



Deadline for the Next
Northern Light is
May 6, 2019

This is YOUR Newsletter



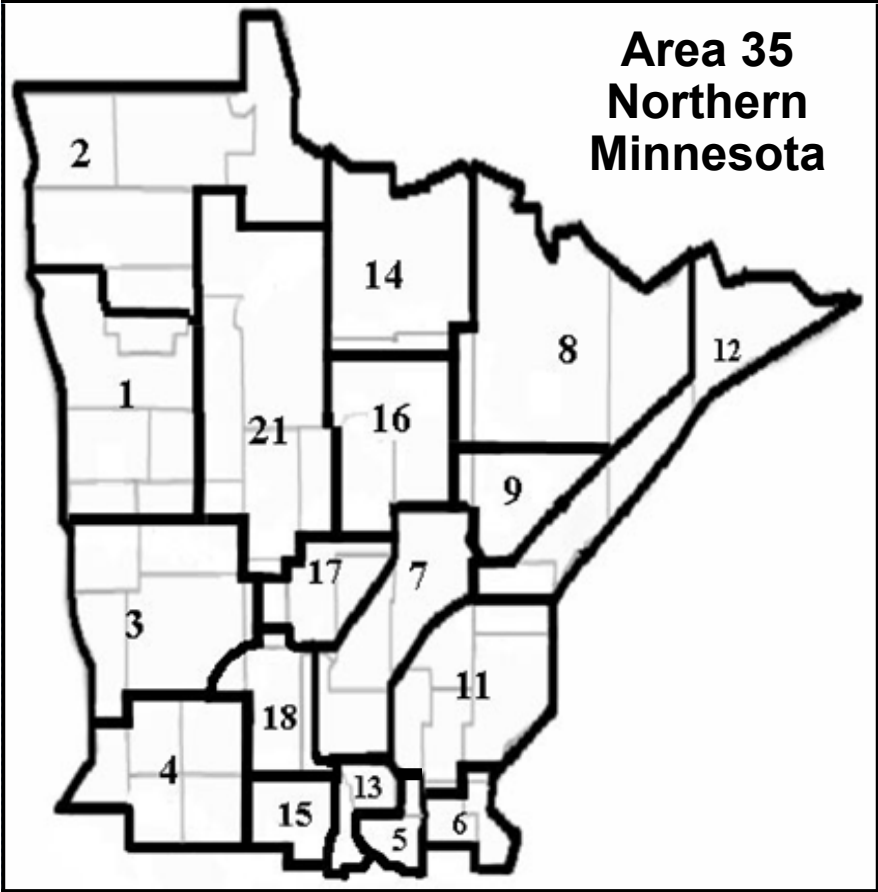
Send articles and comments for publication to
Steven L. — northernlight@area35.org
Bring this copy to share with your Group!

2018-19 AREA 35 COMMITTEE

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				<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) \$.59 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

District 1

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

District 2

1st Sunday of Odd Months, 3:00 p.m.
Thief River Falls Alano Club
614 Davis Ave.
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

District 3

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

District 4

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

District 5

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

District 6

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

District 7

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

District 8

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

District 9

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

District 11

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

District 12

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

District 13

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

District 14

3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30pm
Coffee Landing
444 3rd Street
International Falls, MN 56649

District 15

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

District 16

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

District 18

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

District 21

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

District 17

Not currently active or unknown

AREA OFFICERS & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS

Delegate:

Greetings Area 35,

Since our Area Committee Meeting was canceled due to weather, I had the opportunity to attend the West Central Regional AA Service Conference. I also had the opportunity to work with an amazing group of people that served on the committee and worked very hard preparing, coordinating, hosting and closing the event. The committee continued to work on closing the event the whole week after the conference had ended to ensure that all the I's were dotted and the T's were crossed. There was an immense amount of planning that took place for this event to be successful and I feel that everyone did a great job.

I am going to take this opportunity to share my experience and I will share the business piece at the Spring Assembly.

There were some challenges and mistakes that happened and we learned from them. I hope that none of the mistakes created any sort of hardship on anyone or on their group. I learned that when planning for a large event like this, there will be mistakes and we do the best we can to make our mistakes right and move forward. It was a very humbling time and I realized that there are situations that are out of my control.

General Service work has taught me patience, humility, how to play well with others and to not take myself too seriously. It has kept me teachable and it keeps me in the middle of the program. General Service keeps teaching me about the Traditions and Concepts. Am I knowledgeable in all these areas? No, I'm not, but I have the best interest of AA as whole in all the decisions that I make. When in doubt, I seek guidance from others who have more experience.

While representing AA and my Area, I have learned to have fun and enjoy each moment. I have learned to put myself out there and have fun while taking in all the information and knowledge shared by others. I have put both feet in and have enjoyed every moment and I feel blessed to be apart of an Area that is passionate about the welfare of AA.

I have learned that we all come from different walks of life and that we all love the program and want it to be around for anyone that needs it. We just all have different ways that we want to see that happen. As long as we keep our principles as the guiding force and always invite a loving God into our rooms, we will come to the right decision.

Once again, I would like to thank the whole committee and all the volunteers for all your help to make the 2019 WCRAASC a success and thank you for allowing me to be of service to Area 35.

In Unity and Service,
Christine,
Area 35 / Panel 68 Delegate

Alt. Delegate:

Hello Everyone,

I attended the WCRAASC this past weekend. At the time of writing this report, I do not have the final numbers on how we came out. From what I understand from Steve, we should come out in the black. The goal in not for this to be a money maker but it certainly isn't supposed to be a money loser either. We had approximately 302 registrants. We did incur some additional hotel expense, unfortunately Greg's flight was canceled Sunday afternoon because of bad weather out East and rescheduled Monday morning. It was agreed that the West Central would pay for his extra night since he wouldn't incur the expense had we not invited him here and it doesn't seem right to have the GSO pay for it. There was an unfortunate mistake made regarding the Sunday morning breakfast and Steve L. has prepared a very nice letter of apology that will be emailed out to those we have email addresses and snail mail to those we don't. Christine was able to negotiate us a little better deal from the Marriot, which I appreciate greatly. I did print off next year's conferences save the date fliers. I will get them over to Rillis for her to post on the website. I do hope those in attendance found it informative and a productive use of resources as we head into the Spring Assembly. I hope to see you all there.

Well the service conference is over and I have many thoughts I would like to share with you. First and foremost I would like to thank Christine for asking me to be a part of this committee. The role I had was irrelevant as it clearly took the entire committee and host of volunteers to pull this event off. As for me, this was an emotional roller coaster ride I didn't imagine. I experienced great joy and sadness over this event. It was a big part of my life over the past several months and in the blink of an eye it was over. It was wonderful to see how many people came out from the FM area to help volunteer and those from Area 35 who helped as well. As sometimes happens, some volunteers ran into issues with showing up for their shifts, but those that were around stayed later to fill in the gaps. I have had the privilege of putting a number of these functions on over the past few years but nothing of this magnitude. While I must admit feeling some what confident going into the process, I left it with a feeling of humility after seeing how little I truly know. There were several mistakes I made during this event that I am grateful that they didn't cause the Region to lose money, they still were a reminder to me

of my own shortcomings. After a few days of reflections. I have come to the acceptance that the event turned out the way it supposed to. That we all took something away that made us a little better then we were prior to the event whether be a better understanding of the agenda items, listening to the breakout/general sharing sessions or simply having the chance to meet someone we didn't know before. I had the opportunity to chat with a guy who drove from the very south west corner of Wyoming to make it here. There were also people from other Areas that I have recognized from past Conferences I didn't see this time.

In closing, it has been a real privilege to serve Area 35.

In Service
Jim S. Alt Delegate

Area Chair:

Greetings Area 35,

It was necessary to active the "Area 35 Inclement Weather Procedure" (p. 61 Area 35 Actions Book) for our February 24th Area Committee Meeting. As I engaged in this procedure and followed weather reports and input from throughout our Area it became clear I needed to cancel the Area Committee Meeting scheduled for February 24th. Driver's safety in winter storm conditions was my paramount concern in this cancellation.

Following this cancellation, I engaged the Area Committee of Area officers, Area Action Chairs and DCM's in a group conscience email discussion on whether to reschedule the cancelled Area Committee Meeting. A clear consensus emerged from this process in favor of not rescheduling the February Committee Meeting. As some Area Committee members receive their General Service Conference background materials at the February ACM, alternative arrangement we made to transfer these materials at the West Central AA Service Conference which took place in the first weekend of March and through mail and downloading of materials from the Area 35 Website.

It is time for Districts to begin thinking about nominating a trusted servant to stand for the position of Area 35 Delegate in the 2020-2021 rotation. It is always best if our Area has a number of nominees for this important position. Delegate nominees need to contact me for a Delegate Resume form that I will send on to be published in the June Northern Light.

I would like to thank Area 35 for sending me to the WCRAASC in Moorhead MN, March 1st-3rd. Area 35 hosted this event and did a great job facilitating the 2019 WCRAASC. Hats off to the steering committee and co-chairs Jim S., and Gayle R. for their service on this event.

The 2019 West Central Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference began on Friday Evening at 7 pm with Delegate Area Highlights form the eight areas in the West Central Region. Meetings continued from 8:15 am to 10 pm on Saturday March 2nd and the conference wrapped up on Sunday morning.

The conference consisted of three Distinct types of presentations.

Three General Session Presentations were delivered by Areas 36, 24 and 52. These presentations were well researched in our literature and informative.

The second type of pretentions at the conference were Breakout Sessions. I was asked to Chair a Breakout Session on "Intellectual Property in AA: Is Legal Action Ever a Good Idea. The main topical area for this session centered around what intellectual property is and past and current intellectual property issues facing Alcoholics Anonymous. Greg T., General Manager of the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous was a welcome resource in this session. We learned of a significant legal distinction between intellectual property in a domain versus a trade name/ trademark as this relates to an outside entity that is currently using the domain of (alcoholicsanonymous.com)

General Agenda Items sessions covered the following content areas; Agenda, CPC, Corrections, Finance, Grapevine, Literature, Policy/Admissions, Public Information, Treatment and Accessibilities, Trustees, Archives, and International Conventions/Regional Forums. During each of these sessions I took notes on the type of discussion and nature of participation for each agenda item. I approached the microphones several times to provide comments. This type of participation required some familiarity with the background information provided by our Delegate Christine G. I have been asked to lead a discussion on Agenda Items in meetings of Districts 15 and 9. My participation at the West Central Conference prepared me for these service opportunities as well as for our upcoming Area 35 Spring Assembly on April 6th-7th in Duluth, MN.

I would like to thank Area 35 for sponsoring me at the 2019 West Central Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference. It is important for Area 35 to be represented at this regional conference and we fulfilled this responsibility.

In service and warmth,
Roger R.
Area 35 Chair

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Secretary:

Greetings Area 35

I had the privilege of attending the West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference in Moorhead Minnesota. It was an amazing experience and very informative. Area 35 did a wonderful job hosting this year and I want to thank everyone who put time, hard work and effort into making this conference such a success. I had the privilege of being Secretary for the Past Delegates/Delegates meetings on Friday; I want to thank Jim S. for asking me to be of service.

The **Agenda Items** that had discussion are the following:

- CPC Committee Agenda Items: 1A & B
- Corrections Committee Agenda Items: A & B
- GV Committee Agenda Item B
- Literature Committee Agenda Items: C, F, I, K, L & M
- PI Committee Agenda Items: C3, C4, D, F & G
- Report & Charter Committee Agenda Item: B
- Treatment & Accessibilities Committee Agenda Item: B & C
- Trustees Committee Agenda Item: E
- International Convention/Regional Forums Agenda Item: B

We were informed the following information in regards to The Big Book:

- Navajo Big Book is available from GSO. They do not actually have a written language. What is available is a CD set.
- Big Book reinterpreted in American Sign Language (video)

The presentations that were given throughout the weekend were done very well.

The breakout session that I decided to attend was about Intellectual Property, in which Greg T. our GM of AAWS was there to answer questions. There were a lot of good questions in regards if AA should have Intellectual Property or not.

The question that Greg T. stated for the fellowship was:

“The question to the fellowship in general terms, what is our tolerance for legal action given the experience of 2017 regarding the manuscript?”

This is something that Greg is requesting we take time to really think about our Traditions and what is best for Alcoholics Anonymous, Greg and the General Service Office would like the fellowships input on this matter.

Overall the weekend was a wonderful experience and I look forward to seeing everyone at the Spring Assembly in April to go over the agenda items. Lets do our best to inform our wonderful Delegate Christine how Area 35 would like to be represented at the General Service Conference. I hope to see a bunch of GSR’s and new GSR’s in attendance (that is one of my favorite parts).

If anyone would like me to email them the notes I took while at the conference please send me an email and I will send you my notes.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Melissa A.
Area 35 Secretary

Treasurer:

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

I attended the WCRAASC in Moorhead last weekend. The conference was very well planned and organized by our Area 35 members Jim S., Gayle R., Steve L., Kelly D., and Christine G. Many others were involved, and I thank them as well. Well done!

There were approximately 330 registered AA members in attendance. I listened to spirited debate about many agenda items of interest to me. One was the request for the GSO to maintain a database of Correctional facilities in each service area in the U.S. and Canada and the status of meetings held therein. I and others felt that this project would be too expensive to implement and maintain at a national level, and therefore better left to the Districts and Areas to manage this data in their own geographical locations.

Another item was to consider a request to develop a fifth edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous. There was concern over exactly what types of changes would be considered beyond simple updates of back-of-the-book stories. It is always of concern to me when radical changes to the Big Book are being considered.

Perhaps the one agenda item that will have unanimous approval will be the item to consider the request to add the 1940s home movie of the co-founders and their wives to the video “Markings on the Journey.”

Since my last Northern Light report, I have:

- Reconciled two monthly bank statements and prepared reports for review by the Financial Oversight Committee
- Deposited all contributions received as of February 28th
- Paid all invoices and expenses received as of February 28th
- Completed a balance sheet and income/expense/contribution statements for Period 7 of 2018 (November/December) and Period 1 of 2019 (January 1 – February 15)

As of February 28th, our checking and savings accounts have a combined balance of **\$24,189.**

Here is a summary of our 2018 income/expenses/contributions:

2018 YEAR END SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES		
	Actual	Budget
Group Contributions	\$30,565.59	N/A
Birthday Contributions	85.00	N/A
Special Contributions	3,796.33	N/A
Miscellaneous Area Income	2,988.53	N/A
Total Income	37,435.45	N/A
Miscellaneous Expense	9,041.92	7,522.62
Officers/Chairs Expense	28,022.23	40,263.16
Total Expenses	37,064.15	47,785.78
Net Income	\$ 371.30	N/A

Our Group contributions for 2018 and 2017 were **\$30,566** and **\$24,961**, respectively, a **23%** increase over 2017.

As of February 28, 2019, our year-to-date total income and expenses are **\$6,194** and **\$7,367**, respectively, giving us a net year-to-date expense of **\$1,173**. Expenses included the cost of hosting the 43rd Annual Area 35 Service Conference in Alexandria, as well as the Area’s contribution of **\$1,800** to the General Service Board for our Delegate’s attendance at the General Service Conference in May.

If you have questions or concerns about our finances or 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:

Reflecting on the WCRAASC held in Moorhead, MN. , I can’t help but feel that this year’s conference was amazing. The depth of sharing from the microphone concerning our Agenda Items was phenomenal. I have such a better understanding of what will be taking place at this year’s conference as a result, and will help us come to an informed group conscience.

I also enjoyed all the presentations, this year’s topics are very important things to be discussing amongst our fellowship. I am very impressed with our Region. We have so many wonderful dedicated servants past and present, and I am grateful for the experience that is shared, and find myself sitting in admiration those who have taken time from their lives to serve our fellowship and the still suffering alcoholic.

I sat in the breakout session concerning AA and lawsuits. Mr. T. shared some very valuable insight concerning some recent litigation and we were able to share with him face to face our thoughts surrounding discussion concerning domain names. Particularly alcoholicsanonymous.com

Thank you to the committee for all the handwork that was put into this year’s planning, and also the Delegates, along with the current and past WCR Trustees, for sharing their experience concerning this year’s GSC Agenda Items.

A very special Thank You to Greg T., General Manager of the General Service office for sharing his experience, strength and hope, and lending insight into some of the inner workings of the General Service Office.

Yours in Service,
Scott M.
Area 35 Archives Chair

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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.

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Archivist:

Hello to Area 35. We talk a lot about how AA got going in Northern Minnesota. Here are some excerpts from the GSO Online Archives. I encourage you to go to https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/archives-and-history to learn more about our beginnings in other countries.

The Beginnings of AA Around the World.

1946

Ireland joins the program

The decision of a Philadelphia A.A. member and former tavern owner, Connor F., to travel to Ireland leads to the formation of the first Irish Group. Connor and his wife visit a Dublin sanitarium, where a doctor introduces them to patient Richard P. of Belfast. After reading the Big Book presented to him by Connor, Richard writes to a number of contacts who had learned of A.A. through Fr. Tom Dunlea. (Dunlea, a nonalcoholic and one of the founders of Australia's first Group, had also spread the message on a trip to Ireland.) Before long, Ireland's inaugural A.A. Group is meeting in a room at the Country Shop on Dublin's St. Stephen's Green.

1947

First stirrings in England

Though the first official A.A. Group in England won't be formed until 1948, the ball gets rolling when a visiting American woman, Grace O., writes to five Londoners who are in touch with the Alcoholic Foundation and schedules a meeting at the Dorchester Hotel (right) for March 31, 1947. The eight attendees include two A.A. members from North America: an A.A. from Hollywood, California, whose acquaintance she had made on the voyage across the Atlantic, and "Canadian Bob," whom Grace had met in a London restaurant and who will figure large in A.A.'s growth. Meetings will continue in restaurants and residences, among them the home of Canadian Bob.

1948

A Swedish offshoot

Frank B., a Swedish-American who had become sober in Newark, New Jersey, moves to Sweden and reports to the Newark Group that he has joined an A.A. Group in the town of Borås — much to the surprise of the Alcoholic Foundation. The group is in fact affiliated with the Links Society. (Founded by an officer of the Temperance Board in Stockholm, the Links Society was loosely based on the A.A. concepts, with which the officer had become familiar on a trip to the U.S. in 1939.) An exchange of letters between the Foundation and the secretary of the Borås Links group ensues, leading to a listing with A.A. in February 1948. In later years, more Swedish Groups will shift their affiliation from the Links Society to A.A., and the Swedish G.S.O. will issue the Twelve Steps in booklet form.

1949

The Scottish messenger

In 1948, Sir Philip D., a Scottish gentleman farmer who has long struggled with alcoholism, travels to the U.S. at the invitation of the Oxford Group. There he meets A.A. member George R., who acquaints him with the Fellowship's principles. Sir Philip returns home determined to stop drinking and to carry the A.A. message. He succeeds, and Scotland's first known Groups are founded in May 1949 in Edinburgh and in Glasgow, where meetings are held in the St. Enoch Hotel.

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

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

Yours in Service,
Steve D.
Area 35 Archivist.

Cooperation with the Professional Community:

My name is Antonette and I am an alcoholic.

I have the privilege of stepping in as your new CPC Chair for Area 35. I will do my best. I had the opportunity to attend the WCRAASC. I was able to have some insight into the hot topics to be discussed at the conference. I am looking forward to be involved again.

Thanks for allowing me to serve.

Yours in Service,
Antonette F.
Area 35 CPC Chair

Corrections:

Greetings from your Corrections Chair!

There has been a lot of talk about the Sherburne County Jail, as we are trying to make arrangements to find a way to get back in there, because it has such difficult rules.... I also attended the West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Conference in Moorhead! There we went through the agenda items

and a lot was discussed. Greg our manager from the GSO did an excellent report and what kind of shape our office is in.

I'm still looking to put a proposal in for the Pink Can Plan for Area 35 at the Spring Assembly. There seems to be a lot of resistance with this.... I just received another request from another prison asking for literature. Please bring this back to your Group and see if your Group is in favor of a Pink Can Plan and would be willing to write a proposal for submission at the Spring Assembly. It was suggested the proposal for the PCP should come from the Groups?? The Correction Committee past this plan at the last Area Committee Meeting. I believe it would help Area 35 get literature into the jails.... I will be attending the Spring Assembly and the Joint Corrections 35/36 workshop in April. Any questions or concerns please contact me.

Yours in service,
Paul M.
Area 35 Corrections Chair

Grapevine:

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

The 2018 subscription challenge & free shipping for the year has come to an end. Look for these & other programs offered by the Grapevine again. I'll try and keep you informed as to any Grapevine news when it becomes available. I do have a few items stored in my laptop now that I can't open for some reason. Technology, who knows...Will get to ya as soon as possible. I've been asked by our Alt. Delegate Jim S. to set-up Area 35 Grapevine display and make it available at the WCRAASC in Moorhead recently. We sold around \$300 worth of our expanded Grapevine literature. Last count I heard it was attended by 301. Good West Central Region where I got to meet a lot of friends and talk to people who I hope to become new friends with. Very informative meetings where the Agenda items were discussed between cowboys, sheep farmers, lumberjacks, miners & of course us drunks. If you ever have the opportunity to go to a Regional event, don't think about it, just GO.

I recently attended the Area 35 Workshop held in Alexandria, I thought the attendance was poor due to lack of DCM's & GSR's. The Spring Assembly will be held in Duluth April 6th-7th. Bring along a newcomer, they're fascinating, both the Assembly & newcomer. See you there.

Yours in service,
Jerry B.
Area 35 Grapevine Chair

Group Records:

Greetings, Area 35.

I attended the Area 35 Workshop on January 17, 2019. It was informative and thought-provoking. Discussing where AA came from, where we are now, and what AA might look like in the future. Good presentations. Tom A., our trustee, spoke Saturday night about what is happening at GSO and on the Board, then he told his story in the morning on Sunday. It was good to hear what he had to say.

I attended the WCRAASC in Moorhead to go over the agenda items and attend workshops. The attendance was about 302 persons. There was a lot of discussion on some items and not much on others. A lot of the discussion was about the Traditions and the use of social media. We talked about whether AA should create a national database of all Correctional facilities in the nation, and we talked about raising the annual contribution limits for bequests and individual giving. Also discussed were removing the gray pages from the Grapevine, a possible 5th edition of the Big Book, revising pamphlets, Google AdWords and Google Grants (whether using these things is in violation of our Traditions), among others. These items will be discussed at the Spring Assembly at the Holiday Inn in Duluth. Many important votes will take place there, so please come and add your voice to the discussions.

Greg T., the general manager of the General Service Office, attended the WCRAASC and provided a lot of information about the agenda items and answered scads of questions. He also told his story, which was very interesting. He is an alcoholic just like the rest of us!

The implementation of the new database system has been delayed until sometime in the summer due to needing to work out more bugs in the crossover. There is a lot of data to assimilate into the new system. When the system is up and running, Group Records will be doing the same services as it is doing now, and when orders are placed for AAWS literature and GV literature, they can be combined into one order rather than having to place two separate orders. People at GSO will be able to look up Group records, take contributions and take orders for literature using only one system. Right now there are four databases, which is cumbersome.

I hope to see you all at the assembly.

In service,
Sally L.
Area 35 Group Records Secretary

Literature:

We did not meet in Aitkin as many already know. I did attend the West Central Regional in Moorhead. I had pretty much all of our literature on

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

display and sold quite a bit of literature and books. Most popular was the new Service Manual. Attendance was good and was great to have the General Manger Greg T. and all the Delegates to help us go through the agenda items.

There are not a lot of controversial agenda items this year so we went through most items pretty quickly. Hopefully your GSR will bring the items to your Group and they will be discussed and your GSR will come back to the Spring Assembly with a Group conscience.

I will be putting in another order by March 21st if you need anything you will need to let me know by then.

Respectfully yours in service,
Brian P.
Area 35 Literature Chair

Northern Light:

ROARRRRRrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr,

March certainly came in like a Lion in Moorhead for the WCRAASC. Blizzard conditions made driving challenging. I had one person say, "I'd have been here sooner but I had to wait for the tow truck." Then the cold temperatures made sitting at the registration and coffee tables chilly when the doors were opened. The Conference ended with people having trouble starting their vehicles Sunday morning. Just another beautiful weekend in Tropical Minnesota.

I was deeply impressed by how many volunteers showed up and came only for their two to four hour stint because they had other engagements (work). Thank you to all the volunteers, which made the WCRAASC a success. You all did such a great job, I received many emails thanking us on the terrific job we all did to make the WCRAASC a success. Along with a BIG Thank You to all the people who braved the weather and attended the Conference.

I didn't attend the discussions on Agenda Items as much as I would have liked to. I was taking care Registration/Coffee responsibilities and encouraged the first time volunteers /attendees go inside the hall, to see, hear and experience what was going on.

This was a great experience working with a fantastic group of people organizing the WCRAASC. When people say they are bored or “what is there to do?” I would highly recommend getting involved and volunteering to be of Service to the Fellowship that gave you a life. There are plenty of things that need to be done. Help the PI, Treatment Committees, join a Round-Up committee (most them are old, very old and need some replenishing).

This has been a busy two months, most of my time has spent serving this fellowship. My family has been very supportive. The one thing about giving of my time is that sometimes it is frustrating, most of the time it is rewarding and all the time it is taking me out of me. Being this busy, where would I have had the time to take a drink?

Thanks for reading.

Yours in Service,
Steven L.
Area 35 Northern Light Editor

Public Information:

Greetings Area 35,

So sorry we missed our Committee meeting and I look forward to see you all at the West Central Regional AA Service Conference this coming weekend. I will be busy with the hosting Committee details. Since we didn't have an actual meeting how about an email meeting. When replying, please reply all so everyone can be included.

I did attend the January workshop, and neglected to mention that in my last Northern Light report. The presentations were really good, inspiring great discussions. I am currently on the PI committee in District 13 and have participated in carrying the message there. I have received a few emails and text messages from others such as ... the work Gene in District 3 is doing and Kathy in District 4 is wondering if anyone has carried the message to the elderly and how they did that? I have her report, as she is busy in District 4 as she is reaching out to the public in all areas.

Let me ask (suggested from Kathy-District 4) ARE any District putting pamphlets in Hospitals if so which ones?

If you have any questions about the PI agenda items, please let me know. I am going to try to have the PSA Video "My World" available at the Spring Assembly since they are considering discontinuing that video. If you have a change, take a look at it.

Area 35 CPC Chair person is Antonette F. she has worked in service before and is currently serving as Alt DCM to District 9, Welcome aboard Antonette...

Area 35, I am so grateful to all those who volunteered and help at the WCRAASC. As the hosting Area, we made it! And we made it look good, the small mistakes and errors if anyone noticed were not conference breaking. Christine tackled the agenda items like a pro. Between Jim, Steve and myself we had the volunteers covered. I am just glad we only have to host every eight years, so for the next seven conferences we can sit back and relax.

working on the agenda and/or presentations.

I look forward to going thru the Agenda items at the Spring Assembly and sending our Area conscience with Christine to New York. I will be giving a PI presentation in District 15 on May 6th, at the Albany Senior Center, I think at 7pm, see Pat M. (DCM) for Details..

Hope to see you all very soon!!!

Gayle R.
Area 35 Public Information Chair

Treatment:

On March 30th, at the Hibbing Alano Club from 1pm – 3pm there will be a workshop. The subject will be speaking at various entities i.e. Treatment, meetings, etc. Please encourage everyone to attend. We expect a rousing discussion.

On another note, you, the readers, might be aware that I had some serious surgery. It has kept me in the house for a number of weeks. Besides cabin fever, I was suffering from a lack of meetings. Last Sunday a few AA friends came out to our house and brought a meeting to me. I've never been the recipient of such fellowship. It certainly helped me back on the sanity and sobriety paths. We talk a great deal about inclusiveness and I just want to say that I really felt it.

So I challenge all of you to look around and make sure that your fellow AA's are still included.

Regards,
Cathy R.
Area 35 Treatment Chair

Webmaster:

Greetings,

I have been busy putting the General Service Agenda Items and Background Information on the website. This information can be found under the heading General Service Conference and requires a password which you can get from your DCM, Area Chair or Delegate. The agenda items and entire background are in one large document. The background information is also separated into sections. The hot topics list and the full list of agenda items are also on the website. Please contact me you have questions or need finding what you are looking for.

I have also been working on guidelines for flyers for placement on the website or in the NL. The guidelines were approved by the Technologies Committee and reviewed by our Delegate and Alternate Delegate. Copies of the guidelines will be available at the Spring Assembly so please take a copy and share it with your Districts and Groups. Again, please let me know if you have any questions or comments. I will be posting these on the website.

I attended the WCRAASC March 1st-3rd and I am willing to come to your District or AA meeting to help review the agenda items and background information. At the WCRAASC I attended the Intellectual Property in AA: Is Legal Action Ever a Good Idea breakout session. The following is a summary of that session. Four questions were asked and we were fortunate to have Greg T. attend this session and offer his expertise on this subject. Greg explained that intellectual property (IP) includes our published materials, domain name, trademarks, copyrighted material, and our unpublished material in our archives. IP is an asset and is tangible. It shows value in our work and history.

1. How do we ensure continuity of our archives to ensure protection of our IP? The issue of the lost manuscript was discussed. The original manuscript of our book *Alcoholic Anonymous* was gifted to AAWS in a letter which was lost for many years in our archives and as a result AA does not own the manuscript. New processes are in place to prevent this from happening again.
2. How do we protect the anonymity of AA members in legal matters? Greg T. explained that individual AA member would not be asked to testify in legal matters concerning AA. A non-alcoholic Class A Trustee would testify on our behalf. The issue of website *alcoholicanonymous.com* was discussed. Other domain names similar to *AA.org* have been purchased by AA but this one got by us. We offered to buy this domain but they refused to sell it to us. People using this site are often redirected to *AA.org*. The legal opinion regarding cost and feasibility of winning a legal action on this matter does not look promising.
3. Why do we have IP? It is property or an asset. One person asked if having IP sets us up to take legal or punitive action which goes against our traditions and concepts. Another person said that putting a fence around the yard is defining what is mine and is not starting a fight with anyone. It was also stated that you can engage in legal action without it becoming a controversy.
4. What legal obligations are necessary to restore the circle and triangle in our literature? Greg T. stated legal action is not advised and probably not possible. Many organizations have used this symbol over time. Areas, Districts and Groups can use the symbol if they choose but AAWS and the GSB are not using the symbol because there could be negative effects. The blue people logo belongs to us and is copyrighted and trademarked.

Thank you for letting me serve,
Rillis E.
Area 35 Webmaster

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

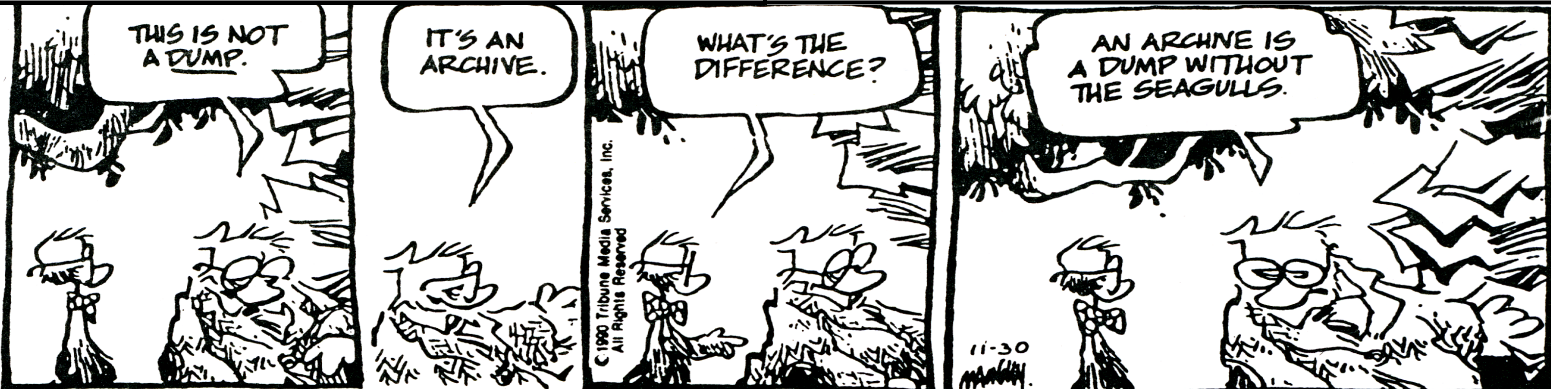
*See area35.org for printable flyers

Service Events

- April:** **6th & 7th : Area 35 Spring Assembly**
Holiday Inn & Suites Duluth Downtown
200 W 1st St
Duluth, MN
- June:** **2nd : Area 35 Committee Meeting**
Alano Club 9:00 am –2 pm
322 1st Ave. NE
Aitkin, MN
- August:** **4th : Area 35 Committee Meeting**
Alano Club 9:00 am –2 pm
322 1st Ave. NE
Aitkin, MN
- August:** **16th & 18th : West Central Regional Forum**
Alerus Center
1200 South 42nd Street
Grand Forks, ND

Fellowship Events

- March:** **22nd & 23rd : Winter Rap-Up**
Mountain Iron Community Center
8586 Enterprise Drive
Mt. Iron, MN
- March:** **23rd : Stearns County Round-Up**
The Landing Supper Club
18527 County Road 154
Avon , MN
- April:** **26th – 28th: 74th Superior Round-Up**
Superior Fair Grounds
4700 Tower Ave.
Superior, WI
- May:** **3rd– 5th: 49th Annual Iron Range Get Together**
Hibbing Park Hotel and Suites
1402 E Howard St.
Hibbing, MN
- May:** **18th: St. Cloud Round-Up**
Moose Lodge
1300 3rd Street N..
Waite Park, MN
- May:** **24th– 26th: Gopher State Roundup**
Double Tree Hilton Hotel Bloomington
Minneapolis South, 7800 Normandale Blvd.
Minneapolis, MN
- July:** **12th– 13th: A Weekend With Bill & Lois**
Camp Hiawatha
36944 Camp Hiawatha Rd.
Deer River, 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

PLEASE POST ON BULLETIN BOARD

“We Will Be Amazed”



GOPHER STATE
ROUNDUP XLVI
MAY 24, 25 and 26, 2019



Activities and Accommodations at:
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel,
Highway 100 & 494, Bloomington, MN

MEETINGS • SPEAKERS • FELLOWSHIP • HOSPITALITY ROOMS • A.A. FILMS

REGISTRATION – \$20.00 Contribution (ages 13 & over)
Visit www.gopherstateroundup.org for registration

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or directly with DoubleTree by Hilton at 800-222-8733.
Mention Gopher State Roundup for special rate.

Gopher State Roundup is a special A.A. conference
with Al-Anon participation.
Gopher State Roundup is self-supporting.
No contributions from A.A. groups are used to pay
for this event.
Expenses such as hotel fees, travel & lodging for
the speakers, and printed material are paid through
registration fees.
No baskets are passed during this event.

SPEAKERS
FRIDAY, MAY 24
7:30 PM Terri K., A.A., Woodville, OH
10:00 PM Adam T., A.A., Los Angeles, CA
SATURDAY, MAY 25
9:30 AM Jenny P., Al-Anon, Eureka Springs, AR
11:30 AM Richard B., A.A., Quebec, Canada
2:00 PM Aaron J., Al-Anon, Charlotte, NC
4:00 PM Pat N., A.A., Minneapolis, MN
(Long-timer presentation)
7:30 PM Joe C., A.A., Palm Coast FL
10:00 PM Tiffany H., A.A., Indio, CA
SUNDAY, MAY 26
10:00 AM Ralph W., A.A., Los Angeles, CA
ASL interpretation is provided for the meetings listed above.
CDs are available in the Grand Ballroom foyer.

PRE-REGISTER
Please use a separate registration card for each registration
Full Name _____
Badge Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
☐ A.A. ☐ Al-Anon ☐ Alateen _____ E-mail address _____
Make Checks Payable To:
GOPHER STATE ROUNDUP
PO BOX 390533
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55439-2026
☐ \$20.00 contribution
Additional contributions welcomed

PRE-REGISTER
Please use a separate registration card for each registration
Full Name _____
Badge Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
☐ A.A. ☐ Al-Anon ☐ Alateen _____ E-mail address _____
Make Checks Payable To:
GOPHER STATE ROUNDUP
PO BOX 390533
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55439-2026
☐ \$20.00 contribution
Additional contributions welcomed



A WEEKEND WITH BILL AND LOIS



Camp Hiawatha – Deer River, MN

Friday Night Festivities

4:00 P.M. Registration begins
(No early bird registration)

5:30 P.M.–6:30 P.M. Dinner

Friday Evening Speakers

7:00 P.M. Eileen M. Al-Anon, Detroit Lakes
8:15 P.M. Debbie P. AA, Duluth

Saturday Festivities

8:00 A.M. AA Meeting
9:00 A.M. Al-Anon Meeting

10:00 A.M. Brunch

Games/rec activities on your own:

****bean bag toss, volleyball, basketball,
tether ball, paddle boarding, kayaking,
canoeing, fishing, swimming and sauna****

5:00 P.M. Dinner

Saturday Evening Speakers

6:30 P.M. Deb L. Al-Anon, Owatonna
7:45 P.M. Steve L. AA, Owatonna

****Campfire Call-Up following speakers****

Sunday Events

8:30 A.M. Breakfast – followed by
Planning Committee Meeting

July 12-14, 2019

FEES FOR THE WEEKEND – Registration Fee - \$10/person (includes hearing speakers only)

Limited camping available – first come, first serve – no hook-ups - **\$15/night**

Room costs (bring your own bedding and towels, showers are available) - **\$39/ person/per night**

All 4 Meals - Adults - \$41/person Children ages 3-11 - \$20/person Children under 3 - free
Per meal: **Adults/Children** – Dinner: **\$11/\$5.50** Saturday Brunch: **\$10/\$5.00**
Sunday Breakfast: **\$9/\$4.50**

****Bring your own lawn chair and any snacks you wish for the weekend ****

Directions to Camp Hiawatha

**Take Hwy. 169 (or Hwy. 2 from the East) to
Grand Rapids**

(Camp Hiawatha is about 90 miles from
Duluth).

-Take Hwy. 38 N out of Grand Rapids for 12.4
miles.

-Go left (west) onto CR 19 for 2.3 miles.

-Camp is on the left.

**From Deer River – Take Hwy. 6 North out
of Deer River for 4 miles**

-Go right onto CR 19 for 7 miles.

-Camp will be on the right.

**** There are two driveways available.**

**** Park in the upper parking lot.**

For Questions e-mail: billandloisw@gmail.com

FRIENDLY REMINDER: NO PETS

FIRST TIME ATTENDEE TO
WCRAASC

Hello fellow members!! Overall, I was impressed with the conference, its organization, its member participation, and the scope of material that was presented. The work is valuable and comprehensive.

I have been clean and sober for 42 years; this was my first conference. I attended one in the past and made name badges, but didn't listen or participate in the conference itself. Over the years, I have not discounted service work, but have not felt compelled to join in either. That is changing at this point in my life and recovery. I don't have the time demands I did in the past, and have felt an interest in this side of AA legacies.

There was one rather confusing aspect of the conference. I understood the purpose of the conference was to be informed on the agenda items to be discussed and voted on at the General Service Conference later in the year. Our purpose was to gather the information, and bring it back to the District meetings and GSRs, for them to bring back to their Groups. Then GSR's would then return the Group discussions on the topics to the District DCM who would in turn pass that up the line to the Area Delegate for purposes of voting in New York.

There seemed to be a lot of participants who wanted to impress the Delegates on their personal opinion, rather than ask questions to clarify the topics brought forward. This is in line with our personalities, but my concerns after attending were:

- ♦ The persons speaking were primarily against the topic under review.
- ♦ Persons in favor may not have spoken up leaving Delegates with a one sided view.
- ♦ The persons speaking may not be speaking from their Group perspective, since they hadn't brought back the items to the Group yet.
- ♦ It left me with the overall impression that there are many in AA who know how it should be run, and can't set aside their opinion and seek Group conscious.

- ♦ It leaves new attendees with the feeling that they should get up and discuss every topic under review to get their opinion on record, which would make the meetings so much longer.

- ♦ Having some opening statements about the purpose and the importance of true open minded attitudes and that we are a voice for our Groups, *whether we agree with our Group or not*, may be valuable for a starting point, but maybe this is something that is understood. Trust is important.

The things that impressed me the most:

- ♦ The leadership of current and past Trustees was apparent in their focus on humility, service, and being a voice for AA to continue and flourish.
- ♦ The current Delegates were non-reactive and patient, listening carefully to comments, and not voicing personal opinions.
- ♦ The Director from GSO was engaged and very knowledgeable about GSO operations and current business at hand there. He explained the broad depth and breadth of what GSO is up to clearly and openly.
- ♦ Many participants were very informed on topics and passionate about AA as a whole, which is encouraging.
- ♦ There was an overall commitment to AA.

Vicki R.

"From the moment I pulled open the doors to my very first meeting, I felt something different, something good was going to happen. Those doors, which at the time I believed to be the heaviest ever made, allowed me to walk into a new way of life."

"Attitude Adjustment," New York, New York, January 2006,
Beginner's Book: Getting and Staying Sober in AA

BLAST FROM the PAST

Thank you Bob J. for finding more treasures of past NL's
In this edition of Blast From the Past is from
Volume IX Issue V Sept. 1990

What is Your Group Number?

Your group number is your connection between your district, area, and GSO. It's one of the most valuable tools that is used in finding the right group for your group contributions. As we all know the GSR of a group can change often, and without much notice, but your group number doesn't. It stays the same until the group falls apart and not longer exists.

When corresponding with your district, area or GSO, it is highly suggested to use your group number, simply for the fact that your group can be readily identified. It's much easier to find a number than it is to find John Doe, GSR for Wednesday Night AA.

When your group sends support funds to the area or GSO, it's very strongly suggested that your group uses your group number. There are many, many groups in the area on the same night, at the same time. If your group number is on the check, it's very easy to look up the group number and credit the right group for the support money.

This year we have started putting the group numbers on all of the correspondence we send out. The number is right above the GSR's name. It is on the Northern Light and the assembly minutes. If your group isn't getting the Northern Light or the minutes, you are either not listed in the database, your group is not listed at GSO, or your GSR isn't bringing the information back to the group. If you aren't getting your minutes or Northern Light's talk to your GSR or your DCM.

Thank you to everyone that has used them. It makes this position so much easier. And remember some day you might have this job.

Your Group Records Secretary,
Susie A.

ACM RESCHEDULING?

With the cancellation of the ACM and decision not to reschedule weighs heavy on my heart.

First, I would like to thank Roger (Area Chair) for putting the safety of all of us ahead everything else. The cancellation I can understand, turns out not so much snow, there were high wind gusts at times. It is NOT rescheduling that weighs on my heart.

It is my understanding, the GSR is here to serve the Group and it's members. The District is here to serve the GSR's, Groups, and it's members in that District. The Area is here to serve the District's, GSR's, Groups, and it's members in that Area.

So how is it possible to serve when we are unwilling to meet? What kind of an example is the Area sending NOT to meet? My sponsor told me, I may be the only Big Book someone reads! I am sure we all have other things to do, but did we not take on this responsibility. This did happen last year also, but the Area Committee Meeting was rescheduled. The time line from last year to this year is the same with the WCRAASC and the Spring Assembly. Does the Area Officers and Committee Chairs understand their responsibilities? What about DCM's, District Committee Chairs? We do after all close the ACM with the responsibility statement, When anyone, anywhere

I did have a member that was going to check out the Treatment Committee, and possibly become a District Treatment Chair. It would have been nice to get a feel of what other Districts are doing, and what goes on to see if it was something they could or even wanted to do. Now that opportunity has been stripped from them for at least seven weeks. I do hope they do not change their mind in that time.

I do think I may be in the minority on this subject that is why I am writing this.

I would like to know, what are you willing to do to serve others? In the 12th Step it states; We tried to carry this message... To me We did NOT even try! I think We took the easier softer way and at what cost?

Skip
DCM District 5

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

CFCP - Correctional Facility Contact Program

CPC - Cooperation with the Professional Community

DCM - District Committee Member

FNV- Fellowship New Vision Database

FOC - Finance Oversight Committee

GSB - General Service Board

GSC - General Service Conference

GSO - General Service Office

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

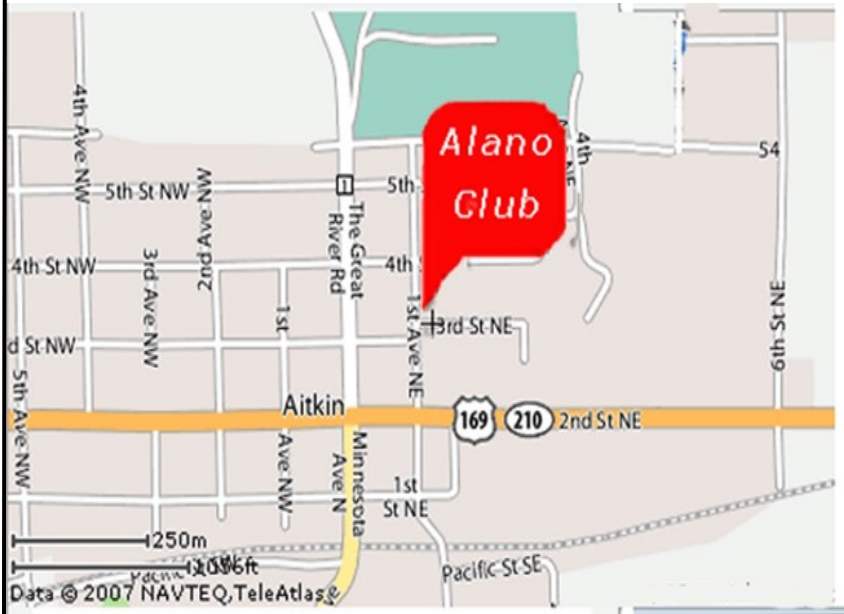
"Sponsorship is a bridge to trusting the human race, the very race we once resigned from. In learning to trust, we are strengthening our sobriety."

"A Means to a Beginning," Grand Island, Nebraska, February 1984,
One On One: AA Sponsorship in Action

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.
Come join us!



2019 General Service Conference Committees Agenda Items

I. Agenda

- A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2020 General Service Conference.
- B. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2020 General Service Conference.
- C. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2020 General Service Conference.
- D. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form, process and 2018 Evaluation Summary.
- E. Discuss report on the Conference Agenda Process from the Trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.

II. Cooperation with the Professional Community

- A. Discuss progress on implementation of A.A.W.S. LinkedIn page.
- B. Consider request to remove text "They may help arrange hospitalization" from the pamphlet "Alcoholics Anonymous in Your Community."
- C. Review contents of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.

III. Corrections

- A. Consider request for a review of all corrections related literature in order to make the language more modern and inclusive.
- B. Consider request that the General Service Office establish and help maintain a database of Correctional Facilities in each service area in the U.S. and Canada and the status of meetings held therein.
- C. Review contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

IV. Finance

- A. Review suggested area contribution for Delegate expense for the Conference.
- B. Review the Conference-approved level of \$5,000 for individual bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. members.
- C. Review the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution of \$5,000 to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member.
- D. Review Self-Support Packet.

VI. Grapevine

- A. Consider the list of suggested AA Grapevine book topics for 2020 and later.
- B. Consider request to remove the "Alcoholism at Large" section from AA Grapevine.
- C. Review progress report on AA Grapevine Workbook revisions.
- D. Review AA Grapevine Fellowship Feedback Survey and summary.

VI. Literature

- A. Review progress report on the development of the pamphlet for Spanish speaking women in A.A.
- B. Review progress report on the development of the pamphlet on A.A.'s Three Legacies.
- C. Consider requests to develop a Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*
- D. Review progress report regarding updating the video "Your General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure."
- E. Review progress report on the update regarding text on anonymity to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship."
- F. Consider the development of a Literature Committee Workbook.
- G. Review progress report on the update to the pamphlet "Too Young?"
- H. Review progress report on the update to the pamphlet "Young People and A.A."
- I. Review proposed revision to A.A. World Services' "Policy on Publication of Literature: Updating Pamphlets and Other A.A. Materials."
- J. Consider request to revise the pamphlet "The A.A. Group."
- K. Review progress report regarding the update to the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated."
- L. Review progress report regarding language on safety and A.A. for inclusion in *Living Sober* and "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship."
- M. Consider revising the Foreword to the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*.
- N. Consider suggestion to add "Nonalcoholics may attend open meetings as observers" to the end of the open meeting side of the Primary Purpose (blue) card.
- O. Consider request to update the pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated."
- P. Review matrix of A.A. recovery literature.

VII. Policy/Admissions

- A. Review dates for the 2022 General Service Conference.
- B. Review report from G.S.O.'s general manager on General Service Conference site selection.

- C. Consider a process for how a Conference committee could review, discuss and act on proposed agenda items not forwarded to a Conference committee.
- D. Discuss the process of approving qualified representatives from other A.A. service structures to observe the U.S. and Canada General Service Conference.
- E. Discuss a request to "develop a procedure to deal with special requests/agenda items."
- F. Consider revising the "Process for Polling the General Service Conference Between Annual Meetings."
- G. Reconsider the 1986 Advisory Action regarding a simple majority vote by the full Conference.

VIII. Public Information

- A. Review 2018 annual reports from the trustees' Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org.
- B. Review a report regarding the 2019 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
- C. Public Service Announcements (PSAs):
 1. Review the distribution and tracking information for the video PSA "Changes."
 2. Review the 2018 Report on the Relevance and Usefulness of Video Public Service Announcements.
 3. Consider request that the video PSA "My World" be discontinued.
 4. Consider request to approve the development of a new PSA in video format that utilizes full-face actors (not members of A.A.).
- D. Review draft language addressing anonymity and safety proposed for the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity."
- E. Consider request to update language in the flyer "A.A. at a Glance."
- F. Review the 2018 trustees' Public Information Committee progress report on the usefulness and effectiveness of the A.A.W.S. YouTube account.
- G. Review the 2018 trustees' Public Information progress report on the use of Google AdWords and Google Grants to carry the A.A. message.
- H. Review contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook.

IX. Report and Charter

- A. Discuss General Service Conference *Final Report*.
- B. *The A.A. Service Manual*, 2018 - 2020
 1. Review progress report from A.A.W.S. Publishing Department on the redesign of *The A.A. Service Manual*.
- C. Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S., and Western U.S.)

X. Treatment and Accessibilities

- A. Consider revising the pamphlet "Bridging the Gap" to include related corrections activities.
- B. Consider adding a story from an A.A. member who is deaf to the pamphlet "Access to A.A.: Members Share on Overcoming Barriers."
- C. Consider updating the pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic – Never too Late."
- D. Discuss the concept of posting anonymity-protected interviews on aa.org with military professionals about their experience with A.A.
- E. Review draft of proposed Remote Communities Kit.
- F. Review contents of Treatment Committee Kit and Workbook.
- G. Review contents of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.

XI. Trustees

- A. Review resumes of candidates for:
 1. Northeast Regional Trustee
 2. Southwest Regional Trustee
 3. Trustee-at-Large/Canada
- B. Review slates of Trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
- C. Review slate of Directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
- D. Review slate of Directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.
- E. Review draft procedures for partial or complete reorganization of the General Service Board.

XII. Archives

- A. Consider request to add the 1940s home movie of the co-founders and their wives to the video "Markings on the Journey."
- B. Review Archives Workbook.

XIII. International Conventions/Regional Forums

- A. Discuss an anonymity-protected photograph of the flag ceremony to be taken at the 2020 International Convention.
- B. Consider a broadcast of the 2020 International Convention Opening Flag Ceremony, similar to the anonymity-protected delayed Internet broadcast of the 2015 International Convention Opening Flag Ceremony.
- C. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

Area 35 Committee Meeting Minutes
Aitkin, MN
February 24, 2019

This meeting was canceled due to incumbent weather. The consensus from the Area Committee was not to reschedule.

Here are Reports sent by some DCM’s in lieu of attending the ACM.

Area Officers and Action Chairs Added ACM Information to their NL Reports.

DCM REPORTS

- District 9– Jim S. No Report
- District 13- Justin W. No Report
- District 15– Pat M. No Report
- District 3- Kevin K.

January, I attend our Area 35 workshop in Alexandria. Several Districts presented on Topics from; Yesterday’s World, Clarity of Purpose, Today’s World, Demonstrating Integrity, Anonymity and Service, Courage to be Vigilant, Our legacies Begin.

Our District was asked to present the Serving the Needs of Meeting. Gene M., Shawn S. and me presented. Gene presented what is an A.A. Group, Unity, Anonymity and 10th Step, plus we focused on service work through outreach and selection of the groups GSR.

Tom A. our West Central Region Trustee gave a update on what is happening at GSO.

Overall the workshop was a blast with tons of experience strength and hope shared.

March 1st – 3rd the WCRSC was held in Moorhead. As DCM this is great opportunity to network with our Regions Delegates, and GM from GSO. The presentations were all very good, with good content and experienced shared.

I am anxious to break down agenda items for our District meeting. Concerns over the use of a website, like our website may lead us to litigation. Other concerns is the amount of consultants GSO is actively working with and the delays the new ERP and website.

My thanks to our District and Groups for allowing me to serve and attend the Area Workshop & WCRSC.

Respectively,

Kevin K.
District 3 DCM

- District 4 - Colleen S. No Report
- District 8- Heidi B. Greetings from District 8.

I recently attended WCRAASC in Moorhead, MN and took notes to share with District 8 at our agenda items meeting for GSR’s on Saturday, March 9th. The service conference was very informative and Area 35 did an excellent job hosting.

Our District has begun the new ‘What is AA’ monthly PI presentation at

Range Treatment Center in Virginia. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month. Groups are signing up to give the presentation with brief training prior to our District meeting. A Group must have training prior to signing up. We continue to provide speakers to Range Treatment Center on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month and bring a meeting to the Detox and Treatment Center weekly.

District 8 PI/CPC Chair/committee is hosting a PI Luncheon at 12:00pm on Friday, March 22nd at the Mt. Iron Community Center. Groups purchase \$10 tickets to give to professionals in their community to attend and learn about AA. This luncheon has been popular and is held every other year.

The 40th annual Winter Rap-UP is coming up on Friday, Mar 22nd and Saturday, March 23rd at the Mt. Iron Community Center, on Hwy 169. Friday night features an Al-Anon speaker at 7pm with an AA speaker at 8pm. Saturday activities include a Workshop 10:30 - noon with Don H. and Charlie C., then speakers at 1:30 & 2:30 and again at 7pm and 8pm. Registration is \$15.

District 8 continues to bring a meeting to Northeast Regional Corrections Center in Duluth once a month, meetings to Sandstone Federal Prison twice a month and a monthly meeting to Thistledeew Correctional Facility in Togo.

Our District is still looking for an Archives & Alt Archives Chair, a PI/CPC Alt Chair and a Grapevine/Literature Alt Chair.

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

- District 18- BR B. No Report
- District 16- Glenn M.

On Saturday, January 19th, Dave C., Archive and Co-Literature/Grapevine Chair and I attended the 43rd Area 35 Service Workshop in Alexandria, MN and did a panel on Demonstrating Integrity, Anonymity and Service our District was requested to present. Boy, it was cold there too. We had both gone to the 2018 Area 35 Assemble there so we were familiar with a Newcomers Meeting on Friday nights at their Alano Club so planned our arrival to be able to attend it. We were able to contribute and demonstrate again the service perspective.

Saturday, Jan 26th, Cohasset/Deer River Groups had their advertised "coldest day of the year" annual Open Speaker Meeting. Fantastic potluck as usual as were the speakers from both AA and Al-Anon. This time I think they were close on the weather prediction but it didn't stop attendance of over 100 per various reports nor our new Co-Literature Chair Dave C. from having our flyer and book display out, assembled and ready for purchase. Some were books he purchased at the Workshop by ordering earlier and saving shipping costs.

Feb. 6th, at our monthly District Meeting we agreed to two rooms at Regional in March allowing for two ladies to attend, both are GSR's. Our Corrections expressed a need for BBs and 12x12's at the City Jail for the District’s weekly meetings. A case of each were approved, already ordered by Literature Chairs and picking up today. Besides being on top of this, Districts Co-Chairs in Literature/Grapevine Bruce M. and Dave C. are putting together a newcomer's packet based on our area. Our Treatment Chair Bruce M. has speakers lined up to mid-year.

On Feb 16th, we had a good turnout for our District Workshop on Steps 3, 7 and 11 hosted by Alt DCM Katy P. and heartfully presented by our three volunteers, Mark A., Dave C. and Yvonne W. They shared what their Step meant to them and how personally rewarding it was to research and present the Step.

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

- District 5- Skip D. Hello,

To start I would like to say, I was not going to give a report. For we did not have the Area Committee Meeting in Aitkin, nor did the Area reschedule the ACM. So after several phone calls I was reminded that the Area Committee Meeting and the Northern Light is here to allow us to discuss and let everyone know what has been going on in our Districts in Area 35. So here is the District 5 report.

Good day Area 35,

District 5 is alive and doing what we can to carry the AA message in our community. District 5 had a District Inventory on January 21, 2019. I would like to give a huge THANK YOU to all who participated. Thirty-Two questionnaires from the Area 35 website were sent to the Groups, at a cost of \$1.71 each for a self addressed, stamped envelope, plus a cost for copies, mileage, and envelopes. Eighteen questionnaires were returned to the District. Then gone through in the inventory. Some of the members had

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)
more than one of the questionnaires to go through; the GSR's that attend District meetings from the past few months had the responses from their own Groups.

I would also like to give a big thank you to Kelly D. (past Delegate Area 35) for her willingness, experience, and time to facilitate the inventory. Our Secretary, Jill, composed a summary of the questions so that the District may go through and put into action some of the responses, and to prioritize all responses. We did have eighteen people in attendance at the inventory, that is the most people at a District meeting I have seen in the past few years. What really surprised me is that out of the eighteen questionnaires that were returned, most responses to the questions were do not know. I do have to say, we have a lot going on with the inventory, and Agenda Items before the Spring Assembly in Duluth on April 6th - 7th, 2019.

Just to let you know, we had twelve people in attendance at our last District meeting, that is almost twice as many that were there in the past year. I do hope this keeps going!!

I did attend the West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference (WCRAASC) in Moorhead, MN on March 1st - 3rd, 2019. I even saw one of the GSR's from District 5, thank you Jami for your willingness to serve and please thank your Group for their willingness. If anyone reading this has not been to the WCRAASC this is something you may want to put on your to do list. The information, and the passion of the individuals that attend, give me hope that our voice is heard through out the AA Service Structure. Some of the Agenda Items I personally think are silly but after hearing people get to the microphone, I realize, it's not silly at all or yeah some one feels the same way I do. The Trustee's (past and present) the Delegate's (past and present) on the committee's they serve are able to give us information that is not in the background information. I am so honored that District 5 allows me to have this experience.

In service,
Skip D.
District 5 DCM

District 7 - Bob B. No Report

District 11- Cindy S-K No Report

District 12- Richard G.

I attended Area Winter Workshop. Excellent communication and presentations on our AA text book. Very enjoyable and a good setup for Regional.

District 12

All Action Committees are functioning well. Currently we are looking forward to full participation in weekly meetings at the Federal Prison Camp in Duluth. CPC will make an expanded presence with a presentation at St. Louis County Health Fair.

WCRAASC

As usual, all agenda items were explained and debated. Greg T. was there and was inspirational. He is the General Service Office manager and was nothing short of amazing and my favorite part of Regional.

Yours in service,
Rich G.
District 12 DCM

District 14- Paul E. Greetings from the Icebox;

We currently have the following positions active in District 14:
DCM, Treasurer, Secretary and Treatment Chairs. We also have one active GSR for Sunday Morning Open Meeting.

Pineview Treatment Center has allowed us to begin meeting in January. Margie is the Chair and our format so far has been based on AA basic concepts such as powerlessness.

We have not had a formal District meeting since September, 2018. At that time we discussed ideas for future Workshops, Speakers and Mini Roundups. Our next scheduled meeting will be February 28th. We are in the process of finding a different place for our meeting location. For the present we are meeting in our District Secretaries home.

Yours In Service;
Paul Eklund
DCM District 14

District 6- Sharna O. Sharna- Alcoholic DCM for District 6 you can find us in the S.E. corner of Area 35.

Our District had a chance to present at the January workshop. They did a great job!

On March 16, 2019 our District will be hosting the agenda items discussion

at the First Baptist church in Cambridge from 12-3pm. Potluck. All are welcome.

I had the privilege of attending my 2nd WCRAASC. It amazes me each time the process on which things happen during this event. I left feeling fulfilled and hopeful for Alcoholics Anonymous. I looking forward to attending my first Forum in August.

Yours in service,
Sharna
District 6 DCM

District 1- No Report

District 2- No Report

District 21- Laura C.

District 21 continues to meet the 2nd Monday monthly. We are still looking to fill District Chairs. Meeting attendance is still down in most of the meetings in our District but there is also a couple new ones in our area. Our District is being supported by the active Groups and our bills are paid.

Yours in service,
Larura C.
District 21 DCM

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business

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.

SERVICE WORK– My Opinion

When I got sober the second time in AA. I did not want to make the mistake I made the first time and get away from going to meetings. After my first year I was pretty busy picking up people and hauling them to meetings, sponsoring new guys, and got involved with my Group as the Secretary. I had a little different attitude about being involved than I had the first time.

After my term came up as Secretary, I was approached to get involved in the District as a GSR. I was hesitant to do this, mostly because I knew nothing about being a GSR or District and Area. My first 15 years of sobriety did not have anything to do with service work on the District or Area level. I accepted my position of GSR and the rest is history, I have since been a DCM and am now serving as Area 35 Literature Chair.

My first trip to Spring Assembly was not what I expected. It was somewhat tedious and dare I say boring. The same discussions over and over, the business end of AA is not as exciting as the other part I was used to. The Sponsoring, Roundups etc.

I often here the biggest complaint or topic of discussion is getting others involved in service. I have had a couple newer members to the General Service Workshop and just recently to the West Central in Moorhead. The one member was telling the other that this was seriously boring and could not wait to get done and out of the meeting.

When I heard this I was a little disappointed that they didn't get more out of it. We are a selfish bunch. It is the root of our problem as explained in the Big Book. We often look at service work like other things we do and ask what's in it for me. Attending the business meetings of AA's not about me, it's not like a Round up where we walk away feeling recharged and pumped up because we just heard a great speaker. Service work is all about giving back. It's not about me, if you go to the Spring or Fall Assembly looking to get recharged you are in the wrong place. We often say we do not have the time to get involved. Save it, we all lead busy lives. It's all about making time for what is important and we need to make AA the number one priority or nothing else will matter.

Yours in Service
Brian P.
Area 35 Literature Chair

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.

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.

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

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

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

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

RELATED FLIER INSERTION INFORMATION

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

Northern Light Deadlines for 2019 are as Follows:

- ◆ January 23rd : Flier will be included in the January/February Issue
- ◆ March 8th : 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

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

<div><p>Though the high point is the Conference meeting, the delegate’s job goes on year-round and involves all aspects of the Conference structure. The delegate should:</p><ul style="list-style-type: none">Attend the Conference meeting in April, fully prepared. Immediately upon election, every delegate is put on the G.S.O. mailing list to receive Conference materials.Communicate the actions of the Conference to area committee members and encourage them to pass on this information, and the delegate’s enthusiasm, to groups and to intergroups/central offices. If an area is too large for the delegate to cover in person, he or she will ask area officers and committee members to share the load.Be prepared to attend all area, state/provincial, and regional service meetings and assemblies. From these meetings, delegates come to better understand their own areas and can make suggestions for the Conference agenda. Here, too, they come in contact with A.A. members who might not be reached otherwise.Help area committees obtain financial support for the area and G.S.O.Provide leadership in solving local problems involving the A.A. Traditions.</div>	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none">Remind G.S.R.s to inform groups and individuals about the A.A. Grapevine and Conference-approved literature.Cooperate with G.S.O. in obtaining information—for example, making sure that up-to-date information reaches G.S.O. in time to meet the deadline for each Issue of the A.A. directory and helping carry out the triennial membership surveys.Visit groups and districts in the area whenever possible.Work closely with committee members and officers, sharing experience throughout the year. After G.S.R.s and committee members have reported on the Conference, learn from these A.A.s how groups and members have reacted.Assume added responsibility if the area chair and alternate chair are unable to serve. Or, if an area committee is not functioning effectively, the delegate may take an active role in remedying the situation.Keep the alternate delegate fully informed and active, so that the alternate can replace the delegate in an emergency.Late in the second term, work with newly elected delegates to pass along a basic knowledge of Conference proceedings and problems.<p>(from The A.A. Service Manual, pages S44-S45)</p></div>
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I 2 Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous (Long Form)

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.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.
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.
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.
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.
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.
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.
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.
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.
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.
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.
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.

I 2 Concepts for World Service (Short Form)

- I. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
- II. The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.
- III. To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.”
- IV. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in a reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.
- V. Throughout our structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.
- VI. The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.
- VII. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.
- VIII. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.
- IX. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.
- X. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.
- XI. The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.
- XII. The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

AREA 35 EVENTS

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

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

**Area 35 Spring Assembly
April 6th & 7th 2019
Holiday Inn & Suites Downtown Duluth, MN**

AGENDA

_____ 8:30 a.m. Registration
_____ 10:00 a.m. GSR Orientation/Sharing Session 1
_____ & Action Chair Committee Meetings

11:30 a.m. Lunch (On Your Own)

1:00 p.m. Assembly Convenes

_____ Call to Order-Open with the
_____ Serenity Prayer
_____ Why We Need a Conference
_____ Recognize Past Delegates
_____ Recognize GSRs
_____ Add to Agenda
_____ Approve 2018 Fall Assembly Minutes

1:15 p.m. GSC Agenda Item Sharing Session I

_____ Agenda
_____ Cooperation With the Professional
_____ Community
_____ Corrections
_____ Finance
_____ Grapevine
_____ Literature

3:00 p.m. BREAK

_____ Policy and Admissions
_____ Public Information
_____ Report and Charter
_____ Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities

5:00 p.m.

_____ GSR Sharing Session 2
_____ DCM Sharing Session
_____ Area Officers and Area Chairs Meeting
_____ Closed AA Meeting

6:00 p.m. Dinner (On Your Own)

7:30 p.m. GSC Agenda Item Sharing Session II

_____ Trustees
_____ Archives
_____ International Conventions/Regional Forums

SUNDAY

7:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. Big Book Meeting

8:30 a.m. Assembly Reconvenes

_____ GSR Sharing Session Report
_____ DCM Sharing Session Report

OFFICER REPORTS

_____ Delegate – Christine G.
_____ Alternate Delegate – Jim S.

_____ Chair – Roger R.
_____ Secretary – Melissa A.
_____ Treasurer – Mike F.

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND
DCM REPORTS**

_____ CPC – Antonette F.
_____ District 9 – Jim S.
_____ District 13 – Justin W.
_____ WEBMASTER – Rillis E.
_____ LITERATURE – Brian P.
_____ District 15 – Pat M.
_____ District 3 – Kevin K.
_____ NORTHERN LIGHT – Steve L.
_____ GROUP RECORDS – Sally L.
_____ District 4 – Coleen S.
_____ District 8 – Heidi B.
_____ District 18 –William BR B.
_____ TREATMENT – Cathy R.
_____ District 16 – Glenn M.
_____ District 5– Skip D.
_____ ARCHIVIST – Steve D.
_____ ARCHIVES – Scott M.
_____ District 7 – Bob B.
_____ District 11 – Cindy S.-K.
_____ CORRECTIONS – Paul M.
_____ District 12 –Richard G.
_____ District 14 – Paul E.
_____ PI – Gayle R.
_____ District 6 – Sharna O.-J.
_____ District 1 –
_____ GRAPEVINE – Jerry B.
_____ District 2 –
_____ District 21 – Laura C.

10:30 p.m. BREAK

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

_____ State Fair 2019

_____ Calendar of Events
_____ Ask It Basket (Past Delegates)
_____ Adjourn

Mail Area 35 Group contributions to:

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