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**November 4, 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!

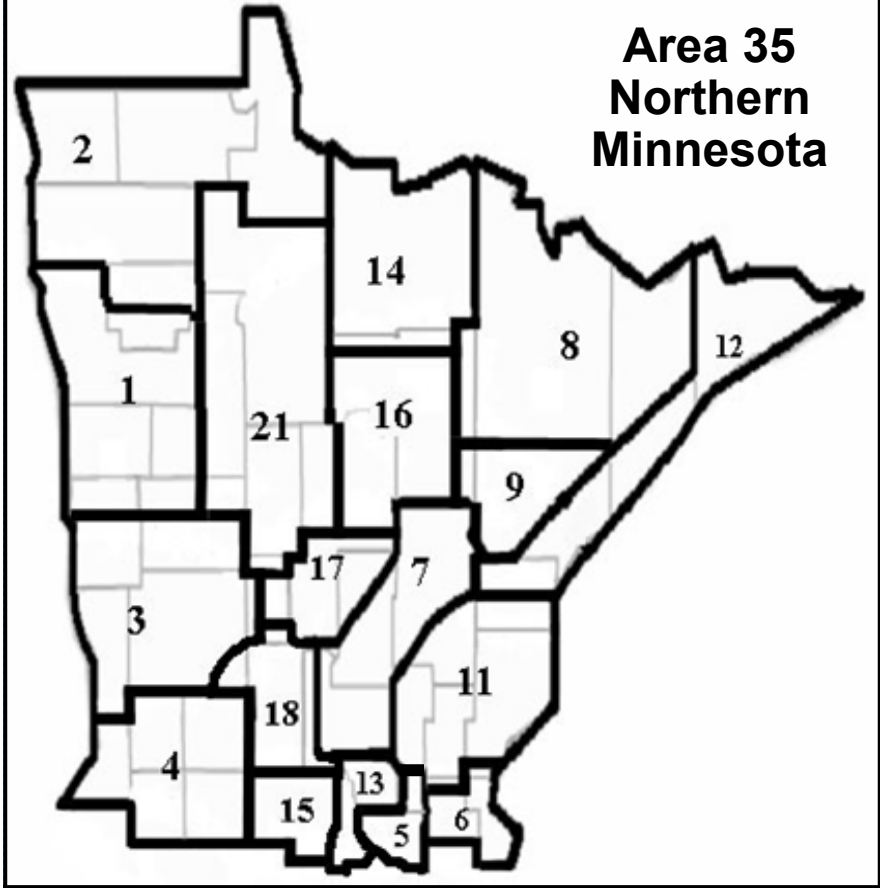
Don't forget to visit and bookmark your Area 35 web site! - <http://area35.org>  
Event Calendar - Meeting Directory - NL Online - Download Pamphlets - District Pages - Links to Other Sites

## 2018-19 AREA 35 COMMITTEE

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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,
- District 9** - Chisholm, Floodwood, Goodland, Hibbing, Keewatin, Kelly Lake, Nashwauk\*, Zim\*
- 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



**Delegate:**

Greetings Area 35,

I hope that everyone had a fantastic summer. I can't believe that the next report I will be giving will be at the Fall Assembly and you will be voting for your new Area 35 Delegate and new Officers. It has been a privilege to serve you and I am willing to come to your Districts if there is anything you need.

Since my last report, I have finished up all my scheduled post-conference reports and I am now recovering. I also attended the WCR Forum that was held in Grand Forks, ND and presented on the topic, "What defines and Editorial Change an A Content Change." If you did not attend the forum you will get to hear this presentation at the Fall Assembly.

The forum was a great experience that only happens every other year. It rotates throughout the Areas of West Central Region so it was a wonderful opportunity to have it close to Area 35. The highlight of the forum, for me, was to see so many first-time attendees from our Area attend. It was also fun to see them meeting our guests and having meals with them. I have heard this was a highlight for all that participated.

I also attended the State Fair and volunteered at the AA booth. It was a great experience to be available for people who have family members struggling with our disease and for people who are interested in learning more about us. If you ever have an opportunity to serve in this capacity, it is a great way to do Step Twelve.

Please let Roger, Area 35 Chair, know if your District has any General Service Conference items you would like discussed and voted on to forward for review for the conference agenda list.

This will be a short report this time and I look forward to seeing you all at the Fall Assembly in October.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

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

**Alt. Delegate:**

Good Morning Everyone,

I hope you all have enjoyed your summer, what there was of it. I thoroughly enjoyed the Regional Forum this past August. I hope those that were able to make it felt the same was I do. I had a very pleasant conversation with our guest at this years' service conference, Cate W.. After our chat, I am very excited to hear your experience as Regional Trustee and her story as well. I wanted to give Christine a big thumbs up for her full forum presentation. It was very well done. I would also like to thank Christine for giving me the opportunity to host the Friday evening meal with Michele G.. For a normal person she was pretty fun to chat with, (this is meant humorously). We had nine people at the dinner and several people whom this was their first Forum.

I will have fliers ready for the service workshop at the Fall Assembly so I hope to see you all there. I will be talking with the DCM's from 2, 4, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 about presenting at the workshop. If you are DCM from any one of those Districts and have questions about what you need to do please contact me so we can discuss them. I will have topics ready for you at the Assembly. Typically, your presentation should be a total of forty minutes. Twenty to twenty-five minutes of presentation and then time for discussion. This is a service workshop and presentations should be created out of service information. It is also highly suggested that the presenters spend some time getting acquainted with the information they are talking on. We have had some ad lib presentations in the past and while they have merit, this isn't what we are looking for.

In Service  
Jim S.  
Alt Delegate

**Area Chair:**

Greetings Area 35,

I continue to be grateful for this awesome opportunity to serve Area 35 as your Chair. Area 35 provides us with many excellent opportunities to be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous.

My working on locations for Area 35 Assemblies in 2020 continues. I'm have reached an agreement with the Hibbing Park Hotel and am reviewing and having a few issues with a contract with the new Park Events Center in Waite Park MN for 2020 assemblies.

Roy E. who is Chairperson of Area 36 and I have set the date of November 16<sup>th</sup> for the annual Area 35/36 Joint Workshop. This workshop will again be in St. Cloud at Bethlehem Lutheran Church from 12-4 pm. St. Cloud is a

central location for this statewide workshop. Please grab a lunch prior to arriving at the Church so we can start the workshop at 12pm. Next step is to nail down the agenda for this workshop. If you have any suggestion feel free to contact me.

If you are interested in the open Area 35 Archivist position please let me know. This is typically a longer-term position for someone who has a strong interest in working on our archive's repository.

I attended the West Central Regional Forum on August 16-18, 2019 in Grand Forks, ND. I am grateful for the opportunity to attend and represent Area 35 at the forum. This forum was excellent in connecting attendees to AA on a national and global level. I attended all AA Board presentations, GSO presentations, Delegate Presentations, workshops and Past Trustee presentations. This forum stimulated attendees to engage in important and life saving general service work on Individual, Group, District, Area, Regional, National and International levels. Thank you to Area 35 for sponsoring me to attend the West Central Regional Forum.

I have completed the agenda for Area 35 Fall Assembly, which can be found in this Northern Light edition. I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Area 35 Fall Assembly October 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. At the Bemidji Hampton Inn. The following business items are on the agenda for the Fall Assembly.

- ♦ Discussion on Area 35's role in providing literature for corrections institutions.
- ♦ Proposal for all important Area 35 decisions to be made by a substantial unanimity vote.
- ♦ Does Area 35 support a General Service Conference Agenda Item passed in Area 36 to ask AA Grapevine Inc. to reprint the *Best of the Grapevines Volumes 1,2 and 3?*

The Fall Assembly is an election assembly in which we will be voting for 2020-2021 Area Officers (Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chair, Secretary and Treasurer).

The service résumés of members who received a District nomination for Area 35 Delegate were published in the July Northern Light. Copies of the service résumés of Steve L., Jim S. and Roger R. (myself) will be available at the Assembly.

We will also be voting on an Area 35 Past Delegate nominee for West Central AA Regional Trustee.

It would be great if we all could bring someone who is new to general service to this assembly!

In service and warmth,  
Roger R.  
Area 35 Chair

**Secretary:**

Greetings Area 35

First I want to apologize for not being able to attend the last ACM. Unfortunately, my son had a very bad asthma attack early morning and had to be brought to the Emergency Room. I appreciate the well wishes that I received from everyone, it meant a lot.

Another situation that occurred was that the ACM meeting was not recorded in which I was unable to listen to any of the reports given. Roger informed me that he had requested that all reports that were given at the ACM should be either mailed to my home or emailed to me by August 19, 2019. Roger was kind enough to take some notes for me to help with the minutes for the Northern Light. Thank you Roger and thank you to everyone who sent me their reports.

I was able to attend the West Central Regional Forum, which was an amazing experience.

I had the privilege of being Day Captain at the Minnesota State Fair on August 24, 2019, which was an amazing experience. Thank you Gayle for allowing me to be of service at the public level. I also want to thank everyone from Area 35 that was willing and able to serve at the State Fair Booth.

I will be attending the Fall Assembly coming up in which the flyer for that can be found on the website thanks to Rills our Webmaster.

I am starting the process of updating any corrections made to the Area Actions Booklet. I appreciate those who have sent me the corrections that they would like added.

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

**"I can recall that even as a small child I had allergic reactions to certain forms of reality."**

"Distilled Spirits," Williamstown, West Virginia, December 1997, AA Grapevine

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Treasurer:

Since my last Northern Light treasurer’s report in early July, I have:

- Reconciled two monthly bank statements and prepared reports for review by the Financial Oversight Committee
- Deposited all contributions received as of September 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Paid all invoices and expenses received as of September 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Completed a balance sheet and an income/expense/contribution statement for Period 4 of 2019 (June/July)

Below are our year-over-year comparisons of account balances and income, contributions, and expenses:

Account Balances on September 3rd -- Comparison 2019 vs. 2018				
	Sept 3, 2019	Sept 3, 2018	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Checking/Savings				
Area 35 Checking Account	\$ 15,067.49	\$ 16,619.62	\$(1,552.13)	-9%
Savings - Prudent Reserve	6,047.93	6,046.12	1.81	0%
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 21,115.42	\$ 22,665.74	\$(1,550.32)	-7%

Income/Expenses/Contributions -- Year-to-Date Comparison 2019 vs. 2018				
	Jan 1 - Sept 3, 2019	Jan 1 - Sept 3, 2018	\$ Change	% Change
Group Contributions	\$ 19,838.99	\$ 21,156.69	\$(1,317.70)	-6%
Birthday Contributions	64.00	85.00	(21.00)	-25%
Special Contributions	-	1,124.54	(1,124.54)	-100%
Miscellaneous Area Income	2,499.80	2,380.52	119.28	5%
Total Income	22,402.79	24,746.75	(2,343.96)	-9%
Miscellaneous Expense	3,809.11	6,545.50	(2,736.39)	-42%
Officers/Chairs Expense	22,840.65	20,526.60	2,314.05	11%
Total Expenses	26,649.76	27,072.10	(422.34)	-2%
Income After Expenses	\$ (4,246.97)	\$ (2,325.35)	\$(1,921.62)	-83%

**Income After Expenses:** In early May, our expenses exceeded income by \$8,125. Now expenses exceed income by only \$4,243. Over the past two months, our income has been essentially equivalent to our expenses.

We’ve paid all expenses to date, including those from our attendance at the West Central Regional Forum. The principal expenses for the remainder of the calendar year will be for the fall assembly and the Area 35/Area 36 joint workshop. I would expect that contributions will far exceed expenses for the remainder of the year.

**Bank Account Balances:** as of September 3<sup>rd</sup>, our checking and savings accounts have a combined balance of **\$21,115**, which is \$1,550 (7%) less than on this date last year. We are solvent and we have a prudent reserve.

**Group Contributions:** as of September 3<sup>rd</sup>, our year-to-date group contributions are **\$19,839**, which is \$1,318 (6%) less than on this date last year. If our group contributions were to continue to come in at the same rate as they have thus far, we can expect to receive approximately **\$29,800** for the year. That would be only slightly less than in 2018 (\$30,566), but a lot more than in 2017 (\$24,961). Thank you for your continued support!

**Special Contributions:** these are contributions made to the Area by various roundups. None have been received yet 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 **\$2,500** thus far, about \$119 more than on this date 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 miscellaneous expenses thus far are **\$3,809**, which is 42% less than on this date last year.

**Officer/Chairs Expense:** this includes all expenses submitted for reimbursement by officers and action chairs for meals, travel, lodging, supplies, printing, postage, and audio equipment. These expenses thus far are **\$22,841**, which is 11% more than on this date last year. Please note that year-to-date we are still \$8,500 below budget. Also, we recently incurred \$3,106 in costs for the regional forum, an event that is only held every other year, which would account for the increase in expenses.

**To summarize our current financial position** (compared to September 3, 2018), our bank account balances are down 7%, our group contributions are down 6%, overall income is down 9%, and expenses are down 2%.

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,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Area 35 for sending me to the Regional Forum in Grand Forks this past August. I rode out there with Steve and Mike, enjoying their company as we drove along. It is one of those things that makes serving AA so enjoyable, getting to know the people along the way.

The thing I like the most about forums is that there a good opportunity to connect with the General Service Office. It was nice to be able to put names and faces to the people doing the work out in New York. The presentations were outstanding and helped me to a better clarity of the work going on in New York. I attended a few breakout sessions, Safety in AA and an Archives presentation put on by Area 36 Archivist, CJ.

It was good seeing all the first time attendees too, I really enjoyed what they had to share during their portion of the sharing session.

On another note, I’ve spoken with Roger concerning my availability for service the remainder of the rotation. As a result of a change in positions at my place of employment, I won’t be able to attend the Fall Assembly and it’s iffy that I’ll make the December ACM. I will do what I can to ensure that things are taken care of on my end as far as having someone to Chair the Archives committee meeting.

Yours in Service,  
Scott M.  
Area 35 Archives Chair



Archivist:      Resigned (No report)

Looking for a Person to replace Steve D.

Cooperation with the Professional Community:

My name is Antonette and I am an alcoholic.

Greetings from Northern Minnesota where summer eventually gets here. Sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly..... I do not have much to report on events I have attended since there are none. I do plan on attending the Forum in August. I love each and every opportunity to participate in Alcoholics Anonymous. I need to be willing to serve. I encourage everyone to experience service work you will not be disappointed!

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Yours in Service,  
Antonette F.  
Area 35 CPC Chair

(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)

## Corrections:

Greetings from your Corrections Chair,

First of all I'd like to thank Butch R. for chairing the August meeting. He said there were four people in attendance... I would like to thank all committee members for the last two years of service. It's been a good run!

I would hope to get financial support from the Area for the next rotation either by some kind of pink can plan or some kind of money set aside for Corrections... it's very hard for a Corrections chair to do their job without any money for books... Thank you.

Yours in service,  
Paul M.  
Area 35 Corrections Chair

## Grapevine: (No Report)

## Group Records:

Greetings, Area 35.

The switchover to the new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) has occurred for the most part. The group records switchover process is still underway and we are continuing to use the old Fellowship New Vision (FNV) system until the new system is completely ready. I can still make some changes, others I cannot. Hopefully we will be all switched over to the new system soon.

I attended the West Central Regional Forum in Grand Forks in August. I really enjoyed it. I and others had breakfast with a Class A (non-alcoholic) Trustee, and lunch with the Public Information staff person. It was great to meet some of the people who work for us at GSO. There was a lot of discussion about technology and how AA should or shouldn't use it when carrying the message. Two subjects that came up were YouTube and Google Grants/AdWords. Should we or should we not accept Google Grants, etc. We will be discussing this more at the Fall Assembly.

The monthly update to aaminnesota.org has been completed. Please let me know if any information is incorrect. New group forms and Group information change forms can be downloaded from area35.org.

See you at the Assembly in Bemidji.

In service,  
Sally L.  
Area 35 Group Records Secretary

## Literature:

I attended the WCR Forum held in Grand Forks, ND this year.

The GSO put on some great presentations and good information was shared. I distributed a lot of literature and books at the meeting.

I want to remind people of the new book being offered "Our Great Responsibility" This book is a collection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference talks. It sells for \$10.00. Please email me at literature@area35.org with your orders.

Yours in Service  
Brian P.  
Area 35 Literature Chair

## Northern Light:

Well, lots of exciting things have been happening this past month. First the West Central Regional Forum (WCRF) in Grand Forks, ND then the Minnesota Great Get-together.

I was lucky enough to be part of our Area's rotating delegation to staff the AA booth at the MN State Fair. I was partnered up with Dana J. from District 8 for a two-hour shift Saturday from 1pm to 3pm. In that time span we had about nine to a dozen people come to the booth and talk. Most were AA members thanking us for being there and they ranged from five months to twenty years sobriety. There were a couple of Al-Anons who stopped in too. We also had a person looking for information for a client she had and she took some pamphlets on AA and Medications. We gave out a few meeting locator cards and Twin City Intergroup cards. At the end of my shift, I asked the people at the booth next to us which were giving out rulers and taking fingerprints and putting them on a buttons, if I could have a ruler so I could see how long I had been there. ☺

Thank you for sending me to this year's West Central Regional Forum. It was a delight and very informative. It started with a pleasant drive with beautiful weather, great company and enjoyable conversation. Between Crookston and Grand Forks we hit a bug storm. It sounded like hail hitting the front of the truck and when we arrived around 9ish, the front of the vehicle was just covered in two layers of bug guts.

Saturday morning I was lucky enough to have breakfast with Christine C. (Class A Trustee) she is a retired judge from Missouri. During the course of conversation, the talk turned to getting literature into prisons and jails. The one thing that stood out and quite shocking was how Federal prisons are switching to E-books. Christine went on to explain that it is cheaper for

prisons to use E-books than to inspect books coming into the prison. She stated that many of the Federal Prisons are now using a private vender to handle many of the services that prison staff used to handle. Christine went on to explain how AAWS is trying to have the Big Book app a default app when prisoners receive their E-book. That way prisoners won't have to purchase the app later, which can be a difficult task to do. There will be some expense to AAWS to have this installed as default app., negotiations are ongoing.

Area 35 can feel proud of Christine. She did a great job in preparation and presenting her topic "What defines an editorial change and content change?" at the WCRF. There was a lot of discussion on the topic.

For lunch on Saturday, I was fortunate to have lunch with Racy J. G.S.O. Staff Public Information Coordinator. There was discussion about Public Service Announcements (PSA's) and YouTube videos, but what caught my attention was something Racy said in regards to our Tradition of not having an opinion on outside issues. Racy stated that she gets phone calls all the time from prominent papers and news sources to comment on a different alcohol and treatment related issues. When she states that AA has no opinion on outside issues, how that in itself is news and reinforces how we let others promote us. Another interesting tidbit from Racy was that if movies and TV shows use AA literature (pamphlets, books or Step/Tradition window shade display etc.) in their shots, they then have to have AA approval of the script for just that small segment of their script, because of copyright laws. If their movie or TV show doesn't show any AA literature they can show AA in any light they want.

I ran into Roy E., Area 36 Chair, and we talked about the Grapevine conference agenda submission from Area 36, to reprint the *Best of the Grapevine* volumes one, two and three. I told him Area 35 is preparing to vote on whether to send in an agenda submission to back up Area 36's proposal. Roy said he would send me all his background information on their proposal. Then as luck would have it, both Roy and I ended up talking with Albin Z., the Grapevine Publisher. We asked Albin if it would be difficult to republish the three volumes of the *Best of the Grapevine*. His answer surprised us, he said it shouldn't be very hard to do a limited reprint of the three books. He stated that it might be 50 cents to a dollar more than a full printing to do the reissue. He said that the plates for publication are already made and that with a new cover and/or as a three set bundle it just might be feasible. We were both in high spirits that it might not be a big lift to get this done.

I attended two workshops Saturday night, one was on Young People in AA and the other was, Are we inclusive to all in AA?

I left the Young Peoples workshop somewhat confused. Were young people feeling left out of AA as a whole? Was it the people that put on Young People In AA (YPIAA) events that think they do not belong to AA? Is it that young people that go to YPIAA events do not feel a part of AA? Do young people feel left out because they think us "old" fuddy-duddies don't like to chant and prefer more structure in AA Meetings? These were questions I had that really were not answered it the workshop. Someone read a letter Bill wrote back to someone about having concerns about hippies joining AA. Look it up, it's a good read. Still spot on as to what should be done. Nothing!

In the workshop, "Are we Inclusive in AA", discussion ranged from how one white suburban group became more racially diversified and that they felt the group was better for it. There was discussion on people with disabilities. One person mentioned how there was a member of their group that was wheelchair bound and couldn't reach the doorbell to enter through the handicapped door because it was too high. The group was able to get the doorbell lowered. There was discussion on not enough sign meetings for the hearing impaired. How to get affordable signers at meetings. Should groups pass a second basket to pay for signers expenses? What was interesting, was that the meeting was chaired and the secretary and mic proctor were all hearing impaired members.

The night was capped off with a GV subscription drawing for first time attendees that lasted a good half hour. They just kept calling names and gave away about fifty subscriptions. Then it was time for the Ice cream social where the GSO staff and Trustees served up the ice cream. There was about 350 people present at the WCRF and what was remarkable was that half were first time attendees.

Thanks for reading.

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

## Public Information:

Greetings Area 35,

I was unable to attend the West Central Regional Forum in August. I really would like to thank Area 35 for following through with our commitment with the State Fair. Melissa did a wonderful job making sure Saturday was covered. Sharna from District 6 did a fantastic job with Sunday. THANK YOU to Melissa and Sharna along with everyone who was there for Area 35 at the State Fair. I am looking forward to the Fall Assembly and the elections for the next rotation.

Thank you for allowing me to serve ... .

Gayle R.  
Area 35  
Public Information Chair

(Continued on page 7)



(Continued from page 6)

**Treatment:**

As we are coming into election time, at the Area 35 level, it has caused me to ponder what makes a good candidate. I recently read the AA service manual. It is serious reading. One of the items that Bill W. discussed is Leadership. He described a “politico” as a person who wants to make everyone happy. He talked about Leadership as a very important characteristic of members. Christine has set an excellent example of a good leader.

We have three fine folks running for Delegate this coming Fall for the 2020 rotation. As we consider each person, I believe that we must put aside District prejudices and review the kind of leader we want. A good Delegate represents our entire area. That’s a key point. I am urging all of you to take some time and consider who you are voting for and what they stand for.

Regards,  
Cathy R.  
Area 35 Treatment Chair

**Webmaster:**

Greetings Area 35.

Since the August Area Committee Meeting I have attended the West Central Regional Forum in Grand Forks, ND. It was great hearing about the work done by the staff at the General Service Office and their thoughts on certain issues.

I have put flyers on the Area Calendar for Workshops, Round Robins, and Round-Ups. The 2020 WCRAASC information and the Fall Assembly Agenda were also placed on the Area Calendar. When choosing a date for District or meeting/group event, please check the Area Calendar to see that it is not scheduled on the same date as an Area event. If District and meeting/group events are scheduled on different dates more people will be able to attend each event.

I renewed the domain registration AAmnnesota.org, the cost was \$58.23 for two years.

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

**“A friend of mine told me about going to see the Statue of Liberty on a field trip with his grammar school class. He said that as they walked up the long spiral staircase, they all held hands in a line. He couldn't see the person at the beginning or the end of the line but he felt safe. He knew he was connected to the rest of his schoolmates. That's the way it is in AA. We can't see the people at the beginning of the line or the end of the line. But we know they're there -- and we know we're safe.”**

“Distilled Spirits,” Tujunga, California,  
December 1997, AA Grapevine

## Meeting Guide 3.0

Dear Friends,

We’re happy to announce that Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., is releasing Meeting Guide 3.0.

Meeting Guide is a mobile app focused on helping people find A.A. meetings and resources near them. The app has been updated to include some new features we’re pleased to announce:

- Search -- Users will now be able to search for meetings by name or location
- *Daily Reflections* -- a selection of reflections by and for A.A. members

There are also enhancements we’ve made to existing features:

- More accurate locations for access to local contact information
- Improved user interface -- with a new menu bar and Contact feature.

Meeting Guide is available for iOS and Android smartphones. You can download it for free on the App Store or on Google Play.

Yours in Fellowship,

*Gregory J.*



## “For it is in Giving that we Receive”

*Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. (Tradition Seven of the 12 Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous)*

As we mature in our sobriety, we begin to see that not only do the 12 Traditions apply to the group to which I belong, but they also apply to me individually. Tradition Seven reminds me about taking responsibility for my actions and contributions.

When I first came into the rooms of A.A. 41 years ago, it was common place to put a dollar in the basket. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics consumer price index, today's prices in 2019 are 292.86% higher than average prices throughout 1978. In other words, \$1 in 1978 is equivalent in purchasing power to about \$3.93 in 2019. Thus, if I want to contribute my fair share to the group, I ought to be putting \$4-\$5 in the basket weekly. It doesn’t make sense (or cents) that the longer I stay sober the less money I put into the basket. On the contrary, it makes perfect sense (or cents) that the longer I stay sober the more money I put into the basket.

So, where do I get this philosophy that the longer, I stay sober, the more I’m expected to give? I have three primary sources for this concept. The first comes from page 85 in the book Alcoholics Anonymous which says, **“What we really have is a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition.”**

A while back I was getting my car repaired. While waiting for the repairs to finish, my eyes fell upon a sign in the repair shop. The sign was so revelatory, I decided to take a picture of it. The sign showed that the more miles that were on a car, the more money it would take for the maintenance of that car. It occurred to me that this is also true of my sobriety. The longer I stay sober, the more that is required of me in the daily maintenance of my spiritual condition.



The second source for this philosophy comes from the same page in the book

Alcoholics Anonymous (page 85) which states, **“It is easy to let up on the spiritual program of action and rest on our laurels. We are headed for trouble if we do, for alcohol is a subtle foe.”** For me, resting on my laurels sounds like this... “Someone else will do it”. “It doesn’t matter if I miss a few weeks of meetings”. “Somebody will make up the shortfall in the Group’s budget this month”.

The last source for this philosophy comes from a book outside of A.A. conference approved literature, but it is a source that was used quite frequently by the Oxford Groups, the forerunner of A.A. This source states, "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required..." - Luke 12:48.

This quote reminds me that I have been blessed by sobriety. Moreover, an obligation that I incur from that blessing is to share my bounty with others.

JD - Big Lake, MN

**"Isn't a donation of my time and services just as important as my donation of cash? What if my home group had money for coffee, rent, and literature, but no one to open the meeting room and make the coffee?"**

"AA Needs More Than Just Money," Manassas, Virginia,  
July 1992, AA Grapevine



**“If I was getting paid for this, I'd quit!”**

**UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35**

\*See [area35.org](http://area35.org) for printable flyers

**Service Events**

- October:**     **5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> : Area 35 Fall Assembly \***  
Hampton Inn & Suites Bemidji  
1019 Paul Bunyan Drive South  
Bemidji, MN
- November:**   **16<sup>th</sup> : Areas 35-36 Joint Workshop \***  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church ELCA,  
4310 Co Rd 137,  
St Cloud, MN
- December:**   **1<sup>st</sup> : Area 35 Committee Meeting \***  
Alano Club 9:00 am –2 pm  
322 1st Ave. NE  
Aitkin, MN

**2020**

- January:**     **25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>: Area 35 Workshop**  
Timberlake Lodge  
144 SE 17th St  
Grand Rapids. MN
- February:**    **28<sup>st</sup> - March 1<sup>st</sup> : WCRAASC**  
Billings Sports Plex  
5000 Southgate Dr.,  
Billings, MT

**Fellowship Events**

- September:**   **28<sup>th</sup>: Open Speaker Meeting and Potluck \***  
Christ Our Light Catholic Parish  
North, 804 7th Ave S.  
Princeton, MN
- October:**      **5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> : 74<sup>th</sup> Duluth Round-Up**  
First United Methodist Church  
230 E Skyline Pkwy  
Duluth, MN
- October:**      **6<sup>th</sup>: Round Robin**  
Little Falls Alano Club  
600 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Little Falls, MN
- October:**      **25<sup>th</sup>– 26<sup>th</sup>: 37th Annual St. Cloud Roundup \***  
The Park Event Center  
500 Division St.  
Waite Park, 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

## Founder's Day Weekend 2019

November 29, 30 & December 1, 2019

Celebrating 79 Years of AA in the Upper Midwest  
and Honoring AA Members With One Year of Sobriety!

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

### Friday, November 29

4:00 PM Registration Opens  
7:00 PM \*History of AA in the Upper Midwest  
9:00 PM \*AA Speaker:  
Beth H. (Cary, NC)

### Saturday, November 30

10:30 AM \*Panel of Weekend Speakers  
1:00 PM AA Open Call-Up Meeting  
1:00 PM Al-Anon Open Meeting  
3:00 PM \*Al-Anon Speaker:  
Kathy H. (Cincinnati, OH)  
6:00 PM Banquet  
7:30 PM \*AA Speaker:  
Don L. (Bellingham, WA)  
9:00 PM Dance

### Sunday, December 1

9:00 AM Breakfast  
10:00 AM \*AA Speaker:  
Sharon C. (Los Angeles, CA)

\*These meetings are ASL Interpreted



Pre-Registration \$20.00

At the Door \$25.00

Registration required and must be paid to attend Founder's Day Weekend events.

Banquet (Limited Seating) \$40.00

The Banquet begins at 6:00 PM Saturday evening.

Breakfast \$20.00

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

### Archive Room

Friday  
Saturday  
Sunday until 10:00 AM

Founder's Day Weekend Dance

Saturday 9:00 PM

### Activities and Accommodations at

DoubleTree Bloomington - Minneapolis South - Bloomington, MN

7800 Normandale Blvd, Bloomington, MN 55439 • 952.835.7800 or 800.222.8733

Special Room Rates are available with early reservations.

Please make reservations directly with the DoubleTree Bloomington Hotel.

Indicate they are for Founder's Day Weekend.

## 4TH STEP WORKSHOP

\*6 Mondays beginning:

Oct 7<sup>th</sup> through Nov 11<sup>th</sup>

\*7:00PM – 8:00PM

770 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE

St Cloud, MN 56304



\*For registration please call:

Mike R. (320) 292-1867 or June (320) 252-2481

Supported by Tuesday early evening group

## 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 5th

9:00 AM Registration

10:00 AM Assembly Convenes

Sunday, October 6th

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.



## Little Falls AA

## Round Robin

At: Alano Club 600 5<sup>th</sup> St., NW—Little Falls, Mn. (320)632-1875

Please join us on...

October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019

2:00 Fellowship...Family Games and Music

3:00 Potluck



4:00 Alanon Speaker: Kathy B., Long Prairie

5:00 AA Speaker: Bonnie H., Little Falls

Please join us for a Family Day of fun and fellowship!!!

BLAST FROM the PAST

In this edition of Blast From the Past is from  
Volume VII Issue 3 May/June. 1989

Is It Payback Time ???

Holding a service position is one way we can pay the debt we owe to AA. Often time the opportunity to serve presents itself as the experience we never expected. Sponsorship is one kind of service. Attraction is another. Sending articles to this newsletter could be still another

Where do we find those who are qualified to serve? When is the right time in an individual's recovery for service to begin? How many new people are willing to start service in a seemingly unrewarding position?

Let's all talk to our Higher Power about giving us an answer if you are considering active service in any way.

Look wherever you will and AA is growing; meetings are popping up all over. As a part of this growth, AA is bringing in many qualified people who would be willing to serve with just a little persuasion.

Many very qualified people are now serving in the Area 35 Assembly. Let's keep the Third Legacy of AA at pace with the needs in our Area to carry the message to the still suffering, alcoholic. Say YES when asked.

There are many eligible and qualified persons (most of us don't agree with the our being qualified part) who want to be asked to serve. Perhaps You know someone, or are one of those people yourself. If so, let your DCM know you would be interested in RETURNING SOMETHING TO AA.

Greg G.

Area 35 Guidelines

for flyers to be posted on the website or in the Northern Light

A good flyer should answer the following questions:

- Who is involved or sponsoring the event? Examples:
  - AA Group
  - District
  - Area
- What type of event is it? Examples:
  - An open or closed meeting
  - Speaker meeting
  - Call up meeting
  - Big Book meeting
  - Workshop
  - Conference
  - Fellowship (ice cream socials, potlucks, chili cook offs, etc.)
  - AA must appear somewhere on the flyer
- When is the event to take place? Examples:
  - Date and time
  - Does it reoccur
- Where will the event take place?
  - Name of the facility and the address
  - Maps are sometimes helpful but not necessary
- Why is the event taking place?
  - The reason for AA events is to carrying the AA message to the still suffering alcoholic (this doesn't have to be printed on the flyer)
  - Usually covered in Who and What

\*For safety reasons, if a phone number is listed on the flyer consider NOT putting a name in association with the number.

Please submit flyers in PDF format when possible. Flyers will be posted on the Area 35 Website and in the Northern Light at the Area 35 Webmaster's and Northern Light Editor's discretion. Email the webmaster at area35.org with any questions.

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)

WCRSC - West Central Regional Service (Conference)

WCRAASC - West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference (same as above)

WCRF - West Central Regional (Forum)

WCRAAF - West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Forum (same as above)

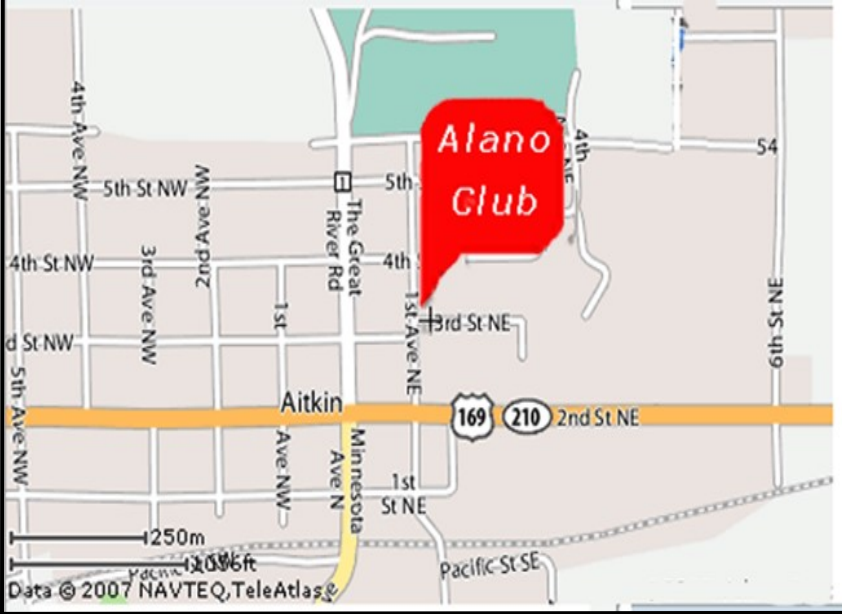
"AA recovery cannot be bought and sold, but more than once I've wished I could just send a monthly check instead of practicing those principles. Just making donations seems an easier, softer way, doesn't it?"

"AA Is Not for Sale," New York, New York,  
August 1998, 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 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Area 35 Committee Meeting Minutes

Aitkin, MN

August 4, 2019

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

**Recognition of Past Area 35 Delegates in Attendance:** Michael “Jake” J. (Panel 64} and Kelly D. (Panel 66)

**Additions to the Agenda:**

To support Area36 for reprinting Best of the Grapevine books.  
Look at redrawing District boundaries,  
Laptop for Archives

**Approval of the June Area Committee Minutes:** Motion made and seconded to approve minutes. Minutes were approved.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**DELEGATE-Christine G.**

Greeting Area 35,

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer.

Since my last report, I have prepared a presentation for the WCR Forum. The presentation is called “What Defines an Editorial Change and a Content Change?” This will be a Forum Wide Workshop. Speaking of the Forum, I know some of you have not made your hotel reservations, the deadline has been extended so please call and make them so we can meet our quota. When you make your reservations, you will need to mention **Group Code #427139**. If you have already made your reservations, please call and make sure you are registered under this group code to ensure we are getting credit. I appreciate your help and understanding with this.

I have some time slots set aside to have meals with GSO staff and if you are interested, please let me know and we will get you on the schedule. Mention this to new members and GSRs, this is a great opportunity for people to get to know some of the staff. I will be asking for volunteers to Host the meal so if you are interested, please get with me sometime today or shoot me an email.

I have been busy giving post conference reports and I have two remaining. I will be traveling to Ely, for District 8, on Thursday and then I will stop in District 12, Duluth, on Saturday and then I will have completed all my reports. I have noticed the low attendance of GSRs at these reports and I have been thinking about this. Are we clear with our communication of expectations to the GSRs? Do they understand that this is where they get the answers to their group’s conscience from the voting at the Spring Assembly regarding the GSC Agenda items? I ask all DCMs to take this back to their district meeting and discuss this with them and let them know that this is part of their service responsibility. Let’s try and get more attendance at next year’s reports.

I have emailed my updated Delegate Responsibilities to Roger and Melissa so Melissa can update them in the Area Action book.

I received a summary report from our WCR Trustee, Tom, regarding July Board Weekend. Here are some of the highlights:

- Registration, for the International Convention registration begins on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM CST.
- Trustee Nominating Committee continues to work on the additional consideration item from two conferences ago regarding reorganization of the General Service Board. A new subcommittee was constituted to work on it, based on suggestions from the recent Trustee Conference Committee.
- Tom took the opportunity to “interview” the new Publisher of AAGV, Albin Z.. He did it because he is writing an article on the position to follow up the one he recently wrote on the GM of A.A.W.S., and will finalize this trio of articles he is writing for the St. Paul Intergroup newsletter with an article on the Staff at GSO. These articles, along with another couple dozen or so that I’ve written for them, are available on their web site, if you’d be interested in the material.
- At the Trustee’s Finance Committee meeting there were three recommendations that came from AAWS:
  - ◇ The first was a request for \$1 million dollars from the Reserve or General Fund to allow an expansion of the GSO to the 8<sup>th</sup> floor.
  - ◇ The second was to sign the lease, contingent on passage of number one.
  - ◇ Finally, the third AAWS recommendation that we passed was that if AAWS needed cash temporarily (between now and 12/31/19), the Trustee Finance Committee made available up to 1 million from the reserve fund and also that it has to be repaid.

- The GSB has a bit over five months to get their work done from the 69<sup>th</sup> GSC, so committees get formed, staff get tasked, objectives are set.
- AAWS reported that the web redesign continues and the app has gone through another enhancement round which includes a new search feature, Daily Reflections, enhanced menu and a messaging feature. It was also reported that the LegitScript app is progresses so the Google AdWords/Grants can be used.
- The ERP system goes live this week – a major milestone for this year at AAWS.
- Contributions were a bit over \$4 million for the first six months and 4.87% higher than last year. Online contributions now account for 11.02% of contributions.
- The Trustee Conference Committee continues to work on the plan on to provide the GSC to “check the math” of items not forwarded to the GSC. It’s being worked on by a committee at this time.
- With regard to PI, and A35 GSC item to discontinue YouTube, which was tabled in January until this weekend. The General Service Trustee from Montana, who chairs the PI Committee, shared that while the committee does not support the request at this time, substantial time was spent discussing the background that Area 35 submitted, and will be taking it into account as they continue their work. A formal response will be mailed to me and I will share that if received by the Fall Assembly.

More may be reported once I receive the final approved minutes from the quarterly meeting. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding these items.

The WCR will be having a conference call the week after the Forum.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 35.

In Unity and Service,

In Unity, Love and Service,  
Christine G.  
Area 35 Delegate

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

The Annual Service workshop is set for January 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the Timberlake Lodge in Grand Rapids. Our guest for that weekend is going to be Cate W. from Winnipeg, MA. She is the regional Trustee for that Area. She came on at the same time that Tom rotated in so she should have quite a bit of experience by now. I had a very pleasant conversation with her and I am excited to hear her experience and her story.

As for the Timberlake Lodge, my experience with them has been less than grand. I have struggled getting them to send me a contract. I finally got one in the middle of July. The pricing is definitely good but I wouldn’t recommend working with them again unless we see a significant change during the conference. I considered changing locations but the only other location capable of holding the event is the Crookston Inn and they are not available.

I am getting a menu for buffet to present to you to see if there is any interest. Once I get that, I will get that to you.

Last year, I had quite a bit of trouble finding DCM’s to present, except in one case I forgot a DCM who had said they would present and didn’t end up putting them on. I made my amends for this mistake and hope that this is water under the bridge. I do understand the difficulty of getting people to get involved but we do need you to present when it is your District’s turn. I ended up asking DCM’s that had presented the previous year and it was great that they would, but if I continue the rotation as it has been some Districts will present three years in a row and we would definitely like to hear from everyone. If you need help with your presentation or getting people involved please don’t hesitate to ask for help.

I will be attending the Forum in Grand Forks in August and I hope to see a bunch of you there. It should be a great time.

In Service  
Jim S.  
Alt Delegate





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**AREA CHAIR–Roger R.** Greetings Area 35,

I continue to be grateful for this awesome opportunity to serve Area 35 as your Chair.

Area 35 provides us with many excellent opportunities to be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous. As our co-founder Bill W. suggested on many occasions, we have a great responsibility to share the gifts we have been given (paraphrase).

To attract newcomers into general service it might be a good idea for us all to send a paragraph or two on how our service to Area 35 has enhanced our sobriety. OK Steve L.?

My working on locations for Area 35 Assemblies in 2020 continues. I have reached an agreement with the Hibbing Park Hotel and am reviewing and having a few issues with a contract with the New Park Events Center in Waite Park, MN for 2020 assemblies.

I've also been working with Roy, Chairperson of Area 36 on setting the date of November 16<sup>th</sup> for the Area 35/36 Joint Workshop. This workshop will again be in St. Cloud at Bethlehem Lutheran Church from 12-4pm. Please grab a lunch prior to arriving at the Church so we can start the workshop at 12pm. Next step is to nail down the agenda for this workshop. If you have any suggestions feel free to contact me.

I would again like to thank Scott M our Archives Chair for working with the Archives Committee on fulfilling Area 35 display commitments. If you or a another member are interested in the Area 35 Archivist position please let me know. This is typically a longer-term position for someone who has a strong interest in working on our archive's repository.

Thank you to the Area 35 Officers and Chairs who reviewed their Trusted Servant Guidelines and sent to Melissa and myself. Melissa A. suggested updates for their positions.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the WSRF in less than two weeks.

Please make your reservation for the Area 35 Fall Assembly at the Hampton Inn in Bemidji by September 5.

In service and warmth,  
Roger R.  
Area 35 Chair

**SECRETARY-Melissa A. (not present)**

Greetings Area 35,

I hope that all is well and everyone is enjoying his or her summer. I look forward to attending the West Central Regional Forum and hope that everyone who is able to attend enjoys it and soak up as much information as possible.

I look forward to being the Captain of the State Fair Booth on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019. If you have never served at the State Fair Booth I would highly suggest being willing to serve it has been a life changing experience for me and it is an honor being able to serve Alcoholics Anonymous at that capacity. Thank you Gayle for asking me to be of service.

The Fall Assembly Flyer is located on the Area 35 website and there are flyers located on the back table. The Fall Assembly 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<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the West Central Regional Forum!

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

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

Since my last ACM/Assembly report in June, I have:

- Reconciled two monthly bank statements and created reports for review by the Financial Oversight Committee
- Deposited all contributions and income received as of July 31<sup>st</sup>
- Paid all bills and expenses received as of July 31<sup>st</sup>
- Completed a balance sheet and income/expense/contribution statement for Period 4 of 2019 (June/July)

As of July 31<sup>st</sup>, our checking and savings accounts have a combined total balance of **\$23,853**.

As of July 31<sup>st</sup>, our year-to-date total income and expenses are **\$19,825** and **\$21,334**, respectively, giving us a net expense of **\$1,509**. We have covered 3 of 5 of the most expense-heavy events, with only the WCR Forum and Fall Assembly remaining. Year-to-date contributions are **\$17,461**.

To summarize, our bank account balances are up 5% from last year. Our Group contributions are down 8%, overall income is down 13%, and

expenses are down 14%, yet our net income is up 30%.

If you have questions or concerns about your Group contributions or anything related to my duties as treasurer, please email me at treasurer@area35.org.

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

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS & DCM REPORTS

**CPC - Antonette F. (No Report)**

**District 9– Jim S.** Hi everyone, my name is Jim and I am an alcoholic.

Our District meets the third Sunday of each month at the Hibbing Alano Club at 6 pm. We had the Delegate report back meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup>, Christine did a wonderful presentation with good feedback. There were too few GSRS attending and I will inform them their attendance is needed.

District 9 is considering getting a PO Box for our treasurer to receive contributions from Groups. Also, a co-signer for the District account is needed at the bank.

A Group from Zim MN. has joined our District formally in District 8. They meet at 7pm on Wednesday at the McDavitt town hall. Welcome back Zim.

District 9 will be including a list of the literature available in our inventory for sale in the minutes as they are sent out. Any literature orders can be placed with our literature chair by calling or texting 218-969-8477.

District 9 Groups now have a contact number to call if anyone would like to speak at NERCC.

Yours in service,  
Jim S.  
District 9 DCM

**District 13- Peter T. (Alternate DCM)**

My name is Peter and I am the District 13 Alt/DCM.

With the Grace of God and the AA program I am sober and have the willingness to serve my home Group, District 13. July's District meeting had 13 GSR in attendance with two of them being new GSR's. The summer is a busy time of the year and our July meeting is right before the holiday weekend and I am thankful for all who still came to the meeting.

An issue came up that the literature racks and literature needed improving and is it the responsibility of the District or the Alano club. If any of the other Districts can let me know how they deal with this issue it would be appreciated.

All the committee chairs are filled.

The Treasure reported that we are lagging behind last year in funds coming in from Groups. Corrections reported that they are looking for women to carry the message to the Benton County Jail.

Treatment has service opportunities at Sobriety First, the Dream Center, and Journey Home.

PI is looking for volunteers interested in answering phone line and are having a education training on July 20, 2019. More volunteers are needed. The assistance line is running smoothly, Public Service Announcements forms to charter have been completed. The meeting schedule and AA hotline cards have been distributed and are working on the new schedules to be oriented this fall. PI reported they replenish the literature racks and repair one of the racks.

That is all I have say. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Yours in service,  
Peter T.  
Alternate DCM 13

**WEBMASTER - Rillis E.** . Good morning. My name is Rillis, I'm an alcoholic and your area Webmaster.

I added a help line phone number to the District 9 page on the website. I changed the meeting time for the District 2 meeting to accommodate the Delegate report back and did the same for District 8. There are several open speaker meetings on the Area calendar. If you are looking for something to do this summer, please check out the calendar. I also added the date and location for Joint Area 35-36 Workshop to the Area calendar. It will be held on November 16 from noon to 4:00 PM at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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in St. Cloud, which is where we have had this workshop for the past several years. I will post a flyer with the agenda as soon as I receive it.

An AA member pointed out that two words were transposed in the Preamble on the area website. The original wording on the website read, “solve their common problem and help “to others”... which I changed to “solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

Rillis E.  
Area 35  
Webmaster

## LITERATURE - Brian P.

I am happy to be back from vacation and apologize for missing the June Area Committee meetings. I understand I had missed a couple orders and I apologize for the delays in the orders.

That being said.

District 3 Lit. Chair – Dave has been busy visiting other meetings and Round Robins in the District.

He attended Detroit Lakes in June, Moorhead Thursday night in July and will be going to the Round Robin for August in New York Mills.

District 15 – Pat has had interest in Spanish Big Books

District 16 – Bruce has been filling in for a vacant position and is planning on standing for the position of District 16 Lit. Chair in the next rotation. Bruce sold some books and distributed literature at the Iron Range Roundup

Please let me know at least two weeks before the Fall Assembly of any literature or books you need me to order.

Keep in mind the new book “Our Great Responsibility”. Thoughts and talks from Bill W. is now available.

Yours in Service  
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. Christine joined District 15 and District 13 on June 4<sup>th</sup> for the Delegates Report back. We had a fair turn out, thank you Christine.

The District will hold nominations on August 5<sup>th</sup> at the District meeting for the next rotation. I hope that we have a good turnout and we will be voting at the September District meeting. The District is encouraging every Group on the \$8.06 contribution for GSO. The District will have a District inventory done before the next rotation. I will be attending the West Central Regional Forum.

Yours in service  
Pat M.  
DCM 15

## District 3- Kevin K.

Small town, small meetings as I continue to visit Groups in our District. The life of A.A. in rural areas is met with small attendance that is difficult to support the broader A.A. service structure. These meeting are just happy to make sure the meeting location is open, and the coffee is on. I foresee more and more of these Groups and communities trending in this direction.

District 3 has had a long heritage of service, however new members and Groups are less and less interested in our service structure. The meaning of GSR, what they do and stand for is being reduced as more of a title than the true conduit it has been in the past.

Our District continues to carry our AA message of hope, service and recovery. We host regular District meetings the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month 10:00 am at the Detroit Lakes Alano Club, 827 Summit Avenue. However, for the month of August we are moving the District meeting up one week August 11<sup>th</sup>, to allow all who wish to attend the WCRF in Grand Forks the weekend of August 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>.

The Districts standing committee chairpersons work is ongoing; Gene M. our PI / CPC chair engages a broad range of professional and organizational cultivating contacts through his efforts. Jessa our new corrections chair is learning the ropes with local correction facilities to inquire if AA’s meeting can be brought into their facilities. Ray our Grapevine chair continues to offer ideas about individuals and Groups purchasing subscriptions for their meetings. Marlene does a wonderful job with our website updating with service-related events. Dave our literature chair provides material and setups up displays at our monthly Round Robins. Bill guides us to put up our District 800 help line using tear off numbers for a wide range of locations, such as c-stores, grocery stores, bus stops, etc. Tom is in charge of our Round Robin efforts and District meeting list schedules. Our monthly Round Robin will be held in New York Mills, Saturday -August 10<sup>th</sup> beginning with a Pot Luck at 6:00pm, Alanon and AA speakers.

At last month’s District meeting a list of all service positions was discussed.

We decided to hold our Election September 15<sup>th</sup> allowing the incoming service individuals to attend the fall assembly.

We would like to thank Christine for presenting the Delegates report Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The attendance was not large, however the interest and communication were awesome.

Respectively,

Kevin K.  
DCM District 3

## NORTHER LIGHT - Steve L. Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen.

We had four in attendance our meeting this morning.

I did good this issue only three small errors found. There might be more.

Did you see the report on Scott’s adventure? It would be great that if you go on adventures to tell your AA story to us all about something unique, interesting or fun that happened.

Thank you Rodger for the plug Service experience spot could be beneficial to get people to jump into service.

I have a couple up updates for the next issue. An address change and a Group District move. Please keep me updated if you have any changes.

Looking forward to going to the Forum. Sounds like a Monty Python line.

Deadline for next NL is September 3rd

Thanks for Reading.

Yours in Service  
Steven L.  
Area 35 Northern Light Editor

## GROUP RECORDS - Sally L. Greetings, Area 35,

I have given most DCMs a list of Groups in their District with a status of Unknown to see if we can get the Group information database cleaned before the conversion to the new system at GSO in August. Please try to get all Group information changes to me as soon as possible so I can get them up dated in FNV.

Thanks to District 21 for getting their Group information sheets back to me, and to Chris in District 12 for getting me their changes also.

The meeting locator app switchover to AAWS is still in progress. A consultant was hired to aid in developing the framework for the app. When the meeting locator app is finished, it will be available through GSO’s website.

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

## District 4- Colleen S. Not Present (No Report)

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

It has been another quiet couple of months in District 8. Christine will be giving her Delegate’s Report at our next District meeting on Thursday, Aug 8th in Ely at the First Presbyterian Church, 206 E Harvey St. Meeting starts at 6:30pm and there will be potluck. Everyone is welcome to attend, please bring a dish to share.

We’ve had a some meeting changes in our District. The Zim group has decided to return to District 9. All Ely hospital meetings (Wed & Sat night) will now be held at the First Lutheran Church, 915 E Camp. A new Group in Virginia has taken over an existing group. The Sunday Virginia It Works Group is now As Bill Sees It, same time and same place.

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 also has an AA phone line that is answered by volunteers for two months at a time.

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 Thistledeew Correctional Facility in Togo.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Heidi B.  
District 8 DCM

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## District 18- BR Borders. (No Report)

### TREATMENT- Cathy R.

Our meeting was called to order at 9:02 am. Districts 16, 8, 5, 21, 2, and 7 were in attendance.

Everyone seems to have Districts that are moving along happily.

District 5 is putting on a service workshop on August 24<sup>th</sup>; It will cover Traditions, Sponsorship and Service.

The majority of our meeting was spent discussing “dropping the ball” – members seem to want “it done for them.”

We came up with a list of reasons; they are:

- ♦ Health Issues
- ♦ Chairs are not reimbursed for appropriate expenses
- ♦ Don’t want to admit a limited income problem
- ♦ Lack of “budget” for each District
- ♦ Sponsors not bringing up service
- ♦ Lack of understanding about the “spirit of rotation” meaning
- ♦ Same people doing the same old stuff
- ♦ Young people going to “other programs”
- ♦ Long term AA’s feel they’ve done their time

Perhaps what should be done:

- ♦ DCM’s talk to Groups about what all the above means
- ♦ Help Start conversations at the Group level
- ♦ Explain that conflict and debate are fine but nastiness is not ok. We’d like to live in the solution not the problem.

Don’t forget I have a supply of “bridging the Gap” brochures.

In Service,  
Cathy R.  
Area 35 Chair Treatment

### District 16- Glenn M.

On Saturday July 6<sup>th</sup>, Our Area 35 Delegate, Christine G. came to present her Report back. It was very interesting and informative.

Our District welcomed a new women's meeting on Thursday nights and Tomorrow night, Monday August 5<sup>th</sup> a meeting in Warba will be starting up.

Wednesday July 24<sup>th</sup> at the Active Living Center Picnic at the YMCA our District had a PI Booth from 11am – 1pm manned by Dave C.

We are analyzing if there is a need for AA meetings at our many nursing homes with members living longer. So far we are finding that these individuals are used to getting this need met.

Upon validating the District 16 information Sally had given out I found that the Lawrence Lake Meeting somehow was deleted from computer records. She is working with GSO and got it back on. It sure pays to check this information out.

I reminded everyone to please remember to email me any changes and Group updates as they happen because they need to go through the District so there will be less changes to make upon validating twice a year.

We are starting to look at candidates for new District officers and Committee Chairs reminding them to make sure to get their agreement *first* to serve *before* recommending them. Also get to know about our Area 35 candidates nominated for Delegate by reading their reports in the Northern Lights from Jan of 2018, attending this Area 35 Committee meeting and feedback from your GSR to our Groups so, they can give recommendations to your GSR for next rotation voting.

We have asked if anyone has anything they want to propose for next year’s agenda items so I can bring them to the Fall Assembly in Bemidji in Oct. and give to Roger R..

The District DCM's budget is done and Officers and Committee Chairs are working on their budgets for the October District Meeting.

In service,  
Glenn M.  
District 16 DCM

### District 5- Skip D. Good day,

I am out visiting Groups in District 5 again.

District 5 is hosting a workshop on August 24<sup>th</sup> 2019 from 3pm - 7pm at the Milaca Alano there will be a potluck during the workshop. The focus will be

on Traditions, Sponsorship, and Service. Looking forward to seeing you there!

I have registered, and booked a room for the West Central Regional Forum WCRF in North Dakota. I have to take two days off work for the Mille Lacs County Fair August 7<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> (was unable to fill all the spots for the fair), so I am unable to leave early on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup>, but will be on my way right after work. Oh yeah, District 5 will have an informational booth at the Mille Lacs County Fair. This booth must be manned at all times during the fair. If you would like to volunteer for a two-hour spot, please let me know.

We did team up with Districts 6 and 11 for the report back from the General Service Conference (G.S.C.) in New York. The attendance was okay, but a little light! We had five people from District 5, and only one GSR was present from District 5. You know, some of our Groups spend hours going through the Agenda Items, it would be nice to let them know what happened.

I have moved, so I now have a new mailing address, so here it is;  
Skip Deutchman  
16186 70th street  
Becker, MN 55308

Riverplace Counseling Center in Elk River has changed their scheduling from the first Monday from 10:50 - 12:25pm, to the first Tuesday of the month from 1:30 - 3:00pm. We have lost one volunteer due to the schedule change.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Skip D.  
District 5 DCM



“That was a cute chick you married last night.”

### ARCHIVIST - Resigned (No report)

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

Our Area 35 Archives Committee met this morning.. Districts 13,11,7 and 16 were represented. Under old business we continued to discuss the need for an Archivist. DCM’s please continue to take this back to your Districts. One possible candidate name was brought up. I will pass the name along to Roger our Area Chair.

Under new business, we decided to put forth a motion to purchase laptop and software for use by the Archives Committee. Previous work has been done on Past Archivists private computers, and the work that has been done so far now may be lost and we’ll have to start over. Looking forward to the WCR Forum in Grand Forks.

Yours in service,  
Scott M.  
Area 35 Archives

### District 7 - Bob B.

- ♦ Attendance at out District Meetings is down. We had 6 members attend our last committee meeting.
- ♦ Summer is winding down. We will host booths at Cass, Aitkin, and Crow Wing County fairs.
- ♦ We continue to search for a phone provider that would better suite the needs of our District. Our members request the ability to have voice and texting.
- ♦ Christine visited District 7 on June 20<sup>th</sup> for a Potluck and Delegates report. We had outstanding feedback from District members that attended the Delegates report. District 7 thanks Christine.

Bob B.  
DCM District 7

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### A Declaration of Unity

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



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**District 11- Cindy S-K** Hello from District 11

We had a booth at the Pine County Fair, which is wrapping up today. Attended Christine's report back July 13<sup>th</sup> in Isanti. Thank you Christine. We are working on a sponsorship workshop it will be Sept 21<sup>st</sup> at city hall in Sandstone 1-4pm

I will be attending the WCR Forum in Grand Forks, ND

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

**CORRECTIONS - Paul M. (No report)**

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

Treatment Committee... Tammy got us into Teen Challenge one time per month for a story only. I admit this isn't much, but it is a start.

PI/CPC.....Martin has a booth at the upcoming St Louis health fair . Next year he has aspirations on adding a one hour presentation to the hundreds of health care entities there.

Aaron is new to Archives and has met with Area about getting started. He will be receiving District collection soon.

Nick from corrections reports that the meeting at Carlton Co. jail has stopped briefly until volunteers can be found.

Literature chair Chris is ready to supply other committees with what they need .

Our Delegate presented her report to twenty of us , and did a wonderful job of encouraging members to get involved!!

I did get to participate in WCR Forum and came away with renewed enthusiasm for carrying the message!!!

Grateful to be of service,  
Rich G.  
District 12 DCM

**District 14- Paul E. Not present (No report)**

**PI - Gayle R.** Hi Everyone, Gayle, alcoholic.

Today at our committee meeting, we had 6 persons- Districts 6, 7, 9 and 12 Antonette and myself.

**Sharna DCM, District 6,** talked about a CPC/PI Breakfast/Luncheon August 14<sup>th</sup> . They sent 150 letters to professionals. Sharna is also co-day captain for the State Fair Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help contact Sharna, Cindy (DCM District 11) or myself.

**Rich DCM, District 12,** stated his PI/CPC is new and with in six months and is himself a professional. Health Fair is coming in October. District 12 will have a booth there. There is a new facility in District 12 called Pathway, which is a stabilizing and a 30 day treatment center. District 12 has stopped going to county fairs, they have rented a bill board instead, and also ads on busses. **Arden, PI/CPC District 7,** is still learning, just got position a few months ago.

**Jim DCM District 9,** PI/CPC person started rotation getting information out to professionals- perhaps was overwhelming. That person has disappeared, please say a prayer.

**Peggy, PI District 13,** emailed report. The phone line held it's second phone line training July 20<sup>th</sup>, and filled a few open spots, still looking for alternates. The phone line is running smoothly. Public service announcements to Charter have been completed and continues. Distributing schedules to hotels, going to treatment centers again next. Will be verifying all active meetings in District before printing updated schedules in the fall. **Antonette** talked about attraction rather than promotion and the struggles with getting people involved.

**PI-** The state fair is coming this month! August 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>. There are some open spots on Sunday at the AA booth, in the education building. Any one who wants to join in on Saturday or Sunday is always welcome.. See me or Melissa or Saturday or Sharna, Cindy or myself for Sunday.

**I was asked** to present at the Health Fair in Duluth in October. Rich reported that the presenters must be educated and I am not. I gave Rich Roger's name since he has presented before.

**I have** been asked to help District 8 with a booth at a sobriety fair in September, I will help with that. **I will not** be able to attend the WCR- Forum August 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> due to a wedding. **I look** forward to the Area elections at the Fall Assembly, history in the making.

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

**District 6- Sharna O.** Sharna - I'm an alcoholic District 6 DCM

We held the Delegate report back at the Isanti Alano. There were around eighteen in attendance from Districts 5 & 6 and 11.

Our District is having a CPC informational workshop coming up Wednesday, August 14, 2019. It will be held at the Cambridge Lutheran church. There will be two sessions 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30am and 2<sup>nd</sup> one at 11:30am. Hopefully the two times will help accommodate people for this event. This will be my first time as DCM being involved with a community event. I'm looking forward to this workshop. I'm also going to participate in the AA booth at the state fair and West Central Regional Forum, both firsts for me.

Glad to be of service,  
Sharna Olson-Jabs  
District 6 DCM

**District 1 Not present (No report)**

**GRAPEVINE - Jerry B. (No report)**

**District 2- Danny W.**

Good morning friends. District 2 hosted our Area 35 Delegate, Christine who presented her report from the General Service Conference at our July 7<sup>th</sup> District meeting. We had 12 people attending, including two from District 1, and seven representatives from District 2 Groups. It was a great report and attendees found it informative and interesting. Thank you, Christine.

I continue to attend different meetings in District 2 and tell them the importance of service work. I am finding out that many people know very little about A.A.'s structure – including how our Delegate represents our Groups conscience. This is not well understood by many A.A. members in District 2. I have been explaining how this structure lets our local voices heard and can make a difference in developing new policies or reaffirming already existing ones. I also stress the need to financially support the District, Area, and GSO. I believe some progress is being made.

Most Groups in District 2 have someone who has accepted the responsibility of being a Group contact person. In addition, nowadays most everyone has email, which makes sending out information in a quick and in a timely manner; I really appreciate that. Only two Groups/towns do not have email contacts.

I continue to spread the message about the WCRF event to District 2 folks that is coming up in Grand Forks. Recommending they attend to learn more about A.A. along with an opportunity to network with other alcoholics. I also continue to promote the importance of attending the fall Assembly urging Groups to send at least one representative to attend the Assembly.

In service,  
Danny W.  
District 2 DCM

**District 21- Not present (No report)**

**"Let all of us AAs, whether we be trustees, editors, secretaries, janitors, or cooks -- or just members -- ever recall the unimportance of wealth and authority as compared with the vast import of our brotherhood, love, and service."**

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., January 1947, "Will AA Ever Have a Personal Government?",  
The Language of the Heart

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**FOC- Jake** all reports of Mike F. Treasurer are accurate and up to date

**Coffee At Assemblies-** Chair brought up issue of greater coffee expense, up to \$33.00 per gallon in some locations.

Chairs of other Areas in our region are experiencing similar coffee pricing issues. Area lost money on coffee sales at Spring Assembly.

Coffee pricing will be at break even for Fall Assembly and available at key times but not all the time at assembly.

**District 8 - Steve L.** asked DCM's to bring back to their Groups the following for discussion. **General Service Conference Agenda Item in support of Area 36, by Area 35, for Grapevine to reprint the *Best of the Grapevines Volumes 1, 2 and 3.* This item is on the agenda for the Area 35 Fall Assembly.**

(Continued from page 15)

## Motions

**For Area 35 to create an ad hoc redistricting committee. Kevin K. Second by Jim S.: Motion passed.**

**For Area 35 to purchase an HP Laptop computer for Archives Committee for \$368.17 and \$36.00 for software by Scott M.: Motion Passed**

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

**Adjourned: The meeting closed with the Responsibility Statement.**

**"As never before the struggle for power, importance, and wealth is tearing civilization apart. Man against man, family against family, group against group, nation against nation.**

**"Nearly all those engaged in this fierce competition declare that their aim is peace and justice for themselves, their neighbors, and their nations: Give us power and we shall have justice; give us fame and we shall set a great example; give us money and we shall be comfortable and happy. People throughout the world deeply believe that, and act accordingly On this appalling dry bender, society seems to be staggering down a dead-end road. The stop sign is clearly marked. It says 'Disaster.'**

**"What has this got to do with anonymity and Alcoholics Anonymous?"**

**"We of AA ought to know. Nearly every one of us has traversed this identical dead-end path ... Then came AA. We faced about and found ourselves on a new high road where the direction signs said never a word about power, fame, or wealth."**

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., January 1955, "Why Alcoholics Anonymous Is Anonymous", The Language of the Heart

## To Service or not to Service?

My wife Denise and I recently attended the 2019 West Central Regional Forum in Grand Forks, ND, August 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> at the Alerus center. We found out that WWE (wrestling) was at the Alerus center at the same time. Of course we are big fans of WWE, and Saturday afternoon while I was filling my coffee cup, there were two Alerus center workers refilling the coffee and water station I was at. I innocently asked them if they were going to be able to "hang out" with the wrestlers at all. One of the ladies said yes, and we just started a conversation about the wrestling event. After a few minutes they found out Denise and I were big WWE fans, and one of the ladies asked me if I wanted a couple FREE tickets to the event that night! WOW, absolutely YES I said. She told me she had a couple tickets she received for free and two of her friends were getting them, but at the last minute decided they did not want them. She then went to the ticket office and came back with two tickets for me.

Woo-Hoo, We pulled out our schedule for that nights activity for the Forum and starting saying which Workshops we could skip, and which ones we wanted to go to. We made a decision we could skip this one, go to that one and in between go to the WWE event.

Denise said she had to run up to the room before we went to the WWE event, so I hung out down in the hall waiting for her. While waiting I started thinking about missing a Workshop to go to the WWE event, and this went on until I noticed Denise walking towards me. I could tell by the look on her face that she had been "wrestling" (pun intended) about skipping part of the forum to go to the WWE event also. As soon as she was near me, we both simultaneously said let's NOT go to the WWE event and check out the Forum Workshops instead. As soon as we both said this, I felt an immediate sense of relief come over me, because as much as I wanted to check out WWE, we had driven 250 miles for this Forum. Now, of course, we were amazingly blessed by the Workshops we attended, reinforcing that my higher power continues to help guide and bless me in ways I never thought possible.

JIM R. Sartell MN  
Wednesday Night Happy Hour, St. Cloud

## Middle of Nowhere

Last week, in front of my home, a two-year-old boy was killed and his sixteen-year-old cousin was maimed. This was done by a "drunk" driver.

According to the news reports, the driver has been in trouble a number of times.

You need to know that I live in the middle of nowhere so this accident was very unusual. My first thought was had anyone reached out to this fellow?

On the way home from the Area 35 committee meeting a friend and I discussed that no matter what happens this fellow will always have this horrendous tragedy to contend with.

It makes me worry are we (AA as a whole) reaching out to anyone anywhere? Have we relied too much on the police to arrest and the treatment centers to "treat" the still suffering Alcoholic?

I do not have the answer. The reminder (to me), is that alcoholism is a patient-never-ending-problem.

My hope is that I am living in the solution not the problem.

Cathy R.  
Area 35 Treatment Chair



**"I'm sure we've met before — was it at Dolan's Drunk Farm or the State Hospital?"**

**"The alcoholic is in no greater peril than when he takes his sobriety for granted."**

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., November 1949, "A Suggestion for Thanksgiving", The Language of the Heart

## Call for Stories

### "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic"

The 2019 General Service Conference recommended "the pamphlet 'A.A. for the Older Alcoholic — Never Too Late' be updated with a revised introduction; current and inclusive stories; reference to online A.A.; and an updated 'How Do I Find A.A.?' section."

The Trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee is seeking stories from a broad cross section of older A.A. members to make the pamphlet more representative of the Fellowship.

Typed manuscripts should be 500-800 words, double spaced, in 12-point font. Handwritten manuscripts should be approximately 5 to 6 pages. Please include your complete name, address and email/phone information; The anonymity of all authors will be observed, whether or not their story is selected for publication. Please email your sharing to: [access@aa.org](mailto:access@aa.org) and put "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic" in the subject line of the message. Or, you may mail it to Access Assignment, General Service Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163. The deadline for submissions is December 15, 2019.

## 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>2016-2017</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>2014-2015</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)

1. Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.
3. Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.
4. With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.
5. Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose—that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.
6. Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A.—and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one.
7. The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.
8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those services for which we may otherwise have to engage non-alcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. "12 Step" work is never to be paid for.
9. Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our over-all public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.
10. No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues—particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.
11. Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.
12. And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.

I 2 Concepts for World Service (Short Form)

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

AREA 35 EVENTS

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

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

## Area 35 Fall Assembly Agenda Bemidji, MN October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### AGENDA

- \_\_\_\_\_ 9:00 a.m. Registration
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10:00 a.m. GSR Orientation & Action
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chair Committee Meetings
- 11:30 am Lunch (On Your Own)**
- 1:00 pm Assembly Convenes**
- \_\_\_\_\_ Call to Order: Serenity Prayer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Why We Need a Conference
- \_\_\_\_\_ Recognize Past Delegates
- \_\_\_\_\_ Recognize GSRs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Add to Agenda
- \_\_\_\_\_ Approve 2019 Spring Assembly Minutes

### OFFICER REPORTS

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

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS & DCM REPORTS

- \_\_\_\_\_ CPC – Antoinette 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 R.
- \_\_\_\_\_ District 5– Skip D.
- \_\_\_\_\_ ARCHIVIST-
- \_\_\_\_\_ ARCHIVES – Scott M.
- \_\_\_\_\_ District 7 – Bob B.
- \_\_\_\_\_ District 16 – Glenn M.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 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 – Kat P.

### 2:30 pm BREAK

**2:45 pm** Continue with Committee/DCM Reports

### 4:15 pm BREAK

### 4:30 pm

- \_\_\_\_\_ GSR Sharing Session
- \_\_\_\_\_ DCM Sharing Session
- \_\_\_\_\_ Area Officers and Area Chairs Meet

### 6:00 pm Dinner (On Your Own)

### 7:30 pm Assembly Reconvenes

Presentation: *What Defines an Editorial Change*  
Christine G.

### OLD BUSINESS

- \_\_\_\_\_ Discussion on Area 35's role in providing literature for corrections institutions

### SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2014

### 7:30 am - 8:45am Big Book Meeting

### 9:00 am Assembly Reconvenes

### NEW BUSINESS

- \_\_\_\_\_ GSR Sharing Session Report
- \_\_\_\_\_ DCM Sharing Session Report
- \_\_\_\_\_ Area Officer Sharing Session Report
- \_\_\_\_\_ Proposal for all important Area 35 decisions to be made by substantial unanimity. Ricco District 9
- \_\_\_\_\_ Area 35 West Central Trustee Nomination
- \_\_\_\_\_ GSC Agenda Item Proposal to support of Area 36 for Grapevine to reprint the *Best of the Grapevines Volumes 1,2 and 3.*
- \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar of Events
- \_\_\_\_\_ Area 35 Officers Election
- \_\_\_\_\_ Adjourn

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