who is trying to hide the problem who will get his/her application denied."

Lastly, I have been sober and attending A.A. my entire military career. If you'd like to learn more about being sober and being in the military, I'd be happy to share my experiences face to face if a time and place would present itself.

Yours in Service,
MAJ John D.
MN National Guard

(Continued from page 8 - What did I do at the Forum)

When my service commitment is over, is it in better condition for the next person to take over, and am I responsible enough to help that person off to a good start (is his or her success my priority?)?

Am I humble enough to serve and obedient enough to be trusted? Do I practice good 2-way communication to continue building that trust?

Does my recovery move out from myself and into the world, the people I interact with? Do I look like a person with a spiritual program, in and out of service?

Adhering to the basics, listening to the voice of the collective conscience, and utilizing available literature, specifically the service manual and *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*, combined with responsibility and humility will most assuredly bring positive responses to these questions for me and you.

Finally, a couple of items regarding spirituality and newcomers: How am I welcoming newcomers and what is my attitude toward them, especially diverse A.A.’s. It takes money to advance spiritual matters; am I paying my way in A.A.? Carl B. has stated, if someone is getting a free lunch in A.A., someone else is paying for it! On this topic of finance and self-support, David M., the General Service Board Treasurer gave a thorough financial presentation, in which our 7th Tradition contributions were up.

There are handouts related to the forum activities and hard copies of some of the presentations available if you are interested.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve,
Rodney S., Area 35 Webmaster

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

DETROIT LAKES OCTOBER ROUND ROBIN



SPEAKER MEETING, DINNER AND FELLOWSHIP

When
Saturday, October 14, 2017
6 PM Lasagna Dinner with
potluck side dishes
7 PM Alanon and AA Speakers
Mary F. - Waubun, MN
Marlin F. - Waubun, MN

WHERE
First Lutheran Church
912 Lake Avenue, Detroit Lakes, MN
Parking in the rear of the church off of Minnesota Ave.

ALANON SPEAKER FOLLOWED BY AA SPEAKER

POTLUCK
Please bring a side dish,
salad or other goody to
complement Lasagna
and Garlic Bread.

MAIN FLOOR MEETING

Handicap Accessible.

PARKING
Parking is in the rear of
First Lutheran Church off
of Minnesota Avenue.
You will enter in the back
door of the church.

**CAKE WILL BE
SERVED**
Following the speakers,
cake and coffee will be
served.

- Have you ever wondered...**
- Who “runs” AA? What is a GSR? What is a DCM? What is a Delegate? What is a District vs. an Area?
 - Where do my group’s 7th tradition contributions to “the entities” go?
 - Why do we have an “Intergroup” and what do they do for AA?
 - Do I have to hold a position to be of service?
 - What happens at an assembly or a forum?
 - How Can I help? What about my group?

To find out the answers to these questions and more...

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SERVICE WORKSHOP

Sponsored by The Big Lake Big Book
Study Group – ALL Are Welcome!

Saturday, October 14th, 2017
Location: Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church
440 Lake Street North
Big Lake, MN 55309

11:00 am – 11:45 am Presenter 1 – Christine G
(Area 35 Treasurer)
11:45 am – 12:30 pm Presenter 2 – Melissa A
(DCM - District 15)
12:30 pm – 1:15 pm Potluck – Bring a Dish to Share
1:15 pm – 2:00 pm Presenter 3 – Tim C
(Area 35 Past Delegate)

Questions?
Contact Skip D at 612-803-7140
Or Alan S at 612-865-8810

Founder’s Day Weekend 2017

November 24, 25 & 26, 2017

Celebrating 77 Years of AA in the Upper Midwest
and Honoring AA Members With One Year of Sobriety!

Register Online at: [www.FOUNDERSDayMN.org](http://wwwFOUNDERSDayMN.org)

Friday, November 24
4:00 PM Registration Opens
7:00 PM Celebrating the History of AA in
the Upper Midwest
9:00 PM *AA Speaker:
Georgia B. (Los Angeles, CA)

Saturday, November 25
10:30 AM Panel of Weekend Speakers
1:00 PM AA Open Call-Up Meeting
1:00 PM Al-Anon Open Meeting
3:00 PM *Al-Anon Speaker:
Chris C. (Temecula, CA)
6:00 PM Banquet
7:30 PM *AA Speaker:
Doug R. (Los Angeles, CA)
9:00 PM Dance

Sunday, November 26
9:00 AM Breakfast
10:00 AM *AA Speaker:
Bart R. (Stuart, FL)

*These meetings are ASL Interpreted

Pre-Registration \$15.00
At the Door \$18.00
Registration required and must be paid to
attend Founder’s Day Weekend events.

Banquet (Limited Seating) \$35.00
The Banquet begins at 6:00 pm Saturday
evening.

Breakfast \$15.00
The Breakfast begins at 9:00 am Sunday
morning. Theatre seating will be provided at
9:45am for the Speaker Meeting.

Big Book Study & Action Seminar
Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Founder’s Day Weekend Dance
Saturday 9:00 pm

Activities and Accommodations at
DoubleTree Bloomington - Minneapolis South - Bloomington, MN
7800 Normandale Blvd, Bloomington, MN 55439 • 952.835.7800 or 800.222.8733

Special Room Rates are available with early reservations.
Please make reservations directly with the DoubleTree Bloomington Hotel.
Indicate they are for Founder’s Day Weekend.

39th Annual

Winter Rap-Up

March 23-24, 2018

Mt Iron Community Center
8586 Enterprise Drive (South, just off Hwy 169)

“Willingness, Honesty & Open Mindedness”

Friday, March 23, 2018
7:00 pm Al-Anon Fred H St Cloud, MN
8:00 pm AA Doug H Edina, MN

Ice cream social to follow

Saturday, March 24, 2018
10-11:30 am Speaker Panel Willingness, Honesty & Open Mindedness
Lunch on your own
2-3:00 pm AA Linda H Edina, MN
Dinner on your own
7:00 pm Al-Anon Mary H Winnebago MN
8:00 pm AA Dustin L Bismark, ND
Ice cream social to follow

Holiday Inn Express Americ Inn
218-741-7411 218-741-7839 or 800-634-3444
On Hwy 169 across from Community Center
Conference rate \$100/night., reserve before 3/2 /18

Registration required; also available at the door Phone: Randy 218-225-8833 or Charlie 218-749-8714

Name: Circle one: AA Al-Anon Alateen Group name:
(as you wish it to be on name badge, list additional names on reverse)

First, last name: Phone:

Address:

Registrations (adult) x \$15 = \$ Registration (youth) x \$6 = \$

Total enclosed: \$

Please mail registration and payment to: “Winter Rap-Up,” 504 Hampshire Drive, Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750

Third Legacy Procedure

A.A.’s Third Legacy Procedure is a special type of electoral procedure, used primarily for the election of delegates and regional and at-large trustees. It is considered to be unique to A.A., and at first glance, appears to introduce a strong element of chance into a matter that should depend solely on the judgment of the majority. In practice, however, it has proved highly successful in eliminating the influence of factions or parties that seem to thrive on most political scenes. The railroading of a candidate for election is made difficult, if not impossible, since voters have a wide selection of candidates to choose from. More importantly, a second-place candidate who may be extremely well qualified but without early popular support is encouraged to stay in the balloting rather than withdraw.

Third Legacy Procedure is as follows:

- The names of eligible candidates are posted on a board. All voting members (of the area or Conference body) cast written ballots, one choice to a ballot. The tally for each candidate is posted on the board.
- The first candidate to receive two-thirds of the total vote is elected.
- Withdrawals start after the second ballot. If any candidate has less than one-fifth of the total vote, his or her name is automatically withdrawn—except that the top two candidates must remain. (In case of ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.)
- After the third ballot, candidates with less than one-third of the total vote will be withdrawn automatically, except the two top candidates remain. (In case there are ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.)
- After the fourth ballot, if no candidate has two-thirds of the total vote, the candidate with the smallest total is automatically withdrawn, except that the top two candidates remain. In case there are ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied second place candidates remain. At this point, the chairperson asks for a motion, second, and a simple majority of hands on conducting a fifth and final ballot. If this motion is defeated, balloting is over and the choice is made by lot—“going to the hat”—immediately. If the motion carries, a fifth and final ballot is conducted.
- If after the fifth ballot no election occurs, the chairperson announces that the choice will be made by lot (from the hat). At this point, the top two candidates remain. In case there are ties for first place, all tied first place candidates remain. In case there are no ties for first place, the top candidate and any tied second-place candidates remain.
- Lots are then drawn by the teller, and the first one “out of the hat” is the delegate (or trustee or other officer). delegate (or trustee or other officer).

Guardians of the Fellowship

The Guardians of the Universe are a fictional race of extraterrestrials appearing in American comic books published by DC Comics, commonly in association with The Green Lantern.

Guardians of the Galaxy is a 2014 American superhero film based on the Marvel Comics superhero team of the same name.

Guardian of our Traditions is a label often used to describe the General Service Conference. On July 3, 1955 in St. Louis, by resolution, Bill W. et al turned over the stewardship of the AA society to the movement. The Conference became the **Guardian of the Traditions** and voice of the group conscience of the entire Fellowship. The resolution was unanimously adopted by the Convention by acclamation and by the General Service Conference by formal resolution and vote. (AACOA ix, 47-48, 223-228).

Sadly, in our fellowship today I often hear individuals refer to themselves as a “Guardian of the Traditions”. Or even worse someone else conferring that label on another A.A. member. This I’m afraid is nothing more than ego and hero worship – two things that have no place in our society.

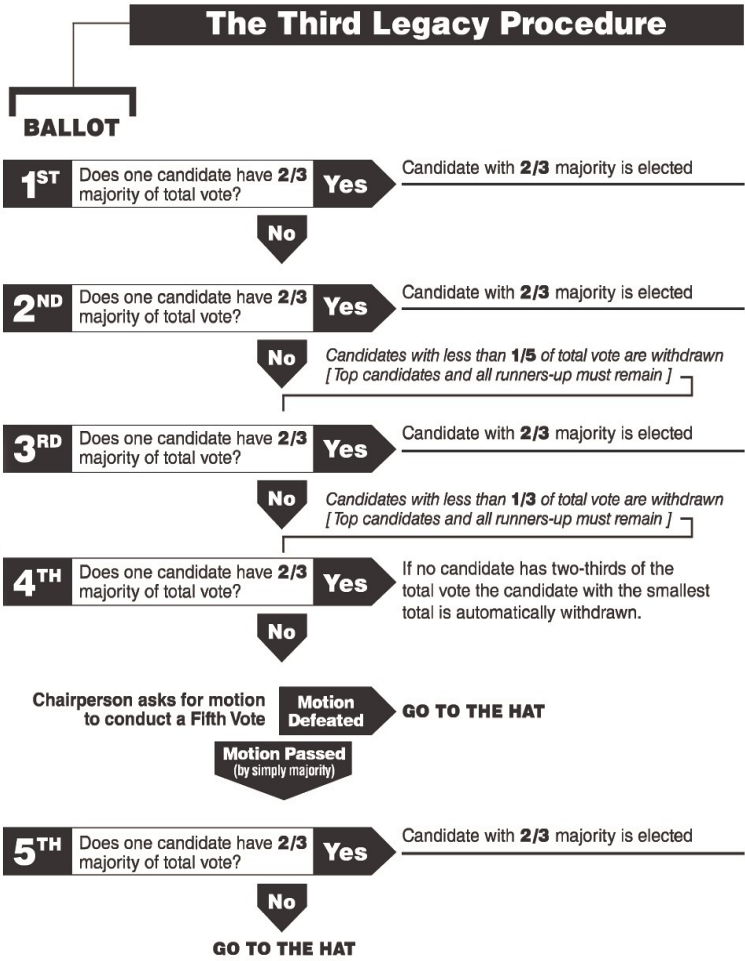
In A.A. we go to great lengths to avoid the use of titles. Although we have a DCM, PI Chair, Treatment Chair, etc., these are job descriptions and not job titles. We do not use titles like ISO 9001 Certified or “Guardian of the Traditions” to describe individuals. Ours is a society of equals.

This label of Guardian of the Traditions was meant for the General Service Conference. Let’s leave it for this body that is made of more than a hundred individuals from across the U.S. and Canada.

Lastly, let’s remember the wise counsel given to us in our eleventh tradition... “This tradition is a constant and practical reminder that personal ambition has no place in A.A. In it, each member becomes an active guardian of our Fellowship”. (pg. 183 in Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions)

Guardian of the fellowship is call to action not a title.

J.D (TNYPAA Dist. 13)



(Continued from page 8 - What did I do at the Forum)
an interpreter. Could any of us afford \$40 a meeting just to be able to attend AA. A group in District 8 Area 36 came up with the idea of a Green Can, which is similar to the pink can for prisons/jails. It seems the big issue is always the cost, why does some have to have a low price to get recovery? The other woman, Miranda, lived in Rochester, then the cities, went to meeting in the cities. There is now a meeting daily, she attended. Miranda then moved back to Rochester and she received a culture shock, there were no meetings. She is working on that. I do not know of any ASL meetings in Area 35.

The other session I attended was Our Connection to Veterans. We discussed a couple of questions, What challenges we face reaching our veterans & Grapevines in the VA-send a gift subscription. For the challenges we face reaching veterans, the discussion was long, we had many veterans in our session, some with war history some without. A big obstacle is veterans are to proud to admit they need help. PTSD is a huge part of some veterans, not all veterans have PTSD. One veteran stated his alcoholism did not cause PTSD nor did PTSD cause his alcoholism. We need more veterans helping veterans, based on relating to some of the same outside issues. Alcoholics Anonymous can only help with alcoholism. Grapevine to veterans, simply send a gift subscription to a VA hospital, living facilities. Even perhaps old grapevines there as well. Someone mentioned Racks and pamphlets in the VA’s.

Thank you, Area 35 for allowing me to serve..... Gayle R.

AREA 35 EVENTS

- ◆ Area Chair calls to cancel and/or re-schedule.
- ◆ Based on DOT report, national weather service, individual safety being paramount
- ◆ Chair asks for weather reports from all DCM’s from respective districts either by email or phone for those that don’t have computers.
- ◆ Chair notifies the Alano society in Aitkin on food preparations and possible re-schedule to following Sunday.
- ◆ Chair contacts webmaster results put on Area 35.org and reschedule date and time.
- ◆ Districts contact their DCM in inclement weather for updates on cancellation.
- ◆ Post procedure in Northern Lights.
- ◆ Chair remains available and in close contact as he or she is the focal point and main contact; he or she must make the decision, and be available for calls.

NORTHERN LIGHT PRIMARY PURPOSE:

The Northern Light (N.L.), is a general service newsletter that serves Area 35 to facilitate bilateral communication between the groups, districts, Area and G.S.O. levels in the Northern Minnesota area. Its purpose is to:

- ◆ Publish an informative and attractive newsletter to the Area in a timely fashion.
- ◆ Encourage District reports and be available to work with Districts on communications. One or more of the N.L. Committee should try to attend area events to report on what’s happening in their areas. If they are unable to attend, encourage local members to write short articles about events and happenings to be published in the N.L.
- ◆ Provide encouragement for writing articles, particularly to

D.C.M.s and Area Action Committee Chairs. This should include the strong encouragement to submit their reports for each issue, if no report is submitted it will be stated, example “Northern Light Report - NOT GIVEN” this is currently being done in the Southern Minnesota Area newsletter.

- ◆ Keep informed of activities and issues going on within Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. The N.L. Committee could subscribe the Grapevine or other pertinent A.A. news sources.
- ◆ Gather useful service information to publish from sources within the Area, Region and A.A. as a whole. Obtain, read and use other Area newsletters.
- ◆ Listen to comments from the Area on the content of the N.L.

EDITORIAL POSITION & N.L. COMMITTEE:

Editor - The Editorial Chair position is a two-year rotation picked by the incoming Area Chair and either approved or rejected by the Area Committee at the first Area meeting after the Fall Assembly Elections.

Desirable qualifications: Current or past working knowledge of the printing business. Knowledge of current computer printing programs. The person should also consider the time needed to complete the task required. The candidate should have a working knowledge of A.A. as a whole, i.e., prior experience in service work such as G.S.R., D.C.M., or related position.

N.L. COMMITTEE - The N.L. Committee consists of two D.C.M.s in Area 35. Currently, these have been picked randomly at the start of the new rotation. They also serve on a two-year rotation basis. They assist the editor in communications with other area newsletters, in recommendations on general improvements, and with general problems and implementations of new policies. They may also represent the editor at functions when the editor is unable to attend. Seek advice and help from former N.L. Committee members and editors.

N.L. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

The Committee meets every other month, before the start of the Area Workshop and at Spring and Fall Assemblies. Additional meetings may be called for if needed between these times.

NORTHERN LIGHT SUBMISSIONS:

General submissions to the *Northern Light* are very welcome! Feel free to send letters or articles that are pertinent to Alcoholics Anonymous. However, please note that if space is limited, first priority will be given to reports from Area Officers, Area Standing Committee Chairs and D.C.M.s from Area 35.

Submissions are preferred electronically using a Word or WordPad document to the Area’s newsletter e-mail address: northernlight@area35.org. Most other file formats can also be accepted. You may also send articles or letters to my postal address, listed on page 2. The deadline for each Issue is printed on the front page.

Letters to the Editor or opinion articles should have a title. They also **can not be anonymous**. Please include the first name, last initial and name of the city where the author is from. If you have any questions regarding submitting an item for the *Northern Light*, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you!

Northern Light Editor,
Steven L.

Directions for Inserting a Flier into the Northern Light

1. First & Foremost **Contact the Northern Light Editor** at northernlight@area35.org or call the phone number listed on page 3 of the hard copy, print version of the Northern Light, for the Northern Light Editor (remember this will change every 2 year rotation).
2. Email a pdf version of your flier to northernlight@area35.org for approval. Upon approval a copy will be forwarded to the webmaster to be placed on the Area 35 websites calendar of events.
3. Upon approval mail to :
Cold Spring Record
PO Box 456
403 West Wind Court
Cold Spring, MN 56320
With an attn.: Northern Light on the mailing address
Include a note stating they are to be inserted into the next Northern Light
4. **OR** if you wish to have Cold Spring Record print your fliers to be inserted into the Northern Light. The NL Editor will forward a copy of the pdf flier to Cold Spring Record, along with your printing instructions (paper color, one or two sided printing). Currently there are 1000 copies printed with @620 pieces to mail. What is not mailed is passed out at the Area meetings.
5. The cost for having a flier inserted into the Northern Light is \$75. Make Checks payable to NMAA and mail to :

NMAA
PO Box 401
Becker, MN 55308

Number of Copies	Printing Costs		Insertion Fee	Total Cost
	1 Sided	2 Sided		
625	\$ 48	\$ 60	\$ 75	\$ 183
1000	\$ 80	\$ 120	\$ 75	\$ 275



RELATED FLIER INSERTION INFORMATION

- ◆ Only Area 35 A.A. Members may submit a flier. Fliers must be only for A.A. Sponsored Events.
- ◆ Fliers needed—625 mailed only or 1000 for mailed and hand outs.

Northern Light Deadlines for 2017 are as Follows:

- ◆ January 30th : Flier will be included in the January/February Issue
- ◆ March 6th : Flier will be included in the March/April Issue
- ◆ May 1st : Flier will be included in the May/June Issue
- ◆ July 10th : Flier will be included in the July/August Issue
- ◆ September 5th : Flier will be included in the September/October Issue
- ◆ November 6th : Flier will be included in the November/December Issue

OUR PAST DELEGATES

Panel 64 Michael “Jake J.	2014-1015	Panel 34 Bob P.	1984-1985	Panel 12 Donna T. (deceased)	1962-1963
Panel 62 Jim K.	2012-2013	Panel 32 Tom L.	1982-1983		
Panel 60 Jon C.	2010-2011	Panel 30 Don M. (deceased)	1981-1982	Panel 10 Bob B. (deceased)	1960-1961
Panel 58 JoAnne M. N.	2008-2009			Panel 8 Pearl N. (deceased)	1958-1959
Panel 56 Jerry S.	2006-2007	Panel 28 Garfield (Duffy) S. (deceased)	1978-1979		
Panel 54 Charlie C.	2004-2005	Panel 26 Vern R. (deceased)	1976-1977	Panel 6 Waldo H. (deceased)	1956-1957
Panel 52 Tim C.	2002-2003			Panel 4 Wendell H. (deceased)	1954-1955
Panel 50 Tom A.	2000-2001	Panel 24 Gordon B. H.	1974-1975		
Panel 48 Susie A.	1998-1999	Panel 22 Frank P. J. (deceased)	1972-1973	Panel 2 Arthur R. (deceased)	1952-1953
Panel 46 Bill P. (deceased)	1996-1997	Panel 20 Clarence B. (deceased)	1970-1971		
Panel 44 Bruce B.	1994-1995				
Panel 42 Greg Gits (deceased)	1992-1993	Panel 18 Dave H. (deceased)	1968-1969		
Panel 40 Bob J.	1990-1991	Panel 16 Arno A. (deceased)	1966-1967		
Panel 38 Scott J.	1988-1989	Panel 14 Donald F. (deceased)	1964-1965		
Panel 36 Louie H.	1986-1987				

Q: Why list our past Delegates?

A: They are a resource to you!

In Alcoholics Anonymous we value experience. Our Twelve Steps did not exist when Bill stepped into the lobby of a hotel in Akron, Ohio. Even after meeting with Dr. Bob and soon founding our program, there were only six steps until the experiences of 100 Alcoholics were summed up. Soon after a book followed, but it was a few years later when the Twelve Traditions were discussed and agreed on. Twelve Traditions that were “hammered out on the anvil of experience”. Our past Delegates are a wealth of experience, an interactive living archive if you will. When you plan your next service workshop or need an outside voice to offer help, consider this resource available to you. Some of them even offer great company while fishing!

The Delegate’s Duties

<p>Though the high point is the Conference meeting, the delegate’s job goes on year-round and involves all aspects of the Conference structure. The delegate should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Attend the Conference meeting in April, fully prepared. Immediately upon election, every delegate is put on the G.S.O. mailing list to receive Conference materials.Communicate the actions of the Conference to area committee members and encourage them to pass on this information, and the delegate’s enthusiasm, to groups and to intergroups/central offices. If an area is too large for the delegate to cover in person, he or she will ask area officers and committee members to share the load.Be prepared to attend all area, state/provincial, and regional service meetings and assemblies. From these meetings, delegates come to better understand their own areas and can make suggestions for the Conference agenda. Here, too, they come in contact with A.A. members who might not be reached otherwise.Help area committees obtain financial support for the area and G.S.O.Provide leadership in solving local problems involving the A.A. Traditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Remind G.S.R.s to inform groups and individuals about the A.A. Grapevine and Conference-approved literature.Cooperate with G.S.O. in obtaining information—for example, making sure that up-to-date information reaches G.S.O. in time to meet the deadline for each Issue of the A.A. directory and helping carry out the triennial membership surveys.Visit groups and districts in the area whenever possible.Work closely with committee members and officers, sharing experience throughout the year. After G.S.R.s and committee members have reported on the Conference, learn from these A.A.s how groups and members have reacted.Assume added responsibility if the area chair and alternate chair are unable to serve. Or, if an area committee is not functioning effectively, the delegate may take an active role in remedying the situation.Keep the alternate delegate fully informed and active, so that the alternate can replace the delegate in an emergency.Late in the second term, work with newly elected delegates to pass along a basic knowledge of Conference proceedings and problems.
<i>(from The A.A. Service Manual, pages S44-S45)</i>	

Twelve Concepts for World Service (Short Form)

- I. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

II. The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.

III. To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.”

IV. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in a reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

V. Throughout our structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.

VI. The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.

VII. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon traditional and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.
- VIII. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

IX. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

X. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

XI. The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

XII. The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous (Long Form)

- Our A.A. experience has taught us that:*

 - Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.
 - For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.
 - Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.
 - With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.
 - Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose—that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.
 - Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A.—and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one.
 - The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source,
- or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

 - Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those services for which we may otherwise have to engage nonalcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. "12 Step" work is never to be paid for.
 - Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our over-all public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.
 - No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues—particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.
 - Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.
 - And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.

**Area 35 Fall Assembly
Hibbing, MN
October 7th & 8th, 2017**

AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m. Registration
- 10:00 a.m. GSR Orientation & Action Chair Committee Meetings
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch (On Your Own)

1:00 p.m. Assembly Convenes

- Call to Order-Open with the Serenity Prayer
- Why We Need a Conference
- Recognize Past Delegates
- Recognize GSRs
- Add to Agenda
- Approve 2017 Spring Assembly Minutes

OFFICER REPORTS

- Delegate – Kelly D.
- Alternate Delegate – Roger R.
- Chair – Jim S.
- Secretary – Rillis E.
- Treasurer – Christine G.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS & DCM REPORTS

- CPC – Jim T.
- District 1 – Leslie H.
- District 21 – Jeff L.
- WEBMASTER - Rodney S.
- LITERATURE – Skip D.
- District 11 - Cindy K.
- District 7 – Liz L.
- NORTHERN LIGHT – Steve L.
- GROUP RECORDS – Bob B.
- District 14 – Paul E.
- District 6 - Renell P.
- TREATMENT – Gayle R.
- District 18 – William BR B.
- District 12 – Steve E.
- ARCHIVIST – Brad I.
- ARCHIVES – Steve D.
- District 8 – Scott M.
- District 4 – Greg C.
- CORRECTIONS – Servando M.
- District 2 – Myron H.
- District 13 – Sean S.
- District 15 – Melissa A.

- PI – Mark N.
- District 9 – Cathy R.
- District 5 – Jon S.
- Grapevine – Paul M.
- District 3 – Brian P.
- District 16 – Mike F.

2:30 p.m. BREAK

2:45 p.m. Continue with Committee/DCM reports

4:00 p.m. BREAK

4:10 p.m. Brad I. History

4:50 p.m. BREAK

5:00 p.m.

- GSR Sharing Session
- DCM Sharing Session
- Area Officers and Area Chairs Meet
- Open AA Meeting

6:00 P.M. Dinner (On Your Own)

- 7:30 p.m. Gayle R. Treatment
- 8:15 p.m. Bob B.AA meeting locator
- 9:10 p.m. Ice Cream social

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8th, 2017

- 7:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. Big Book Meeting
- 9:00 a.m. Assembly Reconvenes

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- Brad I., Archivist, PA person
- GSR Sharing Session Report
- DCM Sharing Session Report
- Statewide Joint Corrections Report
- Elections for: Delegate, Alt. Delegate, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chair
- Calendar of Events
- Ask It Basket (Past Delegates)
- Adjourn

**Mail Area 35 Group contributions to: NMAA
PO Box 401
Becker, MN 55308**