



Deadline for the Next
Northern Light is
July 9, 2018

This is YOUR Newsletter



Send articles and comments for publication to

Steven L. — northernlight@area35.org

Bring this copy to share with your Group!

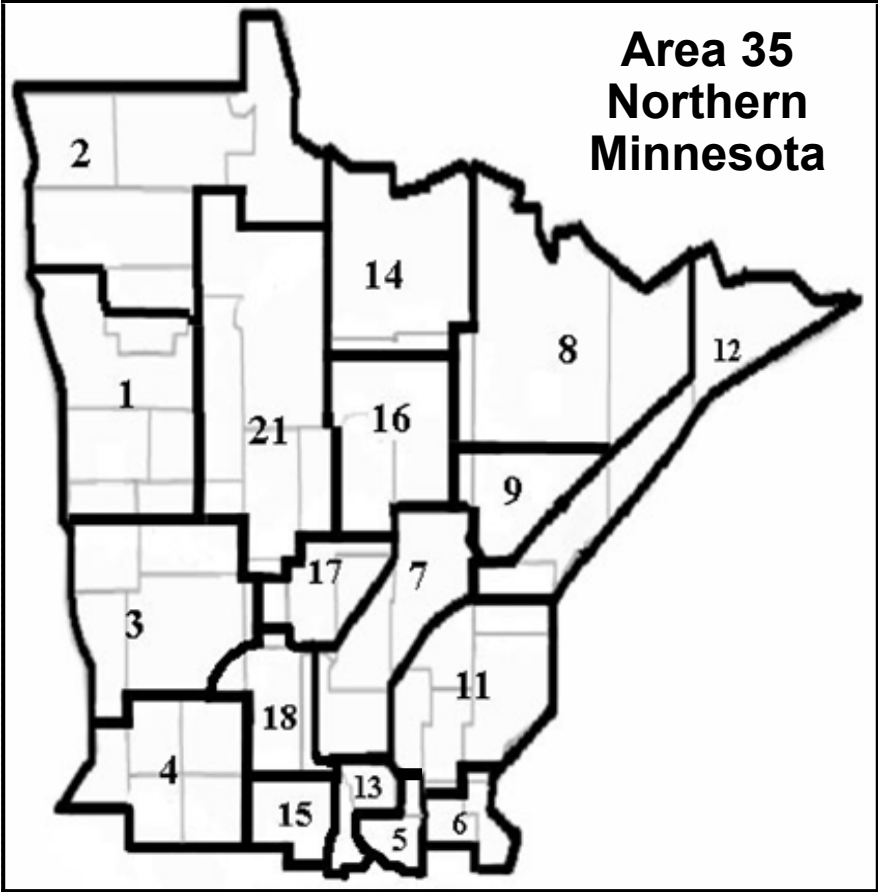
Don't forget to visit and bookmark your Area 35 web site! - <http://area35.org>
Event Calendar - Meeting Directory - NL Online - Download Pamphlets - District Pages - Links to Other Sites

2018 AREA 35 COMMITTEE

<p><u>AREA OFFICERS</u></p> <p><u>DELEGATE</u> Christine G. delegate@area35.org</p> <p><u>ALTERNATE DELEGATE</u> Jim S. alt_delegate@area35.org</p> <p><u>AREA CHAIR</u> Roger R. areachair@area35.org</p> <p><u>TREASURER</u> Mike F. treasurer@area35.org</p> <p><u>SECRETARY</u> Melissa A. secretary@area35.org</p>	<p><u>AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRS</u></p> <p><u>PUBLIC INFORMATION</u> Gayle R. pi@area35.org</p> <p><u>ARCHIVES</u> Scott M. archives@area35.org</p> <p><u>ARCHIVIST</u> Steve D. archivist@area35.org</p> <p><u>CORRECTIONS</u> Paul M. corrections@area35.org</p> <p><u>LITERATURE</u> Brian P. literature@area35.org</p> <p><u>GRAPEVINE</u> Jerry B. grapevine@area35.org</p> <p><u>(C.P.C.) COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY</u> Myron H. cpc@area35.org</p> <p><u>TREATMENT</u> Kathy R. treatment@area35.org</p> <p><u>WEBMASTER</u> Rillis E. webmaster@area35.org</p> <p><u>GROUP RECORDS</u> Sally L. grouprecords@area35.org</p> <p><u>NORTHERN LIGHT</u> Steven L. northernlight@area35.org</p> <p><u>FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE</u> Michael “Jake” J.</p> <p><u>AUDIO ENGINEER</u> Mike P.</p>	<p><u>(D.C.M.’s) DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS</u></p> <p><u>DISTRICT 1</u> NO INFO dcm1@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 2</u> NO INFO dcm2@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 3</u> Kevin K. dcm3@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 4</u> Greg C. dcm4@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 5</u> Skip D. dcm5@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 6</u> Sharna O.-J. dcm6@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 7</u> Bob B. dcm7@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 8</u> Heidi B. dcm8@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 9</u> Jim S. dcm9@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 11</u> Cindy S.-K. dcm11@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 12</u> Richard G. dcm12@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 13</u> Justin W. dcm13@area35.org</p>	<p><u>DISTRICT 14</u> Paul E. dcm14@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 15</u> Matthew B. dcm15@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 16</u> Glenn M. dcm16@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 17</u> NO INFO dcm17@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 18</u> William “BR” B. dcm18@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 21</u> Laura C. dcm21@area35.org</p>	
				<p>MOVING? ADDRESS NOT CORRECT?</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Please contact our Group Records Secretary with your new or changed address: GroupRecords@area35.org</p>

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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, North Branch, Rock Creek, Stacy, St. Francis, Rush City
- District 7** - Aitkin, Baxter, Brainerd, Fort Ripley, Garrison, Ironton, Isle, Little Falls*, Malmo, McGregor*, Palisade, Pierz, Pilager*, Wahkon
- District 11** - Finlayson*, Grasston, Henriette, Hinckley*, Lake Lena, Moose Lake*, Mora, Ogilvie, Pine City, Quamba, Sandstone, Willow River
- 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

<p><u>District 1</u></p> <p>2nd Sunday of even months, 2:00 p.m. Fertile Community Center 101 S. Mill St., Fertile, MN 56540</p> <p><u>District 2</u></p> <p>2nd Sunday of Odd Months, 2:00 p.m. First Lutheran Church 210 Park Ave. N. Middle River, MN 56737</p> <p><u>District 3</u></p> <p>3rd Sunday of Month, 10:00 a.m. Alano Club 827 Summit Avenue Detroit Lakes, MN 56501</p> <p><u>District 4</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p><u>District 5</u></p> <p>3rd Monday of Month, 7 p.m. Freshwaters Church 12475 273rd Ave NW Zimmerman, MN 55398</p> <p><u>District 6</u></p> <p>3rd Thursday of Month, 7:30 p.m. Spring Lake Lutheran Church 8440 Erickson Rd. N.E. North Branch, MN 55056</p>	<p><u>District 7</u></p> <p>3rd Thursday of Month, 7:00 p.m. First Congregational United Church 415 Juniper Street Brainerd, MN 56401</p> <p><u>District 8</u></p> <p>Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m. General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Contact DCM for location “It Rotates”</p> <p><u>District 9</u></p> <p>Last Sunday of Month, 6:00 p.m. Hibbing Alano Club 3725 1st Avenue Hibbing, MN 55746</p> <p><u>District 11</u></p> <p>1st Tuesday of Month, 7:00 p.m. Peace Lutheran 2177 Hwy 18 Finlayson, MN 55735</p> <p><u>District 12</u></p> <p>3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30 p.m. Contact DCM for meeting location (It Rotates)</p> <p><u>District 13</u></p> <p>1st Monday of Month, 7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. St. Cloud Alano Club 127 7th Ave. NE Saint Cloud, MN 56301</p>	<p><u>District 14</u></p> <p>3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30pm District Meeting Coffee Landing 444 3rd Street International Falls, MN 56649</p> <p><u>District 15</u></p> <p>1st Monday of Month, 8:00 p.m. Albany Community Center 741 Lake Ave. Albany, MN 56307</p> <p><u>District 16</u></p> <p>1st Wednesday of Month, 6:30 p.m. United Methodist Church 1701 S.E. 5th Ave. Grand Rapids, MN 55744 Handicap Accessible, Non-Smoking</p> <p><u>District 18</u></p> <p>1st Tuesday of Month, 6:30 p.m. Long Prairie Alano Club 21 2nd Ave. Long Prairie, MN 56347</p> <p><u>District 21</u></p> <p>2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m. Bemidji Alano Club 3802 Greenleaf Ave NW Bemidji, MN 56601</p> <p><u>District 17</u></p> <p>Not currently active or unknown</p>
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Delegate:

Greetings Area 35,

I would like to thank all of you for a fantastic assembly and I am filled with gratitude for all of you who participated to send me to New York with an informed group conscience. We had a great turn out and awesome participation. I am typing this report while I am sitting at the airport to return home from the General Service Conference. It has been very busy for me since the West Central Regional Conference.

I will not report on the conference in this report because I will be dedicating time to visit your Districts and present on it at that time. I am excited to share my experience with all of you. It was an amazing week working with people who love Alcoholic Anonymous as much as you and I. If you have not scheduled your time, please send me an email and let's see what we can come up with.

Here is a list of dates and times Districts that have scheduled my GSC Delegate report. My first report given will be in Brainerd at 6pm (potluck). Let's fill the room. 😊

Dist 7 Dist 18	5/17/2018	6pm	1st Congregational Church 415 Juniper St., Brainerd
Dist 4	5/19/2018	4:30pm	Glenwood Lutheran Church 206 MN Avenue East, Glenwood
Dist 13 Dist 15	6/4/2018	7:30pm	St. Cloud, Location TBD
Dist 8 Dist 9 Dist 16	6/9/2018	1pm	Hibbing Alano Club 3725 1st Avenue, Hibbing
Dist 12	8/16/2018	6:30pm	Cloquet Alano Club 103 10th St., Cloquet
Dist 3	8/18/2018	TBD	Detroit Lakes City Park
Dist 1 Dist 2 Dist 14 Dist 21	No Date or time set		

Watch the Area Calendar for TBD

I will let you know that our General Service Board Chair, Michelle G., expressed her sincere apologies for the discord and lack of trust that was created with the manuscript litigation. I also want to report that I feel the Board hears your concerns. They brought to our attention that there is a website called alcoholicsanonymous.com that is using our name and is implying inaccurate information about our fellowship. The Board asked us to bring this back to our Areas and ask how you would like them to handle. Right now, they will send a letter of Cease and Desist to the operators and see if they will take the website down from that domain. So, please talk with your district and groups about this and get a conscience about how you would like to the Board handle this situation and others that may be similar in nature.

I would also like to draw your attention to the YouTube site and I would like you to notice the additions to the video that plays at the beginning and at the end. Please share this with your groups and let's continue to have conversations about this. I would also like you to think about ways that we can use technology to carry the message.

I have recently renewed my Grapevine subscription and I use the GV App. This is so cool because I can listen to the stories when I'm on the go or going work around the house. I would like to encourage everyone to get a subscription to support this wonderful magazine. You also have access to the archives of Grapevines. Remember, that the Grapevine received their support through contributions and it is our duty, as a fellowship, to make sure that we are contributing to the Grapevine if we find the magazine valuable in carrying the message.

This is a short report because I will be reporting on the Conference during my GSC Report with your districts.

I look forward to sharing this wonderful experience with all of you and I hope that you can find a time and location to come listen to the information.

In Love and Service,
Christine G.
Area 35 / Panel 68 Delegate

"All AA progress can be reckoned in terms of just two words: humility and responsibility."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., January 1966,
"The Guidance of AA's World Affairs", The Language of the Heart

Alt. Delegate:

Hello Everyone,

I wanted to say what a great Spring Assembly we had this past April. I can't believe the turn out. It was truly wonderful to see so many people turn out. While these events may get long it was fun to see how many people got involved with the discussions. Thanks to everyone that volunteered their time to help make this a great event. I look forward to seeing that many people at the Fall Assembly this October.

What I have been up to since the Assembly is working with Christine in getting ready for the Annual Service Conference next March in Moorhead. Christine and I had a phone call to start to get an idea of what positions will be needed to complete this event. So far, Kelly D. has agreed to put together the programs for the conference as there are two, one for the agenda and one for the listing of service officers from each Area. Thomas H., a young man I know from my Sunday night meeting is going to be setting up the website for people to register and pay for the event. I have heard that Steve L. is open to the idea of being Treasurer and will be discussing that with him. I attended one of our local active meetings to discuss the need for volunteers and got quite a few names of people willing to help out. Based upon what I saw the this year's conference we would need four people at registration at one time, two people at each door of the conference as greeters and two people at the entrance(s) of the hotel not near the registration table to help direct people. I have talked with Brien P. our Area Literature chair about having a literature display and with Steve D. our Area Archivist about him and the Archives Committee having a display as well. There are many more items that will need to be addressed and I am certain there will be the people to help out. If you are interested in helping out please feel free to email, call or grab me whenever you see me.

In Service,
Jim S.
Area 35 Alternate Delegate

Area Chair:

Greetings Area 35 of Northern MN,

Thank you again, for the many opportunities you have given me, to be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous as your Area Chair for 2018-2019. My top priority is to assist you as members, GSR's, DCM's, Area Chairs and Officers in carrying our AA message to those who are out there and still suffering from alcoholism, in the Northern half of Minnesota. All of your service work is vital in achieving this important goal.

I am pleased to report on a very successful Area 35 Spring Assembly held on April 7-8 in Alexandria, MN, with 160 in attendance. At this Assembly, we prepared Christine G., our Delegate, on our area's group conscience regarding the agenda items that were discussed and voted on to take to the General Service Conference. We also conducted Area Officer and Chair Reports and DCM reports. Both DCM's and GSR's also met in sharing sessions. The 2018 Area 35 budget was also approved at this assembly. I would again like to thank Greg C. for providing volunteers from District 4 for registration and coffee vending throughout the weekend.

I will be sharing my report on the Spring Assembly evaluations at the June Area Committee Meeting in Aitkin, MN.

Please encourage members of your districts to attend Christine's upcoming Delegate Reports on the General Service Conference. Her experience at this conference is one of the highlights of our year in Area 35.

If I can be of service to your District, please feel free to call on me.

In service,
Roger R.
Area 35 Chair

Secretary:

Greetings Area 35,

I hope that everyone has been doing well since we were all together at the Spring Assembly. I had an amazing time. I think it was absolutely wonderful how many people were in attendance. I loved everyone's input on the agenda items and I took a lot of notes. If I were to publish all of those notes in the Northern Light we would have the largest Northern Light of all time. So instead, I shared what agenda items we voted on, if Northern Minnesota voted yes or no on how they would like Christine to vote when she is at the General Service Conference. If anyone is interested in the complete notes that I took please send me an email and I can forward them to you.

Thank you all for your service. I look forward to seeing you at the Aitkin Committee Meeting in June.

Yours in service,
Melissa A.
Area 35 Secretary

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Treasurer:

Greetings from your Area Treasurer. It is an honor and a privilege to serve you.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend our spring assembly this year due to the unexpected death of my brother in Pompano Beach, Florida. I was able to provide for the assembly all the usual reports, supplies and materials associated with my duties as treasurer. Thanks to Bruce M. from my district who transported everything to/from the assembly, and thank you to everyone, especially Roger, Christine, and Jim, who stepped in to fulfill my obligations in my absence.

Now that the budget has been passed at the assembly, I will create the annual budget for 2017 in QuickBooks. Future income/expense/contribution statements will include these figures for comparison with actual costs. The officers and committee chairs will be turning in their 2018 proposed budget at the next ACM in June, and will be discussed and approved at the fall assembly.

Speaking of QuickBooks, I will be upgrading our accounting system to either the online version or the 2018 desktop version. The purchase will be made via TechSoup, a supplier of business software to non-profit groups at significant discount. The online version currently costs \$50 per year, whereas the desktop version involves a one-time only fee of \$50.

Since my last report, I have:

- Mailed out 125 contribution acknowledgments to the groups
- Reconciled two monthly bank statements and created reports for review by the Financial Oversight Committee
- Deposited all contributions received as of May 7th
- Paid all expenses received as of May 7th
- Completed a balance sheet and income/expense/contribution statement for Period 2 (2/16/18 – 3/31/18).

Our checking and savings accounts currently have a combined total balance of \$18,907.43. Year-to-date total income and expenses are \$15,841 and \$21,924, respectively. Although our expenses are currently exceeding our income, note that at this point in time we have already paid the expenses for 3 of the 4 annual meetings (service workshop, regional service conference, spring assembly, and fall assembly) at which we incur the most travel, meal and lodging expenses.

Year-to-date group contributions for 2018 and 2017 are \$12,237 and \$7,487, respectively. That is quite an increase over last year!

The Income and Expense Trend charts shown below compare income to expenses for each month in 2017 and 2018:



"When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts, we are only being prudent. But when we are generous with the hat we give a token that we are grateful for our blessings and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all those who still suffer."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., November 1957
"Respecting Money," The Language of the Heart



Please note that the new address for mailing contributions is:

NMAA

Grand Rapids, MN 55744-0114

Please remember to include your group service number on all contributions. This will ensure that your contributions get credited to your group.

I have noticed that most contributions do include it and that makes my job a lot easier. Thank you!

Thank you for your continued support of Area 35, and thank you for the opportunity to for me to serve Alcoholics Anonymous.

In Service,
Mike F.
Area 35 Treasurer

Archives:

Greetings Area 35,

Wow! Seems as the busiest time of year for AA General Service is starting to slow up a bit. From the start of the rotation with our Area Workshop to the WCRAASC to Spring Assembly, it has seemingly been nonstop! What a blessing it has been to participate in the discussion of our Agenda items for the conference. I heard so many good ideas and thoughts that concern our fellowship.

I believe this is one of the greatest things we possess in AA aside from our Twelve Step work, is watching God work through each of us as we form a group conscience. I surely am grateful to be a part of all of it in Area 35 and look forward to continuing to serve.

As I write this, we are about away from our first Archives workday in St. Cloud!

It's sure to be a learning experience, and if you are interested in learning more, join us at our next workday TBD!

Yours in Service,
Scott M.
Area 35 Archives Chair

Archivist:

Greetings from your Archivist.

At the Spring Assembly, I met with our Area Archives Committee. We discussed moving the Archives and came to a consensus to leave the Archives in its current location. This will help facilitate the cataloging and organizing our current Archive material.

The Archives committee has agreed to help with the herculean task. We will meet once per quarter to complete this task. Thanks to Scott M. and everyone on the Archives Committee for helping.

As Archivist, my primary goal for this year is to make the information we have in our Archives available to all AA members in the Area. To accomplish this task, I will begin to develop a list of documents, pictures and other information that can be provided electronically.

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I also have been attending Northern Minnesota AA events at their request. It is apparent there is definitely an interest in our history. It is rewarding to have members of the fellowship appreciate our past and learning how we can use that experience, strength and hope to continue to carry the message.

If you have an event that you would like an Archives Display, please contact me and I will put it on my calendar. There is no charge for the display, however, we do ask that you cover travel, lodging and meals.

Lastly, I challenge all DCMs to encourage your district to have an Archives Chair. Our Area Chair, Scott M. is very active and passionate about Archives. We have a very engaged committee at this time. Also, I challenge all districts and groups to either complete a group history form or update their current one. I am always willing to provide guidance. Think also about getting your “old timers” to provide an oral history of their time in AA.

Yours in Service
Steve D.
Area 35 Archivist

Cooperation with the Professional Community:

Happy spring,

My name is Myron H. and I am an alcoholic. Currently I am serving as CPC chair. There is a preliminary plan to present a workshop at one of our districts. Details are being discussed at the district meeting today. CPC is a spinoff committee from Public Information and we hold joint meetings at the Area level. I can be contacted through the CPC email published in the Northern Light. As I live in the farming community of Hallock, this time of year is intense, working sunup to sundown. By reading AA literature before heading out in the morning keeps me focused on a useful life purpose and supports a positive attitude.

I got a postcard from New York from our current Delegate! Very thoughtful and boosted my service enthusiasm. We are blessed in Area 35 with wonderful people.

Yours in service,
Myron H.
Area 35 CPC Chair

Corrections:

Greetings Everyone,

I attended the 35/36 statewide Corrections meeting we discussed a lot of things about transition fairs. I have a lot of work to do to help and get these set up and for temporary contacts for inmates getting out of correctional facilities. I'm not able to attend orientation at Sandstone due to a vacation that was planned.

After a long dreary winter, I hope you are enjoying the summer! Oh wait I forgot I'm in Arizona it's going to be 100° tomorrow!

I look forward to the June Area Committee meeting.

Yours in service,
Paul M.
Area 35 Corrections Chair

Grapevine:

Hi, I'm Jerry B. & I'm an alcoholic.

Our Delegate Christine G. has passed on some information from our West Central Trustee Tom A. asking us for some ideas on how to get more people interested in the Grapevine Subscription challenge. At the Area Assembly breakout session attended by nine people representing five Districts we came up with a few.

1. Ask individuals & groups to subscribe if not already doing so.
2. Districts should keep a supply of subscription forms on hand & put them on tables at district events. Area 35 has some on hand & are available.
3. Subscriptions are a good idea for door prizes.
4. Grapevine writer workshops (formats are available).
5. Challenge others to see who can become a "published" author in the Grapevine magazine.
6. When you DCM's go to various meetings take your Grapevine chair along when feasible.

Subscriptions are down a little in the last few years, let's all work together & see if we can turn this slump around. Any and all suggestions are welcome. They will be passed on to Christine as soon as possible. Sales at the Spring Assembly were around \$180. If you/group/districts would like to place a Grapevine order, please let me know two weeks in advance of Area functions.

Don't forget the Grapevine Workshop held in District 12 May 19th

Yours in service,
Jerry B.
Area 35 Grapevine Chair

Group Records:

Greetings, Area 35!

I have been busy with updating groups and individuals in the Fellowship New Vision (FNV) database. After the last issue of the Northern Light was issued, I received forty returns as undeliverable mail, which was partly due to the fact that the mailing list used was outdated. The database had not been updated in a little while. After this issue, there should be far fewer returns. Please remember to update your group contact mailing information if there are any changes. Any individuals who wish to receive the Northern Light can sign up by sending an email with contact information to grouprecords@area35.org.

I met with Bob B. and Rillis E. on April 28th to learn more about the database, aaMinnesota.org, and the Northern Light mailing list. Active groups are used to update the aaMinnesota.org website, which is where people can go to find meetings. A group cannot be listed as active unless it has a contact person. If you want people to find your meeting, please send me the contact information for at least one person. That person does not have to be a GSR.

I met with Val P. from Area 36 on April 25th to get to know her and to discuss how we cooperate with each other about updating the aaMinnesota.org website. We exchange information on a regular basis, and she will provide an updated Area 36 database once a month so I can upload it and Area 35's database to the meeting locator. The database was successfully updated on April 28th.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Sally L.
Area 35 Group Records Secretary

Literature:

Greetings,

I finally got an account set up for my Area 35 Literature / Area 35 Northern Minnesota. I had originally set up an account under my name. Then I got checks made out to Area 35 Literature (makes sense). I needed an account set up under Area 35 Literature so I could cash them. My bank would not open an account with that name on it from the paper work I got from Mike F. I did check with another bank I work with and they did help me out.

I have also got my Area 35 Literature account set up with New York. Again a couple hours on the phone and we got it straightened out. Now I can place my orders after hours and online. Very slick.

If you register as an AA member and set up an account. You are not privileged to all the material that is available. Especially the free stuff!!

Best way to get your orders is to send an email to the Area 35 Literature account.

Yours in Service,
Brian P.
Area 35 Literature Chair

Northern Light:

Howdy Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have a great start on collecting early years of the Northern Light. A big thank you goes out to Suzy A. for sending me the two years of NL's she had while being the NL editor and to Butch R. Who came across a years' worth found in there groups storage area in the church where they hold their meeting.

Here is a list of issues I'm looking for:

- All of 1990 & 1991
- Jan/Feb & March/April of 1992,
- Jan/Feb, Sept/Oct & Nov/Dec 1994
- All of 1995
- Sept/Oct & Nov/Dec 1996
- All of 1997

Look in your personal files, sour your group's records and/or your clubs storage /hiding places. Any help in locating the missing issues will be greatly appreciated.

Our original manuscript was sold at auction for \$2.4 million to billionaire ██████████, who attended his first AA meeting 25 years ago, ██████ told the AP that he will display the manuscript publicly for several months a year at Alcoholics Anonymous's headquarters in New York.

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

(Continued from page 6)
“I’ve held it. I’ve looked through it. It is absolutely mind-blowing,” he said.
“It was just a miracle to see this thing.

I redacted the persons name and company he works for. Unfortunately, the news was spoiled with the anonymity break. I’m also concerned about the manuscript being on temporary display at GSO. Questions I have are. Does the person who owns the manuscript get to place a placard advertising his almost great gift to AA. What happens when he dies? Is this just a teaser for AA. Maybe I’m over syndical I know others that are happy that it stayed within AA’s Fellowship. I think we as a fellowship need some dialog on this because I certainly don’t have the final answer.

Just type AA Manuscript in your search and different papers with this news will come up.

There is a nice mix of articles in this issue. Keep them coming it makes for great reading and lets people see what was on our minds years afterward.

Thanks for reading.

Yours in Service
Steven L.
Area 35 Northern Light Editor

Public Information:

Greetings Area 35,

There has not been much in the Public Information committee since the Spring Assembly a few weeks ago. Couple of things to mention. District 13 has asked me to help with a workshop. I'll have more details at a later date. I am working on filling volunteers for the State Fair booth on August 25th & 26th, 2018. Melissa A. is willing for Day Captain on Saturday. Day Captain for Sunday is available for anyone willing. Great service activity for sponsor/ sponsee. Shifts are available in two-hour blocks. If anyone is interested in an opportunity to serve as a volunteer or even a day captain, please call or email me pi@area35.org. If I do not respond to emails within a couple of days, send again, I think I missed one or two.

Thank You for allowing me to serve Area 35.

Gayle R.
Area 35 Public Information Chair

Treatment:

Greetings,

Quite a bit of my time has been spent reading through all of the information that was passed on to me by my predecessor.

I received a couple of Bridging the Gap contact requests. I immediately turned them around to the applicable DCM’s district. My request is that should you receive any requests please forward them to me ASAP because it is important that we get in touch with these folks who are new to AA.

This June, I would like to start a big push towards rolling out Bridging the Gap to the area.

As always I look forward to hearing what you are doing within your district.

In Service,
Cathy R.
Area 35 Treatment Chair

Webmaster:

Greetings Area 35,

I have placed many flyers on the area events calendar. There are a lot opportunities to enrich our sobriety and for fellowship going on this summer so check out the calendar on the Area 35 website.

An AA member let me know about an error in the Group Inventory Worksheet on the downloads page on the website. Item 13 original read “How is my group fulfilling its responsibility to the seventh step” but should read “How is...seventh tradition”. I made the correct and thanked the member for bringing this issue to my attention. (This inventory comes out of the pamphlet “The AA group”)

Sara K. notified me that her anonymity was breach when her first and last name were used in a past issue of District 13 minutes, which are posted on the website. I removed her last name from the minutes along with the last names of two other AA members. Please protect the anonymity of others by removing last names from your minutes before you send them to be posted on your district page on the website.

I met with Bob B. in April and we went over some things on the area website. We added a page titled Area 35 Service Information with two subcategories, which are Delegate Qualifications and Northern Light. The goal is better organization of the information currently listed on the Downloads Page making it easier to find service related information.

Thanks for allowing me to be of service.
Rillis E.
Area 35 Webmaster

Traditions

I value my peace of mind and serenity as much as I do my sobriety. It takes something major to get me riled up now that I am living this program. Recently, though, I have been really bothered by something I have witnessed. First, I witnessed it at our District meeting a few months back. This statement was made, “ The Traditions get in the way, sometimes.” In my opinion, the only thing the 12 Traditions get in the way of is my ego. Isn’t that a good thing? My ego always seems to cause me trouble. I feel that the Traditions tell me to check my ego at the door before I walk into an AA meeting, a District meeting, an Assembly or before I step up to a podium to speak as a member of AA. Early on in my sobriety, I was taught that the 12 Traditions are the glue that keeps this program together. Bill W. warned us that if we didn’t adhere to the 12 Traditions, Alcoholics Anonymous would fall apart from within. Now we are discussing the issue of our trustees at GSO being in legal litigation over the original manuscript. Seems to me that is against Tradition 6. If the Traditions aren’t followed by people at GSO or at our District level or Area, what does that say to the individual member of AA. I have been blessed with a God of my understanding, many wonderful 24 hours of sobriety, an amazing way of life and many friends through this program and I want that to be available to any suffering alcoholic for many years to come.

I believe that there are too many groups that don’t take the time to study the Traditions. I feel that as a member of AA, I have a responsibility to educate myself and women that I sponsor on the 12 Traditions and make an effort to bring them to the attention of newcomers (and some long timers) and exactly why they are there.

I don’t know if this is a local problem or if it is a world- wide problem, but I believe that the word “Problem” seems to be the correct word to describe it. I have heard that there seems to be some sort of a movement to step away from our Traditions. My question is, “What is the motive here?” I am hoping that people start talking about this and adhere to Bill W.’s warning. I don’t think we alcoholics can afford to destroy the very thing that has saved so many lives.

Sue H.
St. Cloud

Noise

I am a GSR for the Saturday AM AA Meeting in Hibbing along with being the District 9 Secretary. While at the Spring Assemble in Alexandra, it was hard to hear the people at the mic. I request that you stop having personal conversations during the meeting. If we are going to understand the issues and take them back to our groups accurately, we need to be able to listen. Sometimes the background noise makes the input very sketchy because of all the side conversations. I want to do a good job for my group-please help me by allowing me to listen at Area Assemblies, Workshops and Conferences.

Thanks so much, Phyllis K.
Hibbing Saturday AM

AREA 35 EVENTS INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

- ◆ 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.

BLAST FROM the PAST

In this edition from Blast From the Past is an article from the Volume XI issue #3 of the Northern Light printed May/June of 1992. Called

The Evolution of a Business Meeting

Dear fellow AA members and GSRs,

I wanted to share my experience, strength and hope regarding a matter that tends to be a problem for many AA groups as well as their group representatives. The question of having business meetings and getting group members involved always comes up at assemblies. I would like to share what happened to us and maybe it will be of help to other groups confronting this problem.

Recently our group in rural Ogilvie, MN had many questions concerning business meetings and many individuals had questions dealing with group funds, generally questions that could be dealt with at a business meeting. I thought I should pull rank and I called a business meeting at the spur of the moment after our regular meeting. I didn't give the group a chance to agree or disagree. There were 13 present at the meeting and everything seemed to be going smoothly until group funds came up for discussion. Everyone had an opinion. I felt I stood alone regarding the matter so I took full responsibility for not only calling the meeting but for any questions regarding our group funds. I found out first hand that this is not the way to handle the situation. Some members left that night very upset.

Needless to say the next meeting was full of tension. I attempted to make amends for the way I handled the meeting. We voted to delete our last business meeting and start out fresh the second Thursday of the month following our regular AA meeting.

After the meeting I was approached by some group member that felt it was wrong to delete our first meeting. I said that one member isn't the group conscience and every member had the right to know if and when business meetings are called. The discussion lead into group member yelling at each other over group funds. Then I totally lost my cool and told them to stop acting like children. I told them I was tired of the whole mess, tired of them thinking they were "God" and they had all of the right answers. One of our group members with the wisdom of his sobriety helped the other members to see the value in business meetings and the importance of keeping the group's records straight.

When I got home, I felt I couldn't speak to any of the members in my group yet so I called some friends of mine in. I really found out hands on how this program works if you are willing to make a phone call. They talked to me -reassuring me that I wasn't the first GSR to have this problem. They told me to look at the positive side of the problem at least now your group is holding business meetings--They gave some pages out of the Big Book for me to read. After I got off the phone I was unable to sleep so I read those pages in the Big Book. One of the things that read helped me to see myself in a different light was that even though we can some-times be well meaning by trying to help others and making amends, we can do more harm than good. I realized that I was making myself the "King and I" and forgetting the importance of the group as a whole. I had to look at myself rather than blaming anyone else. After I rediscovered for myself that I was not alone, unless I choose to be alone, I proceeded to thank God for this program and find some new gratitude.

The following week I received several phone calls as well as making some myself. The conversations we basically the same, we were making amends. There was less tension at our next meeting. We agreed that it was important to have business meetings and to keep our regular AA meetings separate.

I have to say I have learned a lot from this experience. There is truth in the saying "No pain no gain" and our group certainly has gone through some pain. Today we are still a group because we chose to stay together and not let individual feelings cause us to split up. One member said, "We are a group that is more like a family, we allow our personalities to interfere with each other, but because of our AA program we are able to respect one another and learn to treat each other with the spiritual respect that we gain through the program. Someone told me once: "Sandra, there are as many ways of working this program as there are alcoholics. But there is only one way to make amends, learn by your mistakes. "I have also learned that business meetings are like anything else in AA. One has to be willing to give it a try. Once you do, you may go through some pain, but all things can be worked out if you are at least willing to give it a try. All else will come in time.

Submitted by:
Sandra K.
District 20 Secretary

"Nothing is so bad that a drink won't make worse."

Arlington, Texas, July 1994
"A Long Way Down," The Best of the Grapevine, Vol. 3

Fuddy-Duddy

I belong to an amazing organization. Alcoholics Anonymous. Call me an "ole fuddy-duddy" but all the promises are true. I'll get right to the point. I didn't always think this way. My search for the "perfect meeting" forty years ago resulted in my walking into a small town hall in Erhard, Minnesota, and two people were sitting there. I joined them. As we talked, I learned that these two people had been having this two-person Alcoholics Anonymous meeting for eight years, just waiting for some other struggling alcoholics to find them. I stayed.

I did not know that this organization was dependent on others who sat in groups and carried a message. I did not know that somewhere in Ottertail County there was a group of people who took their time, money, and dedication one Sunday out of every month for a meeting to perhaps, be the watchdogs of what is going on in the organization across the county and state. They are attending area and assembly meetings. District 3 is that group. Did I want to be a GSR? No. I did not want to take my Sunday, my time, nor the responsibility of being a GSR. It is easy to be critical, but many times I put personalities ahead of principals. No one knew about this attitude. My sponsor was a GSR for thirteen years. She asked me to take the position of Erhard GSR. I declined. "My time was too important."

I had let the foundation of Alcoholics Anonymous go on the back burner in my thinking. It escaped me that the AA groups are the foundation of this organization. We don't have a CEO, or Board of Directors, or any such "stuff." We have no AA building; we use the clubhouses, churches, libraries, hospital conference rooms, town hall's, and perhaps even people's homes. But who is supporting the financial core of this amazing group of people at District 3, when they take their time to travel to "carry our message to the larger group assemblies such as District, Area, and Assembly?"

District 3 recently brought back from the Iowa Assembly, such watchdog items as "should some brochures be added, changed, discontinued? Do we need YouTube, and how does it affect the anonymity at radio, press, etc.? Reports on "HI" (Hospitals and Institutions), and other Public Information. Are we using the Grapevine as a tool? Does any of it need to be updated? The Agenda discussed was over two pages long of items that they reviewed to keep us informed in Ottertail County, and throughout the area. Alexandria hosted the Area meeting April 7th. District 3 members did not have to drive to Hibbing, MN, but they would have. Ottertail county Alcoholics Anonymous was well represented by District 3 members. Their time, travel, expertise and financial cost.

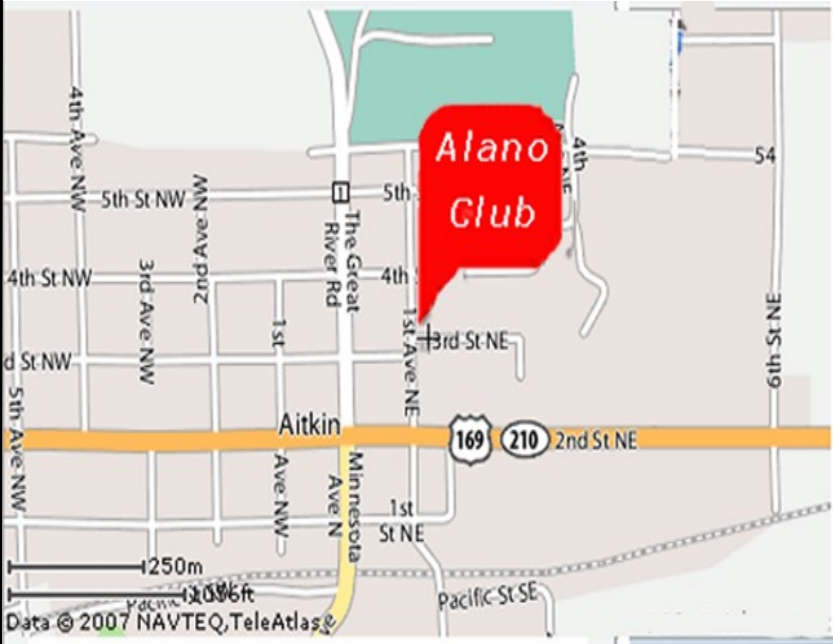
As an "ole fuddy-duddy" I want to disclose to the many groups and individuals that without financial support for our District 3, we might not have this amazing base for our purpose; "to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers, and "whenever anyone reaches out I want Alcoholics Anonymous to be there, and for that I am responsible."

Marian B.
Detroit Lakes

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.



UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

Service Events

- June:** **3rd : Area 35 Committee Meeting ***
 Alano Club 9:30 am –2 pm
 322 1st Ave. NE
 Aitkin, MN
- August:** **5th : Area 35 Committee Meeting ***
 Alano Club 9:30 am –2 pm
 322 1st Ave. NE
 Aitkin, MN
- October:** **5th : District 7 Corrections Workshop**
 First Congregational Church 6pm
 415 Juniper St.
 Brainerd, MN
- 6th & 7th : Area 35 Fall Assembly**
 25039 Tame Fish Lake Rd
 Ruttgers Bay Lake Lodge
 Deerwood MN
- November:** **17th : Area 35/36 Joint Workshop**
 Bethlehem Lutheran Church Noon - 4:00pm
 4310 County Rd 137
 St. Cloud, MN

Fellowship Events

- May:** **30th : Our Common Welfare-Open Speaker Meeting** 7pm-9pm
 United Congregational Church
 415 Juniper St
 Brainerd , MN
- July:** **6th - 8th : 6th Annual Crow Wing River 3rd Legacy Campout**
 281 Morrison St. E
 Motley, MN
- 13th - 15th : A Weekend with Bill and Lois**
 Camp Hiawatha
 36944 Camp Hiawatha Rd.
 Deer River Township, MN
- August:** **17th - 19th : Staples AA Rendezvous**
 Dower Lake Camp Site
 24616 Thunder Rd.
 Staples, MN
- September:** **7th - 9th : 28th Annual Heartland Round-Up**
 Northern Pines Camp & Retreat Center
 20033 County Rd 1
 Park Rapids, MN
- 22nd : 4th Annual St. Cloud AA Convention**
 The Tuscan Center at Midtown Square Noon - 7pm
 3333 W Division St. #116
 St. Cloud, MN



Area 35
General Service Conference
Agenda Items Process

Greetings Area 35,

The Agenda Items do not come out any sooner to the Delegate than the week of February 15th due to the January General Service Board Meeting.

We realize that this timeframe does not give us a lot of time for discussion within our home groups before our April Spring Assembly.

It is the responsibility of the DCM's to get the Agenda Items along with the "Hot Topic List" to the group GSR's in their District. It is important that this information be passed on as soon as it is received.

Thank you for your Help.

Agenda
Deadline Dates

December 15th

Deadline to receive proposed Agenda Items and submit Agenda Items to GSO from our Area 35 Delegate

February 15th

Delegate receives Agenda Items from the General Service Office. Then creates a "Hot Topic List" and sends it along with the Agenda Items and Background Information to the Area 35 Webmaster.

The Webmaster posts the material on our website(www.area35.org) with a Protected Password. The Delegate sends out an email to the Area 35 Committee with the "Hot Topic List" along with the password information. Which is used to get the Agenda Items and background Information off the Area 35 Web-site.

4th Sunday in February

Agenda Items are distributed to Area 35 by hard copy or CD

along with the "Hot Topic List" from the Delegate at the Aitkin Committee Meeting.

1st Weekend in March

Agenda Items are discussed at the West Central Regional Conference in Cheyenne, WY

1st Weekend in April

Agenda Items are discussed and voted at the Area 35 Spring Assembly with the Area 35 Delegate

3rd Week in April

Delegate attends the General Service Conference and carries the voice of Area 35 to New York.

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
CONTACT

Christine G.
Area 35 Panel 68 Delegate
delegate@area35.org
763-670-8303

Area 35 Spring Assembly Minutes
Holiday Inn, Alexandria, MN
April 7th & 8th, 2018

Call to Order: Roger R. Called meeting to order Opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Why We Need a Conference:

Recognition of Past Area 35 Delegates in Attendance: Kelly D. (Panel 66) Mike J. (Panel 64) Bob J. (Panel 40) Jon C. (Panel 60) Tim C. (Panel 52) Scott E. (Panel 57-59 Area 36) Ted S. (Past Trustee) Jim K. (Panel 62) Charlie C. (Panel 54) Scott J. (Panel 38) Bruce B. (Panel 44)

Recognition of GSR’s in attendance:

Additions to the Agenda:

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

GSC Agenda Items Sharing Sessions:

Agenda:
Agenda Item E: there was some discussion on this agenda item in regards to what agenda items make the GSC.

CPC:

- CPC Agenda Item A: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- CPC Agenda Item B: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted yes.
- CPC Agenda Item C: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted yes.
- CPC Agenda Item D: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted yes.

Corrections:

- Corrections Agenda Item A: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.

Finance:

- Finance Agenda Item A: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.

Grapevine:

- Grapevine Agenda Item A: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Grapevine Agenda Item D: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.

Literature:

- Literature Agenda Item A.1: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Literature Agenda Item A.2: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Literature Agenda Item A.3: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Literature Agenda Item B: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Literature Agenda Item C: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Literature Agenda Item D: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Literature Agenda Item E: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Literature Agenda Item M: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted yes.
- Literature Agenda Item N: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Literature Agenda Item O: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.

- Literature Agenda Item P: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted yes.
- Literature Agenda Item Q: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.

Policy/Admission:

- Policy/Admission Agenda Item A: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted yes.
- Policy/Admissions Agenda Item D: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted yes.
- Policy/Admissions Agenda Item G: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.

Public Information:

- Public Information Agenda Item E: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Public Information Agenda Item F: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Public Information Agenda Item H: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.

Report and Charter Committee:

- Report and Charter Agenda Item A.2: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Report and Charter Agenda Item A.3: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Report and Charter Agenda Item A.4: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted yes.
- Report and Charter Agenda Item A.5: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Report and Charter Agenda Item A.6: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted yes.

Treatment & Accessibilities Committees:

- Treatment and Accessibilities Agenda Item B: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.

Conference Trustees Committee:

- Conference Trustees Agenda Item E: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Conference Trustees Agenda Item F: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.

Archives Committee:

- Archives Committee Agenda Item B: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted no.
- Archives Committee Agenda Item C: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted yes.

Int’l Conventions/Regional Forums:

- Int’l Conventions/Regional Forums Agenda Item B: there was a vote on this agenda item and Northern MN voted yes

GSR Sharing Session Report

No Report Got Lost or Corrupted

DCM Sharing Session Report

DCM Sharing Session Topics and Discussion: Justin W.

Chair: Justin W. and Secretary: Heidi B. There were 14 Districts in attendance: Justin 13, Rich 12, Greg 4, Pat 15, Skip 5, BR 18, Cindy 11, Paul 14, Heidi 8, Sharna 6, Jim 9, Don 12 Alt, Glenn 16, Tom 3 Alt

Topic: Lending library at Alano Club – Alano Club policy is that any piece of literature is allowed. District policy is that only Conference approved literature featuring AA logo is allowed. District would like all AA & Grapevine literature in library – how do we present this to club?

- Go to club board meeting and make suggestions
- Alano Club does have bylaws that include adhering to AA principals – remind them
- Concerned that Alano will remove library if issue is pushed
- AA Guidelines (M503): Guidelines on relationship between AA & Clubs
- As DCM, being on board of Alano Club is conflict of interest
- It’s up to the groups to propose

(Continued on page 11)

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 10)

Topic: 13th stepping and safety issues with elders

- Elders need to call people out
- Is happening in several districts
- Elders/Old Timers are the ones causing problems
- We have to keep meeting safe
- Confront 13th steppers
- Take group conscience about what to do
- Women must be mindful of protecting the new women
- Go to Alano board, if in a club
- Don't include Alano board – group must handle. We solve our own problems
- Get police involved if breaking the law – legal consequences are an option
- We are the only ones that can keep each other safe

Topic: How do we get new people interested/involved in service work?

- Sponsorship!
- Must have good sobriety to participate at district level
- My sponsor suggested I do it
- Leave committee chairs open if sobriety in district is low
- It's Sobriety, Unity & Service – in order
- Educate groups on what service work is – visit all meetings in district
- Send letter to groups explaining service work and/or read at meeting
- Have coffee with GSR's & group contacts to talk about what service work means to you
- Make it look fun
- Keep it simple!
- District meeting is just one more meeting a month – not huge commitment
- Service is gratitude in action

Topic: Singleness of Purpose

- Change meeting to open or closed meeting
- This is an important aspect of program
- Comes down to sponsorship
- We have a common solution for our common problem
- Need to recognize commonalities in group
- Send addicts only to NA
- Responsibility statement
- If you're not an alcoholic, you won't understand my problem or my solution
- I don't get to decide if someone is alcoholic or not
- Help the addict start NA group, if necessary
- Big Book states - We are like passengers after rescue from a shipwreck... we share a common peril
- Read "Problems other than Alcohol"

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE-Christine G.

Greetings Area 35.

First, I would like to welcome everyone to the Spring Assembly this weekend. It will be a weekend full of information. Please take time, have some fellowship, and meet someone new. At our GSR Orientation this morning, we had ___ GSRs in attendance and ___ of those GSRs are new or attending their first assembly.

There was an "Ask It Basket" question at the WCRAASC that asked, "Will you please consider removing the ICYPAA advertisement from the YouTube video?" Our WCR Trustee took it back to AAGV and here is the response that Carole gave: AA Grapevine Directors and Staff frequently attend large conferences such as ICYPAA, the International Women's Conference, and the Atheists and Agnostics Convention. Often times, we do workshops and recordings for our audio project. We did such a recording at the 54th ICYPAA. AAGV was approached by ICYPAA to use this recording in an animation project. Thus, the video is a result of a joint effort. This is not an advertisement for ICYPAA. If the person who asked the question wishes more information or to discuss it further, please let Tom know.

The information that I have been given on the Litigation is as follows:

I have been busy with reviewing background material to become familiar with the Agenda Items that we will be discussion this afternoon and this evening. I will do my best at answering questions and sharing as much

knowledge that I have. I hope to get a consensus on how Area 35 feels about these items, so I can go to New York prepared with the conscience of Area 35.

I have most of my dates for my Delegate's GSC Report scheduled except for Districts 1, 2, 14, 18 & 21. Please see me this weekend to get on my calendar. I would like to have all these wrapped up before Labor Day.

I would like to ask all of Area 35 members how important the Grapevine is to your recovery? If it plays an important role, are you supporting it through subscriptions? Please remember that we need to support the GV like we support our home group, District, Area and GSO. So many times, we forget about the GV because we are not able to support them through direct contributions. We need to subscribe if we want to see the GV continue.

The 2019 WCRAASC will be held in Moorhead at the Court Yard Marriott on March 1st – 3rd, 2019. Our Alternate Delegate, Jim S., will be the Chair for that event. Jim and I had our first meeting laying out a plan and looked at what committees will need to be formed. This is a big deal and we will need all the help we can get. If you are interested in helping out, please see Jim. There are many positions available for people who are local to Moorhead and for others who are not. Thank you in advance for all your help with making this event a success!

I emailed the "Highlights from AAWS" from their March 9th Board meeting. Some of the highlights and recommendations are as follows:

The Board approved the following recommendation brought forward by the Technology/Communication/Services (TCS) Committee:

- That a basic A.A. app, to include the Meeting Guide, Big Book, Daily Reflections and Alert/messaging capabilities, be launched in conjunction with the new A.A. website.
- Publishing - *Gross sales*: January gross sales are above budget with actual gross sales at \$1,360,791, which is a \$11,173 (or .83%) positive variance against budget of \$1,349,618.
- The Board approved the following recommendations brought forward by the Publishing Committee:
 - ◇ That the redesigned large print pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic" be priced at \$.40 per unit in English, French, and Spanish.
 - ◇ That the "Anonymity in the Digital Age" placard be made available in the small (8-1/2" x 11") size at \$8.50 per unit and the large (15" x 24") size at \$14.50 per unit.
- Finance - *Income* – Total income for January 2018 was \$143,308, compared to a budgeted income of \$128,237, and actual 2017 income for the same period of \$387,371.
- The Board approved the following recommendations brought forward by the Finance Committee:
 - ◇ That a donation in the amount of \$2,162,827.83 be made to the General Service Board General Fund to cover the 2017 G.S.B. deficit.
 - ◇ That a transfer of \$1,400,000 of excess cash be made to the G.S.B. Reserve Fund.
- The General Service Board discussed potential collaboration with the Grapevine Board and the possibility, if feasible, of a joint shopping cart for both corporations.
- Four different vendors submitted proposals for development of the Daily Reflections video project and Unikron, Inc. was recommended as the project vendor because of their compelling proposal and reasonable pricing. The project would provide renewable content in various formats that could be used on the website and app, for an audio book, or as content for the YouTube channel.
- The Board approved the following recommendation:
 - ◇ That the Daily Reflections video project proceed at an estimated cost of \$174,835.

I encourage all of you to look at these highlights when I email them out. It gives a brief description of what GSB and AAWS are up to and what recommendations being brought forward to be worked on.

This is all I have to report on right now, I hope I didn't miss anything major. There is a lot of information that runs through my email and I do my best to pass it along. If you are not receiving my emails or would like to be added to my distribution list, please send me an email and ask me to add you.

In Love and Service,

Christine G.
Area 35 Panel 68 Delegate

ALTERNATE DELEGATE-Jim S. Good Evening Everyone,

My apologies for coming in a late. The restaurant was unexpectedly slower then I anticipated.

The main item I have been working on has been getting ready for the West Central Service Conference in Moorhead, MN next year. I have been privileged to be asked by Christine G. to help with the committee. I will be looking for volunteers to help out with the tasks of the committee. Some positions are geographically specific and some are not. I have talked with Kelly D. to print the two programs needed, one is the agenda and one is a

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program of Area Officers from each area. I have talked with Thomas H. about creating the website for the conference where you will be able to register and pay your registration fee. Their will most likely a service charge for using this online payment service so don't be surprised. This will be a great opportunity for Area 35. The Forum will be in Grand Forks that year as well.

Thank you very much,

Jim S.
Alt Delegate

AREA CHAIR—Roger R. Greetings Area 35 of Northern MN,

Thank you, for the many opportunities you have given me, to be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous as your Area Chair for 2018-2019. My top priority is to assist you as members, GSR's, DCM's, Area Chairs and Officers in carrying our AA message to those who are out there and still suffering from alcoholism, in the Northern half of Minnesota.

As you can see in the agenda, we have a lot of ground to cover in discussing the Agenda Items and conducting our Area business. Your group's and District's informed group conscience on these Agenda Items goes a long way in preparing, Christine our Delegate for the National Conference. Another important item is for us to discuss and approve our Area budget for 2018.

Some of my service as your Area Chair includes the following. Appointing Area Committee Chairs prior to the beginning of 2018. Attending our January Service Workshop and hosing Bob W. who was our guest presenter for the workshop. Attending the WCRAASC in Des Moines.

Preparing for and chairing the February Area Committee Meeting that we needed to re-schedule for March due to inclement weather. Discussing the Conference Agenda Items with Districts 15 and 9. Preparing for this assembly in working with: Christine on the agenda, Mike F. on the area budget, Area 35 officers on today's GSR training session and the Holiday Inn staff. I've also been working with Mary M., Chairperson of Area 36 on planning the Area 35/36 joint workshop for November 17, 2018.

I am most interested in meeting GSR's who are here today. Feel free to stop me and let me know where you are from and how things are going in your home group.

Let's have a productive, informative and fun assembly.

In service,

Roger R.
Area 35 Chair

SECRETARY-Melissa A. Greetings Area 35,

My name is Melissa A.; I am an alcoholic, currently serving as your Area 35 Secretary. My report is going to be short, because I had everything in the Northern Light, everyone who is giving there report please email me the report by April 23rd, so that I can get it to Steve the Northern Light Editor in time for him to be able to format everything. If you are not going to email me your report you can hand it in to me today and I will type it up. I do have flyers done for the Area 35 Fall Assembly, which is October 6th, & 7th, 2018 at Rutgers Bay Lake Lodge, in Deerwood MN and I also have Area 35/36 Joint Workshop Save the Date Flyers in November.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Melissa A.
Area 35 Secretary

TREASURER-Mike F. (Read by Roger R.)

Greetings Area 35,

Mike was unable to attend the assembly due to a family death. So I will be giving his report. He did send in complete reports and copies of his report. The first one and I am looking at says period 7 December 1-December 31st 2017 so that was the last period of the past rotation. Basically this has group contributions and Area expenses, if you flip to thee last page, we did have a minus on income after expenses, and December 17th- January to December that's coming up I believe. The second report that Mike submitted is February 16th, that is the recent period through March 31st. That's our period two of this rotation and that has group contributions and also has Area expenses, for area officers and chairs. That included our service workshop and also there is some Delegate expenses and we were minus \$3,279 in that period but as Christine was saying the early periods of the year we have a lot more expenses and that we hopefully have contributions coming in. I want to encourage you all as DCM's and GSR's to keep those contributions coming because the area definitely needs them to keep doing what we need to do, to carry our message and to represent AA at the events that we need to. Lets look at our balance sheet that Mike provided, as of end of period 2 March 31st we have total assets of \$21,667.66 and total liabilities and equity of \$21,667. That's Mike's report, I am sure at our next Area Committee Meeting if we have any questions on the report he can answer them for us. At our next ACM we have our financial oversight committee, that committee very carefully looks at everything that Mikes doing, looks at our checkbook balances and makes sure that everything is okay.

Thank you
Roger R.

COMMITTEE CHAIR & DCM REPORTS

CPC - Myron H. Good morning, My name is Myron H. and I am an alcoholic.

I don't have a lot to report since our March area meeting. We continue to explore the most effective ways to get our AA message to the professionals. The districts know the local professionals the best, and I offer them any help the area can provide. I attended yesterday's joint PI/CPC meeting, which is covered in Gayle R's PI report.

Yours in service,
Myron H,
Area 35 CPC Chair

District 9— Jim S. (Report read by Antonette F.)

Hi Everybody,

My name is Jim and I am an alcoholic and DCM for District 9. I have begun visiting some groups in the District and finding very good, solid groups thus far. I was impressed as I am with AA overall. District 9 has gone through the Hot Topic agenda items and provided inputs, which I will hand in with the report today. District 9 continues to fulfill commitments for treatment, corrections, literature and so forth. District 9 has one chair to fill. I thank Antonette F. for assuming DCM responsibilities and Phyllis K. for her hard work as Secretary while I was away on vacation. The delegate report back is scheduled for June 9th, 2018 at the Hibbing Alano from 1pm to 4pm. with District 8 and 16. Potluck will be served!

Yours in service,
Jim S.
District 9 DCM



"I don't know about spiritual awakenings but he's about to have a rude awakening!"

District 13- Justin W. My name is Justin and I'm an alcoholic, District 13 DCM.

We've been experiencing a strange phenomenon around the Saint Cloud Area.... it seems like its still winter there. I know the calendar says April 7th, but some people are saying that today is actually January 97th?? It's really confusing...

District meetings are going well. We have had good participation, usually around twenty people, and there are three or four new GSR's this rotation. The atmosphere in the meetings has been comfortable and we have been able to attend to district business effectively and efficiently, generally a couple minutes early.

We will begin visiting the forty-four groups in the District towards the end of the month. We have decided to split this responsibility up among the officers. I think this way we should be able to make more than one visit to each of the groups before the end of the rotation.

Our treasury responsibilities have finally shifted into the capable hands of the new treasurer. We are sure that this will be an improvement over the last rotation...

Our action committees have been getting a really good handle on their responsibilities. It is a pleasure to see how a group of alcoholics can come together and work towards our primary purpose, much more effectively than any one of us alone could. We have consistent communications regarding how we can improve, and are seeing progress.

We are looking forward to hosting several workshops this year and will be making arrangements in the near future.

We will hear the General Service Conference Report from Christine on June 4th and this meeting will be in conjunction with District 15. We're looking forward to hosting it in Saint Cloud this year and are planning on having

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it at the Saint Cloud Library at 7:30pm in place of our regular district meeting.

We met this past Monday regarding the Agenda items and covered all of the hot topic items as well as some others that were discussed in the groups. The meeting was successful, we only had to extend the District meeting by about twenty minutes, and nobody got hurt.

I consider it an honor and a privilege to be of service in Alcoholics Anonymous and I'm grateful to have been given the opportunity.

Justin W.
District 13 DCM

WEBMASTER - Rillis E. Good morning.

I'm grateful to be here with all of you. As webmaster I have responded to many requests for the user name and password for the online version of general service conference background information. It's great to see that so many members are interested in viewing this important information in the online format. I put several flyers on the website. If you would like to have an AA event posted on the website, please send your flyers to me at **webmaster@area35.org**. Remember to include what the event is. Who is sponsoring it. When the event will occur, the date and time. Where the event is being held including a street address.

Christine now has the projector and screen which she will be using for her GSC report backs. If you need the either the projector or screen at an ACM please contact either Christine or myself you we can have the equipment available for you use. Steve L. has been collecting past editions of the NL and these will be on the website in the near future. Thank you for letting me be of service

Thank you for letting me be of service.
Rillis E.
Area 35 WEBmaster

LITERATURE - Brian P. (Typed up from the ACM recording)
Good Morning everybody, I am Brain P., Area 35 Literature Chair

I finally got an account set up for my Area 35 literature / Area 35 Northern Minnesota. I had originally set up an account under my name. Then I got checks made out to Area 35 Literature. (Makes sense) So I needed an account set up under Area 35 Literature so I could cash them My bank would not open an account with that name on it from the paper work I got from Mike F. I did check with another bank I work with and they did help me out. I have also got my Area 35 Literature account set up with New York. Again a couple hours on the phone and we got it straightened out. Now I can place my orders after hours and online. Very slick if you register as an AA member and set up an account, you are not privileged to all the material that is available. Especially the free stuff!! Best way to get your orders is to send an email to the Area 35 Literature account.

Thank you very much.
Brian P.
Area 35 Literature Chair

District 15- Matthew B. (report given by Pat M.)

Greetings from District 15,

Hi I am Pat M. and I am an alcoholic. District 15 holds it's District meeting the first Monday of every month at 8pm, located at the Albany Senior Center. Matt B. stepped down from the DCM position and I stepped in as DCM being I was the Alternate DCM and Matt B. is the Alternate DCM now. Our Treatment chair Irene J. stepped down so right now I am overseeing Treatment and all of our commitments are being met. Our Corrections chair Bruce B. and our Literature Chair Greg W. are getting their feet wet. We also have a person interested in CPC, Roger R. helped District 15 go through the agenda items. It was very much appreciated, thank you Roger. March 24th we had the Stearns County Round Up at The Landing in St. Anna. We had 264 people attend the Round Up. We had two amazing speakers, one Al Anon and one AA. Steve D. our Area Archivist put on an awesome display on Northern Minnesota. Thank you Steve. Mike P. helped out with the sound system, thank you Mike. The next Stearns County Round Up is March 23rd, 2019.

Yours in service,
Pat M.

District 3- Kevin K. After a challenging winter, our District is ready for some old fashion service work. All our committee positions are filled (awesome). We have a strong core group that attends our District meeting, which is held the 3rd Sunday of the month at the Detroit Lakes Alano Club.

The meeting begins at 10:00am. All are welcome. Service projects underway. Monthly update of Meeting List, monthly review of AA Hot Line, outreach through our Institutions Chair, by contacting community, county and regional law enforcement. In addition, healthcare facilities dealing with alcoholism.

Monthly we host Round Robin Meetings. A group from the district signs up to have a potluck meal, speakers AA and Al Anon. Our next Round Robin will be held March 24th, at the Alano Club in Detroit Lakes. The event starts at noon with a soup and sandwich luncheon followed by a Sponsor Workshop present by Gail and Larry N. from Moorhead. Our treasuries have reached our prudent reserve. Seven groups reported (some of the groups are responsible for more than one meeting in their facility)

Yours truly in service,
Kevin K.
District 3 DCM

NORTHERN LIGHT - Steve L. Good evening Ladies and Gentleman,

I'm Steven L. your Northern Light editor. Remember reports are wanted and needed for your NL. Write about your experience here at the Assembly or any part of your sobriety or service work. Remember it is a lot easier to be published in the NL than the Grapevine.

When making and printing fliers for an event add sending that flier in pdf format if possible to both the me and the WEB Master at **webmaster@area35.org** and **northernlight@area35.org** to your routine.

I have a three ring binder with past Northern Lights on my table come go take a look.

Does anyone have information on Wahkon? Is it in District 7, 11 or both?

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve.

Yours in Service
Steven L.
Area 35 Northern Light Editor

GROUP RECORDS - Sally L.

Greetings, Area 35.

Greetings, Area 35! It is good to be here at our assembly. Thank you, Roger, for asking me to take this position.

I have been busy learning how to use the Fellowship New Vision database. I still have more to learn, but I learned enough to print out Group Information sheets for each district and a list of DCMs for each district to update if necessary. I included Unknown Status groups for each district so I can update them with GSO.

I have printed out some copies of a diagram that Bob B. made for his district that explains how updates to group information are made. Districts must be notified of changes, and if the district wishes, they can forward the information to the Area group records or directly to GSO, either of which can update the records. If the district does not forward the information, it is up to the group to see that it gets sent in. You can email a copy to me at **grouprecords@area35.org**. If applicable, there are other places that need to get the updates, such as Intergroups or Alano societies. It is not the responsibility of the Area or GSO to see that the information is updated to these other entities.

Groups are assigned a Status according to whether they are active, inactive, pending active, etc. I have a printout of these descriptions if anyone wants to see them. They can also be downloaded from the Area website.

I have a few copies of change forms if anyone needs one. Remember to indicate whether to receive mail for each person so the Northern Light can send out the newsletter and so GSO can send Box 4-5-9 and other mail to the right person. If there is no mail contact listed, the group's status will be listed as Unknown and no mail will reach the group, and the group will not be listed in the meeting locator.

Since I did not realize how much printing actually costs, I went over budget for this assembly. I am requesting an increase of \$50 per assembly/area meeting.

I have group information sheets for each district. DCMs please see me to get your packet.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Sally L.
Area 35 Group Records Secretary
grouprecords@area35.org

District 4- Greg C.

The District is looking for new Treatment Facility Officer. All groups reporting solid membership and financial base. Cooperative meetings at Treatment centers, Jail and College are all progressing as usual. Big Ole Roundup was a huge success and already have Clancy secured for feature speaker next year.

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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.

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Next District Meeting and Round Robin scheduled for April 21st in Elbow Lake followed by May 19th in Glenwood. Christine will be making Her presentation starting at 4:30 at that meeting.

Yours in service,
Greg G.
District 4 DCM

District 8- Heidi B. Greetings!

District 8 currently has 36 active meetings with 10-15 active GSR's. We are financially solvent. We had all positions filled in January, but have lost a few over the past months. We are currently looking for Archives Chair and Alt Chair, Grapevine/Lit Chair and Alt Chair and PI/CPC Alt Chair.

March was a busy month for us beginning with WCRAASC, then Area Committee Meeting March 11th, Agenda Items meeting for our GSR's on March 17th, Winter Rap-up March 24th and finally Area Spring Assembly. District 8 will join Districts 9 & 16 for our Delegate's report (and potluck) on June 9th, 2018 at 1:00pm at the Hibbing Alano Club.

I was assigned to the Web/Group Records/Northern Light committee and met with them this morning. I also attended the DCM Sharing Session, taking notes as Secretary to pass along to the Northern Light.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Heidi B.
District 8 DCM

District 18- BR B.

My name is BR B., I am the DCM District 18, and we meet in Long Prairie. Our next meeting will be May 1st at 6pm, currently all chairs are all filled except Archives and we are voting someone in May 1st. Second Annual Drunks On Ice February 17th was a success. Nobody was injured on the ice. Courage to Change Roundup in Little Falls on February 3rd had a huge turnout. Events coming up: Staples Round Robin is April 21st please bring a dish to share. Motley after the 4th of July campout is July 6th-8th, Staples Campout August 17th-18th is at Dower Lake; fliers for the last three events are available.

Thank you for the service,
BR B.
District 18 DCM

TREATMENT - Cathy R. The area 35 Spring Assembly was exciting, interesting and quite interesting .The area Treatment Committee met for 1-½ hours at the beginning of the assembly. 11 people attended and we had a lovely discussion.

The topics we discussed were:

- Rule 145g, Part 10, sub paragraph 4, staff requirements for reimbursement from the insurance companies, state or federal organizations for time spent at an AA meeting. If a treatment center has more than 16 people in attendance – they may lose their reimbursements for that particular hour. Some of the districts have run into this issue. We strategized about how to deal with, some ideas were: break up groups into less than 16; suggest a panel discussion with more than one AA person on a panel.. The most important idea was to never criticize the treatment center and offer to sit down and strategize with them.
- Singleness of purpose. We need to carry the message to the treatment center about Alcoholics Anonymous not any other addiction. The brochure AA in Treatment Settings is an excellent brochure to offer AA members who are new to speaking at treatment centers
- Offer ½ price or free admission to your district's events. This is a great way to get treatment center contact information.
- Unfortunately, not all Districts have Treatment Chairs – please try to help your DCM find one – this is a very direct way to carry the message.

In June, Tammy and Shelly from District 12 will share with us what they found out about the new Veteran's Court (to be started in Duluth) plus other info to help AA vets. Additionally, we'll be talking about bridging the Gap programs in each district.

In service,
Cathy R.
Area 35 Treatment Chair

District 16- Glenn M. We just had our monthly District 16 meeting Wednesday night and once again we had a good turnout, all but one district committee chair and 8 GSR's or Alternate GSR's. Progress on all fronts and selected 5 subjects for the groups to pick for workshops.

I reported on:

1. If Armed Forces or hearing loss issues were being addressed by GSO as discussed at our 3/11 Committee Meeting in Aitkin.
2. That we finalized a 3 District joint Delegate report to be Saturday June 9th starting 1pm at the Hibbing Alano Club to save costs and Delegate travel expense. I had since found out it is to be a potluck so I'll get the particulars on this.

3. Hard copy sections of the General Service Conference were distributed to the various District Committee Chairs.
4. I participated in the Treatment Committee Meeting (I've been assigned to Treatment this rotation) for our District, a possible Vet's Court starting in Duluth (Treatment Chair Cathy is checking on this) in the Treatment workbook, page 6 are suggested activities for the treatment committees. Cathy's the Area 35 Treatment Chair's .
5. I dropped in at Lakeplace Retreat Center enroute to the Winter Wrap Up for IRGT (of which I'm Treatment Chair this year) They have six counselors, are interested in AA also speaking to the women inpatients besides the weekly men's and also for AA meetings to be brought in to them. I gave the information to Bruce, District 16 Treatment Chair and spoke with Jack District 9 Treatment Chair and Al-Anon's Outreach chair at the Winter Wrap Up in Mount Iron.

I attended more meetings, met more AA's and invited each and all to service and participate in our District and Area.

Glenn M.
District 16 DCM

District 5- Skip D. Good day,

District 5 is alive, I am happy to report that at our last District meeting on March 19th we now have a secretary. Thank you Jill R. So that makes three on the district (DCM, Treasurer, Secretary) with four - five GSR's.

I have talked with District 6 and 11, and we will join together for the Delegate's report back from the General Service Conference on July 28th 2018 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Princeton MN. From 10am - 2pm with a potluck dinner. I will be meeting with Cindy (District 11) and Sharna (District 6) to hammer out the details on the report back.

I am out visiting groups in District 5; there are forty groups. The women's groups in District 5 have told me not to attend their groups, so that leaves thirty seven groups to visit. I will try to find a female to attend these groups to carry the District message. I am also glad to see that I am not alone here as District 5. We do have another here, Alt. GSR and Treasurer for The Way Out group in Elk River. Thank you Brian for your service and the shared room expense.

In service,

Skip D.
District 5 DCM

ARCHIVIST - Steve D. Greetings from your Archivist.

At the Spring Assembly, I met with our Area Archives Committee. We discussed moving the Archives and came to a consensus to leave the Archives in its current location. This will help facilitate the cataloging and organizing our current Archive material.

The Archives committee has agreed to help with the herculean task. We will meet once per quarter to complete this task. Thanks to Scott M. and everyone on the Archives Committee for helping.

As Archivist, my primary goal for this year is to make the information we have in our Archives available to all AA members in the Area. To accomplish this task, I will begin to develop a list of documents, pictures and other information that can be provided electronically.

I also have been attending Northern Minnesota AA events at their request. It is apparent there is definitely an interest in our history. It is rewarding to have members of the fellowship appreciate our past and learning how we can use that experience, strength and hope to continue to carry the message.

If you have an event that you would like an Archives Display, please contact me and I will put it on my calendar. There is no charge for the display; however, we do ask that you cover travel, lodging and meals.

Lastly, I challenge all DCMs to encourage your district to have an Archives Chair. Our Area Chair, Scott M. is very active and passionate about Archives. We have a very engaged committee at this time. Also, I challenge all districts and groups to either complete a group history form or update their current one. I am always willing to provide guidance. Think also about getting your "old timers" to provide an oral history of their time in AA.

Yours in service,
Steve D.
Area 35 Archivist

ARCHIVES - Scott M. Greetings Area 35,

The Archives committee met yesterday morning we had seven in attendance. There were a number of items to discuss. We are in the early stages of starting to work on the Archival material kept at the repository in St. Cloud. In order for the committee to accomplish this work, will require some time spent outside of the ACM and Assemblies. We will be meeting May 12th to inventory what we have and do some other work. Dave C., Cindy K., Peter T., Steve D. our Archivist and myself will be attending to this. Under new business, I will address the expenses for this workday.

We also discussed items of consideration under Archives pertaining to the conference. The committee unanimously opposes AAWS displaying the

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conference presentation on its YOUTUBE channel, and feels we already have a policy in place and believe that policy stated in the SOUND and MOVING IMAGES policy should be followed.

- Cassidy, Archives Chair District 12, has asked the committee if we could search for items pertaining to Duluth Round Up, to be displayed at this years Round Up.
- Dave District 16 has made us aware of Grand Rapids celebrating 50 years of AA in that town and has asked for a presentation to take a place at a TBD District meeting.
- Cindy District 11 has been generating interest within her District and has brought a lot of enthusiasm to our committee.

I would like to thank Peter for sharing pictures of the repository so that we have an idea of what to expect when we get there, and will be doing a small presentation on how to download recordings into a drop box so it can be stored and shared.

Thank you again to all groups who have sent me their minutes, I enjoy reading them.

DID YOU KNOW?

Our literature is full of AA history, and our service manual is no exception.

- Chapter 9 touches on the two times we have found it necessary to reorganize the composition of the board.
- Originally, in 1951 the board consisted of eight Class A and seven Class B Trustees, most living in NYC. In 1962, because of our fellowships growth, it was necessary to broaden the base of Trusteeship who have had experience in the US and Canada.
- Then in 1966, because AA had experience running our affairs, we developed a method for bringing in Trustees from a distance, thus the reorganization of the board, as we know it today, which consists of seven Class A Trustees and fourteen Class B Trustees.

Yours in service,
Scott M.
Area 35 Archives

District 7 - Bob B.

Our District meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7pm at UCC. District 7 is having a potluck and Delegates report back on the service conference on May 17th at the First Congregational Church on Juniper St, in Brainerd. It starts at 6pm and the report is at 7pm. Thank you for Christine. The Crow Wing jail transitions fair is being held Wednesday April 11th. I plan to be there and share information about AA in the area. Corrections workshop Friday October 5th, at 6pm potluck and 7pm workshop (see flier for more information) we operate the Central Lakes AA phone line, we are also having booths at 3 local county fairs in our area, Cass County, Crow Wing County and Aitkin County. Please feel free to stop by and say hi.

Thank you everyone, members for AA made it possible for me to be with my mother in her final days of life. My sister and I are currently making arrangements, picking out caskets, and prayer cards. It's in God's time not ours.

Thank you
Bob B.
District 7 DCM

District 11- Cindy S-K

Hi from District 11,

I have been busy along with my literature chair Vicki R. Visiting meetings in the District. This has given us an opportunity this has given us an opportunity to talk about the District meeting and the importance of GSR's. Also asking each what the District can do to support the groups? Vicki is also checking on any literature needs for the groups. Currently Corrections and Literature chairs are filled. Summer is just around the corner so we are in the midst of reserving a table for information at the Pine County Fair. District 11 will join District 5 & 6 for a potluck and Delegates report on July 28th in Princeton.



"He kept a bottle on the shelf to prove he wasn't tempted any more."

In service,
Cindy S.-K.
District 11 DCM

CORRECTIONS - Paul M.

Greetings,

We had eight people present at our meeting this morning. District 11, 6, 14, 8, 3, 7 and a visitor from Area 36. I'm a little concerned for only six districts were represented. I guess we have work to do. We discussed the current agenda items. All Districts report they need more volunteers to go into facilities. I would like to thank Butch for giving us all an in depth report about what transition fairs are all about again. I'm in a learning curve "still teachable to some degree". On Tuesday April 10th, I will meet with the Statewide Correction meeting it will be my 2nd meeting. Please remember when you are signed up to be a contact for an inmate getting released you may all get a call someday. We need you!

There is a corrections workshop on October 5th, in District 7 Friday Night before the Fall Assembly at 415 Juniper Street in Brainerd with District 18 and Area 36 participating.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Paul M.
Area 35 Corrections Chair

District 12- Richard G.

Greetings Area 35,

District 12 continues to find new and more effective ways of carrying the AA message despite our changing times. All action committees are filled with the exception of PI/CPC but our Treatment Chair says she has a live one. The District has about the same number of member's over the last twenty years but is far more diverse and accomplished more than ever due to the enthusiasm and hard work.

We are now looking forward to Christine's Report August 19th at our rotating District meeting in Cloquet and thank her for her excellent service. We are hosting a Grapevine writing workshop May 19th for the first time and thank Melinda and Rita for setting it up. Tammy has also developed a new flyer to carry the message to alcoholics in treatment centers, which should stimulate volunteers.

Yours in service,
Rich G.
District 12 DCM

District 14- Paul E.

First of all, I need to thank Deb, Mike, Peter, and Amanda who are the dedicated committee members who consistently attend our District 14 meetings.

District 14 still meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 at the Coffee Landing.

- Currently we would like to be able to fill chair positions for Alt DCM, Archives, PI, CPC, Corrections and Treatment. It's time to go back to visit our groups again to see if we can find some interested alcoholics to serve in District 14 with us. We will continue to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers regardless if these chair positions are filled or not.
- Pineview Treatment Center moved from Littlefork to International Falls. There were two AA meetings at the treatment center and those meetings have not started up again.
- We have contacted the Drug Court Program for Koochiching County and our CPC team will be giving a presentation of "What is AA" to the drug court team and other professionals who may be interested. The date and time is to be determined.
- Our literature is being placed around town include the high school.

Paul E.
District 14 DCM

PI - Gayle R. I'm Gayle, Alcoholic, serving as your Public Information chair.

Yesterday in our committee meeting we had ten persons in our group, with Districts 4,6,9,12,13,18 Myron and myself present. We went around discussing what our Districts are doing. Some Districts are struggling or getting a slow start. Some Districts are doing well and are off and running.

How do we find balance? Some of our District chairs wear multiple hats, working as chairs for more than one committee. Some seem to struggle getting volunteers to help and tries to focus on one important thing at a time. Going around the group some heard what other Districts have done that has worked and might try that. One District is working with the past PI committee to focus on the needs of the District. Solid committed committee makes it easier to delegate the work so more jobs get done at the same time.

We had a couple of GSR's sitting in our committee meeting to learn, and they shared some good advice. One stated, "the problem hasn't changed, the solution hasn't changed, it's how we attack it." One GSR was remembering when he started drinking, school age, so he makes sure the Junior Highs and High Schools have AA information. At first I thought Junior High, that's way too young for information about drinking. Then I thought, I started drinking at

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age 12, that's junior high age. Discussions we had, what are we really doing, Carrying the Message, and what is our message-our mission, One alcoholic talking to another alcoholic. It was mentioned that the medical professional is over worked and wants a simple message, "we can help- send them to us". Sometimes we ask who is the professional; it's just the person who serves the alcoholic face to face.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Gayle R.
Area 35 PI Chair

District 6- Sharna O.-J. Greetings from District 6

We held our agenda items workshop with District 11 on March 17th, 2018. We have our date set for July 28th, 2018 for the report back from Christine. We will be hosting with District 5 and District 11 a potluck at Trinity Lutheran in Princeton. Our District still has officer positions needing to be filled but we continue to be strong and supportive of each other.

Yours in service
Sharna O.-J.
District 6 DCM

District 1 Not present

GRAPEVINE - Jerry B. Hi, I’m Jerry B. & I’m an alcoholic. Serving as Grapevine Chair for Area 35. Our Delegate Christine has passed on information from our West Central Regional Trustee Tom, asking for ideas on how to get more people interested in the Grapevine subscription Challenge. All I can think of for now is to ask you and your groups to subscribe if you haven’t already done so. In the West Central Region subscriptions are down a little for the past three years. Any and all suggestions, to let the Grapevine better serve you would be appreciated. We do have a few subscription forms with me in the back; feel free to pick one up. More items have been ordered and I will have them at the committee meeting in Aitkin.

I have been asked to participate in a Grapevine Workshop that will be held in District 12, May 19th, there are flyers on the table. I hope to see you all there. Saturday morning there were nine present representing five districts at the Grapevine/Literature Committee Meeting. We did discuss a few different options regarding the Grapevine subscription challenge in our area. That we will be passing on to Tom and Christine.

Sales for this weekend so far are around \$180.00; the Grapevine Literature and Archives committees set up tables for your convenience in the back. If your District or group would like to place a Grapevine order please let me know two weeks in advance. My email is in the Northern Light.

I have a couple of suggestions from the committee. The Districts are to keep a supply of order forms and subscription forms on hand and to pass them out on all the tables of any functions going on in their districts such as speaker meetings etc. The area keeps a supply on hand; I have some now and will order more if need be. Some of the ideas we came up for them was to also give out gift subscriptions at area events as door prizes. Grapevine writer’s workshop challenge, hold one of those in your districts and you could possibly become publishes in the Grapevine. What a joy. DCM’s going to different meetings bring your Grapevine chair if at all possible.

Yours in service,
Jerry B.
Area 35 Grapevine Chair

District 2- No Report

District 21- Laura C. Not Present

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

State Fair Booth for 2018: - Gaye R.

Area 35/36 officers and chairs discussed making the State Fair Booth more interesting and more exciting, have some displays up, how AA was formed, what’s our mission for AA, AA in the state of MN, and our MN history.

Gaye R: in our Area 35 actions book (under the Public Information) it says since pretty much from 1989 Area 35 has participated in conjunction with Area 36 to 1/3 manpower, 1/3 costs of \$500. I am looking for a motion to continue that we for the 2018 that area 35 participates in the state fair.

Gayle R made motion “Area 35 participates in state fair booth with costs not exceeding \$500”

Motion was made, motion was seconded and motion carried.

(August 25th & 26th) are the dates, two persons, per two hours, and the booth closes at 9pm.

Area 35 Budget:- Roger R.

Christine- removes \$60 from the GSC travel

Sally group records chair- Carl’s estimate for printing so I want to increase \$50 per event printing costs.

Jim- Fall Assembly- \$750 for coffee- the coffee is free?
\$3,000 for rent- we are not charged any

Steve L. - when you approve this budget you are agreeing that these are services that you want, that you have agreed to come with money to pay for this budget that you are voting on. It is important that the groups send the money to the area to pay for the services that you are going to vote on.

I am going to be looking with our treasurer that we are heading in a good direction in our budget with the area. We want to encourage the GSR’s and DCM’s to help support the area as much as they can.

Cathy R. made a motion to accept the area budget- Tom O. seconded the motion- all in favor- none opposed

AAWS YouTube Channel:

Justin DCM District 13- Sally from District 8 and I have been talking about this, I had made a commitment to put information together, to share at this assembly, I did spend some time yesterday and today and I’m going to go through it. The questions that we should all asks ourselves, can YouTube be an effective platform for our public information efforts, can it be used within the boundaries that are defined by our principles?

A while back I was reading the PI workbook and it says, “we carry the message by getting in touch with and responding to the media, schools, industry, and other organizations which can report on the nature and purpose of AA and what it can do for alcoholics.” So yesterday, I clicked on the first PSA “I Have Hope”, which has been viewed 456 times since yesterday. In the side bar the first hit that I got was top 10 reasons to run from AA, it has been viewed 250,000 times. I clicked on that and then the side bar changed, and the first hit was deprogramming oneself from the alcoholics anonymous with 24,000 views. The next one was why AA is not the solution with 8,700 views, the next one was AA is a death sentence with 52,000 views, the next one was 5 stupid things about AA with 44,000 views. Our PSA has been viewed 456 times. I went back to all three of our PSA’s I clicked on the second one Doors” it has been viewed 1,100 times. The third hit down on the left was called finding sobriety on a mountaintop, I stopped there and then clicked on “Our World” which is our PSA and it has 642 views and in the sidebar was alcoholics and their bullshit excuses. I could have kept doing this for hours. That is what YouTube is.

Tradition 5 has to do with we carry our message, don’t we want to make sure it is our message. Tradition 6 talks about us not endorsing anything outside, these kinds of messages are always going to exist on the internet and there is nothing we can do about it, nor should we, they are outside issues but this content is put in front of the public as a result of them searching for information on AA. The channel bears the name Alcoholics Anonymous can we really expect that the public will know that we aren’t endorsing the messages? What are they going to see? Tradition 10 “hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy” is this not drawing the name of Alcoholics anonymous into public controversy? Tradition 11 based on attraction rather than promotion, so we are going to use YouTube to relate ourselves and our program to the public? Is any of this attractive?

So then, if we answer the questions again now, can YouTube be an effective platform for our public information efforts? When it says in the workbook that we educate the public on how to educate other people on what AA is and what AA is not. We can’t even control what the messages are in the side bar. Is it effective? I think it is a pretty resounding no its not. It’s not even going to even help with that. The next question can it be used within the boundaries that are defined by our principles?

Really? I’m turning red here, because I’m upset because as an Area I haven’t heard more people get on board here, we can’t allow this to be this way. So Districts 8 and 13 what we want to do is we want to say ok lets just submit these ideas to the area and lets get some people here involved. Let’s hopefully make a proposal or I don’t know the terminology, we need to see something on next years agenda, we need it removed, unless someone in here can come to the mic and tell us a good reason why we have it.

Shelly- District 12- I too had some deep concerns about YouTube I clicked on AAWS within the AAWS you had an opportunity to play all, but there was no side bar, but if you click right on the video then you get the side bar that is based on your history. I like “Ted Talks”, the first one on my link were three different “Ted Talks”, and they were helpful things on how to recover with alcoholism. There were not any negative things on my sidebar, it was related to my history. One of the things, if you have a YouTube account, it saves all of your search history it uses that to personalize advertisements towards that user. I don’t think there is a way that we can protect our anonymity doing that, I want to switch over to LinkedIn to get our information out to people in the community.

Roger R.– Bring this information back to your districts and groups, and if we feel as and area that we want to put an agenda item together we have got time to do it. Not this upcoming conference in two weeks but for the next conference.

(Continued from page 16)

Techsoup/QuickBooks Online Sharing:

Justin DCM District 13- I'll make a motion that the area allow all the districts that belong to the area to register with Techsoup using area 35 non-profit status. The motion was seconded and the motion carried.

Archives Move:

Steve D. - Good Morning everyone, What I want to address this morning, is that when I took over as archivist, our archives are located in St. Cloud, we have a place we rent, and as you saw in the budget we pay \$100 a month per rent. When I took over, I realized that I need to get this stuff closer to me so that we can work through it. There is tons of stuff, so I thought the prudent thing to do would be to move it closer so that I could work on it. At this meeting and the ACM prior, in working with the archives committee, we have decided that it would be best, if we left the archives where it is right now.

Instead of moving everything to Fargo. When someone takes over this position, they will have to move it somewhere else. With the help of the archives committee who is very willing to help us, it makes more sense to leave it where it is and go to the archives to work on it.

There is information that needs to be cataloged then we will do that there then we will take it back and digitize it and develop a catalog to make this information available to all of our members of Northern MN. The original new business items was to move the archives but we are not going to do that, however it is going to create a little bit of a dynamic for expenses and Scott's going to talk about what the archives committee is going to need. I think this is the best way that we can serve Northern MN with providing them with access to the archives.

West Central Regional Service Conference Checking Account : - Christine G.

At our WCR meeting with fellow Delegates in the region it was talked about that Area's would assume ownership and reporting to the IRS for the regional funds.

The estimate balance transfer and the income from the event would be considered income because it is being passed from one entity to another. We would have the final bank transfer between \$6,500 (prudent reserve) to the current balance (around \$10,500) as income and then the revenue from the event, around \$6-7,000, based on \$15 for 400 attendees plus misc./7th tradition monies.

The other option would be to become a 501C3/C7 nonprofit entity. That means filing an annual online form of annual revenues. We'd also have a cost to perform the initial filing. Tom had shared this idea with the AAWS chair, who is a regional trustee, and he was going to send Tom his region's documentation on this idea. We are waiting on his response.

In the meantime, I did meet with a Wells Fargo Banker. The WCR could set up a checking account without making any changes to the entity and there should be a seamless way to transfer to other signers in the region.

I will be having a phone call this upcoming weekend with the WCR to get a consensus if we are going to continue with the current US Bank or if we do the switch to Wells Fargo and give it a shot.

For the mean time, I ask that you take this back to your groups and we will have more discussion on this in at the Area Committee meeting in August.

Calendar of Events:-See the Northern Light and Area 35 website calendar. Email your events to webmaster@area35.org for posting on the website and northernlight@area35.org 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 also. Please send the flier in a PDF format that would be helpful, if not that is okay too.

Adjourned: The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Singleness of Purpose

Over the years I have heard in meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous variations of this statement: *"An addiction is an addiction is an addiction"*. Usually that statement is preceded by someone at the meeting justifying why a person with a drug addiction...who has not identified himself or herself as an alcoholic...has a place at the AA table. Someone may chime in, "Well, there are no or few meetings of NA in our area and we have to be open so they can learn the program." Let's review what our AA materials and Bill W. offer to us.

Pamphlet: *"Problems Other than Alcohol"; AA pamphlet P-35; February, 1958; Bill W., author*

"Perhaps there is no suffering more horrible than drug addiction, especially the kind which is produced by morphine, heroin and other narcotics... Compared with the addict and his woes, we alcoholics are pikers...In A.A. we have members who have made great recoveries from both the bottle and the needle...this problem of drug addiction in its several forms lies close to us all...Many A.A.'s, especially those who have suffered these particular addictions, are now asking "What can we do about drugs--within our Fellow-

ship and without?...several projects to help pill and drug users are already afloat--projects which use A.A.'s Twelve Steps and in which A.A. members are active--; "Our first duty, as a society, is to insure our own survival. Therefore, we have to avoid distractions and multipurpose activity. Sobriety--freedom from alcohol--through the teaching and practice of the Twelve Steps is the sole purpose of an A.A. group...we have to confine our membership to alcoholics, and we have to confine our A.A. groups to a single purpose. If we don't stick to these principles, we shall almost surely collapse. And if we collapse, we cannot help anyone...Therefore, I see no way of making nonalcoholic addicts into A.A. members. Experience says loudly that we can admit no exceptions, even though drug users and alcoholics happen to be first cousins of a sort. Suppose, though, that we are approached by a drug addict who nevertheless has had a genuine alcoholic history. There was a time when such a person would have been rejected. One of the best A.A.'s I know is a man who had been seven years on the needle before he joined up with us. But prior to that, he had been a terrific alcoholic, and his history proved it. Therefore, he could qualify for A.A. and he certainly did."

"We cannot give membership A.A. membership to nonalcoholic narcotics addicts. But, like anyone else, they should be able to attend certain *open* (emphasis added) A.A. meetings provided, of course, that the groups themselves are willing."

Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age: A brief history of A.A.; Bill W., 1957

(Page 106) "We obey A.A.'s Steps and Traditions because we really want them for ourselves...we conform because we genuinely want to conform... Much of our discussion so far leads to Tradition Five, which states: "Each group has but one primary purpose--to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers." We think we should do one thing well rather than many things to which we are not called...The very life of our fellowship requires its preservation...together we have found a substantial remedy for a terrible malady...It is our experience as alcoholics that makes us of unique value on our sector of the total alcoholic front. We can approach sufferers as no one else can.

"Most emphatically, then, A.A. has but one single purpose: *to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers*. That is our basic objective, our real reason for existence."

Please take to heart the words above from A.A. sanctioned-material. The following words are mine, based on my experience, strength and hope. Take what you like and leave the rest.

For those who state that *"an addict is an addict is an addict"* I suggest an action which may help to clarify things. I suggest that an alcoholic who has no other addictions attend a meeting of Gamblers Anonymous and, when introductions are made, state this: "Hi, I'm Jim and I'm an alcoholic." Since I have never attended a G.A. meeting, I can't predict reaction from the G.A. group. But if there is in the group an Elder Statesman, he or she may ask for clarity. "This is a meeting for those addicted to gambling. Do you suffer from this malady?" To which "Jim" might respond, "No. I don't gamble except twice a year when I buy a chance at the lottery." To which I would hope that the Elder Statesman would respond, "Jim, let's step in the next room so we can discuss your presence here and what our purpose is in the realm of addictions."

Farfetched? Not really if proponents of *"an addict is an addict is an addict"* truly mean what they advocate. Why not attend meetings of Overeaters Anonymous and declare alcoholism as your addiction, and not the ability to control eating habits? How will they react?

Many of us are dually addicted, perhaps multiply addicted. One quick solution to ensure respect for each 12-step program's singleness of purpose and to those attending the meeting:

1. Be aware of which 12-step meeting you are attending.
2. Introduce yourself as a member of that program only.
3. Listen and share your experience, strength and hope in terms of that addiction.

When we identify ourselves as "addict-alcoholic" we march a few more steps down the familiar path of "but you don't understand, I'm different" and, by the way, we hold ourselves out as "special". When attending an A.A. meeting, you're an alcoholic. When attending an N.A. meeting, you're an addict. When attending a G.A. meeting, you're an addicted gambler.

Respect and honor for each recovery program is essential. I'm an alcoholic.

Jim T.
Glenwood, MN

"When we consult an AA friend, we should not be reluctant to remind him of our need for full privacy. Intimate communication is normally so free and easy among us that an AA adviser may sometimes forget when we expect him to remain silent. The protective sanctity of this most healing of human relations ought never be violated."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., August 1961
"This Matter of Honesty," The Language of the Heart

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 knowledge MS Publisher, MS Word, MS Excel and other misc. computer programs as needed. 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 two 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 @725 pieces to mail. What is not mailed is passed out at the Area meetings.

Number of Copies	Printing Costs		Insertion Fee	Total Cost
	1 Sided	2 Sided		
725	\$ 48	\$ 60	\$ 75	\$ 123/135
1000	\$ 80	\$ 120	\$ 75	\$ 155/195

5. The cost for having a flier inserted into the Northern Light is \$75. Make Checks payable to NMAA and mail to :

**NMAA
Grand Rapids, MN 55744**

**MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE MOST
CURRENT ADDRESS!!!**

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 2018 are as Follows:

- ◆ January 22nd : Flier will be included in the January/February Issue
- ◆ March 5th : Flier will be included in the March/April Issue
- ◆ May 7th : Flier will be included in the May/June Issue
- ◆ July 9th : Flier will be included in the July/August Issue
- ◆ September 4th : Flier will be included in the September/October Issue
- ◆ November 5th : Flier will be included in the November/December Issue

OUR PAST DELEGATES

<u>Panel 66</u> <u>2016-2017</u> Kelly D.	<u>Panel 36</u> <u>1986-1987</u> Louie H.	<u>Panel 10</u> <u>1960-1961</u> Bob B. (deceased)	
<u>Panel 64</u> <u>2014-2015</u> Michael “Jake” J.	<u>Panel 34</u> <u>1984-1985</u> Bob P.	<u>Panel 8</u> <u>1958-1959</u> Pearl N. (deceased)	
<u>Panel 62</u> <u>2012-2013</u> Jim K.	<u>Panel 32</u> <u>1982-1983</u> Tom L.	<u>Panel 6</u> <u>1956-1957</u> Waldo H. (deceased)	
<u>Panel 60</u> <u>2010-2011</u> Jon C.	<u>Panel 30</u> <u>1981-1982</u> Don M. (deceased)	<u>Panel 4</u> <u>1954-1955</u> Wendell H. (deceased)	
<u>Panel 58</u> <u>2008-2009</u> JoAnne N.	<u>Panel 28</u> <u>1978-1979</u> Garfield (Duffy) S. (deceased)	<u>Panel 2</u> <u>1952-1953</u> Arthur R. (deceased)	
<u>Panel 56</u> <u>2006-2007</u> Jerry S.	<u>Panel 26</u> <u>1976-1977</u> Vern R. (deceased)		
<u>Panel 54</u> <u>2004-2005</u> Charlie C.	<u>Panel 24</u> <u>1974-1975</u> Gordon B. H. (deceased)		
<u>Panel 52</u> <u>2002-2003</u> Tim C.	<u>Panel 22</u> <u>1972-1973</u> Frank P. J. (deceased)		
<u>Panel 50</u> <u>2000-2001</u> Tom A.	<u>Panel 20</u> <u>1970-1971</u> Clarence B. (deceased)		
<u>Panel 48</u> <u>1998-1999</u> Susie A.	<u>Panel 18</u> <u>1968-1969</u> Dave H. (deceased)		
<u>Panel 46</u> <u>1996-1997</u> Bill P. (deceased)	<u>Panel 16</u> <u>1966-1967</u> Arno A. (deceased)		
<u>Panel 44</u> <u>1994-1995</u> Bruce B.	<u>Panel 14</u> <u>1964-1965</u> Donald F. (deceased)		
<u>Panel 42</u> <u>1992-1993</u> Greg G. (deceased)	<u>Panel 12</u> <u>1962-1963</u> Donna T. (deceased)		
<u>Panel 40</u> <u>1990-1991</u> Bob J.			
<u>Panel 38</u> <u>1988-1989</u> Scott J.			

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. <p>(from The A.A. Service Manual, pages S44-S45)</p>
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Area 35 Committee Meeting Agenda
Aitkin, MN
June 3rd, 2018

_____ **9:00 A.M.** Action Chair Committee Meetings
(9:30 a.m. Financial Oversight Committee)
_____ **10:30 A.M.** Area Committee Meeting
_____ Call to Order Open With the Serenity Prayer
_____ Recognize Past Delegates
_____ Add to Agenda
_____ Approve February Area Committee Minutes

OFFICER REPORTS:

_____ Delegate – Christine G.
_____ Alternate Delegate – Jim S.
_____ Chair – Roger R.
_____ Secretary – Melissa A.
_____ Treasurer – Mike F.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS:

_____ CPC – Myron H.
_____ District 9 – Jim S.
_____ District 13 – Justin W.
_____ WEBMASTER – Rillis E.
_____ LITERATURE – Brian P.
_____ District 15 – Matthew B.
_____ District 3 – Kevin K.
_____ NORTHERN LIGHT – Steve L.
_____ GROUP RECORDS – Sally L.
_____ District 4 – Greg C.
_____ District 8 – Heidi B.
_____ District 18 –William BR B.
_____ TREATMENT – Cathy R.
_____ District 16 – Glenn M.
_____ District 5– Skip D.

_____ ARCHIVIST – Steve D.
_____ ARCHIVES – Scott M.
_____ District 7 – Bob B.
_____ District 11 – Cindy S.-K.
_____ CORRECTIONS – Paul M.
_____ District 12 –Richard G.
_____ District 14 – Paul E.
_____ PI – Gayle R.
_____ District 6 – Sharna O.-J.
_____ District 1 –
_____ GRAPEVINE – Jerry B.
_____ District 2 –
_____ District 21 – Laura C.

12:00 P.M. Lunch

12:45 P.M. Reconvene

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

_____ FOC Report
_____ Spring Assembly Report
_____ Delegates Report

_____ Calendar of Events
_____ Adjourn

Mail Area 35 Group contributions to:

**NMAA
P.O. Box 114
Grand Rapids, MN 55744**