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Deadline for the Next
Northern Light is
January 23, 2019

This is YOUR Newsletter



Send articles and comments for publication to
Steven L. — northernlight@area35.org
Bring this copy to share with your Group!

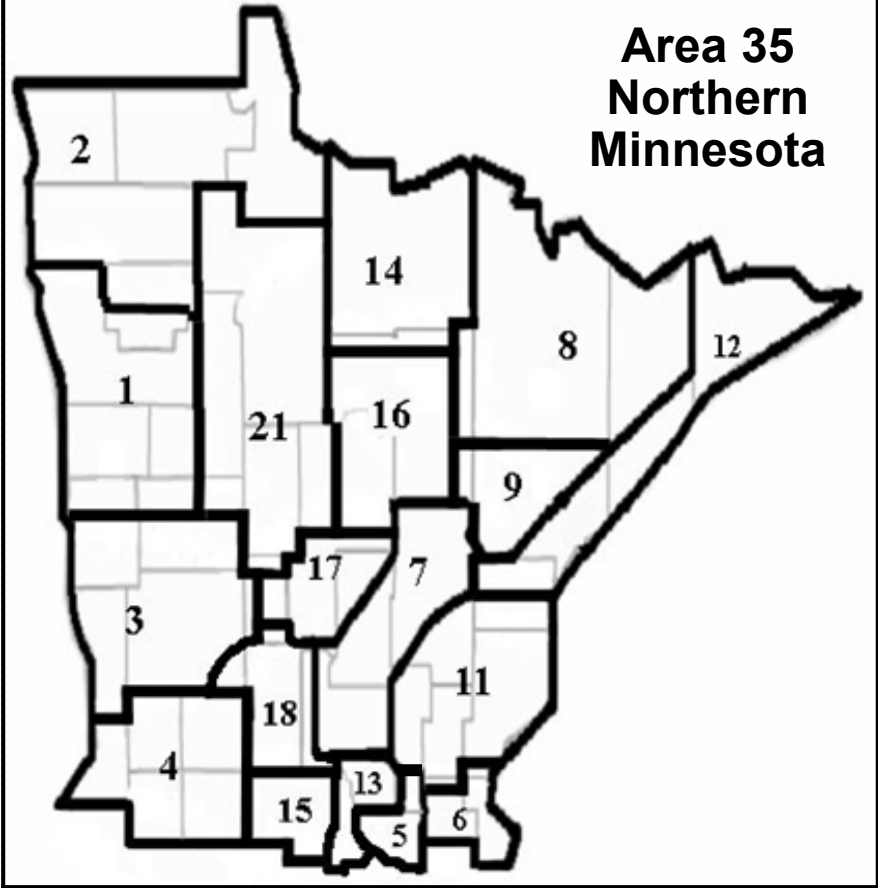
Don't forget to visit and bookmark your Area 35 web site! - <http://area35.org>
Event Calendar - Meeting Directory - NL Online - Download Pamphlets - District Pages - Links to Other Sites

2018-19 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> Pat M. 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> 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> 1st Sunday of Odd Months, 3:00 p.m. Thief River Falls Alano Club 614 Davis Ave. Thief River Falls, MN 56701</p> <p><u>District 3</u> 3rd Sunday of Month, 10:00 a.m. Alano Club 827 Summit Avenue Detroit Lakes, MN 56501</p> <p><u>District 4</u> 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> 3rd Monday of Month, 7 p.m. Freshwaters Church 12475 273rd Ave NW Zimmerman, MN 55398</p> <p><u>District 6</u> 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> 3rd Thursday of Month, 7:00 p.m. First Congregational United Church 415 Juniper Street Brainerd, MN 56401</p> <p><u>District 8</u> 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> Last Sunday of Month, 6:00 p.m. Hibbing Alano Club 3725 1st Avenue Hibbing, MN 55746</p> <p><u>District 11</u> 1st Tuesday of Month, 7:00 p.m. Peace Lutheran 2177 Hwy 18 Finlayson, MN 55735</p> <p><u>District 12</u> 3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30 p.m. Contact DCM for meeting location (It Rotates)</p> <p><u>District 13</u> 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> 3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30pm Coffee Landing 444 3rd Street International Falls, MN 56649</p> <p><u>District 15</u> 1st Monday of Month, 8:00 p.m. Albany Community Center 741 Lake Ave. Albany, MN 56307</p> <p><u>District 16</u> 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> 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> 2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m. Bemidji Alano Club 3802 Greenleaf Ave NW Bemidji, MN 56601</p> <p><u>District 17</u> Not currently active or unknown</p>
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Delegate:

Greetings Area 35,

Since the Fall Assembly, I have most recently started putting together the proposals that Area 35 voted to send to GSO for request as GSC agenda items. The proposals requesting to take down the A.A.W.S. YouTube channel and the request to produce *AA Come of Age* in large print, will be submitted by November 12th.

I have been working with Jim on planning for the West Central Regional Service Conference that is coming March 1st-3rd, 2018 in Moorhead. We are working on getting the agenda set and the website for registration is up and running. You can visit wcraasc2019.com to register online.

I sent out a letter from Greg T., GSO General Manager, regarding Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., licensing the Meeting Guide technology. Please note the meeting information database will operate completely independently from the Fellowship New Vision (FNV) database that is currently supported by G.S.O. Meeting Guide is a separate tool that offers A.A. entities full control of their local meeting information and collects it in one place. Users of this new portal will be linked to the service entity providing the information. Participation is, of course, voluntary, but the more connected the service is to the Fellowship as a whole, the more powerful a tool it will become. There are instructions about how to connect with this new resource at <https://meetingguide.aa.org>.

I also sent out an email containing Group contributions made to GSO. Overall, Area 35 has declined in their contributions to GSO. With it being the month of November and “Gratitude” month, I would challenge all of you to see if we can increase our Group contributions up to GSO. I would like us to end the year strong and on a good path for next year. The report shows that 39% of our Groups in Area 35 are contributing to GSO. I also want to express a big thank you to all the groups that are contributing. The General Service Office appreciates all your contributions and support.

Our West Central Trustee just got back from Board weekend and I will have more to report from that weekend at the December committee meeting. We will be having a WCR Conference call on November 27th that I will update you on as well. Tom is a busy man and sits on several committees and represents the voice of our region very well. All his hard work and dedication is very much appreciated.

Don’t forget to get your Grapevine subscriptions in and know that any Grapevine orders place through December 31, 2018 will get free shipping.

I will be sending an email out in December asking for your preference on how you would like agenda background material. It is already getting to be that time.

I will be attending the Joint Workshop at Bethlehem Lutheran Church on November 17th and look forward to seeing you all there.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to better serve you or your Groups. I am willing to come to your Districts.

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

Alt. Delegate:

Hello Everyone,

This past month has seen me getting ready for the annual workshop. I have made some reminder calls to the people I talked to at the Fall Assembly. Some have returned my call and some I am still waiting. I will be making follow up calls this week before moving on to other DCM’s. Please make sure that if you are going to present that you allow twenty minutes for presentation and twenty minutes for discussion. If you have questions please ask me. There are no dumb questions.

Christine and I have continued to work on the service conference. A big shout out to Steve L. and Andre P. for getting the website up and going. You can now go to WCRAASC2019.com to register for the event. Thanks a bunch.

I hope to see you at the Joint Workshop coming up in a few weeks and then again in December for the ACM.

In Service
Jim S.
Area 35 Alternate Delegate

Area Chair:

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 carry our AA message through our Service Structure to those who are out

there and still suffering from alcoholism in the Northern half of Minnesota.

I’m extending a special thank you to those members who attended our recent Fall Assembly in Deerwood, MN. Our total attendance was 102. My full report on the Fall Assembly is forthcoming at a later date.

Some of my recent service activity as your Area Chair includes the following.

- Working with Mike F. on the area budget and Melissa A. on Area flyers such as the upcoming Spring Assembly flyer that is available here today.
- I have scheduled and attended visits by myself and the other area officers to Fertile (District 1) and Bemidji (District 21) in support of these District’s efforts to gain more participation in District Service and representation in Area 35.
- I’ve also been working with Mary M., Chairperson of Area 36 on planning an effective Area 35/36 Joint Workshop for November 17, 2018 in St. Cloud, MN.

Following our Area 35 Fall Assembly I was asked to facilitate Area 36’s election of new officers, along with Jake J. Area 35 Past Delegate. One interesting observation was that prior to Area 36 voting, each individual who was standing for an officer position was asked to give an oral statement of his/ her service resume. This practice seemed to facilitate an informed Group conscience and assisted individuals who were attending their first Assembly in their voting decisions.

Please feel free to reach out to me if I can assist your Group or District.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the November 17th Area35/36 Joint Committee Workshop and December 2nd Area 35 Committee Meeting in Aitkin, MN.

In service,
Roger R.
Area 35 Chair

Secretary:

Greetings Area 35 my name is Melissa A. I am an alcoholic and currently serving as your Area 35 Secretary.

I hope that all is well since the Fall Assembly. I had such a wonderful time. I really appreciate all the hard work and effort all of those who are serving within Area 35 has done and continues to do. One of the biggest highlights for me at assemblies is the new GSR’s and the GSR’s who continue serving Alcoholics Anonymous.

As I admitted my error on the Spring Assembly flyer please continue to advise people that we are not going to be having that Assembly at Ruttger’s, that it will be in Duluth at the Holiday Inn and Suites and that all the other information on the flyer is correct. I did send a correct flyer to our Webmaster Rillis so it can be put on the Area 35 website. I apologize for that occurring I will be triple checking the flyers from now on.

I got the minutes from the Fall Assembly typed up and sent to Steve so that they could be posted in the Northern Light. I appreciate everyone who sent me their reports via email or handed them in.

It is such a pleasure being able to serve Alcoholics Anonymous.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service, and I look forward to the Area 35/36 Joint Workshop.

Melissa A.
Area 35 Secretary

Treasurer:

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

Since my last report, I have:

- Reconciled 3 monthly bank statements and created reports for review by the Financial Oversight Committee
- Deposited all contributions received as of October 23rd (I’ve been on vacation for 2 weeks)
- Paid all bills and expenses received as of November 2nd (I paid them the day I returned)
- Completed a balance sheet and an income/expense/contribution statement for Period 5 (August/September)

As of November 2nd, our checking and savings accounts have a combined total balance of **\$22,185**. Year-to-date total income and expenses are **\$31,216** and **\$34,022**, respectively.

Year-to-date Group contributions for 2018 and 2017 are **\$25,823** and
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\$20,972, respectively, a **23%** increase over last year. Based on the contributions received thus far, we could end the year with contributions exceeding **\$31,000**. That amount would outpace the **\$24,961** we received in 2017, and the **\$29,862** we received in 2016. Note that I am talking about Group contributions only, as we also receive additional income from Area events, Roundups, Northern Light flyers, and Grapevine sales. Our Groups and their members continue to do an outstanding job of supporting Area 35!

All Officers and Committee Chairs are operating below their respective budgets for the year. Our total year-to-date expenses are **\$11,757** below budget.

At the Fall Assembly the members approved a 2019 budget totaling **\$46,942**, or about **\$844** less than our 2018 budget of **\$47,786**. However, actual expenses for 2018 should end up being approximately **\$35,000**.

I have completed the mailing of contribution acknowledgments received through the end of August. I am once again behind on this task! If you have questions or concerns about any of your group contributions, please email me at treasurer@area35.org.

The current address for mailing contributions is:

**NMAA
PO Box 114
Grand Rapids, MN 55744-0114**

Please remember to include your group 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 serve Alcoholics Anonymous.

In Service,
Mike F.
Area 35 Treasurer

Archives:

Greetings Area 35,

It was good to see everyone at the Fall Assembly! By now everyone should be aware that we have moved the Areas archives to Moorhead, where they are being stored at one of Jim S. storage facility.

I recently had the pleasure of attending a Delegates sharing session hosted by the Cook Sunday Night Big Book Group. This sharing session was recorded and the recordings will be kept with our archives.

Since the Cook Group is in District 8, they invited all past Delegates from that District.

Jon C., Jerry S., Charlie C., Scott J. and Tom L. shared their experiences with Sponsorship and the Homegroup as well as sharing some memories from their experience as Area Delegate and spoke of prior Service commitments that were instrumental in their service to Alcoholics Anonymous.

I would like to personally thank them on behalf of the Archives Committee for a wonderful afternoon of fellowship, I really enjoyed listening to what they had to share.

If your District would like to do something similar, please let me know and I would be more than happy to assist your District to host such an event.

Yours in Service,
Scott M.
Area 35 Archives Chair



"I've discovered I'm unique — just like everyone else!"

Archivist:

Greetings Area 35,

The Area 35 Archives move has been completed. Thanks to Scott M. and Peter T. for helping with the move. The Archives are now stored in a climate controlled location in Fargo, ND. The space will provide us the opportunity to begin the process of cataloguing stored books, documents and other forms of material such as tapes, posters, etc..

With the help of the Area 35 Archives Committee, we will begin the process. We discussed at the Fall Assembly that we will make time at Area Committee Meetings, and other area events such as the Assemblies and Winter Workshop to catalog our current archive material.

Also, we will begin preserving past issues of the Grapevine during the next Aitkin Committee Meeting. A past Delegate and past Archivist, Scott J. has graciously agreed to provide hands on training on this process. There is much to do, but by involving Area 35 members not only will it reduce the amount of time it takes, but more importantly, give more people hands on experience with our archives.

I challenge all Districts to identify someone that can serve on our Area 35 Archives Committee. The more people we get involved, the sooner we can make our Archives material available to all members of Area 35.

Getting the word out about our past will help insure that A.A. will be there for future generations.

The Archives display is very active and I already have many Conferences that I will be setting up the Archives display. If you have an event, whether it is one day or for a weekend that you would like to have me set up the display, please let me know. Expenses for such displays are the responsibility of the hosting Group, District, or Conference.

Yours in Service,
Steve D.
Area 35 Archivist.

Cooperation with the Professional Community:

NO REPORT

Corrections:

Greetings from your Corrections Chair!

I had a few contacts this month for inmates getting released from prison. I met with Area 36 to discuss what's going on with the state wide directions. All areas seem to be covered at this time but need for more people because the same people seem to be always going. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me Paul .

Yours in service,
Paul M.
Area 35 Corrections Chair

Grapevine:

Hi, I'm Jerry B. & I'm an alcoholic serving as Grapevine Chair for Area 35.

I'd like to let you all know that there is free shipping for several Grapevine items if you order from now until December 31, 2018. I've got a list of eligible items if you're interested, stop by to see me & see what's available. I placed an order recently for some extra items for the WCRAASC, including. 2019, calendars & pocket planners, hopefully it will all be available in Aitkin December 2nd for the ACM. I'm looking forward to heading to Alexandria for the Area 35 Service Workshop January 19th & 20th 2019 also to Moorhead March 1st thru the 3rd for the West Central Regional AA Service Conference and of course the Area 35 ACM in Aitkin Dec.2nd

Yours in service,
Jerry B.
Area 35 Grapevine Chair

Group Records:

Greetings, Area 35.

The monthly upload of current meetings to aaMinnesota.org has been completed. If a group does not have a contact person, that group will not show up on **aaMinnesota.org**. Group information changes have been, are being taken care of when I get them.

Anyone who wants to receive the Northern Light can let either me or Steve L. know and we will get you on the list.

I am looking forward to the Area 35/36 Joint Workshop on Nov. 17th in St. Cloud.

In service,
Sally L.
Area 35 Group Records Secretary

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Literature:

We had eight Literature Chairs attending the meeting.

After a round of introductions, we got into sharing about what was going on.

- ♦ Jerry the Grapevine Chair told us about a new book available through the grapevine. *Under One Tent* it is a book about Atheists and Agnostics and how they deal with the
- ♦ God thing.
- ♦ We discussed several different approaches of working with new guys who refuse a higher power or have a hard time with the word “God”.
- ♦ Jerry shared with us about some of the other books that are available through the Grapevine.
- ♦ We have each chosen a new piece of literature each time we meet to discuss and share something about it.

As Literature Chair I have the Area 35 Action Committee Booklets. It has information on how we handle elections, Area officer, GSR’s job description and what you are responsible for.

I also have the 2017 and the new 2018 Final report from GSO. This has all the information on the actions taken from the General Service Conference as well as the financial reports.

Respectfully yours in service
Brian P.
Area 35 Literature Chair

Northern Light:

Howdy Ladies & Gentlemen,

Since the fall Assembly, I have been busy with André P. getting the WCRAASC WEB site up and running for pre-registration. André did an excellent job in putting my requests into a functional form. This year if you register more than one person, you will be able to fill in all the people’s names and other pertinent info and they will have a badge ready for them at the registration desk. Thank you André.

I was able to Chair our Beginners meeting for eight weeks which led me to give some thought about Tradition 8. In the 12x12 in the fist paragraph it states, “Almost no recovery from alcoholism has ever been brought about by the world’s best professionals, whether medical or religious.” From Paragraph two, “Alcoholics simply will not listen to a paid twelfth-stepper” How many times have you heard “I’ve been to treatment 4 times, 8 times or more” and what the person says when leaving is. “I hope Treatment will work for me this time .” as if Treatment is the solution.

I believe we can do better in finding a way to do initial Twelfth step work and bring hope that AA works to the Alcoholic leaving the Treatment Center.

I wish I had an answer. I also believe if we don’t discuss this and bring some light on Tradition 8 we won’t find a solution.

In this issue there is some great stuff from the Fall Assembly and some great articles submitted from you.

Thanks for reading.

Yours in Service
Steven L.
Area 35 Northern Light Editor

Public Information:

Greetings Area 35,

Not much has happened in Public Information in the last four weeks since the Fall Assembly. I have been working on some District 13 PI Committee activities, since I am on that Committee. I attended the St. Cloud Roundup October 26th and 27th. I will be attending the Area 35 and Area 36 Joint Workshop on November 17th. I can't believe this first year of the rotation is almost gone...

Thank you for allowing me to be of Service.

Gayle R.
Area 35 Public Information Chair

Treatment:

I have decided to write my *report* for the Northern Light first, as I seem to neglect it. OK I think it’s a waste of time to write two reports; HOWEVER, I am a team player and I will try to do as I’ve been asked.

As usual, I learned a great deal about AA. It never seems to amaze me that there really is more to learn. It reminds me that I just don’t know everything.

I’ve been busy responding to the GSO requests for AA books and whatever else various treatment centers ask for. I do forward those requests to the applicable DCM.

You’ve all taken me seriously and I’ve received a number of requests to speak at various Districts. Thanks you for that – it truly is humbling.

All of the above has required me to order additional “Bridging the Gap” brochures – what a wonderfully happy problem.

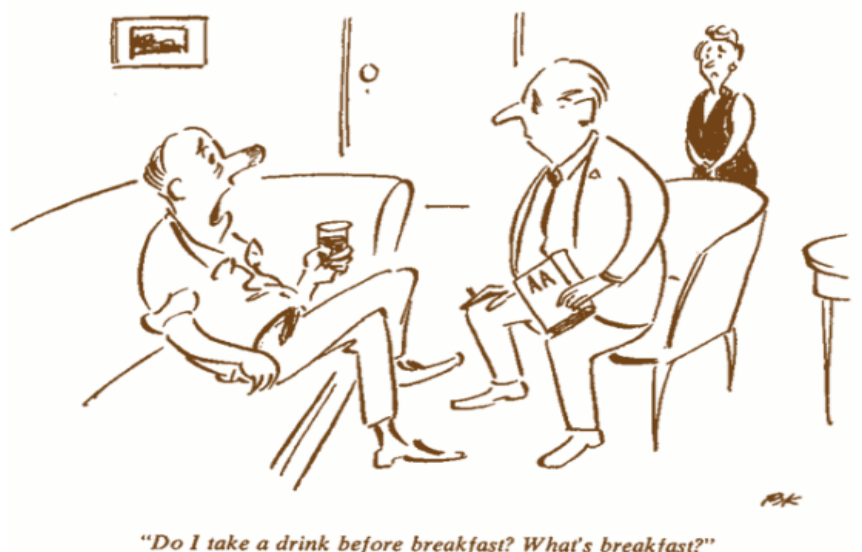
Thanks for the opportunity to serve,
Cathy R.
Area 35 Treatment Chair

Webmaster:

Greetings,

Not much has been going as far as the webmaster position goes since the Fall Assembly. I renewed the Linksky domain name for **aameetinglocator.org** for the next two years for the price of \$58.23. I placed an updated flyer on WCRAASC website. I plan on attending the Joint Workshop in St. Cloud. Thank you for letting me serve.

In service,
Rillis E.
Area 35 Webmaster



GSO Announcement OnLine Meeting Guide

November 2, 2018
Dear trusted servant,

We are pleased to announce that Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., has licensed the Meeting Guide technology. Meeting Guide was launched in November 2015 and provides a platform for local A.A. entities (Areas, Intergroup/Central Offices, Districts, etc.) to post their local A.A. meetings and currently provides information to more than 100,000 users, reflecting some 86,000 meetings. Since the meeting information is all made available through the app’s mobile-friendly interface, those seeking a meeting have a simple, one-stop place to look.

The collated meeting information will be available in the future through G.S.O.’s website, www.aa.org, and will be a component of the proposed A.A.W.S. app. The intent of incorporating the Meeting Guide component is to make it easier for members to find A.A. meetings.

A.A. Intergroup/Central Offices, Districts and Areas that provide online meeting lists are invited to have their meetings displayed through the Meeting Guide. If you are already synchronizing your meetings through the Meeting Guide app there is no additional action necessary. When the new aa.org website launches at some point in 2019, your information will be seamlessly included.

Please note the meeting information database will operate completely independently from the Fellowship New Vision (FNV) database that is currently supported by G.S.O. Meeting Guide is a separate tool that offers A.A. entities full control of their local meeting information and collects it in one place. Users of this new portal will be linked to the service entity providing the information. Participation is, of course, voluntary, but the more connected the service is to the Fellowship as a whole, the more powerful a tool it will become.

The current listing of Intergroups and Central Offices and other local entities in “A.A. Near You” on aa.org will not be impacted. Those wishing to contact A.A. in their community will still have access to the information that is currently available on the site.

We have developed instructions about how to connect with this new resource at <https://meetingguide.aa.org>. If you have any questions about this initiative or how to synchronize your meetings to this database, dedicated support is in place. We welcome your input and suggestions.

In fellowship,
G. Gregory T.
General Manager

What is a Nontrustee Director? A Director?

There is a total of six nontrustee directors (NTD) in Alcoholics Anonymous. Ask most AA members, and they likely are unfamiliar with the position. About the one conclusion that can be drawn is that this person is not one of the twenty-one trustees, but beyond that, most would be perplexed. However, these six people could come from virtually any AA Group. The requirements are not extensive and many AA members with at least seven years of sobriety could turn in a resume to be a NTD trusted servant.

The revealing word is “Director”. Directors are people who are members of a corporate board that manage the affairs of a corporation. Seldom are they mentioned, but in fact, they perform the primary work in managing AAWS and the AA Grapevine. Below are the descriptions of the two corporations’ composition, and the directors are the people who are on the firing line of service for each corporation:

AAWS CORPORATE BOARD: Currently, A.A. World Services, Inc. has nine directors: two general service trustees, two regional or at-large trustees, three nontrustee directors, one paid staff member, and the general manager of G.S.O., who is president of the corporation. The board meets ten times a year and considers agenda items such as budget preparation for the service and publishing operations, pricing of new and revised publications, G.S.O. service activities, implementation of Conference and General Service Board recommendations, copyright concerns, and reprint permissions.

AAGV CORPORATE BOARD: The A.A. Grapevine, Inc. currently has nine directors: two general service trustees, two regional trustees, one Class A trustee, three nontrustee directors, and the executive editor, who serves as president of the corporation. The board meets quarterly to consider such matters as circulation, enhancement, finance, and development of new related items. It also holds four meetings a year as a planning committee of the whole.

As is seen from the descriptions of the corporations, there are three NTD’s on each corporate board, or a total of six for all of AA. On the corporate board, they participate fully with the other members of the corporate board directorships, which are either trustees or employees of the respective corporation. The NTD’s work shoulder-to-shoulder with the regional and general service trustees, chairing corporate board committees and are members of several of the committees, take on additional ad hoc committee assignments as needed, and attend all of the same corporate board meetings as the trustees. There is one exception to committee membership: NTDs are never on the Nominating Committee of either AAWS or AAGV. Only the trustee members of the affiliate corporations are members of the Nominating Committees.

A clear line of “Right of Decision” is in place with regard to the term “managing” the corporations mentioned above. The management exercised by directors is more in the realm of policy, not in day-to-day operations. The general manager of AAWS and the Executive Editor of AAGV are the designated managers of the corporations. These managers are most often tasked with the policy implementation determined to be in the best interest of the affiliate by the directors, but the directors maintain a hands-off position as to implementation. The chief executives request this delineation take place, to insure their proper effectiveness.

The term of a director is different based on the member’s service position. My experience is with AAWS, so I will use it as the example. As a regional trustee I was assigned to AAWS as a director for 2 years. General Service Trustees (GST) are a director for their entire four years. Also, they most likely have served as a NTD prior to their term of service, so these GST’s have 4 years of directorship prior to their 4 years as a GST and director. NTD’s are selected for 4 one-year terms, or a total of 4 years. The Staff Coordinator, an employee at GSO, is a director during their 3 years as staff coordinator. And finally, the General Manager of GSO is a director (and President of AAWS) during his entire tenure as GM.

I mentioned earlier the directors perform the “primary work”, and that it is policy oriented. At AAWS, we have the following committees to perform this work: 1) Finance 2) Technology/Communication Services (TCS) 3) Internal Audit Committee (IAC) 4) Publishing 5) Nominating. In addition, we currently have two ad hoc committees: Self-Support and DELTA, which I wrote about a couple months ago. These committees meet during each AAWS Board meeting, but the vast majority of work is done between AAWS Board meetings through conference calls, web sessions, and simply dividing up work and each director doing their share. Each committee has a staff member assigned to it as both a secretary as well as to do as much of the work as possible, so directors are not always tasked with the actual development of work-product.

NTDs and trustees are divided up as chairs and members of these committees. An NTD may not always get a chair position of a committee in their first year. Because the chairperson of AAWS rotates each year between a GST and a regional, this person is not assigned to committees as a chair or member, but instead is an ex officio member of all committees. Hence, with three directors and only three of the 4 trustees available to chair a committee plus the ad hoc’s in action, chairing at least one committee is a likely possibility. Last year I was the chair of the inaugural year of the IAC and

chair of the newly formed ad hoc DELTA committee. This year I chair Nominating and DELTA, and I am a member of Publishing and TCS.

The nine directors each have a bit of different perspective due to their primary position, which sometimes results in differing perspectives at the Board table. While the NTD is solely focused on their directorship of the affiliate corporation, the staff coordinator and general manager spend all of their time as employees of AAWS so their viewpoint may be different. General Service Trustees have a fiduciary responsibility to the General Service Board as they are assigned to the affiliate, but they also have had four years as a director prior to their term as GST, and they do not represent an AA service structure, e.g., region, like the regional trustees. And then there’s the regionals that are serving in two capacities during their tenure as a director during years two and three of being a regional trustee. There’s always the responsibility of bringing the regional perspective to the table of the AAWS Board meeting, the regional (like the GST) is embedded onto the affiliate by the General Service Board to insure its proper functioning, and they also must serve AAWS (or AAGV) to the best of their ability. Yes, all these “flavors” of people provide a mixture, that when we factor the final catalyst into the equation, our Higher Power, this is yet one more divine alchemy that serves the still-suffering alcoholic.

Thank you for having the opportunity to be your servant.

Tom A.

West Central Region Trustee & AAWS Director

Proof of Attendance at Meetings

There is a question that comes up repeatedly around the rooms of the program - what about these people the courts are sending here? What should we do with them?

The written guidance from the General Service Office in NY, New York is pretty clear on this issue. It says in part... Some judges require written proof that offenders attend a certain number of meetings. Often, when the court ordered newcomer attends an A.A. meeting, the group secretary (or other group officer) signs his/her first name, to a slip furnished by the court.

Of course, in keeping with A.A.’s public relations policy, A.A. has no opinion on this practice. A.A. speaks neither against nor for this protocol. However, in the spirit of cooperation group members will often comply with the requirement and sign the slip. Hopefully, all involved recognize that neither the group nor its members are “bound” in any way by the signature. This compliance does not signify affiliation of the A.A. group with any other program; it simply illustrates cooperation.

Many around the tables affectionately refer to these individuals as slip signers. They are required by a court, treatment center, probation officer, or other outside agency to attend the meeting. Some attend willingly and look at the slip as a mere formality to something they would do anyway.

Still others see the mandatory requirement as an impingement upon their personal freedoms. They resent having to attend the meeting. They rush into the room about a minute before the meeting starts, sit in the aisle of denial, and say nothing during the meeting and rush to get their slip signed a minute after the meeting ends. My brother was one of these individuals.

About forty years ago, my brother was convicted of driving while intoxicated. He was court ordered to attend A.A. meetings. Since he did not have the “desire to stop drinking”, he only attended Open A.A. Meetings. He would often come “high” to the meeting, come late, or rush in at the last second. He would sit in stubborn silence and the only thing he would share during the meeting was his name. Otherwise, he would sit and stare at the clock and wait for sixty minutes to pass. When the clock struck sixty-one minutes and the meeting was over, he was on his feet to get his slip signed and then he was out the door. He did this for the required three months of meetings and the group never saw him again until...

About eighteen months later, after his last court ordered A.A. meeting, my brother finally hit bottom. He found himself in detox and then he went into an in-patient treatment center. He finished the treatment program and after a momentary slip with some of his “old using buddies”, he started working the program of A.A. He recently celebrated 38 years of sobriety.

A few years ago, I was thinking about my brother’s recovery journey. I wondered why he attended A.A. after all those court ordered meetings he went to and loathed. He seemed to despise the meetings and absolutely hated going to them. So, I asked him, “Why did you go back to A.A. after all those court ordered meetings that you hated?”

He smiled, looked at me and simply said, “They were nice to me”.

We never know what impact we are going to have on another individual. A random act of kindness; an offer of a cup of coffee; a non-judgmental smile when the newcomer takes a seat after the meeting starts; or agreeing to sign a slip of paper - all of these simple gestures may have far reaching consequences known only to that person and God. At least they did in my brother’s case...

JD

Big Lake, MN

BLAST FROM the PAST

In this edition from Blast From the Past was given to me from a past Delegate. It is the Treasures Statement between the 1969 Fall Assembly and the 1970 Spring Assemble.

We’ve Come A Long Way Baby

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

Glenwood Group	Morris Group	\$ 15.00
Fergus Falls	Pioneer Group	10.00
Hibbing	Alano Club	15.00
Cloquet Group	Ely Group	7.50
Long Prairie	Group	15.00
St. Cloud (all groups)		7.50
Hoyt Lakes	Group	7.50
Battle Lake	Group	55.50
Wadena Group	Crookston Group	7.50
Detroit Lakes	Group	15.00
Breckenridge	Red Rival. Group	7.50
Moorhead	Second Ave. Group	7.50
Chisholm	Group	15.00
Perham	Group	10.00
Pelican Rapids	Group	7.50
Thief River Falls	Group	7.50
Bemidji	Alano Society	15.00
		10.00
		\$245.50

DISBURSMENTS	
Postage and envelopes	\$8.06

CAP	
Balance Oct. 26,1969.	\$187.59
Group Contributions	245.50
	\$433.09
Disbursements	8.08
Balance on hand 4/8/70	\$425.03

Annette E. T. ,
Sec y.Treas•

GSO Contributions

During the past Fall Assembly a question was asked, by my home District. It concerned whether or not a District could contribute to the GSO.

The answer from a past Delegate was yes. Even though another past Delegate reminded the group to proceed with caution that this could be a contentious subject within the District.

According to the 2018 Final Report from the 68th Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference, page 117, footnote (1) “A special contribution is one that come from any number of AA entities that is not an AA Group.”

I was confused for a few minutes until I remembered that District 9 had written to the GSO and they said we couldn’t contribute because we didn’t have a number.

It is my opinion that contributing to the GSO is a Group’s, NOT A DISTRICT’S, responsibility. Reasonably, it is important the message of the rest of page 117 be shared with the group – that is the GSO needs more money to continue to offer the services they currently offer. Only 43.7% of the known Groups in AA contribute. That comes to \$6.00 per capita; which is short by a little more that \$1 per capita.

Perhaps at the next Assembly we could offer a panel discussion about this topic.

Cathy R.

Acronyms

(Spaghetti Soup)

- AAWS - Alcoholics Anonymous World Service
- ACM - Area Committee Meeting
 - BB - Big Book (Alcoholics Anonymous)
- BTG - Bridging the Gap
- CCS - Corrections Correspondence Service
- CPC - Cooperation with the Professional Community
- DCM - District Committee Member
 - FNV- Fellowship New Vision Database
- FOC - Finance Oversight Committee
- GSO - General Service Office
- GSC - General Service Conference
- GSR - General Service Representative
 - GV- Grapevine
- GVR - Grapevine Representative
- ICYPAA - International Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous
 - NL- Northern Light
- NMAA - Northern Minnesota Area Assembly
 - PI - Public Information
- Panel - The Two Year Rotation a Delegate Serves (Ours is an Even # Starting with Panel 2 in 1952)
- WCRS - West Central Regional Service (Conference)
- WCRAASC - West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference (same as above)
- WCR - West Central Regional (Forum)
- WCRAAF - West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Forum (same as above)

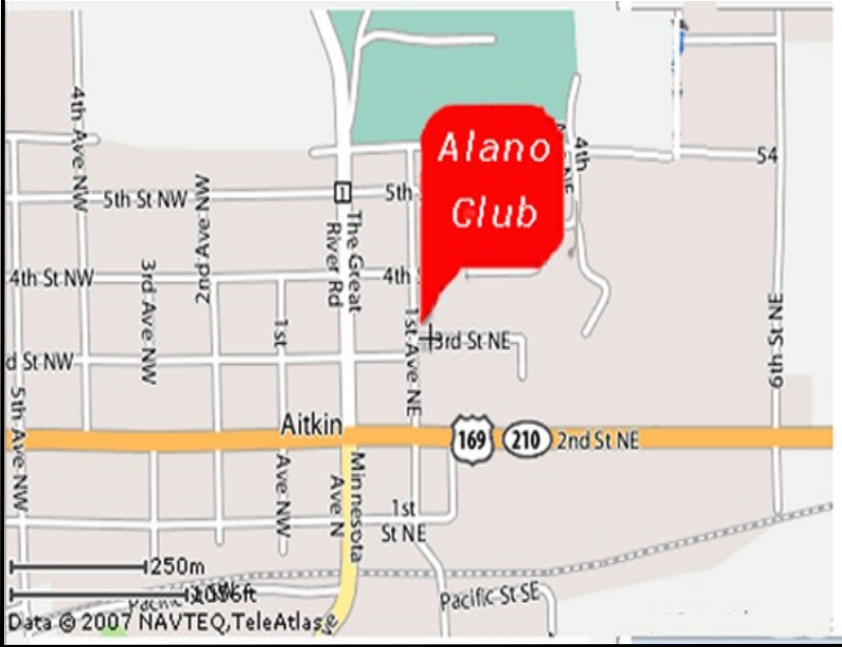
"Not only ... could spiritual experiences make people saner, they could transform men and women so that they could do, feel, and believe what had hitherto been impossible to them. It mattered little whether these awakenings were sudden or gradual; their variety could be almost infinite."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., July 1953, "A Fragment of History: Origin of the Twelve Steps", The Language of the Heart

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

December: 2nd : Area 35 Committee Meeting *
Alano Club 9:00 am –2 pm
322 1st Ave. NE
Aitkin, MN

Service Events 2019

January: 19th & 20th: Area 35 Workshop
Holiday Inn
5637 MN-29
Alexandrea, MN

February: 24th : Area 35 Committee Meeting *
Alano Club 9:00 am –2 pm
322 1st Ave. NE
Aitkin, MN

March: 1st-3rd : WCRAASC
Courtyard Marriott
1080 28th Ave S,
Moorhead, MN

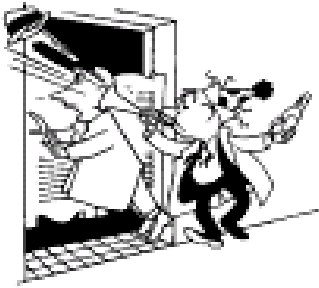
April: 6th & 7th : Area 35 Spring Assembly
Holiday Inn & Suites Duluth
Downtown, 200 W 1st St
Duluth, MN

Fellowship Events 2019

January: 11th & 13th: 17th Wild Rice Round-Up
Shooting Star Hotel & Event Center
777 SE Casino Rd,
Mahnommen, MN

February: 1st & 2nd : 38th Annual Winter Warm Up *
Dilworth Community Center,
709 1st Ave NW
Dilworth, MN

March: 22nd & 23rd : Winter Rap-Up
Mountain Iron Community Center
8586 Enterprise Drive
Mt. Iron, 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 AA Service Conference.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

43rd Area 35 Service Workshop

“AA-Our Big Book – 80 years, 71 Languages”
January 19-20, 2019

Holiday Inn
5637 MN-29, Alexandria, MN 56308
Phone: 320 763 6577

King Leisure room \$109.99 plus tax
Two Queen Beds \$99.99 plus tax
Courtview \$119.99 plus tax
Our block of rooms is under Area 35
You have until December 18, 2018 to reserve your room

This is an annual service training workshop in which 8 Districts and Tom A, our current Regional Trustee, will be presenting and engaging members in attendance. The workshop is designated for Alcoholics Anonymous members, GSR's, District Chairs and Officers and Area Chairs and Officers. Please join us for this outstanding weekend of unity, recovery and service learning.
Workshop begins at 9:15 on Saturday January 19, 2019.



38th Annual Winter Warm Up February 1, 2, and 3, 2019

Dilworth Community Center
709 1st Ave NW, Dilworth, MN



Friday, February 1st 2019 – (Dilworth Community Center)
5:30 PM Registration
7:00 PM Ohio Meeting – (You Don't Want To Miss It!)

Saturday, February 2nd 2019 – (Dilworth Community Center)
10:00-11:15am Workshop- TBD, Don L, Bellingham Washington
Lunch On your own
1:00 to 2:15 Workshop-Sponsorship, Don L, Jen A, Chad B, Angie E.,
2:30-3:45pm Early Friends of AA (Dr. Silkworth, Sam Shoemaker and Sister Ignatia)-Brad I., Former Area 35 Archivist
Dinner 4:30-6:00pm Potluck
5:30 pm Registration
7:00 pm AI-Anon Speaker-TBD
AA Speaker-Don L., Bellingham Washington

❖ Ice Cream Social (Following the Speaker)

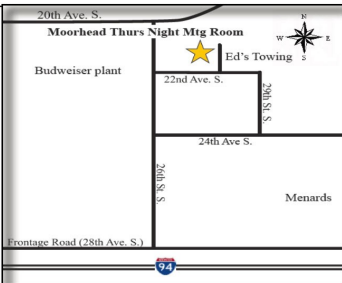
Sunday, February 3rd 2019 – (Moorhead Thursday Night Meeting Room)
9:30 AM AA Speaker-Jen A., Minneapolis, MN

Speakers & Ice Cream Social \$15.00

Checks Payable to: Winter Warm Up

Sunday Morning Open Meeting February 3rd

9:30 am – Moorhead Thursday Night meeting room
2732 22nd Avenue South Moorhead
(East of the Budweiser plant, across from Ed's Towing)
Directions: From I-94 East take the 20th St. exit and turn left, take the first right on the frontage road (28th Ave. S, turn left into the circle at the corner by Wendt Custom Cabinets, meeting room is on the left.



Sponsored by Moorhead Thursday Night Group
Conference Chair, Box 558, Moorhead, MN 56560, e-mail @ moorheadthursdaynight@hotmail.com

2019 WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL AA SERVICE CONFERENCE

WHEN
March 1-3, 2019

WHERE
Courtyard by Marriot
1080 28th Ave South
Moorhead, MN 56560
218-284-5023

REGISTRATION & ROOM RATE

Mention: WCRAASC
Registration- \$15
Room Rate- \$129 +
Tax

OnlineRegistration
WCRAASC2019.COM

Mail in Registration
WCRAASC
PO Box 117
Biwabik, MN 55708

AIRPORT

Hector Intl Airport
2801 32nd Ave N
Fargo, ND 58102
PH: 701-241-8168

CONTACTS

Christine G
Area 35 Delegate

delegate@area35.org

Jim S
Event Chair

alt_delegate@area35.org

(Note: there is an underscore between alt and delegate)

Area 35 Spring Assembly

April 6-7, 2019

Holiday Inn and Suites Duluth Downtown
200 West First Street, Duluth, MN 55802

Room Rates: Two Queens, non-smoking: \$119.00.

To make **reservations** please call: **(218) 722-1202**
Area 35 Room Block Group Code: **A35**
Cut off Date is: **MARCH 4th, 2019**

Saturday, April 6
9:00 AM Registration
10:00 AM Assembly Convenes

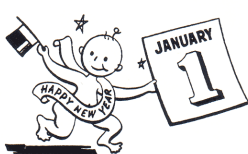
Sunday, April 7
9:00 AM Assembly Reconvenes



All DCMs, GSRs, Area Officers and Committee Chairs, Delegate, Alternate Delegate and Past Delegates are encouraged to attend as well as all others interested in carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. The only requirement is a willingness to serve. The 2018 General Service Conference Agenda Items will be discussed so GSRs please bring your group's conscience to this Assembly.



Seasons Greetings & A Happy New Year



Area 35 Fall Assembly Meeting Minutes
Ruttger’s Bay Lake Lodge, MN
October 6th & 7th, 2018

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

Why We Need a Conference:

Recognition of Past Area 35 Delegates in Attendance:

Scott J. (Panel 38) Bruce B. (Panel 44) Susie A. (Panel 48)
Tom A. (Panel 50) Tim C. (Panel 52) Jon C. (Panel 60) Jim K. (Panel 62)
Michael “Jake” J. (Panel 64) Kelly D. (Panel 66)
Guest: Laura S. Area 36 Corrections Chair

Recognition of GSR’s in Attendance: Seven new GSR’s attended the GSR Orientation Session.

Additions to the Agenda:

Steve M. Archives—update on the move of the Archives

Paul Area 35 Corrections Chair- Financial support to attend the National Corrections Conference Workshop in Maine, the first weekend of November

Approval of the April '18 Spring Assembly Minutes: Motion made and seconded to approve minutes. Minutes were approved.

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE-Christine G.

Greetings Area 35,

Good morning, my fellow officers and I had a GSR Orientation this morning and we had a total of twenty four people in attendance and seven were GSRs attending for their first time.

I have completed all my post conference reports and I would like to thank all the Districts for their hospitality and great food. It is always fun to visit Districts and see familiar faces and get to meet new faces. I would like you to start thinking about when you would like to host next years post Conference reports so we can get those scheduled. I will have a busy summer as I have two children graduating and I want to make sure we get dates on the calendar. If you would like to start scheduling, I will start accepting dates after June 3rd, 2019.

Mark your calendars for the 2019 WCR Forum that is taking place in August 16th – 18th in Grand Forks, ND. This is great opportunity to get people fired up for General Service. GSO puts on these events and only happens every other year. Share this with your districts and groups. I printed off “save the date” fliers.

We will be hosting the WCRAASC on March 1st-3rd, 2019 in Moorhead, MN at the Courtyard Marriott. Greg T., General Manager of the GSO will be our guest for the weekend. This is a great opportunity to hear discussion on the 69th GSC agenda items. So, please start talking to your groups about the importance of you attending this Conference so this event can be added to the group’s budget. Please see me if you have any questions.

I attended a workshop in Bemidji on Sunday September 23rd with some fellow officers. It was a small workshop with five members from Bemidji. Four of the members were new faces and that was worth the workshop in my opinion. Anytime we can get new members to participate, in general service is progress. We watched the video “Bill W. on The Twelve Traditions”, Area Officers shared their story as it related to General Service and then we had some discussion and the other members shared what they are doing in Service and they also shared some of their struggles as a District. Thank you to District 21 for the hospitality.

At the Spring Assembly, I asked you to discuss with your groups about a couple IRS reporting option for the WCR. I have printed out packets on the table for your refresher and review. We will be discussing these items under new business. There is also a second item to re-establish a position as WCR Secretary/Treasurer that I would like your input on as well.

We received an email for our WCR Trustee regarding a new policy change that AAWS would like to implement at the October Board meeting. It is regarding allowing AAWS the latitude to make editorial changes to existing “Conference approved” literature without the approval of the Conference. This policy is trying to be approved and implemented without the approval of the conference and our Trustee is gathering information to share at the Board

meeting.

Please continue to encourage your Sponsees and fellow AA members to subscribe to the Grapevine. Other ways we can help the challenge is by giving a subscription as a gift or even suggesting that our home groups sponsor a subscription or two for local facilities. I know that there are some competitive members out there who would enjoy seeing the WCR have that greatest increase in subscriptions.

There are a couple staff positions that will become available at GSO. I have emailed out information to the DCMs and Area Committee Members. If you know of anyone or are interested yourself, the letter contains information on how to apply.

I have the 68th GSC Final Report that is out for you take a copy and share with your districts and groups. I also emailed out an electronic version for those of you who prefer reading electronically. Please still take a hard copy to pass along.

I will be sending out an email soon asking for your preference on how you would like the GSC Agenda Background. Your choices are CD, hardcopy or neither. The information will be made available on the website for you to download. The material will be made available to you after Feb 15th and at the February ACM.

I look forward to an exciting assembly this weekend and it is so good to see you all here. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Delegate.

In Love and Service,

Christine G.
Area 35 Panel 68 Delegate

ALTERNATE DELEGATE-Jim S. Good Morning,

I will be getting with the DCM’s from Districts 6, 9, 14, 15, 16, 18 and 21 to see if they are willing to present at the Annual Workshop this Jan 19th and 20th at the Holiday Inn in Alexandria. Tom A. will be our guest for the week-end and I will have him present on the journey he has taken in our service structure and what he has learned from those experiences. This year’s theme is Our Big Book, 80 years and 71 languages.

I have been working with Christine on getting the West Central Regional Service Conference for this March 1st – 3rd in Moorhead, MN at the Marriot Hotel. The website will be up and running here shortly. If you register more than yourself, you will be able to register each person in your Group as this is something that has been requested through evaluations of previous conferences. There will be no hospitality room as the hotel will not allow in their facility.

I would like to apologize for not getting my report into the NL this issue. I will make sure that does not happen again.

In Service

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 remains assisting 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 at thus Assembly. We will be voting on / approving the 2019 Area 35 budget. We will also address several new business items which include proposals for submitting proposed agenda items that have been approved by districts and important Area 35 Archive depository decisions.

Some of my recent service activity as your Chair includes the following.

Working with Mike F. on the Area budget and Melissa A. on Area flyers such as the upcoming Spring Assembly flyer that is available here today. I have scheduled and attended visits by myself and the other area officers to Fertile (District 1) and Bemidji (District 21) in support of these District’s efforts to gain more participation in District Service and Representation in Area 35. I’ve also worked with Renee here at Ruttger’s on logistics to ensure a successful Assembly here this weekend. As we booked a fire pit for tonight’s AA campfire meeting somewhat late in the game, we needed to place the campfire meeting in front of Jim S. cabin and this is my first chance to inform him of this decision.

I’ve also been working with Mary M., Chairperson of Area 36 on planning an effective Area 35/36 joint workshop for November 17, 2018.

(Continued on page 12)

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 11)

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 and district.

Feel free to stop and ask me any questions that you may have this weekend.

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

Thank you
Roger R.
Area 35 Chair

SECRETARY-Melissa A. Greetings Area 35, my name is Melissa A. I am an alcoholic and currently serving as your Area 35 Secretary.

I hope that all of you had a wonderful summer and that fall is going well! Since the last Aitkin Committee Meeting I had the privilege of attending Area 36's Inventory in September and helped keep time as our past Delegate Kelly D. facilitated the inventory. I had recently attended District 15's; District meeting as I was asked to share some more information on the YouTube PSA's for Alcoholics Anonymous.

I have two flyers that are located on the table; one is for the Area 35/36 Joint Workshop which is November 17, 2018 at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in St. Cloud and the other flyer is for the Area 35 Spring Assembly which is April 6th & 7th, 2019 located in Duluth at the Holiday Inn and Suites. **I need to point out that I am human and that if you look at the flyer the map on it is incorrect, so please do not show up at Ruttgers's in April.**

Please make sure to send me your reports by October 22nd so that I can get them to Steve for the Northern Light. It is always a pleasure being able to take part in Alcoholics Anonymous.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,
Melissa A.
Area 35 Secretary

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

Please take copies of our current financial reports and our 2019 budget back to your Groups. They are stacked on the table on the left side of the room. There are also pre-printed contribution envelopes to the area and to the General Service Office. Please take as many as you need.

Since my last report, I have:

- Reconciled 2 monthly bank statements and created reports for review by the Financial Oversight Committee
- Deposited all contributions received as of October 5th
- Paid all expenses received as of October 5th
- Completed a balance sheet and income/expense/contribution statement for Period 5 (August/September)

As of September 30th, the end of our financial period P5, our checking and savings accounts have a combined total balance of \$25,402.87, a net increase of \$412 compared to the beginning of 2018. When I compare our financial situation for the same time frame for 2017 and 2016, we had a net decrease of \$4,352 and a net increase of \$1,266, respectively.

As of October 5th, our checking and savings accounts have a combined total balance of \$26,039. This includes the balance sheet total as of the end of September plus another \$1,016 in deposits that I made yesterday and \$380 in expenses paid this past week.

Group contributions as of October 5th for 2018 and 2017 are \$24,065 and \$18,813, respectively, a 28% increase over last year. Total expenses for the same period are \$10,795 below budget.

We will discuss and approve the 2019 budget this weekend.

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

In Service,
Mike F.
Area 35 Treasurer

COMMITTEE CHAIR & DCM REPORTS

CPC - Myron H. No Report

District 9– Jim S. Hi Everyone,

My name is Jim I am an alcoholic and current DCM from District 9. We have our District Meetings usually the last Sunday of each month but have changed our Meeting time to start at 5:30 instead of 6:00 because of a Meeting starting at 8:00 this will give us a little more Meeting time. Area 35 Treatment Chair Cathy R. came to one of our meetings and told us about Bridging the GAP and left us with information and forms. The District 16 DCM has been in contact with Hibbing. What they would like to have for their facility from AA meetings schedules, temporary contacts and flyers. I am very close to having visited all twenty six Groups we have listed on our meeting schedules and most are doing very well. For those Groups who do

not have a GSR District 9 will start mailing minutes of meetings to them. Our Secretary is doing a good job of coordinating this and thank you Phyllis.

District 9 has started the inventory process. We are talking about making an annual budget and Group contributions to the District verification updates back to the groups. Some groups want verification so we thought we could send them the minutes and treasurer reports. We have a new PI/CPC Chair at District 9. Char L. came forward and is highly enthusiastic. We have ordered kits for her but she has already started meeting with the community. Thank you Char L. we also will be filling our Corrections Chairs at the next District Meeting so all positions at the District are filled. New GSR's are harder to come by but more people coming forward may start an avalanche. District attendance is up so I promise not to whine anymore.

Thank you to everyone in District 9 for your service and allowing me to serve.

Yours in service,
Jim S.
District 9 DCM

District 13- Justin W. (Read by Peter)

Justin Alcoholic, DCM District 13.

Greetings Friends. Please excuse my absence. My body had to be in New Jersey today due to a business opportunity for which I am grateful. I assure you my heart and spirit are at Ruttger's and I wish you all the very best this Fellowship has to offer, and I'm confident you are in exactly the place to receive it. This opportunity to give back to our Fellowship is a gift and a responsibility...I don't know where I'd be without it, and I don't care to find out...so I'll just keep saying yes!

Alcoholics Anonymous in District 13 is alive and well, and I'm grateful to be a part of it. Seems like we are recovering automatically as the result of practicing these principles, like we have ceased fighting anything or anyone, even....

The first and most important thing I should say is that we have an excellent Group of committed people who are in service to our primary purpose, according to the principles of Alcoholics Anonymous. Our Unity is bullet proof, our ultimate authority is active in our conscience, and we are handling our business and keeping sober.

Peter and I have been tasked with setting up a Sponsorship Workshop, and we have a formed a subcommittee to handle this responsibility. We'll make sure to let you all know when it's going on and would be grateful to see you there. Maybe we could do this in conjunction with District 15.

Archives continues with the recording of our Meetings which has resulted in very accurate meeting minutes. Our Secretary is a workhorse and is doing great. I'm pretty sure she's on every committee.

We are financially solvent, supported only by the groups in our District, and accountable only to them as well. What a gift it is to know that alcoholics are willing to fully support the efforts we are making, if only we will show them the work is worthwhile and let them know how we are doing with it. Our Treasurer has been using Quickbooks online and reports that it has been an easy transition. We still have some work to do with reports, but I believe that is the previous treasurers fault...

Our Corrections Chair has just resigned, which opens up a great opportunity and I'm sure it'll be handled with enthusiasm soon. We also have a new Saint Cloud Prison Representative who is doing a great job and has more passion for these inmates than I've seen anywhere.

CPC has a new Chair, has just finished studying the workbook, and is poised to put it into practice. When you don't know what to do, R-T-F-M. If you don't know what that means, ask your sponsor, or you can ask mine...

Our Literature Chair is killing it. He eats \$500 orders for breakfast, shows up with a literature display where he's invited, willingly, constantly reaches out to make sure folks know who he is and how to score some books. He has control of the inventory and works closely with our treasurer, and just has a passion for service that inspires us all.

The PI Committee serves as a very good example to the rest of us as to what delegation is and how people can split up the burden and accomplish the thing. They have been busy and are about to start working on the new meeting schedules. They are handling PSA's and distributing schedules and literature to every place with an address in the Saint Cloud area. We just recently heard from them that the person who had been handling the hotline for 12 years has resigned, but that Gayle R. will step into that responsibility....

Treatment is in full swing now. Recently we have developed or revived relationships with two facilities, both of which have materialized in steady 12th step opportunities for the alcoholics in the AA Groups. A few of the facilities have been taken off our list for various reasons. One of them prefers to do counseling, one says you have to be affiliated with the university, etc. We have members in the District that have been carrying the message into some of the other facilities for quite some time, and we are working to be a resource to them.

Yours in service...
Justin W.
District 13 DCM

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WEBMASTER - Rillis E. (Read by Steven L.)

I'm not able to attend the Assembly as I am recovering from surgery.

As usual, I have placed several flyers for various AA events on the Area events calendar. A flyer for WCRAASC which will be held March 1st-3rd, 2019 can be found on the Area 35 website under Area Events and on the General Service Conference page as well as at WCRAASC2019.com.

After updating information in the email forwarder, I sent out several test emails and received confirmation that the emails were received. If you are a DCM, Committee Chair, or Area Officer and are not receiving emails from Area 35 please contact me at admin@area35.org.

I placed Christine's 2018 General Service Conference report back on the website on the download's page. The password to access this document is area35panel68, all lower case letters.

I reviewed the latest edition of the Northern Light for anonymity breaks and then posted it on the area website.

Steve L. and/or Roger R. will be discussing my request for Adobe Acrobat, which is needed to carrying out the responsibilities of webmaster such as converting documents to PDFs so they can be placed into WordPress and having the ability to password protect certain documents before placing them on the website. In the past Jim S., Bob B., and others have done this work for me but I feel this software is a tool the Webmaster needs in order to carry out the Webmaster responsibilities.

I have rearranged the pages in the Downloads and General Service Conference sections on the website to make them more chronological in order and hopefully easier to navigate. If you have ideas for improving our website please contact me at the above email address.

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

LITERATURE - Brian P.

We had eight Literature Chairs attending the meeting after a round of introductions we got into sharing about what was going on.

Jerry the Grapevine Chair told us about a new book available through the Grapevine. *Under One Tent* it is a book about Atheist's and Agnostics and how they deal with the God thing.

We discussed several different approaches of working with new guys who refuse a higher power or have a hard time with the word "God".

Jerry shared with us about some of the other books that are available through the Grapevine.

We have each chosen a new piece of literature each time we meet to discuss and share something about it.

As Literature Chair I have the Area 35 Action Committee Booklets. It has information on how we handle elections, Area officer, GSR's job description and what you are responsible for. I also have the 2017 and the new 2018 Final reports from GSO. This has all the information on the actions taken from the General Service Conference as well as the financial reports.

Respectfully yours in service
Brian P.
Area 35 Literature Chair

District 15- Pat M. Hi I am Pat M. and I am an alcoholic DCM for District 15.

The District holds its Meetings on the first Monday of the month. District 15 Corrections Chair Bruce is still looking for volunteers for Benton County Jail. Treatment Chair is still not filled so the past Treatment Chair Pat M. is filling in as Chair and our commitments are being met. Literature Chair Greg W. has been busy he has been selling a lot of Big Books, 12x12's and Daily Reflections. The District needs to have more literature on hand so we will be making a good sized order big books, 12x12's so we have it when it's needed.

I have been visiting Groups working on Group's records. I have the District's Secretary is helping me with Group records and is doing a great job. Our Treasurer Corey P. is doing awesome job as Treasurer. The District will be updating its meeting cards in November.

The District will be having a Big Book workshop February 15th, 16th & 17th, more information will be provided in the December report.

Yours in service,
Pat M.
District 15 DCM

District 3- Kevin K.

August was we held our District Roundup in Detroit Lakes. Christine our Delegate shared her report from the Conference. We had good dialog and

discussion as part of the time to ask questions with our Delegate. Our workshop Titled the Saturday Evening Post, our theme center around how early AA members and groups interacted with AA friends and what are we doing today. The attendance was lighter than expected. Thanks to everyone from DL and other groups that helped, set up, bring coffee and goodies, cook and get speakers.

Our District meets monthly the 3rd Sunday of month at the Detroit Lakes Alano Club. Our October meeting, we are hosting a GSR Orientation / Insight workshop as part of our overall meeting.

My thanks to each of these groups for their efforts in providing a meeting place for newcomers to meet, carrying the message of recovery through the program of Alcoholics Anonymous 12 steps & 12 traditions.

Respectively,

Kevin K.
District 3 DCM

NORTHERN LIGHT - Steve L.
Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen

We had five in attendance at our meeting this morning. With lots of questions, most had Answers. We conference called Rillis so she was able to participate in our meeting.

There were seven no reports in this issue of the NL up until now I've had maybe three no reports for the past two years. I went and looked up Committee Chairs and Action Chairs in the guidelines. The guidelines state that NL reports are part of the Committee Chairs responsibility, but Action Chairs it is only a suggestion if mentioned at all.

I believe the NL reports are different then the Area Committee Meeting and Assembly reports in the minutes. The ACM and assembly reports in the minutes are what happened at your Committee Meeting such as what happened this morning. The NL reports are what you have been doing since the ACM. Keep that in mind as a suggestion when you become the next action chair.

We decided at our meeting this morning to see if we could implement a new procedure for inserting a flyer into the NL. I'm going to ask Mike at Cold Spring Printing the NL editor will send him a list of approved fliers and if it's not on that list not to insert them. A couple of events might have to eat printing cost for not following the guidelines that are printed in the NL every issue on how to have a flier inserted in the NL. I don't think it will happen twice to the same event.

I hope you are looking forward to the NL Presentation tonight and I hope I don't let you down.

A reminder that the campfire meeting will be at the fire pit behind the playground around 9 depending on when Roger ends the meeting tonight.

Thanks for reading.

Yours in Service
Steven L.
Area 35 Northern Light Editor

GROUP RECORDS - Sally L. Greetings, Area 35.

I have printed out spreadsheets of all the groups with "Unknown" status for each District. These Groups have no contact person and receive no mail or Northern Light. DCMs please try to get the Groups to at least have a contact person so they can be connected to all of AA. If you have changes for these Groups, please send them on Group Information Change Forms so I can enter the info as correctly as possible.

The monthly upload of current meetings to aaMinnesota.org has been completed. If a group does not have a contact person, that group will not show up on **aaMinnesota.org**. It is possible that the "New Group" button can be made to link directly to the new group form on Area 35 website and possibly to a form on the Area 36 website. Bob B. will investigate.

Our Webmaster Rillis E. was put on speakerphone to be able to attend our breakout meeting.

My apologies to all the past Delegates who did not receive the Northern Light. I neglected to add the Delegates list to the Northern Light mailing list I send to Steve L. every month. I will try to remember in the future! Anyone who wants to receive the Northern Light can let either Steve or me know and we will get you on the list.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

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

"A leader in AA service is ... a man (or a woman) who can personally put principles, plans and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us want to back him up and help him with his job."

"AA Co-Founder, Bill W., April 1959, "Leadership in AA: Ever a Vital Need",
The Language of the Heart."

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District 4 - Greg C.

Most meetings in the District are reporting good attendance and all seem to be in good financial shape. We have had a few GSR turnovers as usual, so we currently have about ¾ of the positions filled. On the District level, we still have some Officer openings. We stagger our elections to include only about half of the positions so that we don’t have an entirely new crop every other year. This January we will be selecting a new DCM…Alternate DCM…and Treasurer. In addition we still need to fill PI/CPC. We still hold our District meetings in conjunction with the monthly Round Robins, which move around the District each month. We have had a recent influx of new attendees to several meetings, meaning that Alcoholism is alive and well. It has been a wonderful and enlightening Assembly as always!

Yours in service,
Greg G.
District 4 DCM
“Trudging the road of Happy Destiny”

District 8- Heidi B. Greetings from District 8.

This morning I attended the Group Records/Web/Northern Light Committee meeting. We had a GSR in attendance asking lots of questions, it was great! I also attended the DCM Sharing Session and took notes as Secretary. I will be sharing the notes with the area later today. District 8 has two people in attendance, including past Delegates, current District and Area Committee Chairs and one GSR. Thanks to GSR Ben from Biwabik for coming!

District 8 has been reorganizing our Beginners Meeting at Range Treatment Center in Virginia. The new ‘What is AA’ presentation will begin in January and will be held the first Wednesday of each month. Groups will sign up to give the presentation with brief training prior to each District meeting. We continue to provide speakers to Range Treatment Center on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month and bring a meeting to the Detox and Treatment Center weekly. Our District also brings two monthly meetings to Sandstone Federal Prison in Sandstone, one monthly meeting to NERCC in Duluth and Thistledeew Camp in Togo and an occasional DWI class at Arrowhead Center in Virginia.

The Cook Sunday Big Book group is hosting a Past Delegate Workshop on Sat, Oct 27th. Please join us in hearing our District 8 past Delegates share their experience doing service work.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Heidi B.
District 8 DCM

District 18- BR B.. My name is BR B. DCM for District 18,

Our monthly meeting is held this Tuesday of every month in Long Prairie. The Staples Tuesday AA Meeting is shut down until further notice due to lack of support. New Meeting in Motley, Sunday nights at 4 pm, Topic Meeting at the United Methodist Church. Lots of new activities coming up: Long Prairie Round Up Saturday October 13th, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 610 2nd Avenue 5th Street Staples, MN. Staples Gratitude Meeting November 15th at Staples United Methodist Church, 310 5th Street, Staples MN. District 18 and District 7 Sponsorship Workshop Sunday December 9th, 11 - 2 pm at Brainerd Upfront Club 4th and C Street Brainerd, MN. Eagle Bend Christmas Party December 9th, no flyer available at this time. 3rd Annual Drunks on Ice Extravaganza and chili cook off February 16th Prairie Event Center, 201 W. Main Street, Parkers Prairie, MN.

Thank you from all of us at District 18
BR B.
District 18 DCM

TREATMENT - Cathy R.

It is always fortunate that people attend the Treatment Committee meeting before the Assembly starts.

We had eleven folks in attendance from Districts: 6,9,12,13,14,15 and 21. Thank you all.

We discussed the recruiting of volunteers to speak at various Treatment or Jail meetings. Always, this is a challenge. There were a number of ideas: speaking about service to a Home Group; gathering a list of folks who may be interested in speaking were just a couple.

When speaking at a Treatment Center it was suggested that the speaker ask the Group what they’d like to talk about – then speak about it.

Additionally, we spoke about AA and military veterans. The Duluth people have agreed to check out the new military drug court.

We discussed Bridging the Gap. A few more Districts have invited me to come and share the program.

Finally, we talked about hearing what is going on in a meeting. It was suggested that the first row or two is reserved for the hearing impaired (at a

Speaker meeting).

Thanks for all your enthusiasm and assistance.

In service,
Cathy R.
Area 35 Treatment Chair

District 16- Glenn M.

We had our District meeting Wednesday night with a distinguished guest, Cathy R., Area 35 Treatment Chair. Our District does a lot with Treatment Centers and wanted her help and information. We appreciated her time and meeting participation. As usual, we had a full agenda and had twelve in attendance. Thursday October 4th, we had our annual AA table manned at Itasca County’s Community Connect with most of the area’s support services being represented with some coming as far as Duluth to present their program locally.

The annual Fall Serenity Open Speaker Meeting at Lawrence Lake, Saturday September 29th was attended by ninety seven to hear our own Larry and Judy who moved south recently to Baxter. As usual the food was program approved vitals (Granny Clampett would be proud) in other words, great and plentiful. Four from District 16 help set a record of almost 500 people at the 73rd Duluth Roundup on September 21st-23rd. The speakers were fantastic and I for one lost sleep on Friday night from parts of my story I heard from Rick B’s of Minneapolis’s story. I encourage those members who haven’t tried one of our many Area Speaker Meetings and events listed on Area 35’s calendar could be enlightened. (We always have flyers available on the table in District meeting; I send them attached to emails monthly and carry them with me and pickup different ones at the various meetings and events I attend, from our last Area 35 Committee Meeting I returned with two ideas for our District.

- Good news on adding (closed vs. open meetings) to our meeting directories, there is enough room without losing anything with some adjustments and no additional charge. Please review your group and get any changes to Literature Chair Mark A. for our next printing (passed out at District meeting a printed copy of the meetings for any changes to be noted)
- I got the estimated costs to print with our Districts information into the example of District 12’s pamphlet that we propose to use as a handout and include in a newcomers packet our Literature Chair is putting together. He has ordered an example from GSO for this purpose and we tabled this until the next District Meeting, we should have all the information.
- I’ve asked District 16’s GSR’s if they believe there’s a need for a separate GSR meeting per month or periodically in our District (Please email or text me on this so I can collect and remember this information) I have no response to date.
- Please note the change in District 16’s mailing address to P.O. Box 961 (this has not been changed in the Northern Light yet)
- Asked them to announce there is still a need for more volunteers both (men & women) with 2 years of sobriety for City Jail Meetings. Get with Corrections Chair.
- I have emailed Area 35 Group Records and Webmaster all corrections known to date.

All of District 16 Meetings are in the computer now for the meeting locators to find. Whew!!! (Have attended 22 out of the 23 groups except BayRiver)

Thanks for allowing me to serve,
Glenn M.
District 16 DCM

District 5- Skip D. Good day Area 35.

District 5 is alive and doing a little better. Our District meetings are held the 3rd Monday of every month at Freshwater's Church in Zimmerman. We do have three District positions filled (DCM, Treasurer, and Secretary) and still have five GSR's attending the District Meetings. The good news is, we are seeing visitors.

I am glad we are all sitting down, the news I have to share is, we have six people serving District 5 with us today. I do think this is the most representation for District 5 in the past four years. THANK YOU ALL!!

I am still out visiting groups in District 5, did find out that one of the groups in Princeton on Thursday night that has been going on for over fourteen years, has closed the doors. No more meetings.

In service,
Skip D.
District 5 DCM

ARCHIVIST - Steve D. Greetings from Area 35,

The Area 35 Archives move has been completed. Thanks to Scott M. and Peter T. for helping with the move. The Archives are now stored in a to begin the process of cataloguing stored books, documents and climate

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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.

(Continued from page 14)
controlled location in Fargo, ND. The space will provide us the opportunity other forms of material such as tapes, posters, etc..

With the help of the Area 35 Archives Committee, we will begin the process. We discussed at the Fall Assembly that we will make time at Area Committee Meetings, and other area events such as the Assemblies and Winter Workshop to catalog our current archive material.

Also, we will begin preserving past issues of the Grapevine during the next Aitkin Committee Meeting. A past Delegate and past Archivist, Scott J. has graciously agreed to provide hands on training on this process. There is much to do, but by involving Area 35 members not only will it reduce the amount of time it takes, but more importantly, give more people hands on experience with our archives.

I challenge all Districts to identify someone that can serve on our Area 35 Archives Committee. The more people we get involved, the sooner we can make our Archives material available to all members of Area 35.

Getting the word out about our past will help insure that A.A. will be there for future generations.

The Archives display is very active and I already have many conferences that I will be setting up the Archives display. If you have an event, whether it is one day or for a weekend that you would like to have me set up the display, please let me know. Expenses for such displays are the responsibility of the hosting Group, District, or Conference.

Yours in Service,
Steve D.
Area 35 Archivist.

"The individual must sometimes place the welfare of his fellows ahead of his own uncontrolled desires. Were the individual to yield nothing to the common welfare there could be no society at all - only self-will run riot; anarchy in the worst sense of the word."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., July 1946, "The Individual in Relation to AA as a Group",
The Language of the Heart

ARCHIVES - Scott M. Greetings Area 35.

Our Committee meeting this morning and the focus of our discussion revolved around the moving of the Areas Archive Repository to Moorhead. With the Area’s approval we believe this is the best short-term solution. Jim S. has allowed storing that at a facility of his for \$100 per month. We will be utilizing time at our assemblies to work on small archival projects. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Joint Area 35/36 workshop.

Yours in service,
Scott M.
Area 35 Archives

District 7 - Bob B. No Report

District 11- Cindy S-K Hi from District 11,

We have a 4th Step Workshop coming up on October 19th and 20th in Finlayson. Other than that it’s pretty quiet in our District. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at Peace Lutheran Church in Finlayson at 7pm. We try to keep the meeting to one hour. We have Corrections and Literature Chairs filled. Still looking to fill the rest trying to find ways to attract people to join our District Meetings if anyone has any ideas please share them with me.

Yours in service, Cindy S.

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

CORRECTIONS - Paul M. Greetings.

We had four Districts represented this morning, we had a great meeting, and things seem to be active in most Correctional facilities. We also had Area 36 Corrections Chair here today. I attended the Corrections Workshop last night in Brainerd which was put on by District 7. It was very informative and a lot of history was discussed about Correctional facilities. I’ve had a few temporary contacts to get people to contact them when they get out. I plan on attending the Joint Correction meeting in Osseo, MN this Tuesday.

Any questions or concerns please contact me.

Thanks for letting me serve
Paul M.
Area 35 Corrections Chair

District 12- Richard G. Area 35! Here we are together again. I am so grateful to see you all!

District 12 is slowly growing with our new Corrections Chair not giving up on our programs bringing AA into the Federal Prison Camp. Despite a change the contact persons there. Our new PI/CPC Chair and others have continued our presence at the St. Louis County Health Fair, attended by Health Care Professionals everywhere October 11th & 12th. All other Action Committees continue with the same enthusiasm. Our Intergroup has moved and is now handicapped accessible. It is truly my pleasure to serve with them and I look forward to carrying the message with these dedicated people.

New intergroup address is 320 E. 2nd Street, Duluth MN.

Yours in service,
Rich G.
District 12 DCM

District 14- Paul E. Greetings to all from District 14.

Since no one was able to attend the Aitkin Committee Meetings it is a pleasure to be here for the Fall Assembly. We were down to three people actively participating in our District so we needed to take a break. I apologize for not sending in any reports, but there really wasn't much to report.

We have four positions filled: DCM, Treasurer, Secretary, Literature and Treatment Chairs but the rest of the positions are still open. At our September District Meeting we decided to make contact with our local Drug Court Coordinator to see if there is any interest for Drug Court to hear a presentation about what AA is. We are open to suggestion as how to get this done. Our District Committee is again ready to take action to continue to carry the message of recovery to the alcoholic who still suffers. Thank you.

Yours In Service;
Paul E.
DCM District 14

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

PI/CPC Committee Meeting Report there were nine persons from Districts 4,5,6,8,9,12 & 13, along with a GSR from District 7. I gave a report on the State Fair (which is printed in the Northern Light titled "Hello, My Name is Doug, I'm an alcoholic and I Drank Today"). We had a short talk about County Fairs.

Greg, District 4, reported that AA no longer goes to the County Fair in District 4. He shared that one guy didn't want to volunteer because he didn't want others to know he's in AA. Greg would like to re-establish that booth. Area should provide service to Districts who doesn't have PI Chairs.

Sharna, District 6, states District 6 is suffering lack of volunteer and Committee Chairs are wearing multi hats. District 6 found that county fairs cost lots of money, so they choose not to go.

Jim, District 9, report Shar L. is new District PI/CPC Chair and is off and running with making contacts in their District. The Beginners Meeting has a person willing to chair.

Jill District 5 Secretary, District 5 has lack of Committee Chairs filled. The county fair had difficult time to find volunteers to man booth, event went to other events to ask for help.

Sally, District 8, will be having a PI Luncheon in March and invited to share details with District 5. Instead of the standard Beginners Meeting District 8 is discussing having a PI meeting once a month "What is AA", which would be an open meeting format. Along with showing the Hope- What AA is and isn't video (18 minutes long). This would be aimed at early AA members and newcomers.

Rich, DCM District 12, PI Chair, Justin, is working on County Health Fair which a great way to meet professionals. To help to get others interested in service work, District 12 has made a service pamphlet.

Mary, District 12 Co-PI chair, just starting in PI and is interested in information about a PI Presentation, will seek District 8 for their information.

Peggy District 13, District 13 had multi-rotation PI activity and there are seven persons on the current PI Committee. The Committee is working on up-dating schedules, renewing PSA's each month with the cable company. Working on getting Big Books into the High Schools, not just dropping them off at the front desk its about talking with the Librarian. AA 24 hour Assistance Line Chair (Ad-Hoc of PI) has served for many many years has stepped back as Chair, that position has already been filled. District 13 did not go to the county fair again this year; only seven pamphlets were taken two years ago. Will have a manned booth at the Homeless Connection later in October.

We had committee discussion about the following: I was asked to present at the St Louis County Health Fair in October 2019. Area Action Area Committee should be getting out to Districts that need help, Let's be active and get out there. Beginners Meeting Formats is a 4-week rotating format. Week 1- Disease of Alcoholism Week 2- Our Program of Recovery Week 3- Unity Week 4- Additional factors for Recovery. District 13 has used this format successfully for many years and was given from District 8. I have seven copies left for DCM's if they would like a copy.

Thank you for allowing me to be of Service.
Gayle R
Area 35 PI Chair

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District 6- Sharna O. Hi- I am Sharna alcoholic DCM District 6.

Meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of every month 7:30pm. Currently we still have a Chair positions open. The other Chair members have been stepping up and helping fill those roles for now. Thank you for that!

Wednesday night Big Book at Isanti has a GSR that started in June. As of the September meeting he still hadn't received his GSR packet.

Our District presents weekly AA meetings to both men and women at Isanti county jail. The District has a very good rapport with the jail coordinator.

It was discussed at September's meeting about holding a Workshop in January or February 2019, topic still to be determined.

Yours in service,
Sharna
District 6 DCM

District 1 Not Present

GRAPEVINE - Jerry B. Hi, I am Jerry B. and I'm an alcoholic serving as the Area 35 Grapevine Chair.

Things are still kinda slow, must be summer, hope you're all enjoying what's left of it. We all know what's coming. I went to a few Speaker Meetings where the sharing & friendship is always enjoyable. Just took an inventory of Grapevine, material available (lots of good stuff). I've been asked to setup the Area 35 Grapevine display for the West Central, which I gratefully accepted.

Speaking of the Grapevine there's a subscription challenge going on throughout the year and if you or your Home Group do not receive the Grapevine now is the time to subscribe. I've got subscription forms along with plenty other Grapevine reading material. If you or your Group would like something, let me know two weeks in advance of Area function and I'll give it my best to see that your request is met.

Don't forget to submit you're story to the Grapevine. It's easier than you might think, despite what our NL editor Steve L. says. Copies of the Grapevine newest book *One Big Tent* have just arrived and are available at the Grapevine table.

At this morning Committee Meeting there were nine attending represented Districts. We started discussing GV newest book *One Big Tent* which led to many other topics. Dennis from District 7 also has a copy of the Big Book in Braille if anyone is interested.

Yours in service,
Jerry B.
Area 35 Grapevine Chair

District 2- Not Present

District 21- Laura C.

District 21 hold meetings the 2nd Monday of each month at 7pm located at the Alano Club in Bemidji. Thanks to Area Chairs who came to share last Saturday. We have twenty nine meetings currently active in our District since adding two new groups for women. We also have meetings at Face-It-Together, which has Peer Support Specialists for Alcoholics Anonymous and Family but are not connected to District 21.

We are struggling to fill Chair positions at the District level and also some Groups don't have GSR's or they don't attend District meetings but I hope to meet with them in the next few months to encourage them to attend. We have 5-6 GSR's currently attending the District meetings. We will continue to reach out to newcomers to Service work. We have good financial support from Groups. All our bills are paid. We have a Potluck Speaker Meeting the last Saturday each month in Gratitude Hall behind the Alano Club 7pm, Potluck 8pm Meeting with good food and great speakers.

Yours in service,
Larura C.
District 21 DCM

OTHER REPORTS

Northern Light - Steve L. What's it ALL about...Alfie?

At the Spring Assembly April 4, 1982 the NL was approved for publication Issue #1 was published October 7,1982

At Midnight the NL has been in existence thirty six years. The NL has morphed from a four-page newsletter on 8 1/2x11 paper to a Twenty-page newspaper on newsprint. The NL has come from a humble beginning to the #1 source for all the Areas written communication.

The NL had a rough start with Issue One being published six times in the first eight years.: Oct 82, June 85, June 88, Oct 88, Feb 89, June 89

Here is a reprint From the December, 1989 issue of the NL. Which is just as meaningful today.

Kathy D., NL Editor wrote
Who Wants It, Anyway?

"In the recent months since I volunteered to edit The Northern Light, it has become more and more apparent to me that a potentially valuable and useful communication tool is being overlooked. Rumors abound that many don't receive copies, that those who do don't read it, and that the material printed is outdated and irrelevant to the few readers. If these rumors are true, then Area 35 is wasting its money.

Frankly, the way our newsletter looks now, I think Area 35 is wasting its money. But rather than "throw the baby out with the bathwater," I believe we could make an effort to inject some life into our voice and use our printed messenger to bring new unity and a sense of real fellowship to our 500+ groups. The most important ingredient for this revival is your support. What would y_o_u like to see in your newsletter? What would get your blood rushing in anticipation of each issue in your mailbox? When I asked this question at the November 16th District 9 meeting, here were some of the answers I heard: "Delegate reports . . . Calendar of events . . . announcements of open AA meetings . . . results of GSR sharing sessions ... how groups solve problems ... personal recovery stories . . . original poems and artwork , " What a great list! And guess what? We could do it! Do you want it?

As Bill W. told readers of the then one-year-old Grapevine, "This is your periodical. It will be the vehicle for your thoughts, your feelings, your experience, and your aspirations ... if you care to make it that." ... And . . . did you know anyone can contribute.

Give yourself a real present for the new year - - - a Northern Light you look forward to reading!"

Because of ongoing requests through the years from this body of Area 35 and a need to inform Area 35 members.

Now In Every Issue You Will Find

1. Area 35 Committee Names and Contact Info
2. District Map & Zone Breakdown
3. District Meeting Location Information
4. Area Officers and Committee Chair Reports
5. Inclement Weather Procedure
6. Area Committee Meeting Map
7. Directions for Inserting a Flier into the Northern Light
8. Northern Light Submissions
9. Upcoming Events
10. List of Past Delegates
11. How Agenda Items are Processed
12. ACM or Assembly Minutes
13. ACM or Assembly Agenda
14. The Area's Annual Budget
15. Delegate Résumés

Topics that have been of Interest at the Time

1. Creating Zones to Rotate the Assemblies and Area Workshop
2. Should the Area have a Fiscal Responsibility Statement
3. Does the Area need a Budget
4. Creating a WEB Site and Meeting Locator

The Northern Light is the Second Largest Expense of Area 35. With a budget this year of \$5,984. Its only \$610 less then what we budget for the Delegate. I bring this up to show how important our Area believes the Northern Light is as a vehicle to convey information to AA members in our Area. Not to question the money spent.

How do you Receive the Northern Light??

The last edition of the NL we mailed out 571 papers. Out of that approximately 515 were sent to Groups in the Area. By Group's I mean GSR's or Group Contacts registered with GSO and in the FNV Database. That is why it is important to keep your Group information up to date. I also pass out a stack of 18-25 NL's to all DCM's at all ACM's and Assemblies.

My Question to you is :

- ♦ DCM's do you inform GSR's what's in the NL?
- ♦ When you receive the NL do you share it with your Group?
- ♦ At your Groups Business Meeting or District Meetings do you use the NL to discuss :
 - a. Area's Budget
 - b. Delegate Resume's
 - c. New business brought up at ACM's from the minutes

The NL isn't just the voice of the 32 people on the Areas Committee, the Officers, Chairs and DCM's. It's the voice for the thousands of members of AA in the Area.

The NL needs your help to make it more personal. Please take the time to convey your Experience, Strength and Hope by submitting an article to the Northern Light.

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)
Remember it's easier to publish an article in the Northern Light than the Grapevine

Article Ideas

- a. Experience at an Assembly
- b. Strength from having a Home Group
- c. Rewards in staffing a Fair Booth
- d. Gratitude for chairing a Jail Meeting
- e. Challenges you find doing the Steps
- f. Hope you find at your AA Meeting
- g. Rewards from Sponsorship
- h. Strength from working with another Lush
- i. Coming to grips with your Higher Power
- j. Rewards from working on a Round up Committee
- k. And the list go's on...

Thanks for Reading

You can always make a hat out of it.

Any Questions ?

HOW DISTRICTS CAN BECOME STRONGER
AND MORE EFFECTIVE....
- Jim S.

Why are Districts important to Alcoholics Anonymous? Home Groups within the District have the purpose of dealing with people who need support to recover from alcoholism. That’s an important purpose and can take up a lot of time. In order for Groups to survive the Districts, help the Groups by communicating between them and the rest of Alcoholics Anonymous through GSRs from the Groups, District Chairs, the Area that they are located in and the GSO. If the groups in the District area are strong and have a good track record one would think the District would also follow suit. My sobriety depends on giving back for what was done for me many years ago. This needs to be instilled in Home Groups and the District itself. DCMs and District Chair people need to carry that message.

Promoting District service work within Alcoholics Anonymous can be a tough sell. Some may feel they don’t need to pitch in and help because they are quite content with their own recovery program and sobriety. Making a point for personal gratitude for what was done for them way back when and even now can persuade some to participate in service work in the District. Strong and effective Districts must have a full complimentary of Chairmen for Literature, Grapevine, PI, CPC, Corrections and Treatment. Subcommittees creates stronger Districts. It is more effective and less burdensome to have more than one person working on a project.

Getting people to volunteer can be a problem. Again gratitude and humility are necessary to continue to have a happy and sober lifestyle. I’ve heard replies to help out like “I don’t think I have enough time”. To stay sober you must take the time or you will lose what you so valuably already have. Then where are you? I’ve heard replies like “I don’t think I know anything about that”. Well quite possibly this is exactly what you need to learn because you don’t know anything about that.. Kind of like me giving this presentation. I’ve heard replies like “I don’t think I’d be very good at it or I don’t think I could actually do it at all”. I would ask them “did you think you could or would be good at being sober and do you know how to continue your sober life and not relapse? Be careful here because your gonna get an earful of more excuses. If nothing else maybe you’ve helped this person somehow.

District Groups need to have a good avenue of communication with the organization that owns the building where meetings are held. A well maintained, attractive meeting place is a positive motivating factor in keeping people coming back. District Chairman can learn how to solve their own problems by talking to other Districts. If a District appears to be growing stronger and more effective, ask them what they are doing especially in Areas your District maybe lacking. Utilizing the Northern Light newsletter can be a great help to Districts. DCM’s can publish their reports at Assembly’s and committee meetings. Articles from people in your District are and should be promoted from within. Districts should tell their Groups how informative the news letter is and how to find it. Informing members of all the resources available to them from the Grapevine to online websites is a positive attitude you can bring to your District.

Diplomacy is the ability to let someone have your way. Compromising is necessary for things to get done always placing principles of the way Alcoholics Anonymous was set up for us before our personalities and ego driven ideas. So how again can we make our Districts stronger and more effective? DCMs-at your District meeting ask those in attendance to ask one person to come to the next District meeting, pick them up and bring them. You may have brought your new successor. If you are a District Chair, Committee member or GSR you should be looking for someone right now to take your spot when your rotation is over. Ideally there should be a back-up already but we all know that doesn’t always happen. Districts should be informed of activities and issues going on within Alcoholics Anonymous (I stole that from the Northern Light). Thanks Steve. Steve does a good job. When Steve does a good job the Northern Light helps make Districts stronger and more effective. It really is a trickle down series of events that help keep Districts growing.

Ideas presented at District meetings are expanded and sometimes not used at all but none the less are needed and can really get the ball rolling. Districts should have a bulletin board of some sort at their meeting location to post District meeting dates and times along with printed out minutes of previous meetings, future events and things that are needed for your District for all to see. I as a DCM do this at our club with the help of anyone that wants to help. Things like this can have a positive effect on members as they come to their Home Group meetings. This simple thing can promote and show members the District is a trusted body working for them and just might get them to participate more. If alot of people participate more things should get done. Members often state ideas on different subjects. Ask them if they would be willing to come to a District meeting and present their ideas in a nice way if you can. If they say no ask them how will their idea be brought to the Districts attention then? If they say you do it, tell them your not sure how their idea works and I might not have that quite right.

Past Delegates, Area Chairs, Committee members are valuable resources for advice as they have either seen situations happen or will know someone who has. DCM’s and District Secretaries should work with the Delegate and Area group records Chairs by doing the foot work of updating District Groups information along with the respective GSRs. Districts who are strong and effective have Groups within their Area who are carrying the message to newcomers who come through the door and continue to return.

Service work within the District has guide lines for length of sobriety for those positions. One thing that’s been exciting to me as DCM has been seeing positions being filled that were open and seeing them already doing things in that position before they even came to the District meeting to accept the position. This in return gets the District going to help that person get what they need to carry the message. It really is a trickle down effect but needs to be followed up and through. Take time to have fun doing District service work. Enjoy working with others, sometimes successful sometimes not. If your just going through the motions, letting others do things you won’t learn and won’t have fun. Setting examples, being enthusiastic will make your District stronger and more effective.

There seems to be a gap in communications and transfer of information to groups through GSR’s in Alcoholic Anonymous according to impact collaborative, an audit by A.A. It is very important to know what the responsibilities of your position are. If you are unsure you should ask. Area 35 has GSR your District, a good place to get ideas and answers. In bringing positive attitudes and ideas to your District and not dwelling on past problems and bringing, them up over and over will just make things less problematic. Grapevine published a Traditions checklist in 1969 thru 1971 which was published originally for individuals. Many groups use them as a basis for discussion now so why not your District. Inventory for the District can be a tool for correcting less effective policies and decisions. During inventory each District Chair can discuss job responsibilities and determine if those responsibilities are being done. Districts have the function of being an intermediate body to serve and protect Alcoholics Anonymous; the Twelve Steps, Traditions and Concepts. This should be done without governing but by informing and suggesting. The District Group purpose has one ultimate authority-A loving God expressing himself in our inventories and Group conscience. I personally do not look for or want credit for helping and sharing but rather often find inner peace. It gives me what I need today.

A District needs to have people who are in it attend its meetings. Working with others at the District level is necessary. We cannot do it alone. We cannot rest on our laurels. We must report what we are doing and have done. People helping people will keep your District strong no matter how many problems arise. Being able to solve those problems depends on ideas, a little research and unity. The AA triangle has three points. Districts are in the Service point. The Service point should be aware of the Unity and Recovery points and what they mean and need. Defining the Districts weaknesses and ineffectiveness according to position responsibilities and trying to improve those Areas can be a starting point to making Districts better. If your District is lacking say in the CPC field, you can get the CPC literature Kit to guide the CPC Chair to improve those Areas of communication with professionals. Likewise would be Literature, PI, Grapevine etc.

So how do we measure the strength of our Districts? Is it by how much money we have in the treasury? Is it by having all the positions filled? Is it by how well we serve the Groups, GSRs, Delegate and Area? Perhaps some of you can answer this. Minutes of District meetings can be sent to groups who do not have a GSR either by e-mail or regular mail. Minutes also should be sent to the Delegate and appropriate Area 35 people. Keeping others informed is important. District action Chairs should attend workshops of their position. Area 35 have workshops all the time. All these ideas can make your District better. The Treasurer of your District can make a budget showing how much needs to be spent on what and when. I read somewhere Districts are made to have similar numbers of groups in each one. So I’m wondering how this works in rural, sparsely populated areas. What can be done to help the Districts where there is just not enough people. What can we do to help? Perhaps some of you can try to answer this. Another question to think about perhaps-are there too many meetings in the District? Would less meetings make larger Groups, more Home Group members? Would that attract members to become alternates, especially GSRs who are part of the District. So now if anyone would like to come to the microphone and answer some of the questions I’ve asked or just make a comment or suggestion please do.

Thank-you Jim S.

"Spiritual progress isn't what gets us sober, it's what keeps us sober."
"Working Incognito," State College, Pennsylvania, April 1994, Spiritual Awakenings

(Continued from page 17)

OLD BUSINESS

Area 35/36 Joint Workshop

NEW BUSINESS

West Central Region Business

Business Item #1:

The West Central Region is non-compliant with IRS filing requirements, due to our income exceeding \$5,000 per year. Additionally, the ability to set up a bank account by the hosting area has become increasingly difficult, due to stricter policies at banks. The region does have an employer identification number, but that provides only a partial solution. To be compliant, two options have been considered by the delegates

Identity during the time that the respective area is responsible for the WCRAASC. This reporting would likely span two years, as the transfer from one area to the successive area takes place during the summer after the WCRAASC. Because this transfer is from one independent organization to another, this money would need to be recorded as income for that area's reporting year. The income generated from registrations, etc., likely starting late in the year through early March of the next year would also be considered income. Depending on the respective area's reporting requirements, costs and profits may or may not need to be reported. Each area would want to consider the reporting requirements for the time the area is hosting the WCRAASC. We likely will need unanimity from the eight Areas to be able to utilize this option. in meetings with the WCR Trustee.

The first option: is for each area to fully assume the recording and reporting to the IRS with their organization's legal

The second option: is for the West Central Region to file for formal recognition as some sort of organization, e.g., 501-C-3, 501C7, etc. Because the annual revenue for the WCR is below \$50,000, the current filing requirements are a simple, online form that is required each year, declaring our annual revenues. There are some initial filing requirements, plus some costs. An estimate at this time is it would be in the neighborhood of \$400-\$500. The Region would want to also develop a consistent reporting process, especially who the responsible person would be to fulfill this requirement.

Note: Currently, the 2019 hosting area is operating the checking account under the EIN of the WCRAASC that was obtained by South Dakota a number of years ago. If no other action is taken to become compliant, the legal and ethical ramifications should be discussed.

Option 1 VOTE: No One In Favor, A Lot Opposed

Option 2 VOTE: A Lot In Favor, 2 Opposed

Business Item #2:

WCR Delegates voted to move the region's archives to an online storage system to free up the WCR Trustee's laptop. We need to determine who will perform any work associated with these two items. There has been discussion of restoring the Regional Secretary, and Gerry (MT) has provided us a recommendation, which was furnished at the GSC.

Primary Duties:

Setup and maintain online document storage system and Maintain digital archives of regional documents

1. Scan as needed
2. Standardize document format (PDF?)
3. Insure all flyers, programs, minutes and financial statements have been written, then procure and store documents
4. Delegate, Past/Present Delegate meetings at WCRAASC
5. Minutes from Trustee — Delegate meetings
6. Minutes from hosting Areas

Secondary/Optional Duties:

1. Serve as Secretary for Regional meetings
 - a. WCRAASC delegate, past/present meetings
 - b. Trustee — delegate meetings
2. Schedule Conference calls (Doodle)
3. Assist in planning process of WCRAASC
4. Serve as recipient of additional archival documents for Region
5. Maintain digital archives of additional documents (for Regional history)
 - a. Scan as needed
 - b. Standardize document format (PDF?)
 - c. Develop system to query archives so info can be retrieved (resource)
6. Encourage areas to find and provide archival documents
7. Serve as Treasurer
 - a. File annual tax forms (990N)
 - b. Audit bank account being maintained by hosting area

- c. Facilitate Area-to-Area transition for WCRAASC

Business Item 2 VOTE: 1 In Favor, The Rest Opposed

Area 35 2019 Budget:

Rillis (Webmaster) - \$55 to her budget to purchase adobe acrobat so she can post documents that require a password.

Tom (Audio Tech) – Lunch at the Committee Meetings were \$50.00, when I left the last couple ACM we had, the Atkin lunch committee had to foot our bill because they did not make enough money to break even, lunch cost may need to go up.

\$46,942 will be the new budget with Rillis's additional \$55 and with the correction on Audio Techs meals.

Motion was made, budget was approved, none opposed (for all Area Chairs and Action Committee Chairs)

GSR Sharing Session Report

Jim R. and Dan K. were elected Co-Chairs. Sue H. was elected Secretary. There were 35 GSRs present at the session. Jim asked that the GSRs introduce themselves and state whether they plan on attending the 2019 West Central Regional AA Service Conference, which will be held March 1st to the 3rd in Moorhead, MN. 13 GSRs plan on attending.

The group came up with 3 questions for discussion.

1. What can we take back to our group from this assembly?

Responses:

- a. The pride that we heard from the GSRs when we did introductions.
- b. What did I hear during the assembly that I could take back to my group to recharge the group?
- c. Sharing the fellowship that you feel at the Assembly.
- d. What we discussed and what we voted on.

2. How can we get old timers back into service?

Responses:

- a. Showing enthusiasm for what I am doing.
- b. Try to convey how serving enhances my sobriety.
- c. Cater to and give help to the old timer.
- d. Make an effort to include them.
- e. If service is important to a Sponsor, it will be important to a Sponsee.
- f. Show enthusiasm.

3. How do groups rejuvenate attendance?

Responses:

- a. Ask other groups for help.
- b. Make every member important.
- c. Get new people involved.
- d. Take time to talk to new people.
- e. Do a group inventory.
- f. Extra activities outside the meeting.
- g. Get people involved so they get to know people.

Having run out of time, we had to close the session. It was decided to see if there is any way that there could be two sharing sessions held at the Assemblies. Everyone seemed to get so much from the session and wanted more time.

Yours in service,
Sue H. GSR Tues. Morning AA, St. Cloud



“Okay! I just finished my ninety meetings in ninety days!
When will you people tell me how this thing works?”

(Continued from page 18)

DCM Sharing Session Report

There were 14 people in attendance with 13 DCM/Alt DCM's; Laura 21, Skip 5, Richard 12, Paul 14, Peter 13, RB 18, Jim 9, Greg 4, Sharna 6, Pat 15, Cindy 11, Glen 16 and Heidi 8.

We discussed three topics chosen by the majority of the group; (1) What action was taken from Spring Assembly's DCM Sharing Session? (2) Working with Intergroup (3) What is AA?

1. What action was taken from Spring Assembly's DCM Sharing Session?
 - a. Attend all meetings in the District and chat with GSR's, call GSR's/contacts before attending, invite members to come to District Meeting.
 - b. Resulted in more contributions from Groups to District but not more District Meeting attendance.
 - c. 13th stepping call them out-confront immediately and behavior stopped.
 - d. The \$1 contribution should now be the \$5 contribution.
 - e. Not have addicts on contact lists, suggestions didn't produce any extra interest, assign newcomers to a sponsor at their first meeting.
 - f. Organize event before District Meeting to increase participation, ask to put responsibility statement on agenda, respect others at meeting, visit groups, follow through with suggestions.
 - g. AA & Alano clubs are not the same thing.
 - h. Print District pamphlet with basic AA info and contact numbers and give to GSR's and attendees,
 - i. Use one on one approach "You'd be a great GSR."
2. Intergroup:
 - a. Intergroups tend to be in larger communities and sponsored by Groups in the Districts.
 - b. Problems with Intergroup taking service jobs from District.
 - c. Going into Treatment and Correction facilities without communicating with District, what is intergroup?
 - d. Get AA Guidelines for Intergroup from aa.org, purpose is to work alongside AA,
 - e. Are people in Intergroup coming from the Groups they serve,
 - f. Outside entities are encouraging non-profits (including AA) to join forces to make a central clearinghouse for help.
 - g. Are intergroups following AA guidelines, intergroups need more to do so they're taking on District duties, metro area intergroups have many jobs.
3. What is AA? Educating about AA.
 - a. Open/closed meetings, put on workshop "What is AA" and worked well and was well received.
 - b. Work with drug court to educate about AA, inform newcomers to respect others in meetings (phones, swearing, chatting during sharing).
 - c. Sponsorship is important.
 - d. Group inventories.
 - e. Each group is autonomous, need group conscience, our responsibility is to pass it on.
 - f. CPC Chairs to work with professionals locally.
 - g. Blue card on tables in meetings.
 - h. Read AAWS literature on these issues in meetings.
 - i. Newcomer has a right to know what open/closed meetings are.
 - j. Meeting schedules should list if meeting is open or closed.
 - k. Chair/trusted servants need to know and keep meeting on topic.
 - l. "Problems other than alcohol," talk to people after meeting about issues.
 - m. District workshops.
 - n. Not to be taken lightly or done quickly.
 - o. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking.
 - p. Starts with Chairperson.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Heidi B.
District 8 DCM
DCM Sharing Session Secretary

Area Officer Sharing Session Report

Area officers discussed the importance of having two reports for the Northern Light. One report is for the minutes that take place at an assembly or at the Aitkin Committee Meeting (which is the report that is given and or sent to the Area secretary) another report is specifically for the Northern Light.

Area Officers discussed the Final Conference Report. Christine discussed how on page 19 there are a lot of good presentations, articles and information in here and to take a look at the advisory actions that came out and maybe discuss them in the Committee Meetings.

Area Officers discussed if we want the archives to be on display somewhere or do we want to just store and catalog them.

Area Officers discussed the **AAmeeting.org** and if Southern MN is helping the cost. (This is being tabled and will become new business and discussed at the December ACM meeting)

Area officers briefly discussed the National Corrections Workshop that our Area 35 Corrections Chair was interested in partaking in.

We Area Officers and Area Committee Chairs appreciate all the hard work and effort that everyone puts into making Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 35 as wonderful as it is.

Agenda Item Proposals:

Alt DCM 13, AA Comes of Age be made in Large Print

Motion: Area 35 to approve this proposal and send it on, as an area through Christine our delegate to the General Service Board and the proposal is that the book AA comes of age be printed in large type for the visually impaired members of the AA fellowship.

-Motion was made, it was seconded, no discussion, all in favor, no one was opposed

Alt DCM 13, AAWS, YouTube Channel

Motion: "Immediate removal of the Alcoholics Anonymous World Services YouTube Channel."

-Motion was made, it was seconded, 3 opposed, all the rest were in favor of the motion

Proposal out of the GSR Sharing Session:

"We the GSR's would like to make a motion that a second sharing session at the assemblies be offered at the time of the GSR orientation. First time GSR's would still attend the GSR orientation."

Motion was made, motion was seconded, there was discussion then a Friendly amendment was made to:

Jim GSR: open to friendly amendment is to "intergrade GSR training into the first GSR session, so Officers would no longer be doing orientation and GSR's would be doing there own orientation"

Motion made to table the motion by Sue H.
(It was suggested that the Chair and Alt Delegate get together with the GSRs to get proposal together and submit to at the Spring Assembly)

Archives Proposal :

Steve D.: brief overview of what the archives is, what we need to do and two motions to bring forward.

Financing the Archives:

Motion: we will continue to pay \$100 per month rent for storing the archives Jim S. to house the archives.

Motion was seconded, any discussion, none, all in favor none opposed

Housing the Archives:

Motion: that the archives be housed near the archivist.

Motion was seconded, any discussion, none, all in favor, none opposed

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 too. The preferred way to send the flier in a PDF or JPEG format. Other formats received might be unable to convert.

Ask It Basket (Past Delegates)

Adjourned: The meeting closed with the Responsibility Statement.

"Keeping a Tenth Step journal about my day-to-day life, my relations with other people, and the stuff that still roiled around in my head helped me see patterns in my thoughts and behavior, which I could discuss with my sponsor. And once I began to sit quietly, reflect on what I'd written, and pray, I began to sleep peacefully for the first time in my life."

"Peace at Last," Manchester, New Hampshire, March 2001,
In Our Own Words: Stories of Young AAs in Recovery

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON WCR SEC/TREASURER

September 9, 1988
Mr. Don B.
West Central Regional Trustee
Bloomington, IA 55438

Dear Don:

The meeting of the Iowa Area Committee met in Marshalltown, Iowa on Sunday, August 28, 1988. Part of my report concerned the West Central Regional Guidelines as they were formed at the meeting of the Delegates of the West Central Region along with yourself in Rapid City, South Dakota in early July.

The committee responded favorably to the Guidelines but were quite concerned about one portion of the action taken at: that meeting and have instructed me to send their concerns on to you with copies of this letter Item #1:

The West Central Region is non-compliant with IRS filing requirements, due to our income exceeding \$5,000 per year. Additionally, the ability to set up a bank account by the hosting area has become increasingly difficult, due to stricter policies at banks. The region does have an employer identification number, but that provides only a partial solution. To be compliant, two options have been considered by the delegates in meetings with the WCR Trustee.

The first option is for each area to fully assume the recording and reporting to the IRS with their organization's legal identity during the time that the respective area is responsible for the WCRAASC. This reporting would likely span two years, as the transfer from one area to the successive area takes place during the summer after the WCRAASC. Because this transfer is from one independent organization to another, this money would need to be recorded as income for that area's reporting year. The income generated from registrations, etc., likely starting late in the year through early March of the next year would also be considered income. Depending on the respective area's reporting requirements, costs and profits may or may not need to be reported. Each area would want to consider the reporting requirements for the time the area is hosting the WCRAASC. We likely will need unanimity from the 8 areas to be able to utilize this option.

The second option is for the region to file for formal recognition as some sort of organization, e.g., 501-C-3, 501C7, etc. Because the annual revenue for the WCR is below \$50,000, the current filing requirements are a simple, online form that is required each year, declaring our annual revenues. There are some initial filing requirements, plus some costs. An estimate at this time is it would be in the neighborhood of \$400-\$500. The region would want to also develop a consistent reporting process, especially who the responsible person would be to fulfill this requirement.

Item #2:

The region's archives/documents are currently being stored on the trustee's laptop and Dropbox. Two delegates (Gerry and Scott) have researched storage options and presented them to the WCR delegates. The cloud storage options provide the opportunity to provide adequate storage and access to the file with permission control. Depending on the granularity of users (i.e., each delegate plus trustee having a login and designated permissions versus a general login for administrator versus others) the costs can be controlled. The information on each option and cost were distributed at the WCR luncheon on Wednesday at the GSC.

This item is a bit more urgent, as the next host will want access and it would be best to insure the flow of documents that has taken place over the past year and upcoming ones are filed appropriately. In addition to a storage provider, we need to determine who would perform the work, provided we plan on saving our archival documents.

Item #3:

If the decision is to incorporate and/or to maintain our documents online, we need to determine who will perform any work associated with these two items. There has been discussion of restoring the regional secretary, and Gerry (MT) has provided us a recommendation, which was furnished at the GSC. Being sent to the other Delegates also present at that meeting.

The concern that the committee wishes voiced is based on their understanding of Concepts 111, IV and V (the Right of Decision, the Right of Participation and the Right of Appeal) as it concerns the portion of those Guidelines to eliminate the position of Regional Secretary—Treasurer to be replaced by a Secretary—Treasurer to be selected by each host area for each West Central Regional Forum or Conference.

Their strong feeling is that the Delegates did not have the right to eliminate that position; one which was created by the Region itself and which was elected by the voting body at the Regional Conference (held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota in early March of this year) . Therefore, the committee believes the decision made at Rapid City in July by the Delegates to eliminate this position should be declared invalid.

Their suggestion is that the position of Regional Secretary— Treasurer be retained (including the recognition of the election of Jan P.) and that this position be handled in the context of a liaison working with the Host Commit-

tee's elected Secretary— Treasurer. There would be an advantage in having only one Regional bank account which would solve a problem with having different bank ID numbers in each state for each conference.

As Iowa Area Delegate, I would support the Iowa Area Committee' s recommendation.

Sincerely ,

Dale L. A.
Delegate (37-24)
DLA : mla cc: West Central Regional Delegates

"Nobody invented Alcoholics Anonymous. It just grew -- by the grace of God."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., July 1953, "A Fragment of History: Origin of the Twelve Steps,"
The Language of the Heart

September 12, 1988

Dear Don,

In regards to Dale L. A. letter dated September 9, 1988, in regards to the concerns of his committee about the elimination of the position of Regional Secretary - Treasurer, which was created by the Region itself and which was elected by the voting body at the Regional Conference (held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota in early March of this year).

I do not feel the position has been eliminated! As the Regional Conference is to be held at Sioux Falls, South Dakota in March, 1989, and Jan P. should be retained as Secretary/Treasurer for that conference; and then the rotation of Secretary-Treasurer began.

It is my feelings that by rotating the Secretary-Treasurer position to the conference state and city can only enhance our ability to achieve the Regions purpose which is 'how can we better serve alcoholics anonymous' .

Only disadvantages of having the Secretary-Treasurer and bank account at a location other than the host state is foreseen.

I give my support to continue as the W.C.R.A.A.S.C. guide are set down.

Sincerely,
Ed M., Delegate (38-40)
CC West Central Regional Delegate



“-but surely you remember Christmas Eve,
1989-I came home sober THEN!”

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 2 year rotation).

2. Email a pdf version of your flier to northernlight@area35.org for approval. Upon approval a copy will be forwarded to the webmaster to be placed on the Area 35 websites calendar of events.

3. Upon approval mail to :

Cold Spring Record
PO Box 456
403 West Wind Court
Cold Spring, MN 56320

With an attn.: Northern Light on the mailing address
Include a note stating they are to be inserted into the next Northern Light

4. **OR** if you wish to have Cold Spring Record print your fliers to be inserted into the Northern Light. The NL Editor will forward a copy of the pdf flier to Cold Spring Record, along with your printing instructions (paper color, one or two sided printing). Currently there are 1000 copies printed with @725 pieces to mail. What is not mailed is passed out at the Area meetings.

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

NMAA
PO Box 114
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE MOST
CURRENT ADDRESS!!!
- | 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 |
- 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 2019 are as Follows:
- ◆ January 23rd : Flier will be included in the January/February Issue
 - ◆ March 15th : Flier will be included in the March/April Issue
 - ◆ May 6th : Flier will be included in the May/June Issue
 - ◆ July 8th : Flier will be included in the July/August Issue
 - ◆ September 3rd : Flier will be included in the September/October Issue
 - ◆ November 4th : Flier will be included in the November/December Issue

OUR PAST DELEGATES

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

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:

- 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.

- 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.

(from The A.A. Service Manual, pages S44-S45)

I 2 Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous (Long Form)	I 2 Concepts for World Service (Short Form)
<div>1. Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.</div> <div>2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.</div> <div>3. Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.</div> <div>4. With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.</div> <div>5. Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose—that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.</div> <div>6. Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A.—and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one.</div> <div>7. The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.</div> <div>8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those services for which we may otherwise have to engage non-alcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. "12 Step" work is never to be paid for.</div> <div>9. Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our over-all public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.</div> <div>10. No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues—particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.</div> <div>11. Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.</div> <div>12. And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.</div>	<div>I. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.</div> <div>II. The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.</div> <div>III. To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.”</div> <div>IV. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in a reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.</div> <div>V. Throughout our structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.</div> <div>VI. The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.</div> <div>VII. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon traditional and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.</div> <div>VIII. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.</div> <div>IX. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.</div> <div>X. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.</div> <div>XI. The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.</div> <div>XII. The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.</div>
<div>AREA 35 EVENTS</div> <div>INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE</div> <div><div>◆ Area Chair calls to cancel and/or re-schedule.</div><div>◆ Based on DOT report, national weather service, individual safety being paramount</div><div>◆ Chair asks for weather reports from all DCM’s from respective districts either by email or phone for those that don’t have computers.</div><div>◆ Chair notifies the Alano society in Aitkin on food preparations and possible re-schedule to following Sunday.</div><div>◆ Chair contacts webmaster results put on Area 35.org and reschedule date and time.</div><div>◆ Districts contact their DCM in inclement weather for updates on cancellation.</div><div>◆ Post procedure in Northern Lights.</div><div>◆ 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.</div></div>	

Area 35 Committee Meeting Agenda
Aitkin, MN
December 2, 2018

<div><div>_____ 9:00 A.M. Action Chair Committee Meetings (9:30 a.m. Financial Oversight Committee)</div><div>_____ 10:30 A.M. Area Committee Meeting</div><div>_____ Call to Order Open With the Serenity Prayer</div><div>_____ Recognize Past Delegates</div><div>_____ Add to Agenda</div><div>_____ Approve February Area Committee Minutes</div><div>OFFICER REPORTS:</div><div>_____ Delegate – Christine Gerth</div><div>_____ Alternate Delegate – Jim Steen</div><div>_____ Chair – Roger Rudolph</div><div>_____ Secretary – Melissa Atkinson</div><div>_____ Treasurer – Mike Fitzsimons</div><div>COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS:</div><div>_____ CPC – Myron H.</div><div>_____ District 9 – Jim S.</div><div>_____ District 13 – Justin W.</div><div>_____ WEBMASTER – Rillis E.</div><div>_____ LITERATURE – Brian P.</div><div>_____ District 15 – Pat M.</div><div>_____ District 3 – Kevin K.</div><div>_____ NORTHERN LIGHT – Steve L.</div><div>_____ GROUP RECORDS – Sally L.</div><div>_____ District 4 – Greg C.</div><div>_____ District 8 – Heidi B.</div><div>_____ District 18 –William BR B.</div><div>_____ TREATMENT – Cathy R.</div><div>_____ District 5– Skip D.</div></div>	<div><div>_____ ARCHIVIST Steve D.</div><div>_____ ARCHIVES – Scott M.</div><div>_____ District 7 – Bob B.</div><div>_____ District 16 – Glenn M.</div><div>_____ District 11 – Cindy S.-K.</div><div>_____ CORRECTIONS – Paul M.</div><div>_____ District 12 –Richard G.</div><div>_____ District 14 – Paul E.</div><div>_____ PI – Gayle R.</div><div>_____ District 6 – Sharna O.-J.</div><div>_____ District 1 –</div><div>_____ GRAPEVINE – Jerry B.</div><div>_____ District 2 –</div><div>_____ District 21 – Laura C.</div><div>12:00 P.M. Lunch</div><div>12:45 P.M. Reconvene</div><div>OLD BUSINESS:</div><div>_____</div><div>_____</div><div>NEW BUSINESS:</div><div>_____ FOC Report</div><div>_____</div><div>_____</div><div>_____</div><div>_____</div><div>_____ Calendar of Events</div><div>_____ Adjourn</div></div>
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Mail Area 35 Group contributions to: NMAA
P.O. Box 114
Grand Rapids, MN 55744