



Deadline for the Next  
*Northern Light* is  
**July 8, 2019**

# This is YOUR Newsletter Area 35

Ada, Aitkin, Akeley, Alango, Albany, Alexandria, Audubon, Aurora, Avon, Babbitt, Backus, Badger, Bagley, Barnesville, Battle Lake, Baudette, Baxter, Beaver Bay, Becker, Bemidji, Bethel, Big Lake, Biwabik, Blackduck, Bowstring, Boy River, Braham, Brainerd, Brimson, Brookston, Browerville, Browns Valley, Cambridge, Carlos, Cass Lake, Chisholm, Clarissa, Cloquet, Cohasset, Cold Spring, Cook, Cormorant, Cotton, Crookston, Cross Lake, Debs, Deer Creek, Deer River, Detroit Lakes, Dilworth, Duluth, Eagle Bend, Effie, Elbow Lake, Elizabeth, Elk River, Ely, Erhard, Erskine, Esko, Evansville, Eveleth, Fergus Falls, Fertile, Finland, Finlayson, Floodwood, Foley, Forest Lake, Fort Ripley, Fosston, Foxboro, Frazee, Fredenberg, Garrison, Gilbert, Glenwood, Goodland, Grand Marais, Grand Portage, Grand Rapids, Grasston, Grygla, Hallock, Halma, Harris, Hawley, Henning, Henriette, Herman, Hermantown, Hibbing, Hill City, Hinckley, Holdingford, Hoyt Lakes, International Falls, Ironton, Isanti, Isle, Keewatin, Kelly Lake, Kensington, Kimball, Knife River, Lake Henry, Lake Lena, Lake Park, Lawrence Lake, Little Falls, Littlefork, Long Prairie, Longville, Lutsen, Mahnomen, Mahtowa, Malmo, McGregor, Melrose, Menahga, Middle River, Milaca, Moorhead, Moose Lake, Mora, Morris, Motley, Mountain Iron, Nashwauk, Naytahwaush, Nett Lake, Nisswa, North Branch, Ogilvie, Onigum, Orr, Osage, Osakis, Otsego, Ottertail, Palisade, Palo, Park Rapids, Parkers Prairie, Paynesville, Pelican Rapids, Pequot Lakes, Perham, Pierz, Pike, Pike Lake, Pillager, Pine City, Pine River, Princeton, Proctor, Quamba, Rainy River, Red Lake, Red Lake Falls, Remer, Rice, Richmond, Rock Creek, Roseau, Rush City, Sandstone, Sartell, Sauk Centre, Sauk Rapids, Sawyer, Shevlin, Side Lake, Silver Bay, Solway, Squaw Lake, St. Cloud, St. Francis, St. Joseph, St. Stephen, Stacy, Staples, Stephen, Superior, Thief River Falls, Toivola, Tower, Twin Valley, Two Harbors, Underwood, Verndale, Virginia, Wadena, Wahkon, Waite Park, Walker, Warren, Warroad, Watkins, Waubun, Williams, Willow River, Zim, Zimmerman

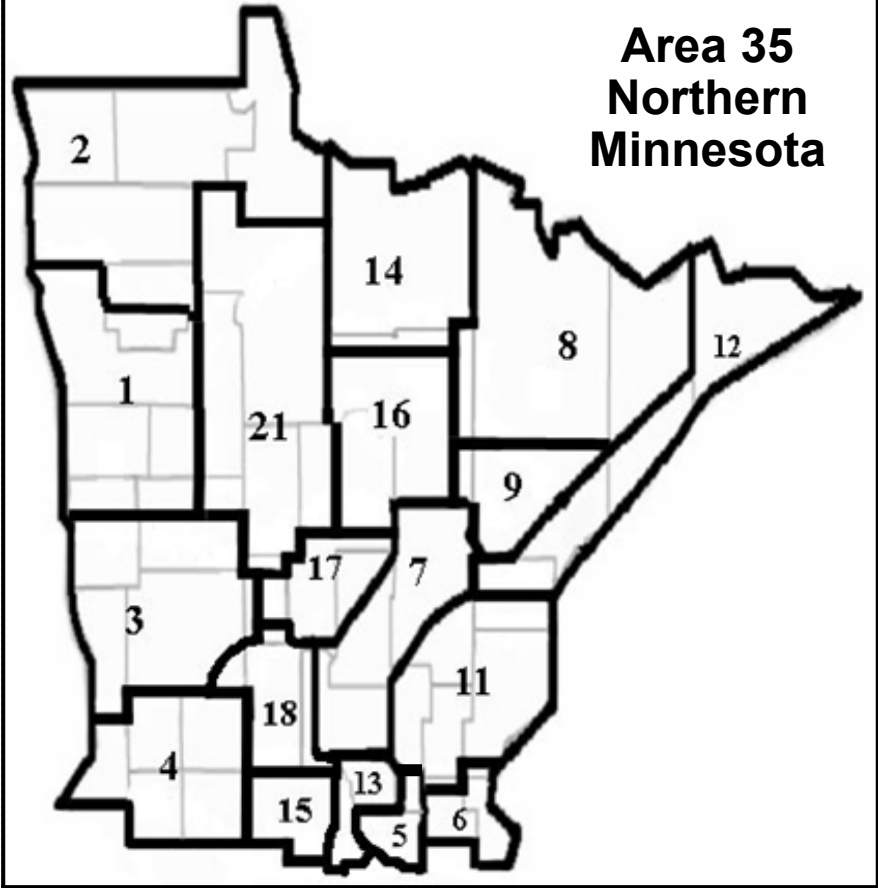
Send articles and comments for publication to  
Steven L. — [northernlight@area35.org](mailto:northernlight@area35.org)  
Bring this copy to share with your Group!

2018-19 AREA 35 COMMITTEE

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				<p><b>MOVING? ADDRESS NOT CORRECT?</b></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: <a href="mailto:GroupRecords@area35.org">GroupRecords@area35.org</a></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

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

#### District 2

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

#### District 3

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

#### District 4

3<sup>rd</sup> 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

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

#### District 6

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

#### District 7

3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Hibbing, MN 55746

#### District 11

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

#### District 12

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of Month, 6:30 p.m.  
1100 E. Superior Street  
Duluth, MN  
Handicap Accessible,

#### District 13

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

#### District 14

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

#### District 15

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

#### District 16

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

#### District 18

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

#### District 21

2<sup>nd</sup> 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,

This will be a short report. Since the Spring Assembly, I have been busy reviewing and reading background material for the General Service Conference and preparing for chairing the Policy/Admissions Committee. I have been exchanging communication with my committee. We had a conference call on April 24<sup>th</sup> that went over some housekeeping items. The Committee agreed that an item should obtain 2/3 majority to be passed out of Committee as a Recommendation to the Conference. We also discussed how we take breaks and how the meeting will be ran. We want to give everyone an opportunity to share on the topics, so we will go around the room and nobody is to share twice until everyone has had an opportunity to share.

By the time you receive this issue of the Northern Light, I will be returning from the Conference and working on my power point to give my first post-conference report at the Area Committee Meeting. I will have one week from the time I return until the ACM.

I would like to thank all who attended the Spring Assembly to give their Group conscience on the Agenda Items that committees will be discussing at the Conference. It is a privilege to apart of an Area that truly loves Alcoholics Anonymous and wants this program to be available for future generations.

I received Area 35's quarterly contributions from the General Service Office (GSO) and I forwarded them on to all DCMs and Area Committee Members. Overall, 21% of Area 35 Groups are contributing to GSO. I would like to have some feedback as to why this is so low. Please have the conversation with your Groups and email to let me know. If there are concerns or problems, we should let GSO know so we can see if there is a solution to work towards.

The Secretary of the Trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference, sent out a request for sharing related to the one of the General Service Board Strategic Plan items. I would like you to have some discussion in your Groups and I will get your feedback at the June ACM.

**Question: In your area what do you believe are the different underrepresented populations of suffering alcoholics that the area could focus on carrying the A.A. message to?**

I have most of my post-conference reports scheduled for the summer. DCMs, if you have not scheduled one, please get with me so we can make sure your District can hear the report back and ask questions that they may have. It is a great opportunity to learn about the Conference and the process that takes place.

I can't believe that I only have six months left of this rotation and of serving Area 35. I has been such an honor to serve all of you and I am excited to see the next group of people that will be serving as Area 35 trusted servants. It is truly a great honor to be a part of this area. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

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

Alt. Delegate:

Hello Everyone,

I have been in contact with Timber Lake Lodge in Grand Rapids for the next Annual Service Workshop and have set the dates for Jan 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. I have not asked anyone to be our guest at this point. Last year we did struggle to get Districts to put on a presentation. Please do your best as DCMs to find people to help present so we do not use the same Districts two years in a row. I understand how difficult this can be so do not hesitate to ask for help. While I will be rotating out at the end of this year, I will always be available to help the next Alt Delegate. I do have some suggestions for the Annual Service Workshop if the next Alt Delegate would be interested in them.

In Service  
Jim S. Alt Delegate

Area Chair:

Greetings Area 35,

Hello, I'm Roger R. and I am also an alcoholic. I am grateful for the opportunity given to me by Area 35 to serve as your Chair.

Recapping some of my recent activities follows.

- Attended annual Area 35 Service Workshop in January in Alexandria
- Attended WCRAASC in Moorhead in March and I chaired a breakout session in this event.
- Coordinated Agenda Item's discussion with District 15 on March 4<sup>th</sup>
- Coordinated Agenda Item's discussion with District 7 on March 25<sup>th</sup>

- Delivered a Presentation with Area 36 Chairperson at MNYPAA Convention, March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Served as Chair of the Area 35 Spring Assembly April 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> in Duluth

It was necessary to activate the "Area 35 Inclement Weather Procedure" (p. 61 Area 35 Actions Book) for our February 24<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup>. Driver's safety in winter storm conditions was my paramount concern in this cancellation.

Following this cancellation, I was preparing a notice to the Area to reschedule the February 24<sup>th</sup> ACM to March 10<sup>th</sup>. However, I started hearing from trusted servants in Area 35 who suggested we may not need to reschedule the cancelled meeting. The March 10<sup>th</sup> reschedule date was only four weeks from our scheduled Area 35 Spring Assembly. Subsequently 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 February 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 arrangements were 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.

The Area 35 Spring Assembly on April 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> in Duluth MN was a successful event for us all. I would like to thank District 12 for their service supporting our registration and coffee sales functions throughout the assembly. Feedback from attendees confirmed we were successful in preparing Christine G. our Area 35 Delegate to participate in discussion and consideration of Agenda Item's at the General Service Conference. I would like to engage Area 35 in a discussion on how we can increase attendance at our assemblies.

Even though it seems like we've just begun the second year of this rotation it is time to begin thinking about the next rotation in your District's and in Area 35. 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 please contact me for a Delegate Service Resume form for you to complete and return to me - **prior to the June 2 Area Committee Meeting**. I will then send your service resume on to Steve L. to be published in the July Edition of the Northern Light.

In service and warmth,  
Roger R.  
Area 35 Chair



**"I spoke at last night's meeting. After the Serenity Prayer, and the reading of 'How It Works,' and nine announcements, and the awarding of three ninety-day pins with a word from the sponsors, I had eight minutes to tell my story!"**

Secretary:

Greetings Area 35

I hope that everyone who was able to attend the Spring Assembly had an amazing time! I am so incredibly grateful to be a part of Area 35. I appreciate everyone within Area 35 who continues to spread the message of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Fall Assembly Flyer is located on the Area 35 website. Which is on October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and is located at the Hampton Inn and Suites in Bemidji. Reservations need to be made by September 5, 2019.

Thank you to everyone who emailed me and or handed in your report for the minutes from the Spring Assembly.

I want to thank Gayle R. for asking me to be captain of the State Fair Booth on August 24, 2019. For those of you who have never been of service at the State Fair Booth, I highly suggest giving it a shot! I have had such beautiful

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experiences there sharing the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. If you are interested in taking a 2-hour shift, I am sure Gayle would love to hear from you!

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

**Treasurer:**

Since my last Northern Light report in early March, I have:

- Reconciled two monthly bank statements and prepared reports for review by the Financial Oversight Committee
- Deposited all contributions received as of May 4<sup>th</sup>
- Paid all invoices and expenses received as of May 4<sup>th</sup>
- Completed a balance sheet and an income/expense/contribution statement for Period 2 of 2019 (February/March)

There are a few points I’d like to make about our current financial position. I will explain them by comparing this year’s position to the same date or same period of last year.

Account Balances on May 4th -- Comparison 2019 vs. 2018				
	May 4, 2019	May 4, 2018	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Checking/Savings				
1000 - Area 35 Checking Account	\$ 11,189.44	\$ 11,591.21	\$(401.77)	-3.47%
1100 - Savings - Prudent Reserve	6,047.32	6,045.51	1.81	0.03%
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 17,236.76	\$ 17,636.72	\$(399.96)	-2.27%

Income/Expenses/Contributions -- Year-to-Date Comparision 2019 vs. 2018				
	Jan 1 - May 4, 2019	Jan 1 - May 4, 2018	\$ Change	% Change
Group Contributions	\$ 9,562.65	\$ 11,091.54	\$(1,528.89)	-13.8%
Birthday Contributions	14.00	3.00	11.00	366.7%
Special Contributions	-	1,443.95	(1,443.95)	-100.0%
Miscellaneous Area Income	2,149.19	2,106.41	42.78	2.0%
Total Income	11,725.84	14,644.90	(2,919.06)	-19.9%
Miscellaneous Expense	3,481.26	5,408.95	(1,927.69)	-35.6%
Officers/Chairs Expense	16,370.21	16,590.32	(220.11)	-1.3%
Total Expenses	19,851.47	21,999.27	(2,147.80)	-9.8%
Income After Expenses	\$ (8,125.63)	\$ (7,354.37)	\$ (771.26)	-10.5%

**Income After Expenses:** expenses are currently exceeding income by \$8,125. However, the same was true last year, but to a lesser degree (\$7,355). Yet in 2018 our income eventually caught up with our expenses, and we finished the year with income exceeding expenses by \$371.

We have already paid the expenses for 3 of the 5 usual events that we have each year (Service Workshop, WCRAASC, Spring Assembly, WCR Forum, Fall Assembly), so our current high-expense position is not at all unusual. It will become a concern if our Group contributions drop significantly going forward. If our Group contributions were to come in at the same rate as they have thus far, we can expect to receive approximately \$28,000 for the year. That would be less than in 2018 (\$30,566), but more than in 2017 (\$24,961).

**Account Balances:** as of May 4<sup>th</sup>, our checking and savings accounts have a combined balance of **\$17,237**, which is \$400 (2.27%) less than last year on this date.

**Group Contributions:** as of May 4<sup>th</sup>, our year-to-date Group Contributions are **\$9,563**, which is \$1,529 (13.8%) less than the \$11,092 contributed during the same time period last year.

**Birthday Contributions:** Christine G. celebrated 14 years of sobriety by making a Birthday Contribution to the Area. It would be great to see more of these!

**Special Contributions:** these are Contributions made to the Area by various Roundups. None have been received thus far this year.

**Miscellaneous Area Income:** this includes registration fees from the Service Workshop, coffee income from Assemblies, Grapevine sales, and Northern Light flyer insert fees. We have received **\$2,149** thus far, about 2% more than during the same time period last year.

**Miscellaneous Expense:** this includes all costs associated with the Service Workshop, both Assemblies, the Joint Workshop with Area 36, Area Committee Meeting rent, Grapevine purchases, and Financial Oversight Committee travel/meals. Our expenses thus far are **\$3,481**, which is 35.6% less than during the same time period last year.

**Officer/Chairs Expense:** this includes all expenses submitted for reimbursement by officer and chairs for meals, travel, lodging, supplies, printing, postage, and audio equipment. These expenses thus far are **\$16,370**, which is 1.3% less than during the same time period last year. The cancellation of the February ACM saved us about \$1,000 in expenses.

To summarize, our bank account balances are down slightly from last year. Our Group Contributions are down 14%, overall income is down 20%, and expenses are down 10%. As we know, we are self-supporting, so please continue to encourage members to show their gratitude for their sobriety by contributing to the GSO, Area 35 and their District.

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:**

Greetings Area 35,

It’s that time of year again where we start to come out from under our rocks and things start getting busy again in AA. With the arrival of Round Ups and Spring Flings. I’ve already been able to attend three such gatherings and have heard some amazing stories, one being that of our Past Delegate Kelly D. who spoke at the Superior Round Up in April.

One of the greatest gifts I receive from General Service is the opportunity to meet wonderful people from all over our Region and no matter where I go it seems I know someone as a result. The feeling of not feeling alone like I did before AA is certainly comforting.

I will be looking forward to seeing you all the ACM and other gatherings around our Area these coming months.

Yours in Service,  
Scott M.  
Area 35 Archives Chair

**Archivist:**

Do you ever wonder if the service work you do makes a difference? I just attended the Superior Round-Up in April and found myself pondering that question. A lot of time and effort goes into what we do to carry the message and we don’t always see the immediate impact. God does not show us a result the way we want to see it, but our faith tells us that there is a purpose.

As I was attending the Conference, I had a person come through the Archives display and started asking questions. Good questions. As we talked about how AA started I began to realize that we all carry a message in what we do. This person left with a little better understanding of our history and an appreciation for their sobriety. As they walked away, it came to me that even if one person is touched by what we do, we have done God’s will.

Many people comment on the display, some take pictures and some ask questions. It helps me to realize that it is imperative that we all make our past part of our working with others. We sometimes ask, “How do I get people interested in service?” The answer we often hear is they are sponsored into service. But often, we do not explain to their satisfaction, why.

Our past holds the key to that. When we incorporate things, like “AA Comes of Age”, “Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers”, we have a chance to show that our fellowship is truly a gift from God. Our local AA history can expand on how AA started in our area, how Groups often struggled, failed or as many do, have sustained and grown over the years.

As part of working with others, I have tried to make our past part of our present and a look into the future. Our knowledge from whence we came is the mortar to solid service work. Take the time to help our new members understand our past. If you are not familiar with your local history, find out. Do a Group history form, ask the Group if there are such records. It will help you to better carry the message of experience, strength and hope.

Yours in Service,  
Steve D.  
Area 35 Archivist.

(Continued on page 6)

**Responsibility Statement**

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

*(Continued from page 5)***Cooperation with the Professional Community:**

My name is Antonette and I am an alcoholic.

Greetings from balmy northern Minnesota! Not much happening at this time. I am working on contacting probation to see if we can talk and keep talking about what we can do about some of the stuff that keeps us apart, like communication. Our District currently does not have a PI/CPC Chair and we are working at that too! If anybody has any suggestions, we would appreciate it!

Thanks for allowing me to serve.

Yours in Service,  
Antonette F.  
Area 35 CPC Chair



**"Oh, oh! Here comes Simpson for the business meeting."**

**Corrections:**

Greetings from your Corrections Chair!

I've got good news, one Group donated two cases of big books from their Pink Can Plan!! The bad news is this Group closed its doors on April 30<sup>th</sup>. I was one of the founding members, sad to see! I hope the GSR's and DCM's are bringing information back to the Groups so we can again vote on this pink can plan! I've got two Groups that are willing to participate in it at the Group level, good news! I attended the Grand Rapids Round-Up and heard a couple good speakers! I hope you all are well.

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.

Currently I have ALL of the Grapevine printed material including the 2019 calendars & pocket planners. Since the year is almost half over I would like suggestions about how to price 2019 material. I recently attended the Iron Range Get Together held in Hibbing May 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> & the District 8 business meeting held May 6<sup>th</sup>. I also attended the Spring Assembly held in Duluth on April 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> where I couldn't attend the Committee Meetings because I had to go back home to pick up forgotten items-thought I had time but someone made up speed limits! Took me a half-hour to get out of Duluth & back in, speed limits were made to be broken the rest of the way without problems...lucky me.

No emails received as to the coming & going of the GV/LV yet this year.

Yours in service,  
Jerry B.  
Area 35 Grapevine Chair

**Group Records:**

Greetings, Area 35.

Area 35 has forty-three Groups with a status of Unknown. This means that they have not been inactivated but currently they do not have contact person (s) for receiving mail, or they do not have an address listed for their meeting location. I will let each DCM know which Groups have Unknown status, and hopefully we can get information for these groups or inactivate them if they are no longer meeting. I would like to get this information cleaned up before the database switch, which will be happening hopefully in August. That's the latest scuttlebutt from GSO. When the switch happens, FNV will be offline for a week.

I hope the DCMs have been able to validate all the Group information on the sheets I handed out at the Spring Assembly. I would like to have this done also before the big switchover.

In service,  
Sally L.  
Area 35 Group Records Secretary

**Literature:**

The Spring Assembly went well with good discussion of the topics. Being involved in the Area and just service work in general allows me plenty of time to listen to both sides of most of the items we voted on.

We broke out into our groups with all of the Literature Chairs from Area 35 getting together.

We chose to go through the Agenda Items for our breakout group.

We had several new Literature Chairs in attendance.

The following Districts – 2 from Dist. 15, 13, 16, 12, 3, 7 and 8.

It was a good opportunity to get other opinions of the items and to look deeper into the background material. There was not a lot of controversial agenda items this year. The discussion was pretty tame. I like the way the Chairs had all discussed the items with their Home Groups, as it should be.

Whether you agree or disagree with how the vote turns out. It all needs to be left in the rooms at the end of the day. We don't always agree on which is a good thing. At the end of the day I need to feel that it was a Group Conscience and a Higher Power was in control of the process.

Thank you all for what you do!

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

**Northern Light:** What a goofy spring.

I was bitten by a mosquito before I saw my first robin! Did you notice anything different about the front of the NL? Blue people logo is gone. I was informed at the Spring Assembly that the blue people logo was for use by the General Service Office ONLY. Not to be used like the circle and triangle was for AA as a whole. With a few trial and errors along with suggestions from Karen (my wife), this is the new front. Do you like it? Still a work in progress. If I missed anyone's town please let me know.

After listening to the discussions and watching the votes at the Spring Assembly on whether to increase the Corrections Budget in order to purchase books this thought keeps running through my head. Where are the stone tablets Area 35's policies are written on and can someone look them all up in one place? There are numerous references to past policies in the action book. When does a voting action turn into a policy? When does a history of non-action turn into a policy? The word policy is a lot stronger word than action or history and gives the impression of law and permanence. All I've found on formal policies are in the appendix of the Area action book. There is the policy on site selection. The Statement of Financial Responsibility has a few financial policies written in it and the Inclement Weather Procedure isn't really a policy. My question again is where would I find the Area's policy of not providing books to institutions/facilities? I thought our main policy was to carry the message to the suffering Alcoholic. How do we go about changing policy in Area 35? The action book is just a history of past actions voted on and a lot of important information is missing in the actions book. When you look at past actions Area 35 changes things all the time. Just some random thoughts I have.

My little project of finding past issues of the NL has been productive. I have a few more to scan and add to the NL beginnings binder. Currently I'm wrapping up the final details from the WCRAASC transferring the checking account to the new Committee.

I want to thank Districts 8 and 15 for nominating me to stand for Delegate at the upcoming Fall Assembly. I am humbled and honored to be by your confidence in me.

On a more humorous note. It was pointed out to me in the last issue of the NL there was a glaring spelling error. Did you catch it? When I was explaining the lack of minutes for the ACM because it was canceled due to the weather. It seems I got caught by the spell check jester. What I wanted to say was inclement weather canceled the meeting the jester wrote incumbent weather canceled the ACM and my eyes and brain didn't see the folly at all. Thanks for finding the hidden humor JD.

Thanks for reading.

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

**Public Information:**

Greetings Area 35,

Public Information Report. Since the Spring Assembly a month ago I have been working on a presentation I will be giving at District 15's meeting, Monday May 6, 2019, at the Albany Senior Community Center at 8 pm, focusing on what Public Information is and is not and Singleness of Purpose in Public Information. I look forward to this presentation and Thank You Pat for the invitation.

The State Fair is coming August 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and volunteers are needed. This is a great sponsor/sponsee activity, I bring my significant other for a

*(Continued on page 7)*

(Continued from page 6)  
date day. We have 2-hour blocks of time. If your Group would like to sponsor a few hours, we can arrange that as well.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.  
Gayle R.  
Area 35 Public Information Chair

**Treatment:**

This time of the year I begin to review “What it was like.” I have an anniversary coming up.

Just before I got sober, my life was a mess. I was in a bad marriage, a job I didn’t like and I was restless. Yuck.

Although a friend of mine had 12 stepped me the year before - - it didn’t take. It boiled down to if I wasn’t drinking; I was thinking about it. Yuck

My ex-husband told me about a women’s meeting on Saturday morning at 8:00am – wow that’s early. I got up and went. The ladies were quite nice, they asked me if I’d like a “first step”; I said no thanks and they 1<sup>st</sup> stepped me any way. They gave me a big book the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Each one of them wrote their phone numbers in that book. I still have it. From that point on my life began to change.

One of the questions our Delegate wanted advice about was should AA begin to work on a 5<sup>th</sup> edition. MY home group was very clear “No changes to the first 164 pages.” I agree. Those 164 pages were what got me sober!

Someone said that perhaps the words are too complex. Our Alano club has a dictionary and we all know that Google works.

In my opinion – please let’s not change those precious 164 pages.

Regards,  
Cathy R.  
Area 35 Treatment Chair

**Webmaster:**

Greetings,

I attended the Spring Assembly in Duluth in April were the agenda items and background information were reviewed and discussed in preparation for Christine’s attendance at the General Service Conference. I look forward to hearing about Christine’s experience there and the decisions made on the agenda items.

I have put some AA events on the Area 35 Calendar and removed the District 21 DCM from the email forwarder as she has resigned from that position.

The next Area 35 event is the Area Committee Meeting in Aitkin on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and I hope to see you all there.

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

**It all Began with the Service**

I had the good fortune to make it to another sober Birthday a little while ago. I was offered a lot of congratulations, many kind words, and was left with that wonderful feeling that only AA has truly been able to give me... the feeling that I belong. While I was standing there in my meeting, staring down at my new Medallion; I noticed that, just like all the ones before it, there was that word “Service” stamped on it. Still there. Still reminding me. So when it came time to answer the annual question of “...how did you do it?” I quickly and quietly answered...Service. It all began with the Service, one alcoholic to another, that was performed on me when I reached out having nowhere else to turn.

It was the Service that first Home Group engaged in by making me feel that I had found a home...no longer an outsider, not alone, not different. It was the Service provided by a series of sponsors (I was a tough case) who made sure I understood Singleness of Purpose and stayed on course with the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. It was the Service I was asked to perform and graciously accepted such as speaking, helping at Round Robins, 12<sup>th</sup> step calls, District and Area work. It is the Service of sponsorship where I humbly get to start the cycle all over again by passing on what has so generously been given to me.

Early in sobriety someone told me that the definition of humility was “not thinking less of myself, but rather thinking of myself less.” I think that is the essence of Service. Giving rather than looking to receive. And in doing so, receiving more than I ever could have imagined! Service is where my Higher Power guides me every day, to go do the next right thing. But I’m still an Alcoholic. I’m not always paying attention. So I keep a Medallion in my pocket. And every time I pull it out and look at it; I see “Service” and I am reminded that I can’t just look for God’s direction in my life...I have to act like he has provided it.

Greg C.

**What’s in a Book**

When I was in management I once asked an employee if he would consider being a trainee for management? His response, "Why would I want your job? They give you a gun [with no bullets], a badge and a title. But you have NO authority to do anything." After attending my first assembly in Duluth, I have to tell you, that's kind of how I felt when I left on Sunday.

There are several questions I would like to try and bring some clarity to.

- 1. Why do we have a Corrections Committee?

We have a Corrections Committee to ensure that those who cannot come to our AA meeting, those who are incarcerated, are afforded the opportunity to attend meetings.

- 2. What exactly is our responsibility?

In the jails/prisons we are "Invited guests". We are required to follow their rules the same as those being held there. They are not an Alano Society - they are a Corrections Facility. And, although we are invited to carry the message there, they do not provide us with the supplies needed to hold a meeting. We are talking about literature. Big Books are the instruction manual and needed to carry the message.

- 3. Whom exactly are we trying to reach/help?

We are talking about fellow alcoholics.

This must have been important to the founders of Alcoholics Anonymous. Because Bill W. wrote to a Prison Group in 1949 the following: "Every AA has been, in a sense, a prisoner. Each of us has walled himself out of society; each has known social stigma. The lot of you folks has been even more difficult: In your case, society has also built a wall around you. But there isn't any real essential difference, a fact that practically all AA's now . Therefore, when you members come into the world of AA on the outside, you can be sure that no one will care a fig that you have done time. What you are trying to be-not what you were-is all that counts with us."

Doesn't the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition play a contributing factor in the recovery of another alcoholic? Isn't our strength based on our own contribution? I feel you believe it’s ok for me to rally the troops, find people to volunteer, schedule meetings and invest time and energy to carry the message. I can have the title, the badge, the privilege of working to enlist others for the cause. But that's where it ends. Find someone else to support your work. The 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition is not to be used for THOSE alcoholics. Again, jails/prisons are not who carry the message. Nor do they fund our cause, we do!!!!

I read in the Corrections manual that providing clear information is important. Having said that, let me tell you the "who and why". The money request for literature to the District is not for affluent communities. Pretty sure they are ok. However, the North West corner of the state does not have the luxury of revenue. Thus revenue is not pouring over the basket when they pass the basket for the 7<sup>th</sup>Tradition. But the need for literature is still there. The need to carry the message has not gone anywhere. So-we ask for help

While in Duluth they had a "Ask the Delegates" box with a very good question I thought. How do we get new members interested in service work? Just my opinion, but to pick and choose where and who we will aide in recovery through the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition does not appear to motivate people to get involved. Whether free or incarcerated, we are talking about fellow alcoholics.

What's in a Book?

Bill's Story-There is a Solution-How It Works-Working with others-AND A Vision for you. Where I hang my hat is pg. 164 where it reads, "Ask Him in your morning meditation what you can do each day for the man who is still sick - See to it that your relationship with Him is right, and great events will come to pass for you and countless others. This is the Great Fact for us.”

In closing it is important for me to share why I accepted this position. Simple, because of a loving compassionate God of my understanding. And my obligation to do as Dr. Bob wrote,"1. Sense of Duty. 2. It is a Pleasure. 3. Because in so doing I am paying my debt to the man who took time to pass it on to me. 4. Because every time I do I take out a little more insurance for myself against a possible slip." And he ended his story by stating, "Your Heavenly Father will never let you down." I know it to be true in my journey.

In fellowship and service

Doug W.  
Corrections Chair  
District 13

**"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

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

\*See area35.org for printable flyers

Service Events

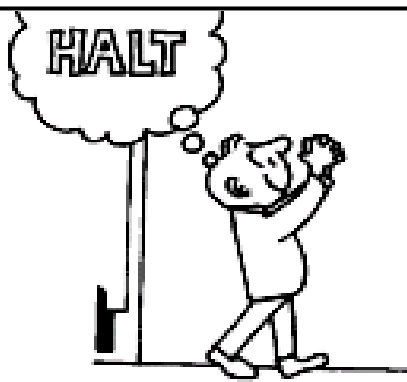
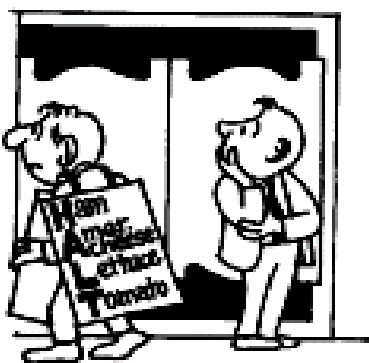
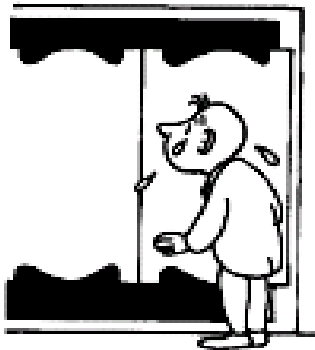
- June:**           **2<sup>nd</sup> : Area 35 Committee Meeting & Delegate post-conference report**  
Alano Club 9:00 am –2 pm  
322 1st Ave. NE  
Aitkin, MN
- August:**       **4<sup>th</sup> : Area 35 Committee Meeting**  
Alano Club 9:00 am –2 pm  
322 1st Ave. NE  
Aitkin, MN
- August:**       **16<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> : West Central Regional Forum**  
Alerus Center  
1200 South 42<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Grand Forks, ND
- October:**       **5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> : Area 35 Fall Assembly**  
Hampton Inn & Suites Bemidji  
1019 Paul Bunyan Drive South  
Bemidji, MN

Delegate Post-Conference Reports

- |                              |                    |           |   |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|---|
| <b>June 3<sup>rd</sup></b>   | Districts 13&15    | 7pm -     | Albany Senior Center                                |
| <b>June 15<sup>th</sup></b>  | Districts 9&14     |           | Hibbing Alano                                       |
| <b>June 20<sup>th</sup></b>  | District 7         | 6pm -     | Brainerd  |
| <b>July 6<sup>th</sup></b>   | District 16        |           | United Methodist Church<br>Grand Rapids             |
| <b>July 7<sup>th</sup></b>   | District 2         | 1pm -     | Thief River Falls                                   |
| <b>July 13<sup>th</sup></b>  | Districts 5, 6 &11 |           | TBD   |
| <b>August 8<sup>th</sup></b> | District 8         | 6:30 pm - | First Presbyterian Church<br>226 E. Harvey St., Ely |

Fellowship Events

- May:**           **24<sup>th</sup>– 26<sup>th</sup>: Gopher State Roundup**  
Double Tree Hilton Hotel Bloomington  
Minneapolis South, 7800 Normandale Blvd.  
Minneapolis, MN
- June:**           **7<sup>th</sup>– 8<sup>th</sup>: Founders Day**  
Alano Club  
3009 Restormel St.  
Duluth , MN
- July:**           **12<sup>th</sup>– 13<sup>th</sup>: A Weekend With Bill & Lois**  
Camp Hiawatha  
36944 Camp Hiawatha Rd.  
Deer River, MN
- August:**       **9<sup>th</sup>– 11<sup>th</sup>: 40<sup>th</sup> Keep It Simple Weekend**  
Camp Chicagami on Pleasant Lake  
3755 Scout Camp Rd,  
Eveleth, 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup>

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

February 15<sup>th</sup>

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](http://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.

4<sup>th</sup> 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.

1<sup>st</sup> Weekend in March

Agenda Items are discussed at the West Central Regional AA Service Conference.

1<sup>st</sup> Weekend in April

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

3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:delegate@area35.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

\*See area35.org for printable flyers

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**  
*Celebrates*

# Founders Day

84 Years of A.A. June 7, & 8 2019

*Duluth Area 3509 Reformed*

Friday			
7:00	Al-Anon History Speaker	<b>Kate S.</b>	Duluth, MN
7:30	"A.A. Comes of Age"	<b>Melinda L.</b>	Duluth, MN
8:00	A.A. Speaker Meeting	<b>Angie E.</b>	Jordon, MN

Saturday			
12:00	Welcome		
12:15	What is the A.A. Central Office?	<b>Jared S.</b>	Duluth, MN
12:25	"Dr. Bob's Nightmare"	<b>Bruce B.</b>	Duluth, MN
1:00	Midwest Regional Trustee	<b>Tom A.</b>	St Cloud, MN
2:15	Break		
2:30	Sponsorship	<b>Wayne B.</b>	Santa Monica, CA
3:30	AA Speaker Meeting	<b>Hannah T.</b>	Cloquet, MN
4:30	Home Group/Service	<b>Tammy E.</b>	Duluth, MN
5-6:45	Break for Dinner- On your own		
7:00	Al-Anon Speaker Meeting	<b>Chuck L.</b>	Superior, WI
8:00	A.A. Speaker Meeting	<b>Wayne B.</b>	Santa Monica, CA
9:15	Fellowship to follow		

*THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT BY EMMET FOX*  
*St. Thomas Hospital and School of Nursing*  
*TRIDAY POST*

*Bill Wilson*  
*Lois Wilson*  
*Rowland Hazard*  
*Dr. Bob Smith*  
*Anne Smith*  
*Bill Dodson*

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 **A WEEKEND WITH BILL AND LOIS**  
**Camp Hiawatha – Deer River, MN**

<b>Friday Night Festivities</b> <b>4:00 P.M.</b> Registration begins (No early bird registration)  <b>5:30 P.M.–6:30 P.M.</b> Dinner  <b>Friday Evening Speakers</b> <b>7:00 P.M.</b> Eileen M. Al-Anon, Detroit Lakes <b>8:15 P.M.</b> Debbie P. AA, Duluth  <b>Saturday Festivities</b> <b>8:00 A.M.</b> AA Meeting <b>9:00 A.M.</b> Al-Anon Meeting  <b>10:00 A.M.</b> Brunch	<b>Games/rec activities on your own:</b> <b>**bean bag toss, volleyball, basketball, tether ball, paddle boarding, kayaking, canoeing, fishing, swimming and sauna**</b>  <b>5:00 P.M.</b> Dinner  <b>Saturday Evening Speakers</b> <b>6:30 P.M.</b> Deb L. Al-Anon, Owatonna <b>7:45 P.M.</b> Steve L. AA, Owatonna  <b>**Campfire Call-Up following speakers**</b>  <b>Sunday Events</b> <b>8:30 A.M.</b> Breakfast – followed by Planning Committee Meeting
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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

<b>Take Hwy. 169 (or Hwy. 2 from the East) to Grand Rapids</b> (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.	<b>From Deer River – Take Hwy. 6 North out of Deer River for 4 miles</b> -Go right onto CR 19 for 7 miles. -Camp will be on the right.  <b>** There are two driveways available.</b> <b>** Park in the upper parking lot.</b>
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For Questions e-mail: [billandloisw@gmail.com](mailto:billandloisw@gmail.com)  
**\*\*\*FRIENDLY REMINDER: NO PETS\*\*\***

### Area 35 Fall Assembly

October 5-6, 2019

**Hampton Inn and Suites**  
 1019 Paul Bunyan Drive South  
 Bemidji, MN 56601

**Room Rates:** Double Queens Standard and Single King Standard non-smoking rooms: \$109.00 plus tax.

To make **reservations** please call: **(218) 751-3600**

Reserve under: Area 35 Room Block  
 Cut off Date is: **SEPTEMBER 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>  
 9:00 AM Registration  
 10:00 AM Assembly Convenes

Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>  
 9:00 AM Assembly Reconvenes

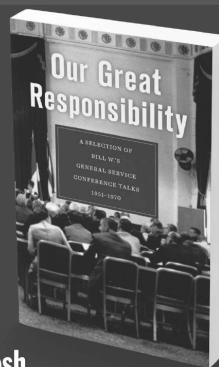


All DCMs, GSRs, Area Officers and Committee Chairs, Delegate, Alternate Delegate and Past Delegates are encouraged to attend as well as all others interested in carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. The only requirement is a willingness to serve. This is a voting year where we will be voting in our new Area Officers.

Announcing publication of...

## Our Great Responsibility

*A Selection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference Talks, 1951 – 1959*



**Timeless and timely, these 16 talks give fresh perspectives on the A.A. Fellowship in our co-founder's own words.**

- ❖ 270 pages, softcover with over 60 black-and-white and color images
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BLAST FROM the PAST

In this edition of Blast From the Past is from  
Volume III Issue I Feb. 1984

Greetings from our new Area Chairman  
Bill S.

As we begin 1984, I would like to wish each and every A.A. member in Area 35 and his or her family the very best during the upcoming months. It is my prayer that A.A. grows and prospers in our Area in 1984. May our combined efforts at "carrying the message" find many new alcoholics and their families sharing in the joy of sobriety.

"We have a lot of work to do during the coming year as individuals, Groups, Districts, and as an Area. Together we can accomplish much through our Legacy of Service. By becoming better informed group members, Group Officers, District Officers, and Area Officers, we can resolve any problems that might otherwise pose a threat to our Recovery and Unity. To do that we must read and discuss our literature, attend Group meetings regularly to form a Group conscience, and attend District and Area meetings and activities to share thoughts and ideas and seek answers to our questions.

"No one has ever said Service is easy. On the contrary, serving your fellow man, this fellowship, and the God of your understanding is hard work. It requires a lot of time and sacrifice. It carries with it responsibility. However, the rewards make it worthwhile. I have never seen anyone actively serving his fellow man yet drunk. That alone is reward enough for those of us fortunate enough to have escaped the clutches of John Barleycorn, but the rewards go beyond that. Through sharing and serving we find answers to the questions we have about Recovery, Unity, and Service. We also cultivate new friendships and feel more a part of the world-wide fellowship we call Alcoholics Anonymous.

"If you have not made a resolution for 1984 yet, resolve now to take a more active role in your sobriety. Resolve to be a better Group member, an informed, active, responsible Group member. Resolve now to dig in and help do the things that must be done. Resolve now to become an active, contributing member of Alcoholics Anonymous." (signed: Love Bill)

New Recovery Sister

My name is Kristie Y. ...I am considered the new comer. I had a year and a half of sobriety in my past experience in recovery, prior to my relapse after my Father's passing. I surrendered this time living recovery in action to my acceptance of myself as an alcoholic. I wasn't being honest before with myself with the alcohol acceptance like I am this time. By the grace of God, I made it back to the rooms of AA. My experience at the Spring AA Assembly was amazing, interesting, at times frustrating based on the spiritual part of the program, which is in all the steps, relationships, and the carrying the message to the suffering alcoholic.

It was truly a ton of insightful information that I'm still processing to understand completely. The first day was information, organizations, in detail which is definitely needed and a must. Although it honestly got to long for me to pay attention 100% and to long for a highly energetic women living recovery to sit through. Great information yet interesting to see the unseen work working together at service for AA.

By the evening I was honestly exhaustedly grateful for the insight I obtained yet I had to eat dinner then check out into evening nap. Which was well needed.

Sunday morning was interesting and held my full attention through the discussions. I really related to the Corrections discussion/vote/disagreement. My opinion is that carrying the message to the suffering alcoholic no matter the cost is most important. To keep what we have we give it away serving others to the best of our ability is ONLY A PART OF THIS SPIRITUAL PROGRAM OF AA. I was both inside prison walls as well as outside those walls. That's why those "BOOKS FOR THOSE CROOKS" are especially needed. This is my opinion and everyone is entitled to their's. I also know how to turn these discussions, opinions over to my God. Letting go makes this decision because he is in Control not you or I ! Thy will, will be done on his time not mine or ours. Thank you for this experience to share my insight feedback and I love the new friends I have made and the new recovery family I have never had. God Bless and to thine own self always be true....

Love,  
Kristie Lee Y. !!!  
New Recovery sister in AA.  
Big Book AA @ 10:00 am  
Alano Club St. Cloud

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

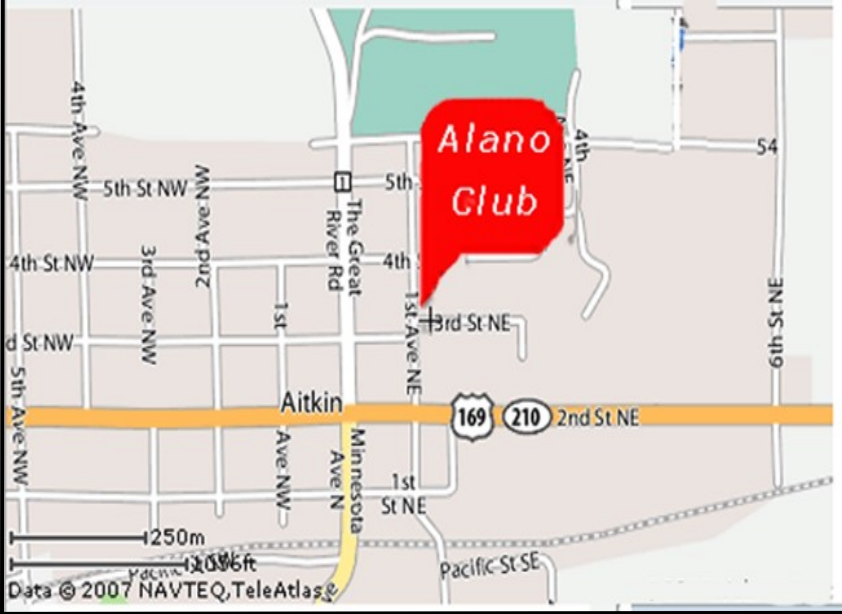
"I am responsible for reporting for duty and making the effort to overcome adversity, and in so doing to overcome myself."

"Responsibility Is the Name of the Game," Van Nuys, California,  
November 1966, AA Grapevine

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!



AREA 35 SPRING ASSEMBLY MINUTES

Area 35 Spring Assembly Minutes

Holiday Inn & Suites Downtown, Duluth, MN

April 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Call to Order: Roger R.** Called meeting to order at 1:00pm. Opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Why We Need a Conference:

**Recognition of Past Area 35 Delegates in Attendance:** Scott J. Panel 38, Bob J.- Panel 40, Bruce B.- Panel 44, Susie A.- Panel 48, Tom A.- Panel 50, Tim C.- Panel 52, Jon C.- Panel 60, Jim K.- Panel 62, Michael “Jake” J.- Panel 64, Kelly D.- Panel 66

Recognition of GSR’s in attendance:

Additions to the Agenda:

- ◆ State Fair Information- Gayle R.
- ◆ Correctional Literature Fund- Paul M.
- ◆ ACM Not Rescheduled- Skip D.

**Approval of the 2018 Fall Assembly Minutes:** Motion made and seconded to approve minutes. Minutes were approved.

GSC Agenda Items Sharing Sessions:

I. Agenda

No discussion or voting took place on any Items A. through E.

- 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.” **Majority Opposed**
- 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. **Majority Opposed**
- 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. **Majority Opposed**
- 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. **Majority in Favor**
- 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.

V. 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. **Majority in Favor**
- 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* **Majority Opposed**
- 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. **Majority Opposed**
- 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.” **Majority Opposed**
- J. Consider request to revise the pamphlet “The A.A. Group.” **Majority Opposed**
- 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*. **Majority Opposed**
- 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. **Majority Opposed**
- O. Consider request to update the pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated.” **Majority Opposed**
- P. Review matrix of A.A. recovery literature.

VII. Policy/Admissions

- A. Review dates for the 2022 General Service Conference. **Dates: April 24<sup>th</sup>-April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 & April 18<sup>th</sup>-April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**
- 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. **Majority Opposed**
  - 4. Consider request to approve the development of a new PSA in video format that utilizes full-face actors (not members of A.A.). **Majority Opposed**
- D. Review draft language addressing anonymity and safety proposed for the pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity.” **Majority Opposed**
- E. Consider request to update language in the flyer “A.A. at a Glance.” **Majority Opposed**
- 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. **Majority Opposed**
- H. Review contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook.

IX. Report and Charter

Minimal discussion, no voting took place Items A. through C.

- A. Discuss General Service Conference *Final Report*.

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

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. **Majority Opposed**
- 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." **Majority in Favor**
- C. Consider updating the pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic – Never too Late." **Majority Opposed**
- 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****No discussion or voting took place on any Items A. through E.**

- 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." **Entire body was in Favor**
- 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. **Entire body was in Favor**
- C. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

**GSR Sharing Session Report**

This was the 1<sup>st</sup> Assembly where the GSR's had two sharing sessions. Both were well attended, with lively conversation at each session. The 1<sup>st</sup> session started with (Roger R. Area Chair) presenting a 20-minute GRS orientation. We then had two topics we discussed:

There were thirty-two GSRs attending and fourteen of those were new GSRs.

The morning session was started with Roger, the Area Chairperson, explaining the area Service Structure.

Jim R. opened the sharing session. Sue H. read "Why we need a conference" from Page S20 of the Service Manual.

The group brought up four topics to discuss. They were:

**1.) How can you motivate your home group members to step up to do service work?**

- a. Through sponsorship. Encourage sponsees to serve and give back what has been given to them.
- b. As a GSR, point out the "Service Menu". Example: Serve on Committees with out attending District Meetings.
- c. GSR training sessions.
- d. Take the time to thank group members who do serve.
- e. Show members that they have what it takes to do service work.

**2.) What are some good topics for workshops?**

- a. Explain what all the Service positions are and what they do.
- b. Traditions
- c. Concepts
- d. Anonymity and the Internet
- e. How to Share Your Story. (Guidelines)
- f. History of AA
- g. Steps 3, 7 And 11.
- h. Diversity and Accessibility "Who's not in the rooms of AA?"
- i. How to adjust to sober living in your 1<sup>st</sup> year sober.
- j. Taking the fear out of steps 4 and 5.
- k. Applying the steps in day-to-day living.
- l. How to get a workshop going.
- m. Contempt prior to investigation.

**3.) Why is there such reluctance for members to get involved in Service?**

- a. See topic 1.
- b. Explain that you can serve on a committee without attending District Meetings if available time is a problem.
- c. Everyone has something to offer.

The following topics were discussed in the second GSR Sharing Session.

**4.) Safety in AA. Do you feel safe? Do you feel respected?**

- a. Have "Safety Cards" available. (You can get them from GSO or they are available in a PDF that can be printed.)
- b. Ask to help if you see a situation happening.
- c. Elders of the program need to help the younger member.
- d. Offer a 1<sup>st</sup> Step meeting for newcomers. Explain what we do and don't do at meetings.

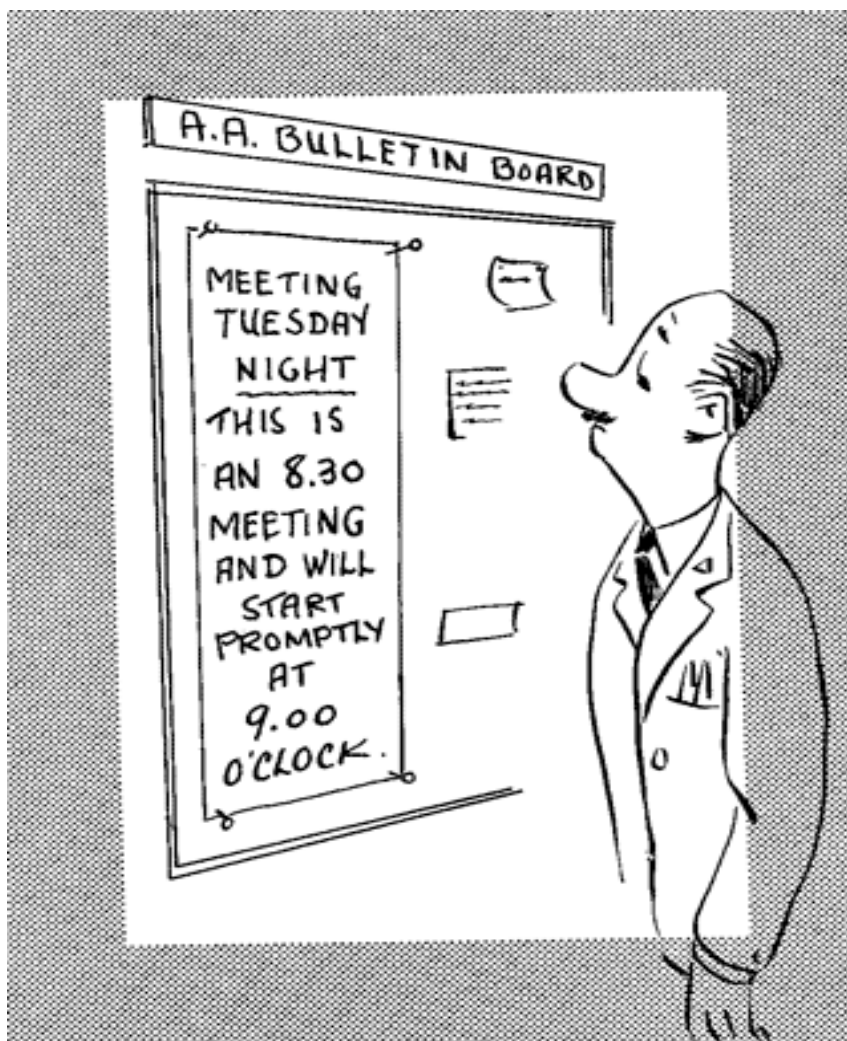
**5.) Dual Addictions**

- a. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking.
- b. Have info on NA meeting available.
- c. Help them figure it out through sponsorship.
- d. Alcoholic at AA. Addict at NA.
- e. Closed AA meeting or Open AA meeting, have respect, after all, it is an AA meeting.

There was a request to attach this paragraph that is read at each of District 13's meetings.

I'd like to thank all of you for your commitment to our fellowship. Before we get into the business let's remember that we have but One Ultimate Authority. A loving God as He may express himself through this Group's conscience tonight. Each of us brings a different perspective on each of the issues we have to discuss, and all of these opinions are equally valuable to the development of our Group's conscience. Because we are supposed to encourage participation, especially from the minority, we should refrain from cross talking, especially when it comes to any sort of argument or discourage

(Continued on page 13)

**A Declaration of Unity**

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

(Continued from page 12)

ing demeanor. Once our ideas are submitted to the Group, they don't belong to us anymore, but to the District Committee as a whole, to be considered when raising our hands during the vote.

Yours in service. Sue H. Secretary

## DCM Sharing Session Report

### **DCM Sharing Session Topics and Discussion: Justin W.**

**Chair:** Justin W. and Secretary: Heidi B.

There were 14 Districts in attendance: Pat M. 15, Danny W. 2, Cindy S. 11, Laura C. 21, Kevin K. 3, Colleen S. 4, Sharna O. 6, Skip D. 5, Glenn M. 16, Rich G. 12, Phyllis K. 9, Bob N. 7, Justin W. 13, Heidi B. 8

#### **Topic – What does DCM do?**

Service Manual has job description. Keep meetings informed by giving GSR's info to bring back to Groups, meet with all Groups each year, keep order in District meetings, create and follow agenda for District meetings, discuss monthly Tradition and Concept, Delegate works with committee members, create District pamphlet (12) and keep District meetings on topic and on time.

#### **Topic – Discuss recent Area Committee Meeting cancellation.**

Not all DCM's received email – three out of fourteen didn't. Few weren't happy with not rescheduling the meeting, even though chair went with group conscience. What about conference calls when this happens?

#### **Topic – AAWS editing material without Conference approval.**

Should Impact Collaborative be advising AAWS on our literature? Traditions and Concepts should be followed, this has worked for last 80+ years.

## OFFICER REPORTS

### **DELEGATE-Christine G.**

Greetings Area 35.

First of all, I would like to thank all of the work and support that we had from Area 35 members at the WCRAASC. It was a good conference and there was great participation. It is a great honor to represent an Area that is full of passion.

I want to give one last big "thank you" to Jim for taking the reins and organizing the event and being the main point of contact over the weekend. I would also like to give a huge thank you to Kelly making sure that fliers, the directory and agenda got updated, Steve for taking care of the finances, pre-registration, meals and updating the web site and Gayle for editing the voice book, making name tags, creating breakout session folders and co-chairing with Jim to make sure everything ran smooth. All your efforts are appreciated so much. All the displays that were organized by the Area Committee Chairs looked fantastic and THANK YOU to the District 3 for hosting and ALL volunteers that helped make the event a success.

At our Delegate's only meeting, when we meet with fellow Regional Delegates, we discussed a few items:

- ♦ As you know we have moved forward with the digital repository for all of our documents. If any of you have boxes in the closet of old flyers etc. we would like to have copies of it to put in the digital repository. There is a matrix of years and documents that is now 3 years old, the document needs to be updated, data files need to be updated. This is where a WCR Secretary may be useful to keep all of this information updated.
- ♦ BOX.COM is being used for the repository at \$15 per month that the region pays.
- ♦ We talked some more about the non-profit status and we will be taking a vote at the GSC when we meet to discuss business. Some of the panel 69 Delegates needed to be briefed on the situation and take it back to their areas to get a conscience.
- ♦ We will also talk more about the possible regional secretary.

I attend the January Board meeting the weekend after the January Workshop and it was an amazing experience. I had an opportunity to sit at the board table with the Trustees Committee to the Conference Members and other Delegate Committee Chairs. We had the opportunity to share on why we thought items that pertain to our committee should or should not be forwarded to the conference agenda. I felt my voice was heard and taken into consideration for their deliberation. I had the opportunity to meet with Mary Cummins, Secretary to P/A Conference Committee. We went over the entire P/A agenda item and discussed background material that would be included with each item. I was also able to give input during that meeting. We also discussed what the agenda will be when we have a pre-conference phone call with the committee member to go over housekeeping and format of the committee meeting. I had a great experience during the weekend and experienced the effortless work that all the Trustees, Appointed Committee Members and Staff put into to Alcoholics Anonymous. I also had a great time getting to know the other fourteen Delegate Chairs.

I have been reviewing the agenda background and retaining as much as

possible, which sometimes is very challenging. I have had the opportunity to facilitate District 13 agenda item review on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Justin for asking me to help out.

I have sent out several emails over the past month. If you have not been receiving OR want to get on my mailing list, please let me know by sending an email to [delegate@area35.org](mailto:delegate@area35.org) and I will make sure to get you on the email list.

There have been a couple emails about the International Convention that will be taking place in Detroit. There is a suggestion form for Non-AA Speakers. If you have a person in mind, please fill out the form and send it back to Julio, who is the Convention Coordinator. If you need a form, please let me know.

I will be having a conference call meeting on Wednesday, April 24 at 6:30 p.m. This call is an opportunity to get acquainted and handle "housekeeping" items such as voting, breaks, order of agenda items, etc.

The Secretary of the Trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference sent out a request for sharing related to the one of the General Service Board Strategic Plan items. I would like you to have some discussion in your groups and I will get your feedback at the June ACM.

**Question: In your Area what do you believe are the different underrepresented populations of suffering alcoholics that the Area could focus on carrying the A.A. message to?**

If you have not scheduled your Post Conference Report back with me for your District, please get with me this weekend so we can get you on the calendar.

Please start thinking about where you would like to serve next rotation. All DCM's should be thinking about who they would like to ask to stand for Delegate. Delegate resumes are due to Roger by the ACM in June so they can be published in Northern Light in July and voting for Area Delegate and Officers will take place at the Fall Assembly in October.

It has been a pleasure to serve Area 35 and I look forward to visiting the districts through out the summer.

Thank you for allowing me serve and let me know if there is anything I can help your districts with.

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

### **ALTERNATE DELEGATE-Jim S.** Good Morning Everyone,

I have been talking to the Crookston Inn and the Timberlake Lodge in Grand Rapids for next years' Annual Service Conference. Both places offer an inexpensive place for us to hold the conference. I have also spoken with them about having a buffet. The Crookston Inn has provided me with a menu sample of difference choices we could have for a buffet. We would only need about thirty people to sign up for buffet to be able to have one at Crookston Inn. The Timberlake Lodge is in the middle of redoing their menu so they will need some time before getting me the information. The Crookston Inn room rate would be \$92 after tax for either single or double rooms. The Timberlake Lodge sales person I was talking with didn't have room rates for us but the main hall rate would \$1000 for the weekend.

I want to thank Steve L., Gayle R., and Kelly D. for their hard work in helping with the Service Conference. I want to especially thank Christine G. for giving me such an opportunity. This has been such a wonderful experience it is quite overwhelming. I am sad to say that the Conference did not make any money, unfortunately it will lose money. I made several mistakes that cost the conference and some things happened out of my control. I made the mistake that the a/v equipment was not \$500 for the weekend but \$500 each day, which added quite an expense to the conference. What neither Kelly nor myself was aware of when she made the contract was that the Marriot added 22% to everything as a gratuity. This made the a/v equipment around \$1,964 for the weekend. In addition we only had 302 people register due to poor weather instead of the 380 to 400 people we would normally see which also added to the loss. The majority of the evaluations were quite positive though. I would also like to thank the endless supply of volunteers we had for the Conference.

For anyone wondering about standing for a position this fall at the voting Assembly I would definitely encourage you to do so as the feeling I have about putting on the Conference is the same feeling I had a Area chair, Area Lit chair, DCM and GSR etc. All these position have given me such a wonderful feeling of being a part of this area. You can have these same feelings of gratitude I have if you take the chance to serve in any of these positions. So I encourage you to consider standing for something this fall.

In Service  
Jim S.  
Alt Delegate

**AREA CHAIR–Roger R.** Hello, I'm Roger R. and I am also an alcoholic.

I am also serving Area 35 as your Chair and the Chair of this Assembly. If you are new to an Assembly or have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

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absolutely killing it. His last report indicates that everything is going well at the Benton and Stearns County Jails, as well as the Saint Cloud Prison. Most notably, their volunteer list appears to be busting at the seams, which is awesome.

Our Treatment Committee continues to maintain 12th step opportunities in our District. We are actively communicating the opportunities back to the Groups and the Group members handle the commitments. Recently we received an email from one facility raving about one volunteer in particular, specifically requesting that he come back. I did have some concerns about the challenge of getting volunteers to keep the commitments. It was suggested to me that we might try and get back to making sure that volunteers are taking another person with them to help potentially overcome any fear or discomfort they might have because they have never done it. What a novel idea! I wonder how much of an impact this could have on our recurring topic of getting folks more involved in general service. It occurred to me that this is what my sponsor did for me when I couldn't stop drinking. He showed me how. I sure am grateful he didn't just hand me a book and tell me I should read it.

PI is extremely busy as usual. They recently made the decision to switch our phone line provider, which will more than cut the bill in half and make it easier to manage. The committee is doing a great job and has been since the beginning of the rotation.

These folks are a great group and it's a privilege to serve with them. They have suited up and shown up and put our District back together.

In gratitude  
Justin W.  
District 13 DCM

**WEBMASTER - Rillis E. .**

Good Evening,

I'm grateful to be here this weekend. As usual, I have put flyers on the website for various AA events. I also updated the General Service Conference back ground information on the website as our delegate, Christine, sent me the information.

I will be having hip surgery again on Monday but will be able to keep the website updated and anticipate attending the June Area Committee Meeting. If you have anything that needs to go on the website, send it to me either tonight or tomorrow and I will get it on the website before Monday.

I finished the guidelines for flyers that are going on the website and the Northern Light. The guidelines were reviewed by the technologies committee members, our Delegate and Alternate Delegate. Copies of the flyer on the table just outside this room, please take a copy and share with your Districts and Groups.

I attended the WCRAASC conference in Moorhead where we reviewed the 2019 agenda items and background information. A report on my experience there is in the current edition of the Northern Light.

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

**LITERATURE - Brian P.**

West Central Regional had a great turnout and was a great opportunity for Area 35 to show our hospitality. I was told we as Area 35 were responsible for the literature and books for display and for sale, I ordered extra quantities of books and the New Service Manual. I also had every piece of literature available. The sales through the weekend totaled about \$800.00.

I only have about four of the service manuals left. Let me know if you need anything for the June meeting. I will not be there but Steve D. can bring it out.

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

**District 15- Pat M.**

Greetings from District 15,

The District holds its meeting the first Monday of the month at the Albany Senior Center at 8pm. The District would like to thank Roger R. for helping us go over the Agenda Items.

Our Corrections Chair Bruce is looking for speakers to go into the St. Cloud Reformatory.

Our Literature Chair Greg has been selling Big Books and 12 and 12 books.

Our Treasurer has been doing an amazing job; our Secretary Fred has been a big help to the DCM being we do not have an alternate DCM.

District 15 is still in need of a Treatment Chair and will continue looking and encourage people within District 15 to be of service.

The District held a Big Book Workshop. It was poorly attended. It was great to see people who never work the steps before to watch them really get it.

The District had its Stearns County Round Up. We had 247 people purchase dinner tickets and more people came to hear our speakers. It was a great success.

Thank you to everyone that that helped with the Round Up. The Round up will be on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 next year.

The Area 35 PI Chair Gayle R. will be presenting on Public Information May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the District meeting.

Yours in service,  
Pat M.  
DCM 15

**District 3- Kevin K.** District 3 meets monthly the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at the Detroit Lakes Alano Club.

District 3 has a full slate of Committee Chairpersons.

New is Corrections Jessa; Jessa is energetic, ordering the corrections workbook, starting to reach out to a wide range of correction facilities in District 3.

**PI/CPC:** Gene M, recently Gene contacted a local media business following up on PSA's Gene has asked if they would run PSA's. Arvig cable is running 30 second clips, My World, Doors, Have Hope and Changes. This media platform reaches a large portion of District 3 coverage as well other border Districts.

Gene is also active creating literature information packets that he physically distributes to District 3 wide, law enforcement, medical facilities and churches.

**Literature:** Dave S., we are so fortunate to have a literature chair that attends our District events, setting up displays, making our literature available to Groups and individuals.  
GSR: Ray B, encourages Groups to sign up for subscriptions, asks at our District meeting to read the monthly magazine.

**Hot Line:** Bill D., Hot Line 3 – 5 calls per a few asking for help, others seeking a meeting location. Bill also created Hot Line Number tear offs that he asked attending GSR's to distribute to c-stores, grocery stores, libraries etc.

**District Website:** Marlene K. Post AA events, Round Robin Flyers, Workshops.

Our District hosts monthly Round Robins, with a potluck, Al-Anon and AA speakers. We route the Round Robin around communities in the District.

Our District numbers have been a little down this winter. Last summer as DCM I attended several Groups in the District. This winter I have not been able to visit Groups and need re-engage reaching out our District AA Groups in twenty-three communities. We discussed the Agenda items at our last District meeting. Our District felt the 5<sup>th</sup> edition Big Book should be considered, if there is a need. We also are questioning GSO's frequent use of consultants, the on going costs, and what the intended results look like.

Some Groups are struggling with attendance, other Groups with newer members seeking to change some of the old standards, as example wanting more meetings to be open meetings, are finding it difficult. GSR's are having trouble getting a true Group consensus/conscience and time to speak at the entire body of the meeting at the Group's regular meetings.

Thank you everyone for attending the West Central Regional Service Conference last month in Moorhead. To be able to network, share and safeguard our fellowship through actions of service keeps our foundation strong today for us and the future for those yet to come.

All in all I am grateful every servant at our District meeting. My sponsor shared that gratitude is service made visible.

Yours truly in service,  
Kevin K.  
District 3 DCM

**NORTHERN LIGHT - Steve L.**

Good evening Ladies and Gentleman,

We had six in attendance at our meeting this morning. With a surprise from District 2 and a District (18) Group Records Chair. We discussed the new flier guidelines. New and existing Group information forms so Groups can be posted on the WEB. There is always a great topic you can find to share your experience with others in the NL. New rotation is just around the corner, now is the time to start asking around in your District or Area Offices on what job you feel you would like so you can take a position you wouldn't like so you can grow.

Thank you Christine and Jim for giving me the experience to serve as Treasure/Registrar for the WCRAASC. What a great fun it was to meet, greet and talk to so many wonderful people.

Remember to add the WebMaster to your list of people to pass your fliers

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out to. When you make up your event flier copy it into a pdf file right then and email to Rillis while is being printed.

Thanks for Reading.

Yours in Service  
Steven L.  
Area 35 Northern Light Editor

## GROUP RECORDS - Sally L.

Greetings, Area 35.

There are 527 active Groups in Area 35.

There is some news regarding aaMinnesota.org. In the last couple of months, we (Areas 35 and 36) have been attempting to get building names included on the website to make it easier for people to find the meeting locations. Some Groups requested that we add the building names because some addresses are not shown on buildings or are difficult to see. After some trial and error and working with Area 36 Group Records, Bob B., and Josh the programmer, the building names are now seen on the meeting locator. During the trial and error period of figuring this out, some addresses were incorrect on the locator and a few people went to the wrong locations. I apologize for that. It was an unintended consequence of a well-intentioned attempt to improve things. If anyone finds a problem with their Group's address on the locator, please let me know.

I have brought with me Group Information sheets for each District. DCMs please see me to get your info sheets. These sheets are for verifying and/or updating Group information in the FNV database. If there are changes, please let me know. You can send the info to me via email, snail mail (my address is on the Northern Light), or bring the revised sheets to the Area meeting in June.

I attended the WCRAASC where I found out, contrary to what Tom A. said at the Area workshop (just kidding), that I will NOT be obsolete when the new database system comes online, hopefully in a couple of months. I will still be doing records changes like I am now. The new system will combine four databases – AAWS literature, Grapevine, Group records, and contributions. Groups will be able to take care of all their business by talking to only one person at GSO, rather than four. I will only be doing records, not literature or contributions.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

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

## District 4– Coleen S. Greetings Area 35,

The DCM position term for District 4 is on a different rotation than the rest of Area 35, so I want to introduce myself, my name is Colleen S. and I am the current DCM for District 4 and this is my first DCM Report. Greg C., the previous DCM is now the Alternate DCM. I am happy to report that all of our Committee Chair positions are filled and active. A big shout-out to Greg for actively pursuing people to serve. We currently have twenty-five meetings within our District. We average 5-10 GSRs at our monthly District meetings. Some areas where we are working to carry the message involve the elderly and alcoholism, meeting with local ministerial groups and other agencies within our community to present our message. Thank you for welcoming me. I look forward to serving with you and carrying the message.

Yours in service,  
Colleen S.  
District 4 DCM

## District 8- Heidi B. Greetings from District 8,

In March, our PI/CPC committee hosted a PI Luncheon for professionals in the community. Our Groups purchased \$10 tickets to give to local clergy, medical staff, law enforcement and HR admins to attend and learn about AA. We had an AA and Alanon speaker briefly share their story and how AA has helped them. Twenty-two professionals attended the event. This luncheon has been a popular event and is held every other year.

District 8 also hosted the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Winter Rap-Up, which was very well attended. I want to thank BR B. and his wife for sharing their stories with us. It was a fun event with speakers, a workshop and lots of fellowship.

I attended WCRAASC in Moorhead, MN and shared my notes on the agenda items with the District at our agenda items meeting. The service conference was very informative and Area 35 did an excellent job hosting.

Our District continues to provide a monthly 'What is AA' 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month and bring a meeting to the detox and treatment center weekly.

District 8 Corrections committee members continue 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 Thistle-dew Correctional Facility in Togo.

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

## District 18- BR B.

Neal is going to be DCM alternate. He will also have my report. Thank you Neal for being the alternate. Our District meeting is the first Tuesday of the month in Long Prairie at 6pm, please feel free to join us. Our table is full. All positions well maintained. There are a lot of events coming up this summer. First is Staples Round Robin on April 20<sup>th</sup>, fellowship starts at 5pm. Motley Camp Out is on July 5<sup>th</sup> through July 7<sup>th</sup>. The Staples Camp Out is on August 16<sup>th</sup> through August 17<sup>th</sup>. More events will be announced when dates are made.

Thank you from all at District 18,  
BR B.  
District 18 DCM

## TREATMENT - Cathy R. Greetings Area 35 from the Treatment Chair

It was a thrill to be "back in the saddle" again. I've missed a number of events in 2019. Although the attendance was small there was a great deal of spirited conversation during this past Spring Assembly.

We were able to hold a meeting of all the attendees who were Treatment Chairs for their Groups. Districts 16,5,8,9 and 21 attended.

District 9 held a "speaking" workshop. The attendees shared their experiences speaking at? Treatment centers, non-alcoholic meetings, etc. It was poorly attended but wonderfully informed.

At our Assembly meeting we discussed topics such as:

- Telling our stories effectively
- Treading lightly in treatment center rules
- Emphasizing the right information

Just a reminder I am still available to come to your District to speak either at your District meetings or workshops.

In service,  
Cathy R.  
Area 35 Treatment Chair

## District 16- Glenn M.

Our March District meeting had the lowest attendance in my rotation. I played the alcoholic blues until I looked at reality. This is not about me. I feel my position is not as much about putting people in the chairs as being sure the chairs are there. Looking further, five of seven were GSR's with their Group reports and other reports had been sent in. All our Groups have GSR's and we've had all our Officers and Committee Chair positions filled and active. At our April District Meeting Wednesday, we were at ten, with seven GSR's. We are working on a District budget.

Even a snowstorm didn't stop the Lawrence Lake's annual Spring Pot Luck Speaker Meeting, March 9<sup>th</sup>, just some attendance. There was a snowstorm predicted (which we sure did get) and those who went had to very carefully drive home. This didn't damper the event or the speakers and as always the food was fantastic.

For Corrections a case of Big Books and 12x12's were purchased for the District's weekly meetings at the city jail and have been dropped off. The jail has some new requirements were working on.

Besides getting our inventory up to date and listed for Groups to buy off, District Co-Chairs in Literature/Grapevine Bruce M. and Dave C. put together a newcomer's packet based on our Area and travel totes for roundups.

Our Treatment Chair Bruce M. has speakers lined up through midyear and working on two different ones. We have two rooms at Regional in March allowing for two GSR's and myself to attend.

I'm glad to be of service,  
Glenn M.  
District 16 DCM

## District 5- Skip D. Good day,

District 5 is alive, and doing what we can to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous in our community. We did stay late at our last District meeting to go over the District inventory (that was held on January 21, 2019) and prioritize the concerns and the activities the Groups are asking for. District 5 has expressed concern about the NOT rescheduling the Area Committee Meeting in February of 2019, which will be brought up in new business for discussion.

District 5 did meet on March 31, 2019 to go through the Agenda Items for the General Service Conference. We had seven people in attendance; it took a little over four hours to go through all the Agenda Items. It was an unexpected pleasure to have Kelly D. (our past Delegate) there to go through the

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Agenda Items with us, thank you Kelly.

We are looking forward to meeting with Districts 6, and 11 for the report back from our Delegate (Christine) from the General Service Conference in New York.

We will be quite busy in the next few months setting up a workshop, and getting ready for the Mille Lacs County Fair, if the Groups decide to do the fair this year.

I would like to thank all the District 5 members for attending the Spring Assembly.

Thank you all for allowing me to serve,  
Skip D.  
District 5 DCM

**ARCHIVIST - Steve D.** Greetings from your Archivist.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Yours in service,  
Steve D.  
Area 35 Archivist

**ARCHIVES - Scott M.** Greetings Area 35,

The Area 35 Archives met Saturday morning of the Spring Assembly. Seven were in attendance. Districts 11, 16, 12 and 7 were in attendance, along with Steve D. Archivist, and myself. Peter T. District 13 suggested using a digital photo frame for displaying some of our Archive material, Jerome K. District stated there Archives Chair had stepped down and that their would be a Founders Day celebration the weekend of June 8<sup>th</sup> in Duluth at the Alano club.

It was decided we would try to hold an Archives workday July 13<sup>th</sup> in Moorhead. We will work out the details at the next ACM.

Yours in service,  
Scott M.  
Area 35 Archives

**District 7 - Bob B.**

- At our January Meeting we set our schedule for the year
- Our District will host booths at Cass, Aitkin, and Crow Wing County fairs.
- March 21<sup>st</sup>, Roger attended our Pot Luck District meeting and we reviewed the agenda "Hot List" items
- June 20th, District 7 will host a pot luck and report from our Delegate
- District 7 participated in the Crow Wing County Jail Transition Fair. We spoke to several inmates that stopped by our AA table. Most of them were looking for information on NA. NA was not represented at this year transition fair. Made me think about how fortunate I was when I need AA. AA was well established. I was able to find AA everywhere in our country. People were there to help me stay sober.
- The District was asked to speak about AA in the Brainerd Lakes Area at Central Lakes College. A date has not been set.
- Out District is reviewing our local AA help line. The local cable company offers a much-improved service vs. the phone company for about \$70.00 less per month. The cable company requires a physical location to house a cable modem for the cable line. I did meet with District 13 PI committee when they discussed their District help line.
- Members of the District have asked the phone line include texting. We do not have a texting solution today. Work continues.

Thank you  
Bob B.  
District 7 DCM

**District 11- Cindy S-K (No Report)**

**CORRECTIONS - Paul M.** Greetings,

We had three Districts represented at our committee meeting, Districts 8, 3 and 13. All Districts represented seem to be meeting all commitments and continue to carry the message into correctional facilities.

I've had another member ask for literature for a correctional facility, I suggested he contact Area 36 Pink Can Coordinator. We had great discussion on bringing a Pink Can Plan to Area 35. We came up with a different solution that will be addressed under New Business later; more will be revealed.

I will be attending the State Wide Corrections Meeting next week.

Any questions or concerns please let me know,

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Paul M.  
Area 35 Corrections Chair

**District 12- Richard G.** Greetings Area 35,

We had a new location for District meeting. It will continue to be the third Thursday at 6:30pm, 1100 E. Superior Street is the location and is fully handicapped accessible also added is GSR training quarterly, ½ hour before District meeting.

Our new version of our District pamphlet is complete and will be distributed soon.

A hospice unit is requesting the start of an AA meeting there and Chris will handle.

A speaker meeting to take place at Teen Challenge and is the 1<sup>st</sup> one of it's kind there.

All action committees are doing well and are reviewing agenda items pertinent to their committee's and will present to District soon in time for Spring Assembly.

We will be hosting a hospitality table at the Spring Assembly with tasty homemade baked goods.

We have five new GSR's that are looking forward to GSR orientation at Spring Assembly.

Yours in service,  
Rich G.  
District 12 DCM

**District 14- Paul E. (No Report)**

**PI - Gayle R.** Hello Everyone, Gayle Alcoholic, serving as your Public Information Chair.

I had the opportunity to attend the WCRAASC in Moorhead. Being on the hosting committee is a lot of work, it's a good thing we had Jim, Kelly, Steve, Christine and others to do all the work. Thank you to all those who read and to those who were timers/gongers.

I have been asked by District 15 to give a short presentation on Public Information - Thank you Pat for the invitation. I look forward to attending District 15's meeting at 8pm on May 6th at Albany Senior Center in Albany, bring your friends.

Yesterday Antonette and I had ten persons attending from Districts 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, and 13. We welcomed Antonette. DCM's have already reported on most of our meeting. District 13 has a new CPC Chair, which is off and running. He has had three Committee meetings in March.

Gene from District 3 received Armed Services letter from Rick W. at GSO. From those he sent out five to Armed Services with AA pamphlets. PSA "Chances" is on Arvis Cable airing in parts of all four zones in Area 35. Along with videos "My World", "Doors" and "I Have Hope" which are also being aired.

Jill, District 5, Secretary, is struggling to fill committee chairs. Supports Mille Lacs County Fair. Looking to have a CPC luncheon. District 5 is reaching out for help.

Coleen, new DCM District 4, reported her PI Chair is focusing on older alcoholics and a PI/CPC luncheon is scheduled for May.

Sharna, District 6, has 5 people running the District. She has no committee chairs- "We do what we can with what we have".

Sally, District 8, past issues with addicts forced to attend treatment center AA meeting. Now trying a presentation of What AA is and showing video "Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous, a 17 minute video. This video covers many things

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including sponsorship and after she has enough time for questions and answers and is asked, "Why can't addicts attend?" This is working well. PI luncheon in March was attended by twenty plus professionals.

Rico, a GSR from Hibbing area, wanted to discuss Hot Topic LinkedIn, consultants cost lots of money but they do not know our traditions.

Our committee did discuss a couple agenda items as a group.

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

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

I had the privilege of attending my 2<sup>nd</sup> WCRAASC. It amazes me the process on which things happen during this event. I left feeling fulfilled and hopeful for Alcoholics Anonymous.. I look forward to attending my first forum in August.

On March 16, 2019 our District along with District 11 held the agenda items discussion at the First Baptist church in Cambridge from 12-3pm. Potluck. We had low attendance, but the food was great!!

The District meetings are still not well attended but I hope to go out and visit more Groups now that the weather has warmed up.

Thank you WCRAASC committee members for your service. It was a great event.

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

**District 1                      Not present**

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

Currently I have ALL of the Grapevine printed material including the 2019 calendars & pocket planners. Since the year is almost half over I would like suggestions about how to price 2019 material. I recently attended the Iron Range Get Together held in Hibbing May 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> & the District 8 business meeting held May 6<sup>th</sup>. I also attended the Spring Assembly held in Duluth on April 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> where I couldn't attend the Committee Meetings because I had to go back home to pick up forgotten items-thought I had time but someone made up speed limits! Took me a half-hour to get out of Duluth & back in, speed limits were made to be broken the rest of the way without problems...lucky me.

No emails received as to the coming & going of the GV/LV yet this year.

Yours in service,  
Jerry B.  
Area 35 Grapevine Chair

**District 2- Daniel W.**

I became the new DCM during the March 3<sup>rd</sup>, District 2 meeting; I agreed to fill the DCM position until the current rotation expires. Since District 2 has been absent in Area participation for some time I want to assure you that alcoholism still thrives in NW Minnesota. But AA meetings are held and the message of hope continues to be brought to the still suffering alcoholic across the District.

The last District 2 meeting was held in Thief River Falls (TRF) March 3<sup>rd</sup>. There were eight people in attendance representing four Groups. The District Treasurer's report show that the District does have a prudent reserve of funds on hand. That shows that Groups are still participating to support District activities.

Business discussed was the upcoming Area Assembly and the West Central Regional Forum this August in Grand Forks, ND.

Also discussed were the different events that used to occur in District 2. The fall Harvest Festival that was held in TRF has not been held since approximately 2003, and the North Star Roundup was last held in 2011 or 2012. There was some discussion that perhaps having round robin meetings throughout District 2 could build unity, interest, and participation between District 2 Groups.

To the best of my calculations there are AA meetings in thirteen towns for a total thirty four meetings. There are meetings held somewhere on every day of the week in District 2.

My goal is to renew interest from local Groups to again start participating in District meetings and events. So far, I have attended five meetings in four towns and have called and visited with Group contacts in two of the other towns. I will continue visiting different Groups as my schedule allows.

So far, there seems to be interest in reviving District 2, but it will take some effort as District 2 has been stagnate for some time. District 2 Groups are small and many of the members have held Group service positions in the

past, so I will be counting on their participation to help members understand how service can strengthen their sobriety.

In service,  
Daniel W.  
District 2 DCM

**District 21- Laura C.**

District 21 currently has twenty-five AA meetings that are active on carrying the message, two of which are new meetings. Financially we are doing great with almost all the Groups contributing we had our clubhouse broken into the end of March with a lot of damage done and several items that were damaged or stolen. They poured pine pitch over desks, computers, and paperwork, broke into the officer and destroyed furniture, and did damage to doors and walls. They stole items out of the supply closet as well. There was a police report filed to Beltrami County Sherriff's Department and pictures were submitted to the Alano Board as well. We had volunteers step up to help clean up. We are hoping to get things back to normal soon. District meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting Monday monthly. We have a new Treasurer for the District but still have a lot of empty chairs at the District level and low participation at District meetings of Group GSR's but are still trying to get things done.

Yours in Service,  
Laura C.  
DCM District 21

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**State Fair Booth for 2019: - Gaye R.**

August 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> are the dates of our weekend at the fair. Asking for two persons, per two hours shifts. Great sponsor sponsie event. The booth opens at 9am and closes at 9pm. And you are responsible for the gate pass.

**ACM Not Rescheduled: Skip D.**

Discussion was as followed by three members of the body:

"I read emails and felt confident that we got a Group conscious, I understand minority opinion but sometimes events can't be rescheduled."

"Other DCM's and an Area Chair that did not get the email."

"I had the same problem with my email, I was only getting replies from the original email, maybe that is something we need to look at."

**Correctional Literature Fund: Paul M.**

Paul M- We are in a need for books in some prisons and jails for the ones that do not purchase books. It feels like I cannot do my job properly when I cannot provide literature to these facilities.

**Motion:** Corrections Chair to receive \$800 in his budget for literature for correctional facilities. Motion was 2nded, motion carried

**Discussion:** Gayle- Do these books goes to the inmates on their journey or do they stay at the prison?

Kristie- When do you give them the AA books?  
Paul M- I do know that I hand them out, they would be sent to the prison or the jail.

Kristie- When they are first getting into prison they are just starting their journey on that route, maybe it should be given to them as they are leaving the prison.

Paul- I have been on both sides, I was really relieved when I was able to get a book and be able to read it.

Rico GSR- Alano Society in Hibbing had a bookshelf, a request was made from our District to donate books to the bookshelf for people to use, I looked into the concept and Bill said AA is not a charity it is up to the sponsor, AA does not partake in this stuff.

Jim Kath- Are we going to fulfill requests that come from actual facilities or by AA members?

**Friendly amendment:** Cathy- when requested by an AA member in Area 35, motion 2nded, and motion carried.

**Motion:** Corrections Chair to receive \$800 in his budget for literature for correctional facilities in Area 35 when requested by an AA member as needed.

Favor- 31, 27 not in favor (Motion Carries)

(Continued from page 18)

Minority Opinion-

Motion to reconsider the original motion: 2nded, and vote on whether we are going to revoke

34 to revoke, we can reconsider the motion

Discussion:

-He has the right of decision

Pat- calls the question

End discussion 36 voted to end, question is called

**Vote: Motion:** Corrections Chair to receive \$800 in his budget for literature for correctional facilities in Area 35 when requested by an AA member as needed.

Voted in favor 20, 33 against (motion failed)

Roger: DCM's bring this back to your Groups and see what they want, can bring fourth at the Fall Assembly. It will be added on the Fall Assembly agenda as Old Business.

**Calendar of Events:**-See the Northern Light and Area 35 website calendar. Email your events to [webmaster@area35.org](mailto:webmaster@area35.org) for posting on the website and [northernlight@area35.org](mailto:northernlight@area35.org) for listing in the Northern Light. There is also an option for a flier to be inserted into the Northern Light. A reminder was made that fliers should include the 5 W's of who, what, when, where, and why; a map is helpful also. Please send the flier in a PDF format that would be helpful, if not that is okay too.

Ask it basket questions, answered by Past Delegates

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

**West Central Region Breakout Session**  
**Intellectual Property in AA:**  
**Is Legal Action Ever A Good Idea**  
**Moderated by Area 35 Northern Minnesota**  
**Moderator- Roger R.**  
**Secretary- Rillis E.**

**1. How do we ensure continuity of our archives in order to protect our intellectual property?**

- Session began with Greg T explaining intellectual property. Intellectual is our published material (our literature), domain name, and trademarks, Intellectual property is an asset and is tangible. Intellectual property shows value in our work and our history, it allows us to publish and own our material.
- The issue of the lost manuscript was discussed. The manuscript was gifted to A.A.W.S. in a letter which was lost for many years in the archives. New processes are in place to prevent this from happening again.

**2. How is the anonymity of AA members protected in legal matters involving AA? Can AA members be asking to testify in court?**

- Greg T. explained that a non-alcoholic, class A trustee, would be asked to testify rather than individual AA members.
- The website alcoholicsanonymous.com was discussed. Other domain names similar to AA.org have been purchased by AAWS but this one got by us. We offered to buy the website back from this organization but they refused. People using this website 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.
- The blue people logo is our registered trademark

**3. Why do we have Intellectual property?**

Intellectual property is considered property or an asset. Intellectual property includes unpublished material in our archives. One person asked if owning Intellectual property sets us up to take legal or punitive action which violates our traditions and concepts. Another person responded that putting a fence around the yard is to define what is mine not meant to start a fight with anyone. It was also stated that a legal action does not need to become a controversy.

**4. What would it take to re-established the circle triangle symbol?**

This is probably not possible. At this point it's ok for groups, districts, area and intergroups to use the circle and triangle symbol but not for AAWS and GSB. The idea of using the symbol without owning the copyright may send mixed messages or be in line with our traditions and concepts. The idea of creating a new symbol was brought up.

In Service  
Rillis E.

**West Central Region Breakout Session**

**Concept 3: Right of Decision: Where Your Decision Meets the Group Conscience**  
**Moderated by Area 63 South Dakota**  
**Moderator- Dave D.**  
**Secretary- Megan B.**

How to be an informed Group Conscience.

**How are people being informed to carry the information – at the Group level to form a Group conscience?**

Information is sharing equilaterally

Area 35 – Stay informed but as a trusted servant for the Group I at times must make a decision

Area 24 - Monthly newsletter – send the information up (directly) – use the resources provide in your Group, District, Area and regional.

Area 52 - Forwarding and education of to information to Group, District, Area and Regional.

Area 35 – Set aside my own belief and allow my Group conscience

Leslie - AA as a whole for the betterment

Area 76 – Follow the chain of command of the upside-down triangle.

Area 35 – Forward on all the information “the reason” and become humble at every District.

Rely on the Service Manual  
Use forms – to allow “all suggestions”

**How far does the right of decision go??**

Leslie PG-13 Service

The Group is my authority. We are trusted servants and act accordingly.

Area 36 – Bill speaks of the balance of the ultimate to no authority. Mutual trust – this is where it lies.

Paul – Varying ideas

Area 36 – No longer able to be in a Group with their right of decision therefore needed to adjust. Move to another Group with what was in line with my own unity and betterment of service.

Area 36 – Inventory

Area 35 – The wisdom of the Group – then handed down – the experience and to trust the trusted servants.

Area 52 – All of our service structure is about accountability to responsible to my Group – being trusting being willing.

Area 63 – We trust you and the Group did not want to know – I learn from you – “Makes me exceptionally slow”- Now I understand

Area 41 Dory – An informed Group – non-approved literature and which again made the trusted servant “Non- Accountable”

**How does Concept 3 tie in with the Traditions?**

Area 63 – All Concepts tie in with the Traditions and Steps 1

Area 36 -Trust – God – each other – Tradition 2. A process that occurs over time. Continuously to be involved therefore you may gain “trust”

Area 40 - Not a thorough understanding the Concept – Therefore I attend the Regional events that keeps me informed I rely on the elders. I realize I am applying the Concepts all the time thought it was always Tradition 2.

**How do we support the Minority Voice?**

Tradition 3 Only requirement for AA membership is the desire to stop drinking – all.

Area 36 - 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> questions – posing questions from “Both sides if the aisle and report that.

Area 35 - Addressing budget, structure and asked for all voices and “honor the minority voice” The intent of a trusted servant is the voice to be heard stay silent humble

Area 36 - Robert's Rule of Order and follow and have on hand. To keep the traditions, Concepts are respected.

Area 40 - At the Group level “stir the pot” to keep the Group alive.

Area 36 - Dark District and active. This is difficult – and the District is a deaf ear – but trying to have every opportunity to share.

Area 52 - Feel fortunate to be in a District that stays consistent. Consistency keeps the meeting safe. An overarching structure.

Area 36 - Chuck R. explanation. Right of decision, listening to the minority voice. Others had a different opinion to share- equilaterally. Safe space within the Group stay encouraging.

**West Central Region Breakout Session**  
**Tradition 6 – Long Form**  
**Moderated by Area 76 Wyoming**  
**Moderator- Diane P.**

Divide Material from the spiritual

AA ought never endorse, finance or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise lest problems of money, property & prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Primary Purpose – to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Endorse –to declare public approval (actual or implied)

**Diane: Instructions made (chairperson)**  
**Sharing session defined**

Long form of 6<sup>th</sup> Tradition read

Carrie: - MTG into homeless shelter – are we affiliating or are we co-operating?

Hugh: MTG card says “in co-operation”

Me (Diane) Two day take down question

Skip – Back to basics – 12 steps in a day, book tells you into action. – are you a treatment center? Are they using the AA name.?

Pearl (Area 36)  
What AA is – What AA is not (white paper)  
AA Guidelines – AA.org  
Concern @ list being posted.

Lorna – Breaking anonymity to make list AA members putting on event- does not get recognized if does not get put on by a Group, District or Area.

Big Book experts – no judgement + condemn nation – it will take care of itself.

Connie implied or not – We have an AA meeting and here is the address. AA is not a treatment center.

Carla Round-up- International Women’s conference 56 years, :What’s in a name” said she had to sign her name… Made her rethink all traditions. Conferences are anonymous – Names Matter. When something is “inc” it throws us all in the mix..

Diane – a lot of Groups won’t announce this because it’s a outside issue. Example Sober Ski Weekend- We don’t endorse people making \$\$’s off of outside events..

Round-Ups- .... Structured AA  
Native Conference Weekends (different)

Laura Women’s sober house in town, AA members are sponsoring women in the house and they hold AA meetings- make clear the difference between where you live and where you serve..

John – They hold meetings at a treatment facility pay rent and they do not.

Carla – Do not sponsor someone in a treatment center because then you become a name in a medical chart. You can give your name and number.

Angie – we bring our program to a treatment center so we can show the individuals what the program looks like. Some treatment centers tell the Goups what they can present – this veers off from the primary purpose – Am I carrying the message or something else- what are my motives??

Carol- her experience is they brought a bridge group into the treatment center they now attend as AA members but not as AA – need to be clear about how that communicates their purpose

Bill- An AA group named, after a treatment center Walmart discount if you’re part if a clubhouse.

Skip – You’re not promoting AA – you’re telling people how AA has changed your life, you are sharing your experience strength and hope.

Curt – GSO doesn’t register groups it lists them state literature funds helps provide/pay for books in the jails and institutions (Clarification)

SDSOS Clubhouse – We don’t have anything to do with AA, we rent.

Nancy – Educate peoples gently  
Clubhouses – new people are asked if they want to be a member – different than AA

Announcements – a lot of other activities go on – fellowship

Sober House Name posting – bring it up at business meetings – Say NO.

Connie – AA at treatment center, worked at center, though she was “doing” AA – no one said what AA is about- What AA is not

“you don’t want to step over the drunk to argue a tradition”

Paul – Can’t have AA speakers speak at NA meetings

Bob – Al-Anon Club- “we support AA” have a go fund me page… Make suggestions over and over again.

John – Circling back to Tradition 6 – clear of dollars – book the time, don’t do medallions – authority – have permission to be there- Singleness of purpose – AA Big Book Study- VERY clear about what AA is and is not.

Mike – I believe in Traditions or Concepts and GOD – Traditions are important they guide the Group. The most important thing is working with another person who suffers. He doesn’t approve, but he has to accept, doesn’t want his frustration to get in the way of helping someone.

40 % of coming into meetings are addicts.

**"The other day, I sent an AA friend on a job interview. He went to the wrong address and he lost the man's name. In another office, he stated his purpose, was offered a job, and came back with one better than the job I sent him to look for."**

"The Mysterious Ways of the Higher Power," Wayne, Pennsylvania, June 1984, AA Grapevine

**West Central Region Breakout Session**  
**Translating the Big Book: From Start to Finish**  
**Moderated by Area 41 Nebraska**  
**Moderator- Erika H.**

Open with Serenity Prayer

**Suggestions:**

1. Language variations or dialects
2. There are some things lost in translation
3. Verbal translation in the moment
4. Box 459: Topic in translation into Thai

\*\* Prior discussion about the basis and specifics of the session. Brief summary about the process of translation the Big book into other languages. \*\*

Discussion:

**1:Language variations or dialects**

- a. Impacts of having the Big Book translated is very emotional for those who finally now have access.
- b. Overwhelming amount of dialects
- c. Create a policy for how to fund and in what situations. What are we willing to translate for?
- d. Individuals translate on their own due to maybe some lack of resources.
- e. We are only at the beginning if being able to reach the worldwide population with the written edition of the Big Book.
- f. Some countries are thriving from one pamphlet. Start small and go big. We make small incremental monetary steps to help with these needs.
- g. Reaching out to get already translated material from international GSO’s.
- h. Verbal dialects can be hard to understand.

**2. There are some things lost in translation**

- a. How so we get multiple perspectives when translating? Making sure words are proper in context.
- b. Sometimes carrying the language is not just technical but also needs to have addition background
- c. Some colloquial words or vocabulary is not existent

**3. Verbal translation in the moment**

- a. Some groups thrive from this.
- b. Maybe not a lot of thought to copyright
- c. This can apply to ASL as sometimes there are variations.

**4. Box 459: Topic in translation into Thai**

- a. We contract or outsource translation services.
- b. There are some in-house exceptions.
- c. 2<sup>nd</sup> Thai translation was to help make understood. The first was written by a diplomat and the word God was non-existent.
- d. Group of people working back and forth for long periods of time before getting papers signed and books published.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 23<sup>rd</sup> : Flier will be included in the January/February Issue
- ◆ March 8<sup>th</sup> : Flier will be included in the March/April Issue
- ◆ May 6<sup>th</sup> : Flier will be included in the May/June Issue
- ◆ July 8<sup>th</sup> : Flier will be included in the July/August Issue
- ◆ September 3<sup>rd</sup> : Flier will be included in the September/October Issue
- ◆ November 4<sup>th</sup> : Flier will be included in the November/December Issue

## OUR PAST DELEGATES

<b><u>Panel 66</u></b>	<b><u>2016-1017</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 36</u></b>	<b><u>1986-1987</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 10</u></b>	<b><u>1960-1961</u></b>
Kelly D.		Louie H.		Bob B. (deceased)	
<b><u>Panel 64</u></b>	<b><u>2014-1015</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 34</u></b>	<b><u>1984-1985</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 8</u></b>	<b><u>1958-1959</u></b>
Michael “Jake” J.		Bob P. (deceased)		Pearl N. (deceased)	
<b><u>Panel 62</u></b>	<b><u>2012-2013</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 32</u></b>	<b><u>1982-1983</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 6</u></b>	<b><u>1956-1957</u></b>
Jim K.		Tom L.		Waldo H. (deceased)	
<b><u>Panel 60</u></b>	<b><u>2010-2011</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 30</u></b>	<b><u>1981-1982</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 4</u></b>	<b><u>1954-1955</u></b>
Jon C.		Don M. (deceased)		Wendell H. (deceased)	
<b><u>Panel 58</u></b>	<b><u>2008-2009</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 28</u></b>	<b><u>1978-1979</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 2</u></b>	<b><u>1952-1953</u></b>
JoAnne N.		Garfield (Duffy) S. (deceased)		Arthur R. (deceased)	
<b><u>Panel 56</u></b>	<b><u>2006-2007</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 26</u></b>	<b><u>1976-1977</u></b>		
Jerry S.		Vern R. (deceased)			
<b><u>Panel 54</u></b>	<b><u>2004-2005</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 24</u></b>	<b><u>1974-1975</u></b>		
Charlie C.		Gordon B. H. (deceased)			
<b><u>Panel 52</u></b>	<b><u>2002-2003</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 22</u></b>	<b><u>1972-1973</u></b>		
Tim C.		Frank P. J. (deceased)			
<b><u>Panel 50</u></b>	<b><u>2000-2001</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 20</u></b>	<b><u>1970-1971</u></b>		
Tom A.		Clarence B. (deceased)			
<b><u>Panel 48</u></b>	<b><u>1998-1999</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 18</u></b>	<b><u>1968-1969</u></b>		
Susie A.		Dave H. (deceased)			
<b><u>Panel 46</u></b>	<b><u>1996-1997</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 16</u></b>	<b><u>1966-1967</u></b>		
Bill P. (deceased)		Arno A. (deceased)			
<b><u>Panel 44</u></b>	<b><u>1994-1995</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 14</u></b>	<b><u>1964-1965</u></b>		
Bruce B.		Donald F. (deceased)			
<b><u>Panel 42</u></b>	<b><u>1992-1993</u></b>	<b><u>Panel 12</u></b>	<b><u>1962-1963</u></b>		
Greg G. (deceased)		Donna T. (deceased)			
<b><u>Panel 40</u></b>	<b><u>1990-1991</u></b>				
Bob J.					
<b><u>Panel 38</u></b>	<b><u>1988-1989</u></b>				
Scott J.					

Q: Why list our past Delegates?

A: They are a resource to you!

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

## The Delegate's Duties

Though the high point is the Conference meeting, the delegate's job goes on year-round and involves all aspects of the Conference structure. The delegate should:

- Though the high point is the Conference meeting, the delegate's job goes on year-round and involves all aspects of the Conference structure. The delegate should:
- Attend the Conference meeting in April, fully prepared. Immediately upon election, every delegate is put on the G.S.O. mailing list to receive Conference materials.
  - Communicate the actions of the Conference to area committee members and encourage them to pass on this information, and the delegate's enthusiasm, to groups and to intergroups/central offices. If an area is too large for the delegate to cover in person, he or she will ask area officers and committee members to share the load.
  - Be prepared to attend all area, state/provincial, and regional service meetings and assemblies. From these meetings, delegates come to better understand their own areas and can make suggestions for the Conference agenda. Here, too, they come in contact with A.A. members who might not be reached otherwise.
  - Help area committees obtain financial support for the area and G.S.O.
  - Provide leadership in solving local problems involving the A.A. Traditions.
  - Remind G.S.R.s to inform groups and individuals about the A.A. Grapevine and Conference-approved literature.
  - Cooperate with G.S.O. in obtaining information—for example, making sure that up-to-date information reaches G.S.O. in time to meet the deadline for each Issue of the A.A. directory and helping carry out the triennial membership surveys.
  - Visit groups and districts in the area whenever possible.
  - Work closely with committee members and officers, sharing experience throughout the year. After G.S.R.s and committee members have reported on the Conference, learn from these A.A.s how groups and members have reacted.
  - Assume added responsibility if the area chair and alternate chair are unable to serve. Or, if an area committee is not functioning effectively, the delegate may take an active role in remedying the situation.
  - Keep the alternate delegate fully informed and active, so that the alternate can replace the delegate in an emergency.
  - Late in the second term, work with newly elected delegates to pass along a basic knowledge of Conference proceedings and problems.

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

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

**Area 35 Committee Meeting Agenda  
Aitkin, MN  
June 2, 2019**

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

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Delegate – Christine G.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Delegate Report on GSC  
\_\_\_\_\_ 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 – Colleen S.  
\_\_\_\_\_ District 8 – Heidi B.  
\_\_\_\_\_ District 18 –William BR B.  
\_\_\_\_\_ TREATMENT – Cathy Ramberg  
\_\_\_\_\_ District 16 – Glenn Miller  
\_\_\_\_\_ District 5– Skip Deutchman

\_\_\_\_\_ 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 – Daniel W.  
\_\_\_\_\_ District 21 –

**12:00 P.M.** Lunch

**12:45 P.M.** Reconvene

**OLD BUSINESS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**NEW BUSINESS:**

\_\_\_\_\_ FOC Report  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Delegate Nominations  
\_\_\_\_\_ Calendar of Events  
\_\_\_\_\_ Adjourn

**Mail Area 35 Group contributions to: NMAA  
P.O. Box 114  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744**